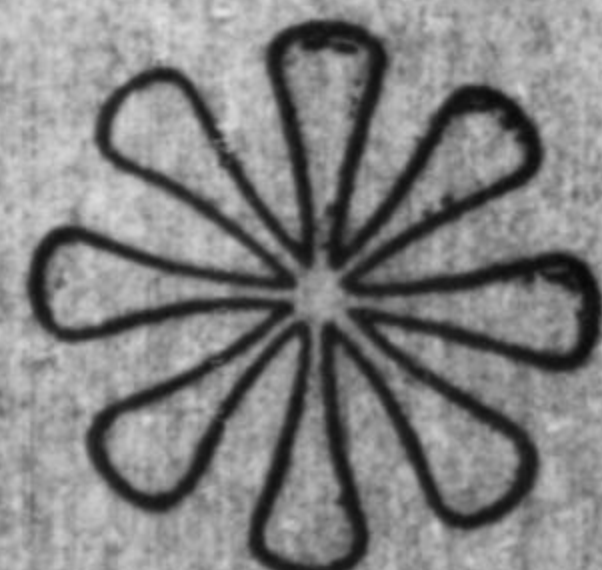
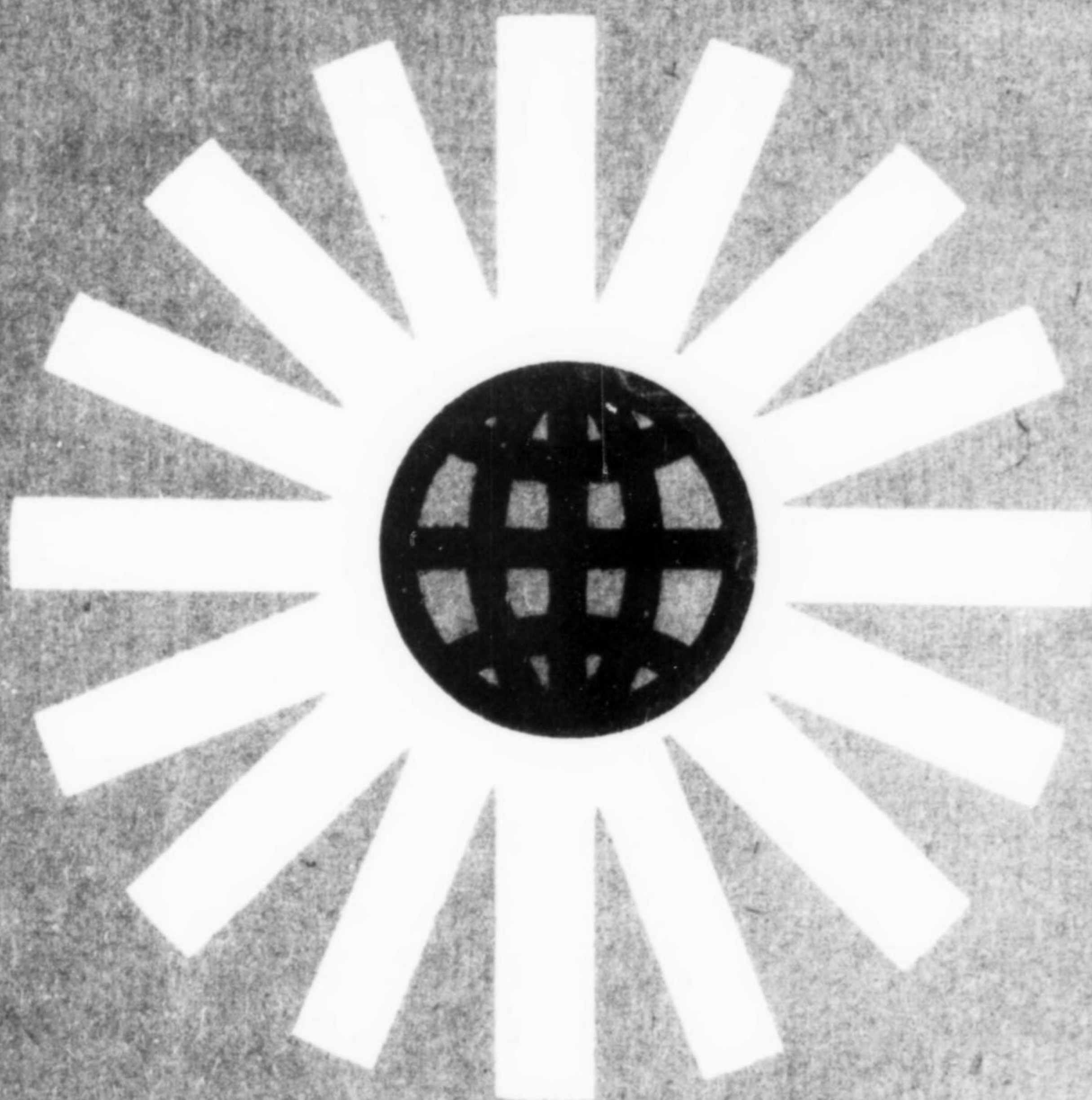


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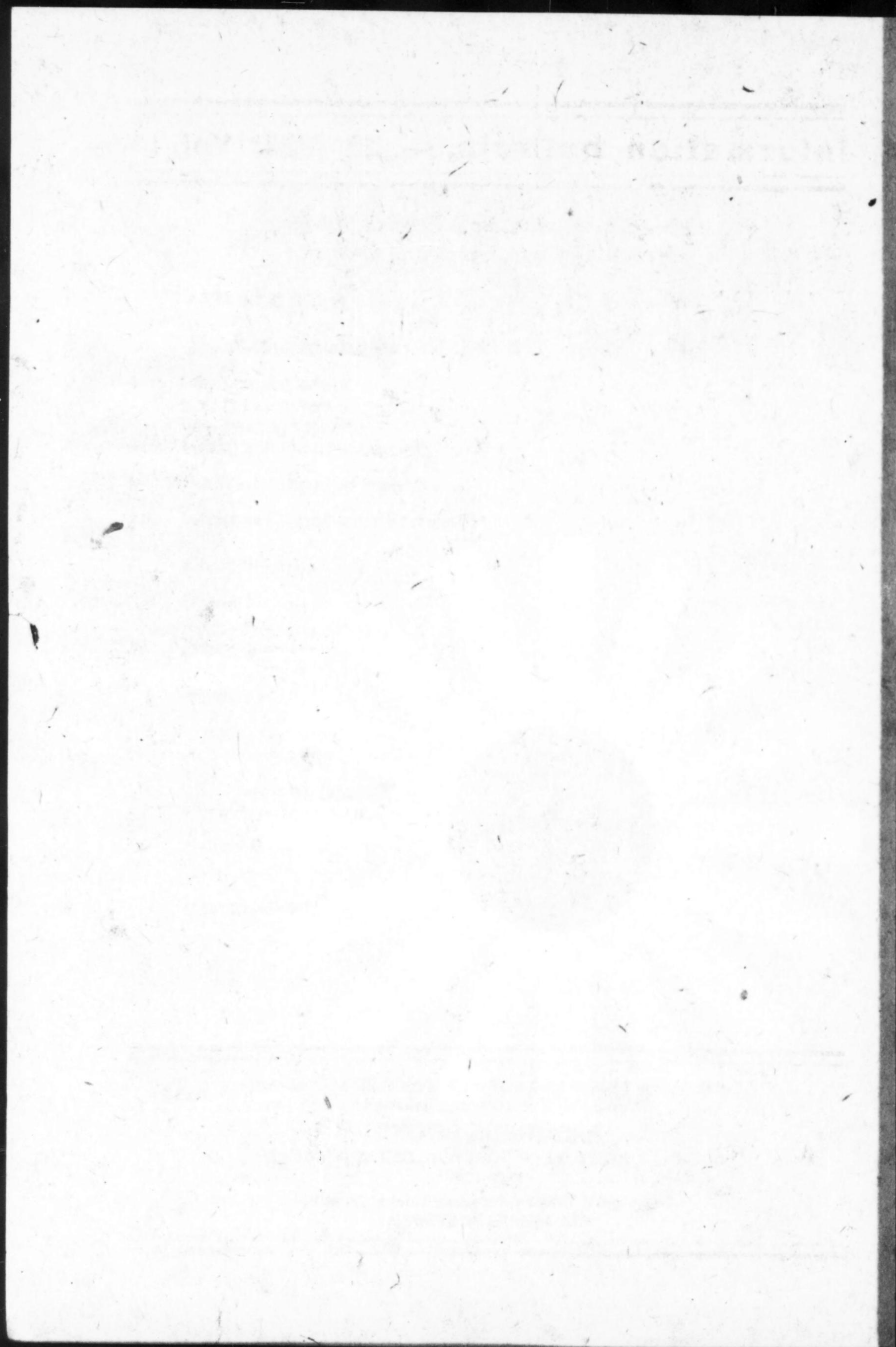
**WORLD MARXIST
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**MONGOLIAN
DELEGATION
IN USSR**

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**BREZHNEV
SPEECH TO
CPSU PLENUM**

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MEETINGS AND TALKS

OFFICIAL FRIENDLY VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION OF THE MONGOLIAN PARTY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION

A Party and government delegation of the Mongolian People's Republic led by Yumzhagiin Tsendenbal, First Secretary of the People's Revolutionary Party and Chairman of the Presidium of the Grand People's Khural, was on an official friendly visit to the Soviet Union from October 18 to 24, 1976, at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers of the USSR.

The delegation acquainted itself with the life of the Soviet people, their achievements in communist construction, the activity of Party, state and public organizations. In Moscow, Kazakhstan, in Novosibirsk and in all the places it visited the Mongolian delegation was warmly welcomed. A mass meeting in Alma-Ata highlighted the unbreakable Soviet-Mongolian friendship and fraternal unity of the Soviet Union and Mongolia.

On October 19, CPSU General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev and Yumzhagiin Tsendenbal met in the Kremlin for a friendly talk.

Comrades Brezhnev and Tsendenbal discussed the furthering of all-round cooperation between the USSR and the MPR and expansion of ties between the CPSU and the MPRP. The coincidence of views and actions of the Soviet and Mongolian Communists, it was stressed, is a decisive factor in promoting the traditional alliance between the two countries and in drawing the two fraternal peoples together.

During an exchange of views on the situation in the communist and working-class movement, the two leaders reaffirmed their parties' firm resolve to promote in every way the cohesion of the communist movement on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

While discussing the strengthening of international security and

developing cooperation between states, Leonid Brezhnev and Yumzhagiin Tsedenbal stressed the need for effective measures to limit and stop the arms drive and to extend détente to all parts of the world.

The atmosphere of the meeting was warm and friendly, with complete identity of views on all discussed questions.

On October 19, joint documents were signed on further expansion of all-round Soviet-Mongolian cooperation as provided for in the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Aid between the two countries. These documents record the more than half-century experience of fraternal friendly relations between Mongolia and the Soviet Union. A treaty on the frontier was also concluded.

During talks, held in an atmosphere of cordiality, complete mutual understanding and unanimity, information was exchanged on key questions of communist and socialist construction in the Soviet Union and Mongolia, as well as views on topical international issues and on the situation in the world communist movement.

Attention was focused on perfecting the forms and methods of Soviet-Mongolian cooperation. Based on the principles of socialist internationalism, this cooperation will be all-round and comprehensive, involving ties and contacts between Party, state and public organizations, closer coordination of Party and state activity in the sphere of policy, the economy and ideology, in the cultural life of the Soviet and Mongolian peoples, with due respect for state sovereignty, independence and equality. It is envisaged, in particular, to expand the exchange of experience between the CPSU and the MPRP, to develop and deepen coordination of foreign policy activity, state-to-state cooperation, ties between trade unions, the Leninist Young Communist League and the Mongolian Revolutionary Youth League and other public organizations, to promote individual and collective contacts between citizens of the two countries and a broad exchange of experience in science, education and cultural activities.

The delegations expressed the conviction that in order to speed up economic growth and complete the building of the material and technical base of socialism in Mongolia it is imperative to realize the Comprehensive Program for the further deepening and improvement of cooperation and development of socialist economic integration of the CMEA member-countries and to ensure closer interaction of the Soviet and Mongolian economies.

Expressing satisfaction with the growing Soviet-Mongolian cooperation in the struggle to maintain peace, the sides noted the impor-

tance of the recent progress in world development, favoring peace, democracy and socialism.

