

Workers of all lands, unite!

***For a Lasting Peace,
For a People's
Democracy!***

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PEACE MOVEMENT IN A NEW PHASE

For the first time in history, millions of people of good will have established an international peace front, counterposed to the gang of enemies of mankind—the imperialist warmongers—and capable of frustrating the criminal designs of the imperialists.

The indomitable strength of the peace movement is due, above all to its mass character and organisation. National peace committees exist in more than 50 countries. Many thousands of regional, district and city peace committees and millions of rural and street branches are functioning in all countries—such is this all-embracing organisation which the world has never known before. The peace movement unites all people of good will—workers, peasants, intellectuals, women and youth, people of different political convictions, philosophic outlook and religious beliefs.

Four hundred million signatures have already been affixed to the Stockholm appeal of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress. The entire adult population in the U.S.S.R. and in the People's Democracies (Poland, Rumania, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Albania), over a hundred million people in the Chinese People's Republic and twenty million in Germany have signed this most humane document of our time. In Italy, sixteen million have signed, in France fourteen million. The campaign for signatures continues in those countries. Even in countries where fascist terror is most ferocious, where peace partisans are thrown into prison, the peace movement is growing and becoming stronger. From Franco Spain come letters in which courageous people

proclaim themselves fighters for the great cause of peace, and in fascist Tito Yugoslavia tens of thousands of people sign this appeal illegally, Tens and hundreds of thousands of signatures have been collected in Greece, Brazil, Cuba and Uruguay, in Turkey and Iran. The first million signatures have been collected in Britain. In Japan, the conditions of MacArthur's occupation regime, more than five million have signed the appeal for prohibition of the atomic weapon; in Burma over two million have signed. More than two million U.S. citizens, despite police terror, found courage to support the Stockholm appeal.

The acute aggravation of the international situation caused by the American imperialists having passed directly from preparing acts of aggression to naked aggression, to creating centres for a new war, drawing into the military gamble more and more countries, confronts the international. peace movement with new, great and responsible tasks.

A sanguinary war, launched by the criminal American rulers on the order of Wall Street monopolists is raging in Korea. This war is being waged with unprecedented brutality, surpassing the Hitlerite atrocities which all remember. The American imperialists brazenly and cynically are trampling under foot all norms of international law, whipping up a war hysteria, and peremptorily demanding from their satellites that they switch their economy entirely to a war footing. Everywhere they are organising a feverish armament drive, insisting on increased war budgets, extending the term of military service, and converting the West-European countries into an arsenal and a reserve of cannon-fodder for aggressive war. The "Marshall Plan", as was clearly stated by the

Communists at its inception, has fully revealed itself as an economic and political plan for preparation of an American military invasion of the European continent, as a plan for the complete subordination of the West European countries to Wall Street's Diktat.

From the tribunes of Parliaments, in the press and radio, propagandists of a third world war openly advocate the doctrine of a new annihilation of peoples for the sake of world domination by American imperialism. Official representatives of the U.S. Government voice cannibal calls for atom bombs to be dropped on Korea, China and the U.S.S.R., for a "preventive" war. On the order of its American masters, reaction in France, Italy, Belgium and other capitalist countries has resorted to armed attacks against the working people, struggling for peace, to assassination of working class leaders, to bloody terror against peace defenders.

In these conditions, peace defenders regard as their paramount task **extension of the programme of the movement against war, against any kind of aggression, against propaganda for a new war.**

The movement against the danger of a new war, for consolidation of peace, must go hand in hand with all-round struggle against the armament drive; the demand for banning the atomic weapon, as a weapon of aggression and mass annihilation of people, supplemented with the demand for a general reduction in armaments and effective control over its implementation, the destruction of existing stocks of all means of mass annihilation of human beings, for prohibition of the propaganda of the warmongers and bringing to book enemies of peace and mankind such as Churchill, Dulles, MacArthur, Johnson, Moore-Brabazon,

Bradley, Reynaud, Jules Moch and their ilk.

These tasks are reflected in the decisions of the Prague session of the Bureau of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress. These important and urgent tasks figured on the agenda of the peace congresses recently held in a number of countries. Thus, the Polish Peace Congress, “on behalf of all Polish people longing for peace in order to lay the foundations of a better life”, demanded the destruction of all means of mass annihilation of people and prohibition of any aggression or armed intervention. The Congress of Peace Committee in the Rumanian People’s Republic demanded a “ban on propaganda for a new war and the adoption of an international law for bringing to justice those guilty of such propaganda”; it demanded that “warmongers and all those who, in any form, urge citizens or governments to go to war should be warned that they will be held responsible, tried by the people and severely punished for actions directed towards unleashing war. The decisions of the Peace Congress in Finland also stressed the need to extend the programme of the movement. The spirit of implacable condemnation of the American aggressors permeated the speeches at the National Congress of Peace Committees in Bulgaria, which opened a few days ago.