The sides consider that in order to establish peace in the Middle East it is necessary to withdraw Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, fulfill the legitimate national demands of the Palestinian Arabs, including their inalienable right to set up their own state, and to provide international guarantees for the security of all Middle East states. Immediate resumption of the Geneva Middle East peace conference, with the participation from the start and on a basis of equality of the Palestine Liberation Organization, would undoubtedly help work out the necessary Middle East agreements. The Lebanese crisis, resulting from interference by imperialist forces and the plotting of internal reaction, must be solved by the Lebanese themselves on the basis of respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of that country and non-interference in its internal affairs.

The Mongolian delegation assesses the Soviet memorandum on stopping the arms drive and for disarmament, submitted for discussion by the 31st session of the UN General Assembly, as a new, constructive approach to the vital problems of disarmament and related issues.

The sides come out for the conclusion of a world treaty on the non-use of force in international relations, the draft of which was also submitted by the Soviet Union to the General Assembly. They hold that a world disarmament conference would greatly help to solve the problem of disarmament and that a special General Assembly session on the question would facilitate the early convocation of a world conference.

During discussion of international issues, the Soviet and Mongolian leaders paid close attention to questions of Asian security. They hailed the historic successes of the Vietnamese people in creating a unified, independent socialist republic, and the achievements of the peoples of Laos and Cambodia on the road of independent democratic development.

The positive changes in international life favor a stable peace on the Asian continent and fruitful cooperation between the Asian peoples. Relations between the countries of this region can and must be built on such principles as non-use of force or the threat of such use, respect for the sovereignty and integrity of borders, non-interference in internal affairs, development of equal and mutually beneficial cooperation without any discrimination. This demands active and constructive efforts on the part of all Asian states.

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In dealing with the question of relations with the People's Republic of China the sides reaffirmed their readiness to normalize relations with the PRC, emphasizing that the Soviet Union and the Mongolian People's Republic stand for resumption of equal, good-neighbor cooperation with China.

Regarding topical political problems of the Asian continent, the sides emphasized the need for a speedy withdrawal of foreign troops from South Korea. They support the program of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for an independent peaceful unification of Korea on a democratic basis.

The Soviet and Mongolian leaders expressed satisfaction with the close cooperation between their countries in solving foreign policy issues and agreed on further coordinating their foreign-policy activity to invigorate the struggle for a better international climate and a stronger peace the world over.

Reaffirming their resolve to work consistently for peace and social progress on the international arena, the sides stressed the significance of furthering the unity and cohesion of the socialist world system. Important in their view is promotion of all-round cooperation of the socialist states on a bilateral and multilateral basis, and also in the framework of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.

The Soviet and Mongolian leaders noted with satisfaction the expanding ties between the Communist and Workers' Parties on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. They stressed the importance of the results of the Berlin Conference of European Communist and Workers' Parties, the topicality of the aims advanced by it in promoting world peace and security and in the struggle for the freedom and independence of the peoples. The CPSU and the MPRP will continue to exert every effort for the cohesion of the communist and working-class movement and all progressive anti-imperialist forces in the name of the triumph of the ideals of peace, democracy, national independence and socialism.

SPEECH BY COMRADE L.I. BREZHNEV

Given at a dinner in honor of the Party and government delegation of the Mongolian People's Republic, October 18, 1976.

Dear Comrade Tsedenbal,
Esteemed comrades and friends,

It is with heartfelt warmth that Moscow, and with it our entire country, are welcoming the Party and government delegation of the Mongolian People's Republic headed by Comrade Tsedenbal, a prominent figure in the world communist and workers' movement, the tested leader of fraternal Mongolia and a consistent internationalist. We wholeheartedly say to our Mongolian friends — welcome.

Greeting the distinguished Mongolian delegation on behalf of the Central Committee of the CPSU, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government, I am firmly convinced that your visit, dear friends, and its results will pave the way to even broader Soviet-Mongolian cooperation, for the all-round development of mutual ties and ensure the further drawing together of the Soviet and Mongolian peoples.

There have been many great changes since the birth of the militant alliance of proletarian socialist Russia and free Mongolia. But in our relations one feature was and remains invariable: the deepest mutual trust. It is rooted in Vladimir Ilyich Lenin's historic meeting with a Mongolian revolutionary delegation, with Sukhe Bator. This trust is a direct result of our Parties' international policy, of our mutual comradely concern for each other's affairs and interests. Throughout the entire history of Soviet-Mongolian friendship — and Mongolia is the oldest friend of the Soviet Union — our relations have always been truly cordial, sincere and brotherly. Of this we can rightly be proud.

We all agree that the visit to Mongolia by a Soviet Party and government delegation in 1974 became an important stage in developing the close interaction of our Parties and countries. What we had jointly agreed upon then is being consistently implemented.

Today we meet again to discuss questions of mutual interest: how to concretize the conclusions of our congresses — the 25th Congress of the CPSU and the 17th Congress of the MPRP — on the development of traditional Soviet-Mongolian cooperation. The chief aim of the talks is to jointly outline and determine the forms and methods of deepening mutual ties so that they more fully accord with the programmatic socio-political and economic tasks we have set ourselves.

It is pleasant to note that the past five-year period was the most successful one in fraternal Mongolia's entire history. The absolute increment of the national income was equal to that of the previous ten years. This is due to the enhanced skill of the working class, engineers and technicians, to the selfless work of the arats and, of course, to the extensive political and organizing work of the Mongolian Communists.

I believe I will be expressing our commonly shared view if I say that a useful role was also played by the establishment of direct ties between our ministries and agencies, by the coordination not only of five-year but also of annual economic development plans, and by the development of firm businesslike contacts between Party organizations of all the 18 aimaks with Party organizations in the Soviet Republics, territories and regions. In short, by all the new features that have taken shape in the implementation of our cooperation. This line — and here we fully agree with our Mongolian comrades — must be consistently carried forward.

People's Mongolia, which stepped from feudalism into a new socialist life, is now solving a task of tremendous historic and political importance. By accomplishing the creation of the material and technical base of socialism it is raising the level of its development to that of other socialist countries. We are rendering and will continue to render assistance to our Mongolian brothers in the implementation of their plans.

We all remember the 1960s, when Darhan was being built. By the standards of that time it was a very big project. But today, in the construction of a giant copper and molybdenum plant in Erdenet, in terms of investment employment, we are building in one year as much as in five years in Darhan. This fact alone mirrors the increased creative potential of people's Mongolia, the new scope of our joint work and, in effect, the qualitatively new level of Soviet-Mongolian cooperation.

Hundreds of industrial and agricultural projects are being built now in Mongolia with the active participation of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. There is large-scale housing construction, and new centers of culture and medical services are being set up. The volume of Soviet-Mongolian economic cooperation is to double in the coming years. Naturally, such questions as raising the effectiveness of cooperation and increasing its efficiency feature prominently in our negotiations.

The Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee consistently keeps within its field of vision the Soviet Union's relations with socialist countries and, in particular, systematically controls the activities of Soviet organizations that maintain business contacts with our Mongolian friends. The scope of our work — whether on a bilateral basis or in line with the Comprehensive Program of Socialist Economic Integration — is such that we must show constant concern for the

rational use of all means and resources and to work for maximum coordination.

I would like to stress that we fully understand the measures taken by the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party to raise the productivity of social labor, to strengthen discipline at work and to master the advanced experience of socialist construction. This is the only correct road to a steady growth of the people's prosperity, and implementation of all that has been planned.

Foreign policy questions are also being taken up at our talks. The international situation is inconstant. Today it is shaping in one way while tomorrow it will be somewhat different. But in our common view the tendency toward détente remains the dominant tendency. It accords with the cherished aspirations of the peoples, and the forces that stand aloof, or, even more, try to counter it, have no future. Political life confirms this with sufficient clarity.

As far as we are concerned, we are pressing for the realization of all aspects of the program for the further struggle for peace advanced by the 25th Congress. We avail ourselves of today's meeting to give the Mongolian People's Republic its due for its contribution to the common struggle of the socialist countries for the ideals of peace, democracy, national independence and socialism.

Mongolia is our ally. It is a member of the big family of socialist states and its standing and security is ensured. It will be correct to say that the Soviet-Mongolian Treaty signed in 1966 serves well the interests of our countries and peoples, and the interests of peace in general.

Understandably, we have devoted special attention to the problems of Asia, including the most complex ones. Do solutions for them exist? We are convinced that they do exist. It is only necessary patiently, step by step, to build relations on principles of good-neighborliness, to respect the equality and sovereignty of other states, to look ahead, to conduct a constructive dialogue. Every country that adheres to such an approach can certainly count on our understanding. Such an approach would accord with the interests of all Asian states, with the interests of peace in the whole world.

Dear Mongolian comrades,

The day after tomorrow you will leave on a tour of the country. You will visit Kazakhstan and Novosibirsk. We are glad that you will be able to see the Soviet people's enthusiasm and energy in working to fulfill the tasks of the tenth five-year plan and the persistence displayed by our Party and government bodies to implement all that

has been outlined by the congress. And, of course, you will have the opportunity to see for yourselves the warm fraternal feelings that Soviet people have for their Mongolian brothers.

It is with these feelings that I want to propose a toast to:

Our friend and ally — the Mongolian people!

The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party that is paving the road to new victories of socialism on Mongolian soil!

The inviolable Soviet-Mongolian friendship and our socialist community!

The health of comrades Tsedenbal, Batmunh and all our Mongolian friends!

Your health, comrades!

Pravda, October 19, 1976.

SPEECH BY YUMZHAGIIN TSEDENBAL

The 25th Congress of the CPSU opened a qualitatively new stage in the building of communism in the USSR and in the efforts to maintain world peace. Its historic decisions are of exceptional importance not only for the Soviet Union, but also for the international communist and working-class movement and in stepping up the efforts to assure peace and the security of all nations.

Our Party and the Mongolian people wholeheartedly approve the peaceful foreign policy of the Soviet Union, which consistently pursues the Leninist course for a stable peace and broader international cooperation, for the furtherance of détente. As we see it, an earnest of the success of Soviet foreign policy is that it rests on the firm foundation of Marxism-Leninism, scientific analysis of the international situation and profound knowledge of the laws that govern the development of society.

We sincerely wish our Soviet brothers and sisters big successes in fulfilling the ambitious tasks of the tenth five-year plan, in realizing the historic guidelines of the 25th CPSU Congress.

I want, dear comrades, to stress with great satisfaction that the relations of friendship, brotherhood and close all-round cooperation between our countries are expanding and gaining in strength with every passing year. Our relations have always been marked by deep sincerity, genuine mutual understanding, selflessness and international class solidarity. Unity and fraternity between the CPSU and MPRP are the core of the multiform fruitful cooperation between the Mongolian and Soviet peoples.

Every citizen of socialist Mongolia considers it vitally important to promote our unshakable friendship, fraternal alliance and close cooperation. The genuinely nationwide character of Mongolian-Soviet friendship, the sincere affection and respect, fraternity and warm sympathy of the Mongolian people toward the Soviet people were clearly seen during the visit to our country in November 1974 of the Soviet Party and government delegation led by CPSU General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev, outstanding leader of the world revolutionary movement and great friend of the Mongolian people.

Cooperation with the Soviet Union and the latter's growing internationalist aid have been and remain a powerful factor in the further progress of our country.

Permit me on behalf of the MPRP Central Committee, government and people of our country to express the most sincere gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet government for the profound understanding of the problems of Mongolia's socio-economic development, for the consistent fraternal concern and all-round internationalist aid and support in every sphere of life.

The tireless efforts and initiatives of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries have produced big successes in international détente. In this a great constructive role belongs to the Soviet state, the CPSU and personally to General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev, an indefatigable fighter for communism, for peace and friendship among the nations, whose selfless and fruitful activities for peace and social progress enjoy deserved respect and recognition throughout the world.

The ever deepening process of détente is having a positive impact on the political situation in different parts of the world. Prospects for a stable peace and security are opening up also on the Asian continent. The political situation that has taken shape in Asia forcefully points to the need to ensure peace and security there by collective efforts of the Asian states. We want Asia to be a continent of peace and cooperation on the basis of strengthening trust, mutual understanding and anti-imperialist solidarity among its nations.

The earnest of success of the forces of socialism, peace and progress has always been and continues to be the firm unity of the socialist community, its consistent and coordinated efforts, and cohesion of the international communist movement.