The demands for the extension of the programme of the peace movement correspond to the interests of all peace-loving peoples. These demands resound ever louder at numerous meetings and rallies of working people in the U.S.A., Britain and other countries. They are supported by direct action of the working class in France, Italy, Belgium, Holland and Australia who have refused to submit to the diktat of the American monopolists, refused to unload the American arms

shipped to their country, to bear the monstrous burden of the armament drive and the militarisation of all spheres of economic life in their countries. They have the support of the American, British, French Belgian and Yugoslav youth, who are evading military service, and who are protesting against the extended service; the support of the French soldiers who refuse to wage the "dirty war" in Viet Nam. The naked armed intervention of the American imperialists in Korea has sharpened the vigilance of the people, rallied to the defence of peace additional millions of people in all countries.

The peace movement still disposes of immense reserves for the extension of its mass base, above all, among the peasantry, the women and youth. Peasants constitute the bulk of the population of the world. They comprise, as a rule, the mass base of the Army, consequently, peasants in all countries are vitally interested in lasting peace. Mothers and wives suffer most from the horrors of war. Hence, peace partisans must redouble their work among the peasantry, among the women and youth, draw in on a broader scale the peasant, women's and youth organisations for direct participation in the struggle for peace. Great possibilities for activising the peace movement exist in the U.S.A., Britain, Canada and the Scandinavian countries. These possibilities must be exercised in full measure.

At present, preparations are under way in all countries for the Second World Peace Congress; local and national peace Congresses and Conferences are being held. Life is raising before the peace movement new, militant tasks. To help the peace partisans solve these tasks, to prepare for the Second World Peace Congress-such is the great obligation and noble duty of

all Communist and Workers' Parties.

NEW GIGANTIC UNDERTAKINGS IN THE U.S.S.R.

The Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. has adopted a decision to build the Kakhovka hydro-electric station on the River Dnieper, the South Ukrainian Canal, the North Crimea Canal, and to irrigate the Southern areas of the Ukraine and the Northern areas of the Crimea.

The implementation of this decision will ensure the irrigation of 1,200,000 hectares of land in the Kherson, Zaporozhye, Nikolaev and Dnepropetrovsk regions of the Ukrainian S.S.R. and 300,000 hectares in the Northern districts of the Crimea; the bringing of water to 1,700,000 hectares of land in the Southern areas of the Ukraine and in the Northern districts of the Crimea; the planting of shelter belts in the Southern steppe areas of the Ukraine, in the zone of the South Ukrainian Canal and the North Crimea Canal, branch irrigation canals, reservoirs on the borders of the irrigated lands, and also the reinforcement of the South-Dnieper sand dunes.

These immense undertakings will be completed in 1957.

FOR PEACE, AGAINST IMPERIALIST AGGRESSION, AGAINST THE PROPAGANDA FOR A NEW WAR!

PEOPLE REBUFF WAR PROVOCATEURS

Hundreds of public meetings, held throughout Italy, have condemned American aggression in Korea and sent cables to UNO protesting against the barbarous American bombing of Korean towns and villages and demanding an immediate peaceful settlement of the conflict.

In the town of Biella, hundreds of radio listeners sent letters to the management of the Italian broadcasting corporation demanding the annulment of the daily war propaganda otherwise threatening to cancel their subscriptions. Journalists indulging in war incitement are being exposed to public opinion in all towns in Italy. Delegations are lodging protests with editorial boards of reactionary newspapers.

In Genoa, peace committees have decided to send letters to political figures and Members of Parliament requesting them to oppose the war credits. Peace committees have also asked factory managers to refuse to manufacture war materials.

At a meeting in Rome, attended by more than 4,000 peace partisans, the best “peace messengers” who each collected thousands of signatures to the Stockholm appeal were awarded prizes. First prize, with a diploma and gold badge, was awarded to Firmina Marzi, worker in a Rome printshop, who collected 17,022 signatures. The second prize went to Antonia Amora, Bari, who

collected 12,528 signatures; third prize to Maria Bertoldo, a peasant woman from Matera Province who collected 12.264 signatures. All three were elected members, of the delegation to the Second World Peace Congress in London.

THE VOICE OF DEMOCRATIC JOURNALISTS

The Third Congress of the International Journalists' Organisation, which unites democratic journalists of 30 countries, has denounced as mercenary agents of American monopolies, reactionary figures in the journalists' associations in the U.S.A., Britain and other capitalist countries.

“Democratic journalists”, reads the resolution of this Congress, “are called upon to intensify by all means the struggle against the warmongers, against war propaganda in the press, radio, cinema and literature, against war propaganda in any form”.

Congress obliged all progressive journalists to wage a vigorous struggle against the armaments drive in all its forms, for reduction of armaments, against any preparations for a new war, without slackening the struggle for banning the atomic weapon.

Congress expelled from the International Journalists' Organisation the Titoite Journalists' Union of Yugoslavia which, by its activities, had demonstrated that it was carrying out the policy of the imperialist warmongers.

INDIAN PEASANTS FIGHT FOR LAND, FOR PEACE

The peasants of Midnapore district in West Bengal have a long and proud record of anti-imperialist struggle. They have a record of mass participation in the popular uprisings For the national independence of India, in 1921, 1930, 1942. Their half-century of anti-British struggles has witnessed, at the same time, their determined struggle against the landlords and usurers, against the crushing burden of rents and other feudal exactions and against forcible eviction from their land. To-day, the peasants are carrying on this fight, in the teeth of terrible repression, under the slogans: “Land to the tiller! Abolish landlordism without compensation!”

Midnapore district—a traditional “stronghold” of the India National Congress leaders up to 1942—has now a powerful and growing militant peasant movement led by the Communists. The peasants realise that the Congress leaders have joined hands with the imperialists, the big capitalists and the landlords and have betrayed the national liberation struggle of the people. The peasants are, therefore, rallying in increasing numbers to fight for genuine independence and people’s democracy, for abolition of feudalism, and land to the tiller.

The peasants are compelled to take to the path of armed struggle against their oppressors. They are inspired in this by the example of Telengana (where the peasants have carried on a successful struggle for land. —Ed). The Congress Government has mobilised big concentrations of armed police and “goondas” (fascist gangs) in the Midnapore villages to quell the peasant movement. Horrible atrocities are being committed by

the police—houses are looted and burned down, their grain, cattle and belongings forcibly taken away, and their women, ill-treated. A number of peasants have been shot dead. Hundreds are being tortured in jails with trumped-up cases pending against them.

But none of this can suppress the peasant movement. Recently, this 50-year old liberation struggle of the peasants reached a new stage of development with the campaign for collection of signatures to the Stockholm appeal. Although the overwhelming majority of peasants are illiterate, due to the British colonial regime, they are coming forward in their thousands to sign for the prohibition of the atomic weapon, for peace and against war. Unable to write, they are affixing their thumb-prints in ink to the appeal.

The peasants understand that the heavy burden of taxes imposed on them, and the Government's compulsory loans advanced several years ago for relief of flood victims, are designed to pay for war preparations. They see the Nehru Government spending nearly 60% of its total Budget on "Defence", while the toiling masses are starving and facing a new famine which threatens to exceed in its horrors the Bengal famine of 1943. Within less than 2 months of the U.S. imperialist aggression in Korea, prices of food and other necessities are shooting up above World War II level.

That is why the Midnapore peasants are determined to prevent another war, to fight resolutely for peace and national liberation. That is why they have already secured over 5,000 signatures to the Stockholm appeal, despite the prevailing terror. They have taken a vow to carry this campaign into every village in Midnapore, and to prove themselves worthy fighters in the great army of Peace partisans.

**A. M. SHIRALI,
General Secretary,
All-India Peace
Committee**

STRUGGLE OF THE GREEK PEOPLE

Despite the rampant fascist terror, the peace movement in Greece is gathering momentum. Tens of thousands of working people are secretly signing the Stockholm appeal. Clandestine peace committees, which organise the collection of signatures to the Stockholm appeal, have been set up in many towns of Greece. In Athens alone, more than 15,000 signatures have been collected. At one of the factories in Piraeus, all the 95 workers signed. The Piraeus Committee of the Left Liberal Youth announced in one of the Athens papers that its members were joining the partisans of peace movement. One young peace supporter collected 300 signatures.

Signatures are being collected also in other towns. Soldiers in the monarcho-fascist army also are signing the Stockholm appeal. 280 signatures were collected in one of the army units.

Peasants in the villages of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace stated : “We are signing the appeal because we do not want our children to be sent to the slaughter again.” Four thousand seven hundred signatures were obtained in five villages in Thrace.