We will continue to exert every effort to consolidate the unity of the socialist countries, to develop and deepen their internationalist ties and all-round cooperation.

Pravda, October 19, 1976.

CONGRESSES

TWENTY-THIRD CONVENTION OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CANADA

The Communist Party of Canada held its 23rd Convention in Toronto from October 9 to 11, with over 200 delegates from all provinces attending.

Preceding the Convention, Party organizations across the country discussed the draft keynote address "For a Democratic Alternative to the Crisis Policies of Monopoly," a program of concrete actions by Canadian Communists in the interests of the working class, to unite the country's democratic forces in the anti-monopoly struggle, for an independent and peaceful foreign policy.

The delegates sharply criticized the authorities' refusal to issue entry visas to the delegations of fraternal Communist Parties invited by the Canadian Party to attend the Convention.

After the agenda was voted on, William Kashtan, General Secretary of the Party delivered the main report.

The discussions following the report centered around the document "For a Democratic Alternative to the Crisis Policies of Monopoly," which is aimed at protecting the vital interests and democratic rights of Canada's working people.

It was unanimously agreed that by proposing this program the Communist Party had forcefully shown its readiness to work energetically to involve the broadest sections of the Canadian people in carrying out the program.

Central Committee secretary Bruce Magnuson and other delegates spoke of the Party's leading role in the Canadian workers' movement, the need of strengthening ties with the masses and ensuring united action by the Communist Party, the trade unions, the New Democratic Party (NDP), the progressive youth and women's organizations.

Canada's national independence should be strengthened, many of the speakers said, and called for the dissolution of NORAD and

withdrawal from NATO. Canada should take an active part in carrying out the Final Act of the European Conference and in broadening cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

The keynote address and policy statement were approved unanimously by the delegates. They outline a concrete program of action for democratic changes and against the crisis policies of monopoly. The convention also voted to introduce several amendments in the Party Rules to correspond with the course approved by the delegates of making the Canadian Party a mass party.

The convention also approved the Unity Appeal to the NDP calling for united action in the anti-monopoly struggle and for the people's vital interests and democratic rights. Expressing the Canadian Communists' determination to help to consolidate the unity of the world communist movement, the delegates unanimously passed a resolution hailing the results of the Berlin Conference of European Communist and Workers' Parties.

The convention elected a new 59-member Central Committee. A plenum of the new Central Committee elected an executive and William Kashtan was re-elected General Secretary.



PLENUMS

PLENARY MEETING OF THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE

A plenum of the CPSU Central Committee was held on October 25 and 26. It heard the reports of Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Chairman of the State Planning Committee N.K. Baibakov "On the state five-year plan for economic development in 1976-1980 and the state economic development plan for 1977," and of Finance Minister V.F. Garbuzov "On the state budget for 1977 and fulfillment of the state budget for 1975."

CPSU General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev made a speech, which was followed by a discussion.

A corresponding resolution on the discussed questions was adopted.

The plenum elected Y.P. Ryabov as Central Committee secretary and transferred V.A. Karlov, K. N. Belyak and F.T. Morgun from alternate to full membership of the Central Committee.

RESOLUTION OF THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM

On the drafts of state five-year plan of economic development of the USSR for 1976-1980, state plan of economic development for 1977 and state budget for 1977.

To approve in the main the drafts of the state five-year economic development plan for 1976-1980, the state economic development plan for 1977 and the state budget for 1977 and to submit them to the USSR Supreme Soviet session.

To fully approve the activity of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee in realizing the socio-economic program and foreign policy line worked out by the 25th Party Congress, the provisions and conclusions set forth by CPSU General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev in his speech at the present plenum.

To propose to the central committees of the Communist Parties of the republics, territorial and regional Party committees, all Party organizations to carry out the necessary measures to ensure successful completion of the tasks for 1976, unfailing fulfillment of the 1977 economic plan and the five-year plan as a whole. To give special attention to the adoption and realization by work collectives of their own plans and higher socialist pledges. To concentrate the efforts of government and economic bodies, trade union and Komsomol organizations and work collectives on raising in every way the effectiveness of social production and the quality of work in all sectors of the economy. To bring to bear all reserves and opportunities for speeding up scientific and technical progress, broader use of advanced know-how, growth of labor productivity, increasing output and improving the range and quality of products, expanding the production of mass consumption goods. To persistently work for the rational, economic use of labor, material and financial resources, and to raise the effectiveness of investments.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum calls on all Communists, Komsomol members, the working people as a whole to expand socialist competition for the successful fulfillment of the tenth five-year plan and thus ensure the further strengthening of the Soviet state's economic might and the steadfast growth of the material and cultural standards of the people.

Pravda, October 27, 1976.

SPEECH BY LEONID BREZHNEV AT CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM ON OCTOBER 25

Comrades, not much time, about eight months, has passed since the Party's 25th Congress. But this period of time turned out to be quite sufficient for millions of people to become convinced through their experience and daily practice of the substantiated nature of the Party's decisions.

The Party's course, mapped out by the 25th Congress, ensures a steady building up of the country's economic potential, perfection of socialist social relations and our further advance to communism. It is directed at the solution of the most topical problems facing the country, concerning the interests of every Soviet person. That is why the

Party's domestic and foreign policy has the ardent support of all Communists, of the entire Soviet people. That is why fulfillment of the Congress decisions has become an intrinsic requirement of the working people of town and countryside. Soviet people have faith in their Party and prove this by deeds, by selfless work.

The present plenary meeting of the Central Committee is of special importance for the entire Party, for the entire Soviet people. Whereas the Congress approved the "Guidelines for the development of the national economy of the USSR for 1976-1980," it is now up to us to make the next step: to study the tenth five-year plan. The plan and budget for 1977 have also been submitted to the plenary meeting.

Proceeding from the instructions of the Political Bureau, the Council of Ministers and the State Planning Committee have worked hard after the Congress to improve the drafts of the five-year and annual plans.

At the same time a number of major economic problems were studied at meetings of the Political Bureau and Secretariat of the CPSU Central Committee. The adopted resolutions outline concrete measures, and their implementation will open up additional possibilities for a successful fulfillment of the five-year plan.

The reports by Comrades N.K. Baibakov and V.F. Garbuzov allow us to visualize the heights that we are to reach in the coming five years, and demonstrate the main specifics of the tenth five-year plan and of the next economic year.

Our task, the task of this meeting is, first of all, to evaluate the submitted drafts from the political point of view, from the point of view of the extent to which they accord with the Party's directives for the country's socio-economic development.

Further, our task is to chart the most effective ways of fulfilling economic plans. We must outline sectors of work, single out the key elements of the five-year and annual plans demanding the greatest attention of Party, YCL, state and economic bodies, the greatest concentration of the Party's and the people's efforts.

The decisions of the plenary meeting must become a militant program of the practical activity of all Party committees, of all Communists, to form the basis of the organizing and educational work aimed at raising still further the political and labor activity of working people.

In this connection I would like to express a number of considerations.

I shall begin with an assessment of the draft five-year plan as a whole.

A comparison of the Guidelines with the draft plan shows that the draft accords with the directives of the congress as regards all the general economic indicators, such as growth of national income, industrial and agricultural output, volume of capital investments and raising the population's living standards.

The tenth five-year plan period is a five-year plan of tremendous scope and big economic possibilities. More than 621 billion rubles will be invested in the national economy. During the five years the output of steel will grow by 27.2 million tons, of oil by 149.2 million tons, gas by 145.7 billion cubic metres, coal by 103.7 million tons and power generation by 341.4 billion kilowatt hours. The output of consumer goods will increase by 45.1 billion rubles. The average annual grain harvest is to go up by nearly 40 million tons.

On the whole, the absolute increments of the key indicators of national economic development during this five-year plan will be the greatest in the entire history of the country.

At the same time, the center of gravity of the draft plan is increasingly shifting toward qualitative indicators. This reflects the Party's demand to work better, to work more efficiently, to work with maximum results.

Labor productivity in the national economy will go up by 25 per cent. This will account for 90 per cent of the increment in industrial output and for the entire increment in agricultural output and in the volume of construction and erection work.

The branches that are in the front line of scientific and technological progress will develop at a higher pace.

During the five years the national economy will be supplied with large quantities of new machinery. Substantial measures are envisaged to perfect technology, to introduce progressive types of materials, comprehensive mechanization and automation of production. Extensive utilization of the achievements of science and technology will make it possible to cut production costs substantially and thereby to save an additional 20 billion rubles by 1980.

In accordance with the Party's agrarian policy the draft five-year plan provides for a further consolidation of the material and technical basis of agriculture. More than 170 billion rubles will be allocated for its needs. This is a tremendous sum. I must say frankly that it was not easy to find it. We had to curtail some of the requirements of other branches of the economy. But we did this deliberately since no task is

more pressing now than that of raising the agrarian sector of our economy to the most modern level.

During the years of the tenth five-year plan it is intended to put to use nearly nine million hectares of newly irrigated and drained land, and to water more than 37 million hectares of pastures. Agriculture will receive more than 466 million tons of fertilizers and chemical fodder additives, tens of thousands of machines and mechanisms to the total of 42 billion rubles.

Only recently such figures could seem to belong to the realm of fantasy. But now these are our plans, the reality of which is guaranteed by our firm economic foundation and by our experience, by our confidence in the Party's and the people's strength.

We can also say with satisfaction that the extensive social program proclaimed by the Party's 25th Congress is embodied in the draft of the five-year plan.

Speaking of the scope of the social program, it can be described by the following figures: the consumption fund during the five-year period will increase by nearly 76 billion rubles. This is almost 12 billion rubles more than its increment during the ninth five-year plan period. One hundred billion rubles will be allocated for housing and municipal construction and 20 billion rubles for the development of the material basis of medical services, education and culture.

This is how the Congress directive to improve all aspects of the Soviet people's life is being implemented.

Another specific feature of the social program of the tenth five-year plan is that along with a 21 per cent growth of the average real per capita incomes of the population there will be an even greater addition for families in the low-income bracket. Whereas in 1965 only four per cent of the population had a monthly income in excess of 100 rubles per member of family, by the end of the plan period about one half of the population will have such an income.

For state social undertakings alone, 17.7 billion rubles will be allocated by 1980. Thus it is intended to raise the rates and salaries of 31 million workers in the non-productive branches — education, public health, culture, trade and the services.

A new stage in raising the minimum wage, as well as the rates and salaries of industrial and office workers will begin in the tenth five-year period. The average earnings of industrial and office workers are to reach 170 rubles a month and those of collective farmers 116 rubles.

Much will be done to improve the position of women and children.

A partially paid leave will be introduced for working women to look after children till they reach the age of one. The number of children in pre-school institutions will increase by about three million.

Labor veterans comprise a big segment of our society. The level of minimum pensions will again be raised during this period and additional pension benefits will be granted to collective farmers.

While further increasing the cash incomes of the population, the plan lays emphasis on improving the supply of consumer goods. The retail goods turnover of state and cooperative trade will increase by 29 per cent, the quality and assortment of goods will be improved.

Assessing the social program of the tenth five-year plan, comrades, we have the right to say that its content fully accords with the principal task of the five-year plan and the Party's course at steadily raising the people's living standards.

As always, the five-year plan of developing the Soviet economy takes into consideration the specifics and requirements of every Union and Autonomous republic, ensures their harmonious development, their common advance to new heights of social progress. Our five-year plan is the Leninist policy of friendship of the peoples translated into the language of economics.

The further development of the international socialist division of labor and the constant advance of the Soviet Union together with the fraternal socialist countries along the road of economic integration are reflected in the tenth five-year plan.

On the whole, comrades, the drafts of the five-year plan as well as of the plan and budget for 1977 accord with the Party's economic strategy, with the line of the 25th CPSU Congress. The Central Committee has every reason therefore to improve these documents and instruct the Council of Ministers to submit them for consideration at the USSR Supreme Soviet session.

Of course, considering the size of our country's economy and the multitude of tasks that we have to tackle, it is very difficult to draw up a plan that would fully solve all questions and satisfy the requirements of all sectors of the economy. And, regrettably, planning in our country is not always in step with the times, nor can it always determine in good time all the existing reserves. Hence the strain on some elements of the five-year plan.

All this obliges the ministries and departments, regional and territorial committees, and central committees of the Communist parties of the Republics in their practical economic activities to find new reserves, to work for still higher achievements. All this demands special

control precisely over those sections where discrepancies and difficulties remain because of a shortage of resources.

I think the Central Committee members will support this approach.

It is necessary, as Lenin said, to display "... greater persistence, greater steadfastness, greater system in work, greater organizational and administrative skill on the grand scale" (*Collected Works*, Vol. 30, p. 406). So let us act in the Leninist manner.

The experience of this year, 1976, the first year of the tenth five-year plan, convincingly shows how great are our possibilities and the force of the Party's organizing work.

As is known, this year began in complex conditions. Our plans and the actual state of affairs were affected to a considerable extent by the consequences of last year's drought. Taking this into consideration, the Central Committee carried out a whole system of economic and organizational-political measures aimed at invigorating the performance of economic organs and mobilizing the working people to fulfill and overfulfill plan assignments.

As a result, industrial output in the first nine months of this year increased by 4.8 per cent as against 4.3 per cent stipulated by the annual plan. The industries of group "B" overfulfilled the plan of increasing output. Billions of rubles' worth of manufactured goods was produced over and above plan.

Permit me on behalf of the Central Committee to express firm confidence that the steel and building workers, oilmen and miners, workers in the textile and food industries, machine builders, workers in the chemical and power industries, transport workers, all workers in the socialist industry will succeed in consolidating the successes of this year and in advancing at a still faster pace to new labor accomplishments.

Workers in agriculture marked the beginning of the plan period with splendid successes, deserving the highest praise.

True, there were many causes for alarm: a long winter, a cold spring and showers during harvesting. But the people were undaunted, they worked heroically and did everything to take in a good harvest. And they have won.

Some five and a half billion poods of grain is already in storage. More than 216 millions tons of grain has already been threshed. Harvesting continues. It can be said that either we will very closely approach the record figures of 1973 or even surpass them. This is a tremendous victory.

The initiative of the Kuban grain growers played a big role in the

successful harvest. Their remarkable initiative received widespread support in the republics, territories and regions.

The collective and state farms of the Russian Federation supplied the Motherland with more than three billion poods of grain. I would like to make special mention of the achievements scored by the working people of Orenburg, Volgograd, Saratov, Rostov and many other regions.

Kazakhstan sold to the state more than 1,150 million poods of grain. This is a new achievement of which the republic's working people can be rightly proud.

I am confident that the praise and applause will not turn the heads of the people in Kazakhstan. The republic has huge reserves for further growth. A very serious discussion on this subject took place at the conference of economic and Party functionaries in Alma-Ata. And the subject matter of that discussion is related not only to the problems of Kazakhstan.

Nine hundred million poods of grain were supplied by the collective and state farms of the Ukraine. Plans of grain sales to the state have been considerably overfulfilled in Byelorussia, in the Baltic, Transcaucasian and Central Asian republics.

We have every right to say today that the battle for the 1976 grain crop has been won and won with flying colors. Its heroes are front-ranking collective farmers and workers of state farms, farm-machine operators, soldiers of the Soviet army who helped rural workers, the Party, YCL, and government officials, the tireless organizers of the harvesting effort. Its heroes are the working people of all the Union and Autonomous republics. From the high rostrum of the plenary meeting I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of them. Thank you, for the big harvest.

A good crop of sugar beet was grown. On the call of the farmers of Kharkov and Voronezh regions, the country's sugar beet growers performed an exemplary job.

The cotton growers of Uzbekistan, Turkmenia, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Kirghizia gladden us. We are convinced that the eight-million-ton mark will be surpassed again. But that is not the limit. I am sure there will be new records in the future.

It is important to note that along with the harvesting work, a sound basis is being laid for next year's crop. The area sown to winter crops is nearly five million hectares greater than last year; much autumn ploughing has been done and collective and state farms have been better provided with seeds.

It was a complex year for animal husbandry. But now the situation is changing for the better. The livestock population is growing. The storage of succulent and coarse fodder was carried out successfully. Many farms have set up reserve stocks of fodder. This is a useful and necessary measure. Only thus will the production of meat, milk and other animal husbandry produce become more dynamic.

So the five-year plan has got off to a good start. The economic rhythm of 1976 ensures fulfillment of the tasks set by the Party. This is not only an economic success but also a big political success.

To consolidate this success, exemplary labor endeavor is needed. Comrades, we must ensure good results this year with respect to quantitative indicators, quality of output and effectiveness of production.

Efficiency and quality. These two words have now become the motto of our entire economic activity. They express the objective requirements of the present stage of economic development.

To work for efficiency and quality means that every Soviet person, every labor collective should press for the highest labor productivity, strictly observe production discipline, the regime of economy, and to improve day after day the quality of work and output.

To work for efficiency and quality means that every manager and specialist must master the Leninist style of work, the Leninist science of management, introduce modern methods of planning and organizing production, actively champion scientific and technological progress.

To work for efficiency and quality means that every Communist, every Party organization should encourage and disseminate genuinely business-like and useful initiatives, resolutely remove everything that impedes creative thought and innovation, that impedes our advance.

By putting the emphasis on efficiency and quality we intend during the years of the plan period to expand the sources of economic growth, to balance the economy better, and in this way prepare a good basis for a substantial advance in the 1980s as well. This approach stems particularly from the already existing outlines spanning a 15-year period.

The draft five-year plan includes much that is needed to solve the problems of quality and efficiency. And much has already been done in this respect.

We have splendid examples of a truly party, truly business-like approach to these questions.

I have already mentioned the positive experience of the Likhachov

automobile plant in Moscow. The Svetlana Association is a fine example of good production organization. During the past five years the association's output-asset ratio went up by 54 per cent, while production costs were cut by 29 per cent.

More than 80 per cent of the output of the Azelektrosvet plant in Baku bears the stamp of quality. In the case of the Kamenets-Podolsk cable plant it is 79 per cent and of the Lyudinovo diesel locomotive plant — more than 73 per cent. This is largely the result of a number of ministries going over to new methods of directing scientific and technological progress in the different branches.

The collective of the Magnitogorsk metallurgical complex has achieved good results in utilizing production capacities. The coal miners of the Karagandaugol association have achieved the highest labor productivity in the industry.

Our Party congresses have sharply posed the task of strengthening ties between science and production. Both scientists and workers in industry have started extensive work to implement this task in practice. Much is being done by the Academy of Sciences of the USSR and the republican Academies of Sciences.

Thus, a number of complexes combining research institutes and industrial enterprises have been formed and are successfully operating under the auspices of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. This is facilitated by the purposeful work of the Central Committee of the Ukrainian Communist Party and of the Party organizations of the Kiev, Lvov, Dnepropetrovsk and other regions.

Good experience in consolidating ties between science and production has been accumulated in Moscow. On the basis of agreements on creative cooperation with industrial enterprises, more than 800 research institutes and design bureaus are engaged in various development projects to perfect production and management, and to improve the quality of output.

I could cite a multitude of positive examples. But you know very well, comrades, that by far not everywhere are things as they should be. Therefore, it is extremely important already at the beginning of the five-year plan to carefully study how questions of efficiency and quality are being solved by each ministry, by each association and enterprise, to tackle with greater energy layers of untouched reserves, to disseminate on a wider scale the experience of the best and to help the lagging to catch up.

The task could be formulated as follows: we must learn to work more effectively to raise efficiency. This will make it possible to

increase considerably the output of industrial products bearing the quality stamp; not just to double this output, as provided for by the draft five-year plan, but to achieve a much bigger increase. This will result in higher indicators in increasing the output-asset ratio and reducing the use of material. In the final count, this will make it possible to increase the rates of growth of the productivity of social labor and to achieve not the lower level of this indicator, as envisaged by the draft, but the higher level of the Guidelines.

In advancing this task the Central Committee counts on the full support of the entire Party, of all Party organizations.

We should bear in mind that the general demand to raise efficiency and quality is being implemented in a different manner in different sections of work. Our economic thinking must be concrete to the maximum. For this reason I would like to draw attention to some problems that are being pushed to the fore by the entire course of our economic development.

Capital construction is one of these problems, probably, the central one. The plan envisages a tremendous volume of work. It should be noted that the rates of commissioning new projects exceed those of the growth of investments. There is a change also in the structure of investments: while state investments for industrial construction during the five years are to increase by one third, their resources for technical re-equipment and reconstruction of operating enterprises are to go up by nearly 64 per cent. This is a concrete implementation of the 25th Congress directives on raising efficiency.

The five-year plan sets the task of decreasing the volume of unfinished construction, of reducing the time and cost of building and erecting work, and of speeding up reconstruction of existing capacities.

Maximum energy should be directed at accelerating the construction of big industrial complexes, since the fulfillment of output plans of many key products depends decisively on their timely commissioning.

The construction program of the five-year plan is an intensive one. The volume of commissioning new projects will grow with every year. This means that the time factor is an overriding one, and no time should be wasted in getting into stride; that work must begin with full force from the start. This the builders, planners, designers, suppliers, all on whom the schedules and quality of construction depend should bear in mind.

The Council of Ministers must chart measures for switching capital

construction to new methods of planning and financing in 1977. The performances of building organizations must be evaluated by finished projects and complexes. It is time to introduce order into this important sphere of our economic activity.

To the multimillion army of builders I want to say: the Motherland expects of you exemplary work and fulfillment of plan assignments. The fate of the entire five-year plan depends in many ways, comrades, on your work. What has been planned must be commissioned in time!

Another important task of the five-year plan is to raise the efficiency of such basic branches of the national economy as the mining, power and metallurgical industries.

Our achievements in developing these industries are generally known and in many indicators we have risen to first place in the world. Nevertheless, the huge scope of the economy and the dynamism of its development call for ever greater quantities of raw materials, fuel, energy and metal. The plan provides for a considerable growth of their output.

Requirements, however grow faster than resources. For this reason we are compelled, on the one hand, to introduce rigid control over expenditure, to observe the strictest regime of economy and, on the other hand, to issue additional assignments for the output of oil, gas, coal, steel, rolled stock and non-ferrous metals.

But a cardinal solution of the problem of uninterrupted satisfaction of the economy's growing requirements in raw materials and fuel, energy and metal, along with a further increase of their production, will require big efforts to raise the efficiency of all branches of heavy industry.

To explain this, I will cite the example of metal. It was not enough when we produced 50 million tons of steel, and there is a shortage today although we are producing nearly three times as much. It would be wrong and very costly for the economy to solve this problem solely by increasing output. For this reason the qualitative aspect of the matter, of raising the efficiency of this industry acquires prime importance. The reserves here are tremendous.

Then there is yet another very important aspect of this problem: the saving of metal in industries that are its main consumers. This economy can and should be ensured by way of a most advanced technology, reducing the weight of machines, resolutely cutting waste and discards, extensive use of economically effective substitutes of metal.

Recently, the Central Committee ordered the drafting of special resolutions on the development of ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy. It is intended to draw up and implement a comprehensive program of solving the metal problem. It is necessary to accelerate the drafting of these resolutions and to ensure their implementation.

Now about agriculture. The tenth five-year plan devotes much attention to this sector of the economy. It is important to consolidate and develop the successes in grain production. To produce 235 million tons of grain by the end of the plan period — that is our central task. This requires improved farming techniques: more rational use of arable land, stepping up work for higher yields, sowing larger areas to winter crops, with more attention to such valuable crops as rice, maize, millet, soybeans and sorghum.

Of course, the country's requirements are not limited to grain. It is necessary to increase the production of cotton, flax, sugar beet, sunflower seeds, vegetables, fruits and other agricultural products. What is particularly important is to put out more, many more animal husbandry products, to overcome quicker the difficulties in supplying the population with meat and dairy products.

Understandably, I cannot dwell today on all the tasks facing agriculture. Many of them were taken up earlier in this or that forum. The Political Bureau has adopted a number of decisions on the most topical of them, and these decisions are known to you.

I would like to emphasize once again that the problem of further developing agriculture at the present stage is first of all a problem of increasing its efficiency in the broadest meaning of the word. The general task can be formulated as follows: to make rational use of the tremendous resources provided by the state for the development of agriculture, to treat the land with care, to press for maximum results from each hectare, from each invested ruble, from every ton of fertilizers.

Let us take land improvement. The plan allocates more than 40 billion rubles for this, as much as was spent during the previous two five-year plans taken together. Till now such colossal programs have not existed in world practice. And we can be proud of this.