The Greek people are opposing American aggression in Korea. Thousands of leaflets were scattered on

streets in Athens and Piraeus, outside the War Ministry and U.S. Embassy calling on Greeks to refuse to leave for Korea and die in the interests of the American imperialists. “Not a drop of Greek blood in Korea! Democracy, independence, peace!”, such are the demands of the Greek patriots.

The underground newspapers, “Rizospastis”, organ of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Greece; “Aduloti, Atina” (“Unconquered Athens”), organ of the Athens Committee of the Communist Party of Greece; “Levandia” (“Fortitude”); organ of EPON; “Fighters for Peace and Freedom”, organ of the working youth; “Flamburo” (“Banner”), organ of the front of young partisans of peace, and others continue to appear. These papers call on the people to fight for peace, to disrupt the war plans of the Anglo-American imperialists and their monarcho-fascist lackeys.

***AID TO KOREAN PEOPLE—CONTRIBUTION TO
THE CAUSE OF PEACE. Erzsebet Mester,
Secretary, Hungarian National Peace Council***

When the American aggressors launched their armed assault against the Korean people, the Hungarian National Peace Council, in its resolution of July 4, expressed the indignation of the whole nation at the foul aggression. “Only a few weeks have passed since the Hungarian people sighed the Stockholm appeal, supporting unanimously the sacred cause of peace. The National Peace Council protests most vigorously on behalf of the seven million Hungarian citizens who signed the appeal against the foul provocation of the

imperialists, against the attack on the Korean people. Hands off Korea!”

Ardent solidarity with the Korean people was voiced at meetings and rallies throughout the country. A motion to send to the heroic Korean people a fully equipped field hospital Wits adopted on the initiative of Ferencné Panyi, a stakhanovite textile worker; Hungarian people warmly responded to this suggestion. Factory workers contributed 2-5 hours earnings to the aid fund. In the space of a few hours, the sum of eight thousand forints was collected in the shops of the “Standard” plant. Workers in the “Ganz” waggon works and the “Mavag” works are competing for the largest collections. The Secretariat of the National Peace Council has received numerous parcels containing medicaments: handicraftsmen made stretchers and other hospital equipment free of charge. The fund yielded more than 16,000,000 forints. Working people have also volunteered to contribute part of their earnings each month to aid the Korean people.

Our people are aware that the Korean heroes are fighting not only for the freedom and independence of their country but also for the common cause of peace. The propaganda work of the peace committees has helped the Hungarian working people to understand that the defence of peace is closely linked with the work of building Socialism in the country, that the development of our national economy implies strengthening the international peace camp and aiding the Korean people. The revised norms were exceeded by a large margin during the week of solidarity with Korea. “We, members of the ‘Red October’ brigade”, wrote a group of workers in the “Siemens” works during the solidarity week with Korea, “have achieved better

results. We are aware that every achievement of ours is a blow against the American imperialists and a step forward in strengthening the peace camp". The workers of this brigade fulfilled their obligations by 176 per cent.

The workers of the Csepel Works, named after Matias Rakosi, produced goods in excess of plan to the value of nine million forints. Anna Czukor—stakhanovite—bricklayer and winner of the Kossuth Prize—laid 36 cubic metres of a wall instead of her norm of 18 cubic metres. Imre Muszka, a turner and Kossuth Prize holder, fulfilled his revised norm by 270 per cent. Mihaly Rnuzsina, miner in the Tatabanya coalfield, produced 15 in place of the usual 9 wagonettes of coal on the third day of the Solidarity Week. Erzsébet Fulop, a weaver who adopted the methods of the Soviet weaver, N. Dubyaga, and who now operates twelve looms, fulfilled her norm by 195 per cent.

Peace committees in the Hajdu region have displayed maps of Korea and alongside them the pledges of the working people in town and countryside. Talks on Korea, followed by amateur theatricals, were organised in various parts of the country at the request of the Peace Committees. In the course of a few weeks 1'00,000 peasants in 13 l villages attended these talks. The working people have asked for more talks and lectures on the subject of the struggle for peace.

The affection and sympathy of the broad sections of the Hungarian people for the Korean fighters for freedom and independence find mass expression in the new initiative—sending parcels to the soldiers of the Korean People's Army. Every worker can take part, to the utmost of his ability, in this noble movement. Eight hundred and forty-three thousand, two hundred parcels,

ranging in value from 5 to 50 forints, have already been sent to Korea. Each parcel contains a message of greetings in the Korean language and the return address in case the Korean soldier wishes to reply to the sender.