Large sums will be spent on the creation of a large zone of guaranteed grain production in the Volga region, on land improvement in the non-black earth zone, on expanding irrigation in Kazakhstan, in the Central Asian republics, in the south of the Ukraine and in other areas.

Obviously, on allocating tremendous sums for land improvement the state is entitled to expect an appropriate increment of production

from the irrigated and drained lands, and improved quality. Cadres should be oriented toward this and the work of water conservation and land management bodies must be subordinated to this.

The end result should also determine our approach to the mechanization of agriculture. Here one must put first the quality of tractors, machines and equipment, their delivery in complete sets, training of machine operators and inducing them to stay in the countryside.

When discussing the draft Five-Year Plan we seriously reproached the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building. While complaining of a shortage of facilities to produce new machinery, it continues to make tractors and machines of obsolete design, long off the demand lists of the collective and state farms. For example, the DT-54 tractor is being produced already for some 30 years. There is absolutely no excuse for the Ministry's failure to provide for the output of the necessary sets of trailer and attachment devices for the excellent "Kirovets" tractors even toward the end of the current five-year period. Not to correct the situation means to wittingly doom the new powerful machinery to idleness.

Evidently the Council of Ministers ought to specially examine the performance of this Ministry and resolutely improve the situation.

The problems of chemicalizing agriculture should also be looked at from the point of view of efficiency.

It is important to provide higher quality fertilizers, rapidly increase the output of phosphates, which are particularly needed in the grain-growing areas of Siberia and Kazakhstan. The agrochemical service must be greatly improved. And what is crucial — a stop must be put to fertilizer losses.

While showing concern for the efficient use of mineral fertilizers, we must not overlook the need to rapidly increase their output, particularly during the first years of the five-year period. I say this because projects that were to be commissioned already last year, are not yet in operation, and there is a lag in fulfilling this year's plan. The situation must be promptly corrected, for the successes of agriculture greatly depend on this. I should think the Political Bureau will shortly hear the comrades responsible for this matter.

Major tasks are facing animal husbandry. Here, along with measures to increase the stock, more attention should be given to quality indicators, to raising efficiency. Let me point to the possibilities of developing the beef cattle industry, the introduction of intensive methods of feeding and fattening of cattle. In the opinion of specialists, this would help to increase the average weight of the

animals sold to the state to at least 350-400 kilograms. This, considering our country's size, means an additional one and a half to two million tons of meat.

Rapid development of pig and sheep breeding provides enormous opportunities for raising meat production. Big returns can be derived from the broiler industry, as indicated by world and Soviet practice.

Promoting the specialization and concentration of agricultural production on the basis of inter-farm cooperation and agro-industrial integration will doubtlessly help greatly in increasing efficiency and further improving the quality indicators of agriculture. Hidden here are tremendous opportunities for increasing the volume of production, for steeply raising labor productivity, reducing the production costs of crop and animal produce.

At the same time, I want to warn once more against hasty actions in this regard. There have been instances when comrades in the localities have been in a hurry to destroy the old before creating anything new, of farm departments being eliminated while specialized enterprises were still under construction. Such an approach does not help to speed up the rates of increasing output.

One should also say in this connection that curtailing the production of agricultural products on the personal plots of collective farmers, workers and employees is also premature. Personal plots should be given more attention and care.

Obviously, besides increasing agricultural production, we must use more effectively what agriculture is now yielding. Nothing could be worse than the loss of valuable products needed by the consumer, involving huge outlays and intensive work by collective farmers and state farm workers.

It is particularly fitting to call this to mind this year. We have won the battle for the harvest at the price of enormous effort. But to ensure complete victory, the next battle must also be won — to preserve the bountiful gifts of the earth, for every Soviet family to see right on its table the fruits of the efforts to raise agricultural production.

In other words, the point is to properly adjust all the parts of the mechanism linking agriculture to the consumer. Many concrete steps in this regard can and must be taken already now, without waiting for additional directives.

At the same time improvement of the production-economic cooperation of agriculture with other closely related branches is a big and complicated question.

Its solution demands elaboration of a harmonious system of measures that would ensure the smooth interaction of all branches of the agro-industrial complex, all enterprises and organizations comprising it. The question arises also of a decisive improvement in the management of food supplies. On the instructions of the Central Committee, work is now under way to define ways for tackling these questions.

Regarding the production and storage of fruits, vegetables and other perishables, new organizational forms will probably be needed to consolidate the material and technical base of purchasing organizations and processing enterprises. There is experience along these lines in Moldavia, the Ukraine, Central Asia, in Azerbaijan, Georgia, in the North Caucasus. Measures toward the specialization and concentration of vegetable and fruit production, based on inter-farm and agro-industrial cooperation, are proving very effective. In this important matter better use should be made of the possibilities of consumer cooperatives.

Thus, agriculture is facing big tasks. May I express the conviction that the workers of the countryside will do everything to mark 1977 and the five-year period as a whole with high achievements.

As you will recall, the need to decisively improve the production of manufactured consumer goods was stressed at the Congress. Without repeating what was said, I should like to point out first of all that we regard the group "B" targets the minimum targets, as laid down in the draft plan.

It is fitting to recall this, for in the past five-year period only 5 out of 19 industrial ministries fulfilled group "B" production targets. This must not happen again. We must more stringently demand of the ministers fulfillment of the plans of consumer goods production.

It is a matter of honor for the branches producing consumer goods to overfulfill the planned and the additional assignments. We all believe, comrades, that the workers in these branches will successfully solve the task set by the Party.

The reserves for raising quality are particularly great in Group "B" branches. This is true not only of the articles of the footwear, knitwear and clothing industries, but also of many durables.

And quality should not only be seen in the utility value of this or that article, but also in its finish and style. This means the planning of consumer goods production stands in need of serious improvement. It must be made much more flexible and sensitive to changes in consumer tastes and requirements.

Another pressing matter is to solve the question of quality incen-

tives in the production of consumer goods. Organizational questions have also become acute ones. Along with the Ministry of Light Industry, numerous branches of the economy are engaged in the manufacture of such goods. Yet proper coordination among them is lacking.

The USSR Council of Ministers is now preparing proposals for promoting the production of articles of mass consumption. I think the comrades must have a sufficiently broad approach to the tasks confronting them, must direct their efforts not at petty, partial improvements, but at achieving a breakthrough in the entire sphere of consumer goods production and services.

This is an extremely important, indeed a program question, both socially and economically. In the current five-year period it assumes particular urgency. We are mobilizing people for highly productive labor, for the overfulfillment of plan targets, toward counter-plans and, in a number of branches, toward additional assignments. This, naturally, makes it incumbent on us to better satisfy the needs of the people, to meet its growing incomes with an adequate supply of high quality consumer goods and services.

Another important question to which I would like to draw the attention of the participants in this plenary session, is that of labor resources.

Our country's needs in manpower will be growing both in the productive and the non-productive spheres. Yet the effect of the demographic factors stemming from the remote consequences of the war will lead in the 80s to a steep drop in the growth of the able-bodied population.

The prevailing situation sharply poses the task of a more rational utilization and economy of labor resources. The main path of solving it is to accelerate the growth of labor productivity, first of all by mechanizing manual labor not only in production proper, but also in the auxiliary jobs of loading, unloading and repair work.

Scientific and technical thought should be directed at solving this task, the attention of inventors and rationalizers should be drawn to it, it should be placed at the center of the work of engineering branches.

The factor of labor resources, their economic use must be given more attention when drawing up capital construction projects, more care should be shown for the housing, working and living conditions of people, particularly in remote areas, for attracting cadres and inducing them to stay on.

At the same time, comrades, the closest attention should be given to the state of labor discipline. We still have many, too many cases of absenteeism, tardiness and forced idleness. This is a great evil entailing the loss of millions of man-days. And all Party organizations, the entire public should be roused to fight it.

In a word, comrades, there are many questions and they are acute and difficult ones. Their solution requires constant, systematic work, both centrally and in the localities.

Briefly about foreign economic relations. The attention given by the Central Committee in recent years to their development has brought fruit, both politically and economically.

We shall follow this course in the current five-year period too. Trade with the other socialist countries is expected to grow by 41 per cent, and with the industrially advanced capitalist states — by more than 31 per cent. The plan envisages the creation of many industrial projects on a compensation basis.

The the wider our foreign economic relations, the more important becomes the question of their effectiveness.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers recently adopted a decision on improving the management of foreign economic activity. It outlines a system of measures to overcome existing shortcomings, with important assignments to central economic bodies. The Central Committee will keep this question under unslackening control.

Comrades, I could not, nor did I intend to speak about the tasks facing us on all key sectors in fulfilling the five-year plan, including such pressing ones as transport, where serious difficulties have cropped up; improving the system of material and technical supply; realizing the tasks set by the Congress for improving macro-economic planning and management. These matters will be taken up in earnest in the future. But I would like the Party and economic management bodies already today to actively undertake the preparation of measures aimed at overcoming in the shortest time possible the difficulties and shortcomings existing in these important sectors of work. Time is pressing.

A few remarks referring to our work in the coming year, 1977.

As I already said, the results of the current year show that we can advance faster than envisaged by plan. To create a sufficient margin of advance, to guarantee fulfillment of the five-year plan as a whole, we must make still better headway in 1977 and do everything to

exceed planned targets. This should not be done at the expense of efficiency and quality, of course, but rather by raising them.

In this connection counter-plans are assuming tremendous importance. Manifested in their elaboration and implementation is the striving of working collectives to make a concrete contribution to the pre-term fulfillment of the five-year plan targets, to the solution of key economic problems set forth by the 25th Congress.

This gives wide scope for the activities of economic management bodies and for Party, Soviet, trade union and YCL organizations as well. Socialist emulation, that powerful, tested lever for raising labor activity, for the successful fulfillment of economic tasks, must be aimed at the overfulfillment of monthly and quarterly targets, at intensifying the regime of economy of material and financial assets, of raw materials, fuel and energy.

1977, the second year of our work to fulfill the decisions of the 25th Congress, is remarkable in that the country will celebrate a great jubilee — the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. Permit me to express our conviction that our entire Leninist Party, the whole people will come to those glorious days with new labor feats, with new labor achievements in every sector of the great front of struggle for communism.

And now, comrades, permit me to dwell on some questions of the Party's international activities.

These proceed under the sign of implementing the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress. We started to translate into life the program of further struggle for peace and international cooperation, for freedom and independence of the peoples, adopted by the Congress, at once, without any lengthy preliminaries.

As always, the Political Bureau of the Central Committee is giving priority attention to the development of fraternal relations with the socialist countries. We can say with satisfaction that the past months were marked by considerable successes in the further consolidation of the positions of world socialism.

The great community of socialist states is growing in strength, and is developing successfully. The 25th Congress of the CPSU gave a high assessment of the fraternal cooperation of our countries and parties, which I will not repeat. The congresses of a number of fraternal parties (Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the GDR, Mongolia) held after the 25th CPSU Congress, just as the congresses of the Communists of Hungary, Poland and Cuba, held somewhat earlier, asserted once again the unbreakable ideological unity and political

cohesion of our close-knit family. Recently we played host to a Party and government delegation from Mongolia, headed by Comrade Tsendenbal. We had good talks and signed a number of important agreements. In November we are expecting in the Soviet Union a Polish delegation led by Comrade Gierek. A visit to the Soviet Union by Comrade Ceausescu and our comradely conversations with him facilitated the development of our friendship with Rumania, with its Communist Party.

The economic cooperation of the socialist countries continues to move forward. The 30th session this summer of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance adopted important decisions, in particular, on developing long-term target-oriented programs — for raw materials, power engineering, food, etc. In a word, socialist economic integration is gaining strength.

The session was attended this time not only by representatives of Yugoslavia, but also of Vietnam, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Laos and Angola. This points to the growing prestige of the CMEA, to its expanding ties.

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee constantly maintains close contacts with the leaders of the fraternal parties of socialist countries. In this regard I also had to do quite a job. Apart from useful meetings that took place in the course of the Berlin conference of Communist Parties at the end of June, including meetings with Comrade Tito, I had talks, as you know, in the Crimea with Comrades Gierek, Husak, Zhivkov, Ceausescu, Tsendenbal, Honecker and Kadar. These were substantial, truly comradely, frank conversations on many topical questions of our cooperation and joint actions.