The American aggressors hoped by their attack on Korea to intimidate the partisans of peace and freedom throughout the world. But the example of the Hungarian people shows that the attempts of the imperialist instigators of a new war have failed. The people of Hungary see clearer than ever their task in the struggle for peace; they are consolidating their forces, strengthening their will to peace and struggling ever more consistently against the aggressors and their agents inside the country, adding their voices to those of the freedom-loving peoples demanding cessation of American aggression in Korea.

AGAINST EXTENDING TERM OF MILITARY SERVICE

A sweeping protest movement against prolonging the term of military service which the French Government, on orders from Washington, intends to increase up to 18 months, is gaining momentum in France. Soldiers demonstrated in Rueil, Vincennes (Paris District), Avignon, Bergzabarn (French occupation zone in Germany) and in other places. In Fribourg (French occupation zone in Germany). 500 French soldiers attending a film show booed the appearance of Plevin on the screen. When ejected from the cinema by the police, they continued to demonstrate with cries of "Down with 18 months' service!"

All working people, all supporters of peace, are

opposed to the decision prolonging the term of military service, a decision which has been taken in Belgium and Britain as well; they rightly regard this measure as a new stage in the preparations for an aggressive war against the U.S.S.R. and People's Democracies.

A monster protest meeting was held in the Mutualite Hall in Paris, under the chairmanship of Raymond Guyot. Numerous delegations lodged protests with their Parliamentary deputies. Thousands of signatures were collected to petitions against the Government's bill to extend military service. Short meetings are being held at market places and at factory gates after work. The municipal councils in Douarnenez (Finistere Department) and Chirac (Lozere Department) have come out against the measure. Workers of different trades in Choisy, Neuilly-on-the-Marne and Mery-on-the-Oise, downed tools for one hour. At the S.E.M.A. and O.N.E.R.A. enterprises in Chalais-Mendon, work was interrupted for half an hour. The youth staged a demonstration on the streets of Saint Denis. In Argenteuil, conscripts reporting to the call-up commission held a demonstration.

CALL OF PEACE PARTISANS IN FINLAND

Participants of the recent Second Peace Congress in Finland unanimously adopted the following call:

“The Second National Peace Congress in Finland draws attention to the immense significance of the Stockholm appeal for the unification in our country of the forces upholding the cause of peace. Eight hundred thousand Finns have already signed the Appeal for banning the atomic weapon. “Peace in Finland depends

on peace throughout the world. Hence, we must strengthen co-operation with the world peace movement which aims at unifying for defence of peace all people of good will irrespective of nationality, political or religious convictions”.

The call goes on: “Let us fulfill the important task ahead of us-let us collect a million signatures to the Stockholm appeal. Let this be the answer of our peace-loving people to those in our country who indulge in Irresponsible, criminal war propaganda. War propaganda must be abolished”.

Participants of the Congress cabled to the Security Council requesting that urgent measures be adopted to stop the war in Korea, to end the barbarous bombings of the civilian population and to secure withdrawal of all foreign troops from Korea.

CONFERENCE OF PARTISANS OF PEACE IN CUBA

The movement in defence of peace is spreading in Cuba despite the terror and dictatorial measures of the Government. A Peace Conference was recently held in Havana, convened by the Federation of Working People of Havana Province. The conference, which was attended by 115 delegates of peace committees and by several hundred working people, discussed the question of speeding-up the formation of peace committees at all enterprises and also of extending the campaign for signatures to the Stockholm appeal.

The recently formed “Peace Committee of Havana Mothers” is setting up mothers’ committees in every block of houses in the Cuban capital. The partisans of

peace in Cuba have planned to collect a million signatures by the opening of the Second World Congress.

In answer to the Government's intentions to send 25,000 Cubans to Korea, numerous delegations of women, from the trade unions and factories called at the American Embassy where they left hundreds of petitions demanding the immediate cessation of the war. against the Korean people.

IMPORTANT ADMINISTRATIVE- ECONOMIC REFORM IN THE RUMANIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC. Teohari Georgescu, Secretary, Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party

On September 6, the Grand National Assembly of the Rumanian People's Republic unanimously adopted a law on the administrative-economic redivision of the country. Drawn up in keeping with the decision of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party and Council of Ministers concerning the administrative economic redivision of the Rumanian People's Republic, this law reflects the political and economic changes that have a key place in Rumania since its liberation by the glorious Soviet Army and the conquest of political power by the working class in alliance with the working peasantry.