On the whole this year's series of Crimean meetings turned out to be still another stage in developing our fraternal cooperation, in the further elaboration of our joint positions. The Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee endorsed the work carried out during these meetings. A number of parties also adopted special decisions highly assessing their importance.

In a word, comrades, our splendid community of socialist states is living a rich, full-blooded life. This factor is of tremendous importance and our Leninist party will do everything in its power to continue this trend in the future.

Of very great significance is the fact that the reunification of Vietnam has been completed and it has been proclaimed a socialist republic. The Socialist Republic of Vietnam now has a population in excess

of 50 million. For size of population it is the third biggest socialist state in the world.

Vietnam, with its great experience of heroic struggle against imperialist aggression, for freedom and independence, with its exalted revolutionary prestige, has become today an important factor of peace and progress in Southeast Asia, indeed in all Asia. We ardently welcome the historic victory of our Vietnamese friends and wish them new great successes!

The victory of patriotic forces of Laos, and the leadership of that country passing to the Marxist-Leninist People's Revolutionary Party, was another important event. Having taken power into their hands, the working people of that country started the building of a new life. Last spring's visit to the USSR by a Laotian party and government delegation and the good comradely talk which Comrade Suslov and I recently had with the General Secretary of the fraternal Laotian party Comrade Kaysone Phomvihane, showed the good prospects of Soviet-Laotian friendship. I think, comrades, that we have every ground to say that in Laos the family of socialist states has another new member.

The road of independent development has opened up to democratic Cambodia too.

As before, the question of our relations with China stands apart. Complicated political processes are taking place there. It is still difficult to say what will be the future political course of the PRC. However, it is clear already today that the foreign policy line Peking pursued for one and a half decades has been greatly discredited throughout the world.

As for the Soviet Union, the striving to improve relations with China is our consistent course. As stressed at the 25th Congress of the CPSU, "in our relations with China, as with other countries, we adhere firmly to the principles of equality, respect of sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, and non-use of force. In short, we are prepared to normalize relations with China in line with the principles of peaceful coexistence." More than that. It was clearly indicated at our Congress that we stand for the restoration of good relations between the USSR and the PRC in line with the principles of socialist internationalism. I want to emphasize that, in our opinion, there are no issues in relations between the USSR and the PRC that could not be resolved in the spirit of good-neighborliness. We will continue to act in this direction. The matter will depend on what stand will be taken by the other side.

As for our relations with Albania, we, as is known, are prepared to resume them and do not consider that there are any objective factors dividing our countries.

Many major political events have taken place in countries that have freed themselves from colonial dependence. Mention should be made first of all of the victory scored by the patriots of Angola over foreign imperialist interventionists and forces of international reaction.

The heroic struggle of the Angolan people met with the sympathy and support of a number of progressive African countries as well as of the socialist countries, including the Soviet Union and, as is known, also of Cuba. We gave disinterested support to the just struggle of Angola's patriots, responded to the request of Angola's lawful government, and we are proud of this!

Angola's victory became an inspiring incentive for the forces of progress in the African continent. There has been an intensification of the struggle of the peoples against such bastions of racism and reaction, such stooges of world imperialism as South Africa and Rhodesia. The anti-imperialist forces in Africa feel more confident. We, too, could sense this when playing host in Moscow during the past several months to a number of high-ranking delegations of independent African countries, of fighters for the freedom and progress of the peoples of that continent.

As for the recent visit to the Soviet Union by the President of Angola Comrade Neto, it laid a firm groundwork for a further development and strengthening of friendship between our countries. The conclusion of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and Angola is a new step to strengthening the great friendship between the world of socialism and the young emergent states, a considerable step at that, a convincing step!

Fruitfully developing are our ties with the young African Republic of Mozambique. A new evidence of this was the visit to the USSR this summer by the President of the Republic FRELIMO Chairman Samora Machel.

I want also to emphasize particularly the importance of the visit to the USSR this year by the head of government of friendly India, Madame Indira Gandhi. Our talks with her confirmed again that our friendship with that great and peace-loving Asian power is strengthening and deepening, that our cooperation is expanding to the great benefit of the peoples of both countries and universal peace.

Active steps are being taken on our part in support of the just demands by the developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin

America for the restructuring of international economic relations on the basis of equality, for removing all forms of exploitation by capitalist states of weaker partners in the Third World. The interests of socialist and developing countries coincide in this field, as well as in many other fields.

Of course, in the Third World, just as in our planet in general, a stubborn struggle continues between the forces of progress and the forces of reaction. This is also testified by the Fifth conference of heads of state and government of non-aligned countries, that was held in Colombo in August. The non-alignment movement has become a noticeable factor of international life, an important link of the worldwide front of struggle by the peoples against imperialism, colonialism and aggression. The documents on political and economic problems adopted in Colombo as a result of lengthy and, as it has become known, sometimes difficult discussions confirmed that on the whole the non-alignment movement retains its progressive nature.

Comrades, the 25th Congress set the task of concentrating the efforts of peace-loving states on the liquidation of the remaining hotbeds of war and first of all on the attainment of a just and lasting settlement in the Middle East. This task acquired lately a special, even burning topicality. The point is that the situation in that area has again worsened due to the bloody events in Lebanon.

If we look at the root of the events we will see that this is a new attempt by world imperialism — the United States and other NATO powers — to deal a blow at the forces of anti-imperialist revolution in the Middle East, to preserve and strengthen their positions there. Imperialism has now taken to the road of provoking internecine conflicts of Arabs against Arabs. The possibilities for this lie in the increased class stratification inside Arab countries, in the growth of socio-political differences between them.

In Lebanon the forces of internal reaction, armed and encouraged by the Western powers, supported by Israel and Saudi Arabia, have launched an offensive against the local national-patriotic forces. But first of all their blow is directed against the detachments of the Palestine Resistance Movement, that is against an anti-imperialist detachment of the Arab world. Unfortunately, Syria has found itself drawn into the orbit of military actions.

From the very outset, the Soviet Union came out for the ending of the fratricidal war in Lebanon, for the protection of that country's progressive forces and Palestinian patriots, preservation of the state

unity of Lebanon and for frustrating the reactionary plan of splitting that country.

At the same time we hold the view that it is very important to settle in a spirit of mutual goodwill the relations between Palestinian and Lebanese patriots, on the one hand, and neighboring Syria, on the other hand. This is necessary for restoring the unity of anti-imperialist forces in the Arab East.

As is known, a conference of heads of state of Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Syria, Kuwait and Lebanon and Arafat, the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, was held recently. An agreement on a cease-fire, on creating inter-Arab security forces and on normalizing the situation in Lebanon was achieved.

Judging by everything, this agreement, at least in relation to the cease-fire, is being on the whole observed. We will see how matters develop further.

Our attitude to an agreement on ending the war in Lebanon is, of course, positive. We would like to hope that the process of normalizing the situation there will pass on a healthy basis, without detriment to the Lebanese patriotic forces and the Palestine Resistance Movement.

It seems that much time will yet be needed for a full normalization of the situation in that area. As for the USSR, we will continue to do everything for the success of the peace settlement in Lebanon.

Comrades, we clearly see that the unsettled situation in the Middle East in general is the real basis of the events in Lebanon. Recently, the Soviet Union came out with a new initiative aimed at the resumption of the Geneva Conference on the Middle East with the participation of all interested sides, including also the Palestine Resistance Movement. We proposed a concrete agenda for that conference. It encompasses all problems whose solution would really bring about the establishment of a lasting peace in the Middle East.

Thereby we consistently keep to our course in respect to the conflict in the Middle East. Our policy is a principled, class, Marxist-Leninist one, and it is only such a policy that our country can pursue.

Comrades, the international policy of our Party implies first of all struggle for lasting peace. We see one of the most important tasks in making full use, and not only in Europe, of the favorable possibilities created by the holding of the European Conference, by the document on the peaceful coexistence and cooperation of states adopted in

Helsinki. In full conformity with the program approved by the 25th Congress of the Party, we are continuing the work to develop equal and mutually advantageous relations with capitalist states.

At every stage this work has its specifics. Five or ten years ago the task was to create the basis for normal relations of peaceful coexistence with France, the FRG, the United States, Canada, Italy, Britain and other capitalist countries, to free these relations of the main effects of the cold war. When this had been accomplished in the main, we advanced further, developing ever more extensive cooperation in the field of politics, economy, science, technology and culture.

Many useful things in this respect were accomplished in recent months as well. Signed, for instance, were agreements, that fully accord with the spirit and letter of the Final Act adopted in Helsinki, like the ten-year agreement with Canada on facilitating economic, industrial, scientific and technological cooperation, agreements on similar questions with Cyprus and Portugal, the Soviet-Portuguese agreement on cultural cooperation, the agreements with France on preventing accidental or unsanctioned use of nuclear weapons, on cooperation in the field on energy, civil aviation and aircraft manufacture, and with Finland in the field of public health and social security. As you see, things are moving ahead. The whole world sees that the USSR is advancing along the road of peace and peaceful cooperation. And the whole world should know that we will go further along this road.

It must be admitted, however, that development of our relations with a number of states has slowed down lately, and through no fault of ours. This was due largely to the complex political situation in some countries, in particular the election campaigns in the United States and in the FRG.

Suffice it to say that matters are actually at a standstill in such an important question of Soviet-American relations as the drafting of a new long-term agreement on the limitation of offensive strategic weapons, although the main content of this document was already agreed at summit level late in 1974.

Though they received our latest proposals on the remaining questions in March of this year, the American side has not yet given an answer to them. It is intimated that the reason for this lies in the complexities of the election situation. We can only regret such an approach to an issue on which the strengthening of the peace and security of two great nations depends, as well as the general improvement of the situation in the world for years to come.

But on the whole, the development of our relations with the United States retains so far its positive orientation. The Treaty on Underground Nuclear Explosions for Peaceful Purposes was signed recently. There is mutually advantageous cooperation in many fields of science and technology. Cultural exchanges have acquired a rather extensive scale. Economic ties, too, are expanding little by little, despite the obstacles created by discriminatory trade legislation in the United States. Were it not for these obstacles, our economic ties would have certainly acquired a different scope.

In the course of the election campaign the rival candidates — President Ford and Mr. Carter — have repeatedly made statements on foreign policy matters, on relations with the Soviet Union.

These statements, however, are mostly of a rather general and, not infrequently, of a contradictory nature. On the whole, both contenders appear to favor further normalization of the international situation and good relations with the USSR. But one often hears from them also statements of a different sort: calls for a further arms race, for a "positions of strength policy," for the so-called "tough line" with respect to the Soviet Union, etc.

Nevertheless, whoever comes to power in Washington after the elections, the United States will apparently have to take into consideration the actual alignment of world forces that had prompted the American ruling circles after a sober analysis of the situation to commence in recent years to a search for accords with the world of socialism. In any case, one thing should be absolutely clear: our policy of extensive relations with the United States, of lessening the danger of a new world war remains invariable.

Now about relations with the Federal Republic of Germany. Elections to the Bundestag were held there recently. In the course of the election campaign there was a noticeable increase in the activity of forces attacking the government's "ostpolitik" from anti-Soviet, barely concealed revanchist positions. In that situation we found it necessary to come out with a statement on our policy in respect to the FRG so that the Soviet Union's position would be clear to all.

To emphasize the readiness of both sides to develop good relations between the USSR and the FRG, we reached an agreement in principle with Chancellor Schmidt that I would pay another visit to the Federal Republic. A short announcement on this was published.

Although the government coalition lost some ground, its victory at the elections confirmed, as we see it, that the majority of the FRG's population comes out for peace and the relaxation of tension, for the

further improvement of relations with socialist states. This apparently creates conditions for the normal development of mutually advantageous relations between the USSR and the FRG. Our position is clear: we stand for this.

Our relations with France, I would say multi-faceted relations, including also in questions of foreign policy, continue to develop with success, although, of course, it is by no means in all international matters that we have common positions with the leadership of that country.

It is not unlikely that, at the invitation of President Giscard d'Estaing and in accordance with the established practice of exchanging visits, I will visit France again in the near future. I think this will offer an opportunity not only to discuss questions of interest to both sides, but also to generate an impulse for new initiatives in the traditionally friendly cooperation of the two great peoples.

We have attached and do attach serious importance to relations with Japan, our neighbor and a major Asian state. We have always considered as possible and desirable the development of broad and firm relations with Japan on the principles of mutual respect and mutual profit, relations permeated with the spirit of good neighborliness. As you know, we have spoken of this repeatedly, including at the 25th Party Congress.

The last time I had an opportunity to voice some considerations about the concrete prospects of long-term — ten-15 year — economic cooperation between our two countries was last August, when I talked in the Crimea with a prestigious delegation of Japanese businessmen, led by Chairman of the Federation of Japan's Economic Organizations Mr. Doko.

The reaction of the Japanese participants in the talk and subsequent comments in Japan itself were positive. This confirmed once again the existence of a solid foundation for developing broad, firm, mutually advantageous relations between our two countries (as a matter of fact this has so far been confirmed by practice).

However, we entertain no illusions and know that a complicated struggle for truly good Soviet-Japanese relations still lies ahead. A fresh reminder of this were the actions by the Japanese authorities during the recent incident with the Soviet plane which made a landing in Japan. The facts are known to all. We have already clearly voiced our opinion about these Japanese actions in Soviet government statements and in A.A. Gromyko's talk with the Foreign Minister of Japan. Here I only want to stress that the behavior of the Japanese

authorities seriously beclouded the general atmosphere of Soviet-Japanese relations. It sowed doubts among Soviet people in the sincerity of the statements made in Tokyo about the desire for good relations with the USSR.

Comrades! We want the peaceful coexistence of states to be not only bilateral, but to assume an ever wider, multilateral character, forming, as it were, a connecting tissue of lasting peace. The Soviet Union's proposals to hold all-European congresses on the problems of transport, energetics, environmental protection are directed precisely toward this end.

On the whole, the work to implement the Helsinki accords is taking the form of scores and even hundreds of practical deeds. They may not always be conspicuous, but this is Party and state work of exceptional importance. And we Soviet people value the efforts of those who work in this direction. For our common cause, the cause of peace, is close to the heart of every Soviet person.

The so-called confidence measures — the practice of giving timely notice to other countries about forthcoming major military exercises and inviting foreign observers to such maneuvers, approved on our initiative at the All-European Conference, played a useful role in creating a calmer atmosphere in Europe.

We consistently observe also the provisions of the Final Act adopted in Helsinki concerning the expansion of cultural and other ties and contacts among peoples and broader exchange of information. We proceed from the fact that in the conditions of relaxation of tension the development of such ties and contacts is quite natural — of course given the strict observance of the principles of mutual respect for the sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of each other. But to violate these principles in relations with the Soviet Union, to act counter to the interests of the Soviet people and our socialist system, that — you will have to excuse us, gentlemen — we will not permit.

In this connection one must say that in the conditions of détente ever higher demands are set to our ideological work. Our propaganda, both inside the country and abroad, must sensitively respond to the changes taking place in the world, must be understandable and convincing. The Central Committee will continue to hold questions of ideological work in the center of its attention. We shall demand the same of all Party bodies and organizations.

Comrades, no task is more important in working for a lasting peace today than putting an end to the arms race unleashed by the im-

perialist powers, and a transition to disarmament. The aggressive circles of the capitalist world respond to their defeats in social battles, to the loss of colonial possessions, to ever new countries abandoning capitalism, to the successes of world socialism and the growing influence of the Communist Parties in bourgeois states, by feverish military preparations: swelling military budgets, creating new types of weapons and new bases and by military demonstrations. Imperialism hopes through this "position of strength" to retain the possibility (now slipping out of its hands) of ordering other countries and peoples about.

Seeking to underpin their policy "ideologically," so to speak, the imperialist prodders of the arms race do not scruple in their choice of means, nor are they much concerned about logic. When they need new credits for armaments, they scare the parliamentarians and public with the "superiority of Soviet power," but when a show of concern for defense is indicated, they assure the electorate of the "absolute military superiority of the West."

As for our defense, we spend on it just as much as is necessary to assure the Soviet Union's security, to defend jointly with the fraternal countries the gains of socialism, so that potential aggressors will not be tempted to try to use force to solve in their favor the historical controversy between the two opposing social systems. To maintain the country's armed forces at a high level so that the Soviet soldiers will always have the most sophisticated weaponry, which the imperialists cannot but take into account — that is our duty to the people and we will sacredly fulfill it.

At the same time we have no greater desire than to switch the assets, of necessity diverted today from the national economy, to raising the people's living standards, to creative purposes. We are prepared even tomorrow to start disarmament measures — big and radical, or, for a start, only partial — on a truly fair, reciprocal basis. As for us, we shall not be found wanting.

Many years ago Lenin spoke of disarmament as the "ideal of socialism." At the time no real prerequisites existed yet to stop the growth of militarism, to avert the threat of a world war. Today the situation has changed. The influence of the forces of socialism and peace is such that an advance toward solving this cardinal task, if only gradually and in individual sectors, is entering the plane of the possible. Moreover, the ruling capitalist quarters are beginning to realize that to stake on a new world holocaust in this nuclear age is as futile as it is perilous and criminal.

Through joint efforts of the peace-loving forces, with the active contribution of our country, substantial results have been achieved in reducing the threat of a new, nuclear war. Concrete, binding international treaties and agreements have been concluded on ending a considerable part of nuclear weapons tests and measures against their further spread, on their non-deployment in space, the sea and ocean floor, on limiting strategic armaments by the Soviet Union and the United States, on prohibiting and eliminating bacteriological weapons. These are not at all bad results. They refute the sceptics' lament that the struggle for disarmament is futile. But what has been achieved needs to be consolidated and developed further in order to effectively stop the new arms race.

You will recall, comrades, the sharp and principled way the question of disarmament was posed at our Party's 25th Congress. After the Congress, the Political Bureau has repeatedly discussed ways of giving a new impetus to this important struggle. It was resolved, in particular, to advance, a number of concrete proposals at the next General Assembly session.

The Soviet Union proposed concluding a world treaty on the non-use of force in international disputes. This document was described in detail at the General Assembly session. Here I only wish to stress that the non-use of force in our draft covers inter-state relations without infringing the peoples' inalienable right to fight for their social and national emancipation. We strictly distinguish between these two spheres.

The Soviet Union also submitted to the UN a comprehensive document — a memorandum containing a broad, all-round program of the most urgent disarmament measures.

In short, our country has again come out before the world with a concrete program of disarmament. In order to make this program as realistic as possible, substantial new elements have been included. This views of many states on a number of questions have been taken into account, of course without prejudice to the interests of our security. Our stand is also flexible in the sense that we are prepared to tackle the implementation of either all the measures stipulated under the program, or, for a start, only some of them, moving from one step to another.

Disarmament must become the common cause of all states without exception. This purpose is served by our proposals to convene a world disarmament conference or, as a first step, a special session of the UN General Assembly.

The new Soviet initiatives have met with understanding and support on the part of many states and the broad peace-loving public. This gladdens us. It inspires new efforts in the name of lasting peace on earth!

The Soviet Union, I want to specially emphasize, continues to hold that the attainment of success at the Vienna negotiations on reducing armed forces and armaments in Central Europe, is one of the most important tasks. We propose concrete solutions that would lead to a reduction of the military forces confronting each other in Europe without damage to any of the sides. We are ready to discuss counter-proposals based on the same principles. We are prepared for further joint construction search (but precisely constructive, honest, not aimed at unilateral advantage), for negotiations with our partners at any level, including the highest.

Dear comrades, speaking of our chief gain in international affairs, it can be said that as a result of the efforts undertaken together with the other socialist states and with the support of all peace-loving, realistically-minded forces, it became possible to ward off the threat of nuclear war, to make peace more reliable and stronger.

We can all rejoice at and take pride in such a result, comrades! The winner is all mankind!

In conclusion, allow me to dwell briefly on some questions of the world communist movement.

First of all, it must be noted that in the course of stubborn class battles the Communist Parties in a number of capitalist countries have achieved major successes of late. They have expanded their mass basis, enhanced their prestige and their weight in the political life.

In three out of the six major capitalist powers — France, Italy and Japan — there are mass Communist Parties which during elections receive more than 20 million votes. As a result of the latest elections, the Communist Party of Italy has won such positions that not a single major question in the life of that state can now be decided without its participation.

In France the Communists' alliance with the Socialists and other left forces has become a generally recognized, weighty factor in the country's political life. After long decades of fascist terror the Communists of Portugal not only openly emerged on the political arena, but became one of the most active and influential parties in the country. The Communist Party of Spain, too, is emerging from the underground and its prestige is growing. The Communist parties of

India, Finland, Denmark and some Latin American countries enjoy considerable political weight in their countries.

Thus, as the positions of socialism and the forces of national liberation strengthen in the world, the communist movement is scoring outstanding successes. Naturally, we wholeheartedly welcome this.

But the imperialists react differently. The increasing influence of Communist Parties in Western Europe caused apprehension among them. The leaders of the USA and the FRG resorted to such gross pressure and threats against Italy in connection with the Communist Party's electoral success that it gave rise to indignation in many countries, even among Italian bourgeois politicians. Nor did we in the Soviet Union conceal our opinion on that score, as you know.

The Berlin Conference of European Communist and Workers' Parties, held last summer, was a significant event of recent times. Its preparation took time. The views of 29 parties on a number of important problems had to be compared in order to reach agreement on the draft concluding document.

However, the patient collective work was justified. The conference passed in the spirit of class solidarity and fraternal interaction of the Communists of Europe, of joint concern for strengthening peace, security, cooperation and social progress on the continent. It was attended by all European Communist Parties (except the Albanian) and the concluding document was adopted unanimously.

The speeches of the participants in the Berlin conference were permeated with the spirit of active struggle for peace and socialism. The document it adopted is a concrete program of furthering peace, security and relaxation in Europe. On the whole, as viewed both by friends and our class adversaries, the Berlin Conference furnished new testimony of the Communists' active role in European life. And we are gratified that the CPSU was enabled to make its contribution to this great cause.

This, comrades, is what I wanted to tell you about international affairs. As you see, the Political Bureau of the Central Committee is working tirelessly in this field too, to implement the decisions of the 25th Congress. We shall continue this work with all our energy in the name of peace and the happiness of the Soviet people, in the name of peace and the progress of all humanity.

Comrades, in conclusion I would like to stress that realization of the tasks posed by the 25th Congress should be facilitated by all party-organizational and ideological-political work.

It is necessary to further ensure that every Communist, wherever he works, whatever position or post he occupies, is a model of discipline and dedication and displays a creative attitude to the matter at hand, a state approach to the solution of tasks, both big and small.

The Party's line of developing in every way the creative initiative by the Communists of local Party, Soviet and economic-management bodies, of the broad masses of the people, is a correct line, and we tangibly feel the beneficial results it yields.

Lenin stressed that the plan as an assignment of the socialist state to workers is a tremendous mobilizing force. The documents which we are discussing accord with the cardinal interests of workers, collective farmers and our intelligentsia.

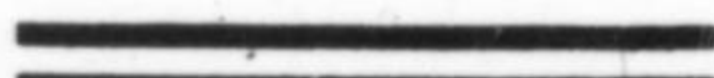
We must ensure that every labor collective, every working man and woman is acquainted with the prospects, has a clear idea of the heights to be reached and the tasks to be solved.

Tremendous and fascinating work opens up before the country, before our Party and people in the tenth five-year period. This is highly responsible work. The might, prestige and flowering of our Motherland, the well-being of every family, the welfare and happiness of every Soviet person depend on how we will work, how we will fulfill the plans we have mapped out.

There is no doubt that once again our people, guided by the Party of Lenin, will prove worthy of the high responsibility placed on it by history.

The plans of the Party, the tasks set forth by its 25th Congress will be translated into life!

Pravda, October 26, 1976.



STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

STOP THE POLITICAL TERROR

Statement by Communist Party leaders in view of the growing fascist terror in Argentina (where the activity of political parties was suspended by the military government).

For several years now Argentina has experienced a continual wave of political crimes, threatening its future. This wave has now gained momentum as a result of the recent murder of General Omar Actis and the brutal mass reprisals against dozens of people, whose bodies have been discovered in Pilar. The crimes are continuing as evidenced by many kidnappings, including that of former members of Parliament H. Solari Irigoyen and Mario Amaya. Their names are added to those long listed as "disappeared," and whose lives are in danger like the railroad workers' leader Victor Vasquez, for instance. At the same time explosives are being used increasingly in these attacks. All this is an expression of disdain for the people, designed to hamper its taking the road of liberation and forming a democratic popular government.