The old bourgeois-landlord State, an instrument of the exploiting classes, was destroyed in bitter class struggle. In its place, a completely new State was established, the State of the People's Democracy, a form of the dictatorship of the proletariat. In keeping with the interests of the working people, the State or the People's Democracy has, as its task, to effect the complete abolition of the exploiting classes, to build Socialism, and to defend the gains of our working people against internal and external enemies. As our country advances along the path of building Socialism, the economic-organisational and cultural-educational functions of the People's Democracy are increasing. These functions acquire particular importance today

when our country is getting ready to begin its first Five-Year Plan.

The old administrative division of our country was a serious obstacle to the strengthening of People's Democracy and to the economic development of the country.

The People's Democracy inherited from the bourgeois-landlord regime an administrative division which corresponded to the functions and tasks of the bourgeois-landlord system, to oppress the working people in the interests of a small minority of exploiters, to ensure the exploitation of the working class, to crush the revolutionary struggle of the workers and working peasants and to oppress the national minorities.

The country was divided into 58 regions and 424 districts. The size of the regions and their population were extremely disproportionate. In some regions the population was only 15 per cent of the population of other regions. The bourgeois-landlord system did not ensure, nor, for that matter, could it ensure, proper distribution of the productive forces by making the maximum use of the natural wealth and local resources. The Rumanian and foreign capitalists rapaciously plundered the country of its oil and timber. Wherever capital expenditure was called for, industry was not developed, economic and cultural backwardness held sway and the working people lived in utter poverty. Whole regions such, for instance, as Dobrogea, Northern Moldova, Maramures, remained backward and could not develop their natural resources, while other regions fell into decline as a result of rapacious exploitation.

Under the old system of administrative division, the

agricultural areas were cut off from the industrial centres.

As for the districts—they were, from the economic and administrative point of view, utterly helpless units, Under the bourgeois-landlord regime they served, primarily, as headquarters for the repressive organs of power—the gendarme, magistrate and tax collector.

The communes (rural administrative unit) played no independent role whatsoever. Many of the communes consisted of artificially united inhabited points, remote from each other. There were vast numbers of small communes, some of which had less than 500 inhabitants. These communes could not have had schools, doctors and libraries.

In an attempt to isolate the working peasantry from the working class and to prevent the proletariat gaining influence among the peasant masses, the reactionary Governments of, the past separated the industrial centres from the political and administrative centres. Regional centres consisted of towns of third-rate importance from the economic point of view and contained no working class. Thus, for instance, Sighisoare which had no industry worth speaking of, was the main town of the Tarnava Mare region and not Meghiasi, an important workers' centre in the same region.

The law for the administrative-economic redivision of the Rumanian People's Republic puts an end to the old administrative division. a sorry legacy of the past, and will facilitate and accelerate the full development of our country towards Socialism.

The aims of this redivision, as stated in Article 1 of the Law are: a) to ensure the development of industry

and agriculture in the interests of socialist construction and of raising the standard of living of the working people; b) to bring the State organs close to the working people; c) to ensure the guiding political role of the working class and its alliance with the working peasantry.

In its decision, regarding the administrative-economic redivision of the country, our Party was guided by the rich experience of Socialist construction in the U.S.S.R.

In keeping with the new law, the country is divided into 28 regions. These represent large and strong administrative-economic units capable of developing their productive forces to the full, and constitute support points of the Party and Government in developing a planned economy and proper distribution of productive forces. The geographical and historical peculiarities of the given region, its communications and perspectives of economic development were taken into account when deciding on the structure of the region. Account was also taken of the national peculiarities of the region fully in keeping with the national policy of our Party.

In the majority of regions the agricultural districts are grouped around big industrial and political centres. The Szeklers districts (Szeklers, a national minority in the Rumanian People's Republic) are part of the Stalin Region, the chief town of which is Stalin, one of the biggest industrial centres in the country. The Baia Mare Region is a new region. Formerly the centre of the region which included the town of Baia Mare, was the out-of-the-way little town of Satu Mare. Today Baia Mare, where a big non-ferrous metal works has been built, is the regional centre. Botosani which, because

of the enterprises being opened there, is becoming an industrial centre and is now the main town of a rich agricultural region.

The districts formed in accordance with the Law on the redivision of the country, differ fundamentally from the old districts. The district today is an important economic, political and administrative unit and is called upon to play an important role in socialist construction. The new districts are much bigger than the old ones. In place of the former 424 districts there are now 177. The local organs of power—the District People’s Councils—will be able to display their initiative to the full in pulling into practice the policy of the Party and Government to make the best use of resources, to develop local industry, to raise the material and cultural level of the working people.