There is growing indignation among various strata of the people. Proof of this are the various documents spread by groups of prominent personalities and representative institutions calling for defense of human rights. Statements by government officials, top military leaders, domestic and foreign press commentaries, the episcopal letter to the President and the telegram from the Pope also bear this out. They all coincide on the main point: in denouncing the brutalities and demanding an end to the situation which is the cause of general anxiety and could frustrate the democratic aspirations, imperilling the country's prestige, while favoring its sworn enemies.

The time has come to stop the hand of the criminals and the sinister activity of the imperialist CIA — this foreign organization long operating with impunity in our country and the continent as a whole, and a tool of anti-national interests. However, as some government officials noted, "the problem of violence cannot be resolved by a law, a decree or by suppressive actions of the armed forces. The problems involved are more profound, the solution of which demands time." Therefore

concrete measures must be taken to guarantee democratic freedoms for the people and to eliminate everything which breeds political terror. These negative phenomena are aggravated by economic stagnation, which hits hard at the masses and erodes Argentina's prospect of independent development.

To put an end to the bloodbath experienced by our homeland and to the dangerous destabilization orchestrated from outside, a broad assembly must be urgently convened to openly adopt a national democratic agreement on the basis of a minimum program in order to find through common effort a way out of the grave political and socio-economic situation.

Such an agreement will undoubtedly meet with wide support, inspiring all patriots, civilian and military, loyal to the behests of San Martin and the founders of the republic. The popular-democratic trends in the parties and various institutions, the government and the armed forces bear a great responsibility for convening this assembly and for finding a common solution to the main dilemma of the present moment that would favor democracy and bar the way to Pinochetism, which would further aggravate crime, poverty and dependence. Let everyone, whether civilian or military, believer or non-believer, fulfill his historic duty!

Geronimo Arnedo Alvarez, Rodolfo Ghioldi, Athos Fava, Pedro Tadioli, Rubens Iscaro, Jorge Pereyra, Irene Rodriguez, Fernando Nadra, Hector P. Agosti, Alcira de la Pena, Oscar Arevalo.

Buenos Aires, August 28, 1976.

THE CIA IS BEHIND THIS CRIME

Excerpts from a speech by Fidel Castro Ruz at a meeting in memory of those killed in the Cuban airliner crash on October 6.

In only two months there have been two very serious acts of sabotage against Cuban airliners on international routes, one of which had a fatal outcome.

The CIA stands behind these acts. In almost all cases, terroristic organizations situated in the USA and operating with impunity in that country, primarily the five organizations forming the Cammandos of

United Revolutionary Organizations (CORU), have admitted complicity in the crime.

Let me remind you that the criminal actions increasingly afflicting the international community in recent years have been masterminded by the CIA. The CIA engineered piratical attacks from foreign bases, which accords with its aggressive policy against Cuba. The CIA engineered the destabilization of foreign governments, and revived in the modern world the dastardly method of assassinating leaders of other countries. The CIA engineered the monstrous blowing up of airliners in flight. World opinion must realize the enormity of such actions.

Even when the U.S. Senate held an investigation, publicly admitting the existence of CIA plans for assassinating leaders of the Cuban revolution and that the CIA had been dealing with such plans over several years, the U.S. government gave no explanation to the Cuban government, nor was there any apology.

We suspect that the U.S. government has not renounced this practice.

On October 9, three days after the sabotage off Barbados, a coded message from the CIA to its agent in Havana was intercepted. Transmitted from CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia, it says in part: "Please inform at earliest convenience data concerning Fidel's participation in ceremonies marking first anniversary of Angolan independence on November 11. If affirmative, try to find out the itinerary of Fidel's visit to other countries."

Earlier the agent asked: "What is the official and private reaction to the bombing of Cuban residences abroad? What should be done to avert and prevent such reaction? On whom does suspicion fall? Will there be reprisals?"

We hope the U.S. government will not dare to deny the authenticity of these and other communications sent from the CIA headquarters to the same person in the framework of its espionage activity. We have the key, the code and proof of the authenticity of these communications.

In this instance, the "agent" has from the start and over the past decade kept the Cuban government informed of all his contacts with the CIA and on the equipment and instructions received by him. The CIA was under the impression that its sophisticated electronic micro-transmitter was installed in no less than the office of Comrade Osmany Cienfuegos, secretary of the Council of Ministers Executive

Committee. That explains its being convinced of receiving timely information about the Cuban Prime Minister's trips abroad.

Whoever thinks that the CIA has changed in any way because of denunciation of its criminal actions at home is greatly mistaken. But it is likely that its methods have become more subtle and perfidious.

Why did the CIA want the exact itinerary of the Prime Minister's possible visit to Angola and other African countries on November 11? Why was it concerned over measures to avert and prevent acts of terrorism?

In view of the gravity of these facts and that they illustrate the conduct and activity of the CIA, we found it expedient to report this, though sacrificing a valuable source of information.

Three years ago the Cuban government signed an agreement with the U.S. government on air and sea piracy, as well as on other crimes. On our part this was an important contribution in solving the hijacking problem afflicting the world. The Cuban government advanced no conditions in concluding this agreement, not even the lifting of the criminal economic blockade of our country by the U.S. More, without any legal obligation being involved, Cuba confiscated the two million dollars stolen by hijackers and returned them to a U.S. firm.

Another instance: the Cuban authorities in Rancho Boyeros saved the lives of many U.S. citizens who on their way from Florida made a forced landing after the U.S. police had damaged the chassis of the plane in a futile attempt to stop it before it took off. We would do the same thing in any similar circumstances for strictly humanitarian reasons. (Can this be compared to the monstrous actions of those who armed the killers inciting them to blow up our plane off Barbados?)

Cuba has always disapproved of hijacking and is ready to effectively cooperate with any responsible government in combating air piracy and terrorism. But the U.S. government is evidently incapable of carrying out the spirit and letter of the 1973 agreement. After the murder of a Cuban fisherman and destruction of two boats during a piratical raid near Florida, we warned the U.S. government that if such attacks were repeated the guilty would be punished and the agreement cancelled. But no answer came. The crime was neither investigated, nor denounced.

The events following this were even more serious. The terroristic activity, engendered by U.S. hostility toward Cuba, became ever more vicious: blowing up of Cuban airliners in flight.

The agreement signed between the U.S. and Cuban governments on February 15, 1973 cannot remain in force after this heinous crime.

The Cuban government considers it necessary to cancel this agreement and to inform the U.S. government about it this evening. According to the agreement, it can be cancelled at any time six months after the date of a written statement to that effect by either side. Therefore, as the statement was made today, i.e., October 15, 1976, the agreement will be valid only up to April 15, 1977.

We will not conclude any such agreement with the United States until the terrorist campaign against Cuba is stopped, with effective guarantees ruling out such actions against our people, and an end is put to the hostile actions and aggression by the United States against Cuba. There can be no cooperation between an aggressor-country and a country it attacks.

Should a commercial U.S. plane be brought to Cuba after April 15, 1977, when the agreement becomes invalid, the plane together with its crew and passengers will be allowed to immediately return to its country. Cuba will not tolerate hijacking or hijackers. But it cannot maintain a unilateral agreement with a government that is responsible for terroristic actions against our country.

Similar agreements with Canada, Mexico, Colombia and Venezuela will remain in force. Cuba is ready to cooperate with Mexico, Panama, Venezuela, Colombia, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, Barbados and other Caribbean countries which are willing to cooperate and take joint measures to combat such crimes.

Cuba is even ready to discuss this question with whatever United States government will be in power after the November elections. However, I repeat, such cooperation must be based on the ending of all hostile and aggressive actions against our homeland.

We might ask, what are these crimes supposed to achieve? Destroy the revolution? That is impossible. The revolution grows ever more vigorous after each blow and each aggression; it develops in depth, becoming more purposeful and stronger. Intimidate the people? That is impossible. The cowardice and monstrous crimes incense the people, making every man and woman a heroic and selfless soldier.

The revolution teaches us fraternal solidarity, making us close brothers, the blood of one is the blood of all, and the blood of all is the blood of each of us. So, too, the pain of one is the pain of all, and the sorrow of one is the sorrow of all. At the same time, the invincible might of the millions is our might. And our might is not only the might of one people, it is the might of all peoples that have thrown off slavery and are fighting to eradicate exploitation, injustice and crime from human society. Finally, our might is the might of patriotism, the

might of internationalism. The ideas for which we are fighting is the banner of all honest people of the present and the symbol of tomorrow.

Imperialism, capitalism, fascism, neo-colonialism, racism, brutal exploitation of man by man in all its forms and manifestations are nearing terminal in human history, and their survivors know it. That is why their actions are increasingly desperate, hysterical, cynical and impotent. This is the only explanation for the barbarous and absurd crimes like that off Barbados.

The plane crew, the heroic workers of our airlines, all our compatriots who were perfidiously killed that day will be remembered with love and admiration by our people. An ever more revolutionary, ever more socialist and ever more internationalist homeland will be a magnificent monument to them, a monument erected by our people in honor of their memory, and of all those who have fallen for the revolution.

We will also deeply honor the memory of our brother Guyanians and Koreans who lost their lives that day. They are a reminder to us that the crimes of imperialism know no limits, that we belong to one and the same human family and that our struggle is a common struggle. Our sharing of the sorrow in no way lessens but, on the contrary increases it. Millions of Cubans are lamenting today together with the relatives of the victims of this brutal crime. And when an energetic and courageous people laments, injustice trembles.

Patria o muerte! Venceremos!

Abridged from *Granma*, October 16, 1976.



FROM THE PRESS

STOP THE BLOODSHED IN LEBANON

The situation in Lebanon has again worsened. In the wake of the rightist Christian and Syrian attack on September 28 against the positions of the Palestinian and progressive forces in the mountainous area, a new offensive has been mounted against them throughout the country. Syrian troops are attacking the Palestinians on the outskirts of Beirut and near the big port Saida. Relying on Israeli military support, the Lebanese reactionaries have launched military operations in the south.

It is noteworthy that the escalation of hostilities occurred at a time when signs appeared of a turn in the political negotiations for a cease-fire and a peaceful settlement of the Lebanese crisis. Just recently it was announced that during the negotiations in Shtaura between representatives of Syria, Lebanon and the Palestine Liberation Organization real opportunities arose for a mutually acceptable agreement, and al-Kholy, special envoy of the Arab League, even said that in principle agreement had been reached and would soon be published.

However, the hopes for an improvement in the situation are brought to naught by the new military offensive. It appears that on the one hand the Syrian representatives agreed to negotiate a cease-fire, while on the other the Syrian troops are foiling efforts at a peaceful settlement and continue the bloodshed.

Whom does this benefit?

Quite obviously, blows are now being dealt against those whom international imperialism and local reaction have long sought to defeat — against the Palestine resistance movement, which is at the front line of the anti-imperialist struggle in the Middle East. Is it not clear that if the Palestine resistance movement is eliminated from the anti-imperialist front in this region this would be a serious blow to the just cause of the Arabs? Imperialism and Zionism clearly stake on expanding the Lebanese conflict, splitting the ranks of the Arab countries and diverting them from the vital task of countering the Israeli aggression.

It is not surprising that Israel and its imperialist backers openly laud such a turn of events. Nor do they conceal their hopes of plunging the Arabs deeper into a fratricidal war and of using them to accomplish their insidious plans.

More, Israel is itself flagrantly interfering in the internal affairs of Lebanon by making piratic raids on its shores. First, Israeli patrols crossed the border in southern Lebanon, and now, according to press reports, army units are intruding. The Israeli leaders' statements show that they consider the territory up to the Litani River virtually as their own preserve, where the Israeli military can hold uncontrolled sway.

Continuation of the military conflict is not in the interests of the Lebanese people, who have already lost tens of thousands of lives in this war. It is not in the interests of the Arab countries, which ought to have come out weightily in favor of normalization of the situation in Lebanon. It is important for the sides involved in the conflict to overcome their differences and through joint effort reach a peaceful settlement, enabling the Lebanese to solve their critical problems without any outside interference.

For the profusely bleeding Lebanon, a suspension of hostilities is now the primary objective. And the only way to peace in that country is through a political settlement. Understandably, negotiation of such a settlement must not become a cloak under which blows would continue to be dealt at the Palestine resistance movement and the national-patriotic forces of Lebanon.

Observer

Pravda, October 18, 1976.