In place of the six thousand odd communes that existed in the past, and of which 39 per cent had less than 1,500 inhabitants each, 4,052 communes have been formed, uniting the inhabited points and maintaining close economic contact with each other.

The redivision helps to draw the broad masses, and what is particularly important, the peasant masses into the work of building Socialism. As Comrade Stalin pointed out at the Sixteenth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks), in 1930: There can be no doubt that, we would not have been able to undertake the tremendous work of reorganising agriculture and developing the collective-farm movement, had we not carried out the redivision... The purpose of the redivision is to bring the Party-Soviet and economic-co-operative apparatus closer to the district and village in order to be able in good time to solve urgent questions of agriculture, its

development, its reconstruction. In this sense, I repeat, the redivision added greatly to the whole of our construction work.”

Redivision makes it possible to carry out on a more profound and wider scale the principle of democratic centralism in building the State apparatus. It will strengthen State discipline which is the main condition for realising democratic centralism in the work of the State apparatus. At the same time, local organs are controlled by the working people. This control by the working people of the local organs is an expression of the profoundly democratic nature of our State.

The strengthening of the links between the State apparatus and the masses, the steady realisation of the principle of democratic centralism in building the State apparatus will lead to the further strengthening of our People’s Democracy.

The Law on the redivision of the country makes it possible to pass over to a new, higher stage in the development of the local organs of power, to the election of People’s Councils. These elections will draw thousands and tens of thousands of working people of town and countryside into administering State affairs. A mighty wave of labour enthusiasm is sweeping the country. The working people are bending all efforts to embark, in worthy fashion, on the fulfilment of the first Five-Year Plan. Socialist emulation is developing on an increasingly wider scale; it has become part of the daily life of tens and hundreds of thousands of workers. The socialist sector in agriculture is expanding. We now have 1,000 collective farms, uniting tens of thousands of poor and middle peasant households. The recent congress of the peace committees of the Rumanian People’s Republic

was a powerful and striking demonstration of the splendid labour achievements with which the people of our country are reinforcing their signatures to the Stockholm appeal, a demonstration of the determination of all our people to defend peace against the imperialist aggressors.

The coming elections to the local councils will once again demonstrate the growing moral and political unity of the working people of our country, their will to advance along the path of building Socialism and, by their achievements, to help strengthen the front of struggle for peace, of which the great socialist power, the U.S.S.R. is the steadfast bulwark.

FASCIST TERROR CANNOT BREAK THE WILL OF DEFENDERS OF PEACE

LETTER FROM DOLORES IBARRURI

The newspaper "Humanite" published the following letter from Dolores Ibaruri.

"The French Government," reads the letter, "deported from France hundreds of Spanish anti-fascist refugees. A hundred and fifty of them have been shipped to Africa where they are doomed to slow death and from where they may at any moment be handed over to the Franco police.

Why were they deported? Because they had fought for peace, because they had remained loyal to their democratic ideas, because after many years of exile, marked by incarceration in concentration camps and by sanguinary struggle, they fully preserved their faith in freedom, in democracy and the Republic, their implacable hatred for Franco butcher of the Spanish people-and for his fascist regime.

"The Spanish Republicans," reads the letter, "have been subjected to persecution on orders from the U.S. State Department which seeks to bring Franco Spain into the Atlantic bloc and to acquire additional reserves of cannon fodder, necessary for the further realisation of its war plans. For this purpose it was necessary to appease Franco. This is the gist of the matter.

The Plevin-Moch Government will not succeed in deceiving the French people by means of despicable hypocrisy, nor will it make them forget that the

Spaniards deported from France today were their brothers-in-arms of yesterday in the resistance movement, in the struggle for the liberation of France. The graves of the hundreds of Spanish Communists buried on French soil testify to this moving truth. The names of Spanish Communists covered with glory, are entered in the annals of the Legion d'honneur. That also testifies to the participation of the Spaniards in the struggle for the national independence of France. These men and women who unhesitatingly shed their blood for France and displayed heroism, are to-day banished from French territory as criminals. They have been sent to their death, far from their families, from their friends, from the country in whose liberation they had taken part."

"Facts show that terror cannot break the will of the people to defend peace and live in freedom in their independent countries. French democrats and the working class in France, international democratic organisations and progressive people in all countries cannot remain indifferent to these brutal repressions against the Spanish antifascist emigrants in France. Silence is impossible when the lives of hundreds of fighters against fascism, men and women, deported by the French Government are in danger. To let these facts of inhuman arbitrariness go without protest, means to facilitate the work of the warmongers, to agree beforehand to all the brutalities perpetrated by a handful of gangsters who have resorted to rabid terror and who have become frantic in face of the growing might of the peace forces. Democrats and progressive people in Europe and America!

Former members of the international brigades in

Spain !

Anti-fascists throughout the world!

Comrades and friends!

Display your solidarity with the deported Spanish
Republicans!

Fight to end this injustice!

Take action to prevent the realisation of the
designs of the reactionaries and fascists who are trying
to destroy the most militant section of republican and
democratic Spain!

GREAT UNDERTAKINGS OF COMMUNISM (PRESS REVIEW)

The historic decision of (he Government of the U.S.S.R. lo build at Kuibyshev and Stalingrad on the River Volga what will be the biggest hydro-electric stations in the world, having a combined annual capacity of almost twenty billion kilowatt hours, and the Main Turkmen Canal, 1,100 kilometres long, enormous both in scale and in its complex of technical installations, has evoked a warm response among millions of people in all countries.

These gigantic undertakings, part of the great plan for re-making nature in the interests of man, a plan inspired by Stalin's genius, are only possible in the Soviet country which is now building Communism.

"With what feeling and profound delight," writes the Bulgarian newspaper "**Otechestven Front**", "did our people read the announcement of those undertakings." "These decisions", continues the newspaper, "reveal the strength of the new world, the might of the Socialist Soviet system! Where is the capitalist country in which anything like this is possible?"

"The calm and firm will of the Soviet people infuses all peace-loving peoples, all progressive mankind with renewed energy. To-day all lo whom peace and -the friendship of nations are dear rely on the Stalin might, on !he growing economic potential of the U.S.S.R. and on the iron firmness of the Soviet people."

"This gigantic construction," writes the Czechoslovak newspaper, "**Rude Pravo**", "provides all

mankind with additional evidence of the superiority of Socialism over capitalism.”

The great example of the Soviet Union evokes creative enthusiasm among the working people in the People’s Democracies convinces them of the correctness of the path of Socialist construction they have chosen and which alone can bring them happiness and a bright future. The titanic undertakings in the U.S.S.R., writes the Polish paper “**Tribuna Ludu**” shows “the wonderful path along which the peoples of the New Democracies are advancing—the path of struggle for Socialism and peace.”

That is precisely how Hungarian workers and peasants evaluate the significance of the great undertakings in the U.S.S.R. in their letters to the newspaper “**Sabad Nep**”. D. Horvat, a peasant from the village of Keczkemat writes: “The news of the new construction now to begin in the Soviet Union made me very happy. I know that although we as yet cannot carry out such magnificent plans, we are following the path of the Soviet Union, The day will come when we shall make life just as splendid.”

The press in the People’s Democracies expresses the satisfaction of all free peoples with the peaceful policy of the Soviet Union aimed at the further development of the productive forces of the U.S.S.R.

“All the efforts of the Soviet people,” emphasises ‘**Rude Pravo**’, “are directed towards making life happier. Every act of the Soviet people is an act of peace. And whither all the efforts of the imperialists and every act of the capitalist Governments? The American imperialists are slaying women and children: the French imperialists are torturing and shooting patriots in Viet Nam and the British imperialists are

using bloody means to suppress the people of Malaya.

“What did Truman say in each of his last three messages? He spoke of increasing armaments by 17 billion dollars, increasing the Army by three million men and of shipping extra divisions to Germany. What did the British Government report? Armaments to be increased to the tune of 3.5 billion pounds. The French Government—an additional 2,000 billion francs for armaments.

“All the efforts of which the capitalist countries are still capable, serve the purpose of increasing poverty, of war and death.”

“At a time when Truman, Acheson and the whole gang of monopolists are stockpiling barbarous weapons for the mass annihilation of human beings and to lay waste entire countries,” writes the Rumanian newspaper “**Scanteia**”, “when capitalism can no longer carry on without producing means of destruction, Soviet people are harnessing the waters of the **Amu Darya** in order to transform a desert into a blossoming garden... What a contrast between the fear which grips the capitalist world, the dread which is taking possession of the exploiters and the calm and creative labour enthusiasm and confidence of the Soviet people.”

“While Washington is in the throes of war hysteria,” writes the Chinese newspaper “**Tagunpao**”, “Moscow is calm and restrained. Having settled the question of linguistics, the Soviet leader plans the construction of giant hydro-electric stations. Is not this most convincing evidence that the Soviet Union is directing its efforts to peaceful construction!”

“**Rude Pravo**”, “**Scanteia**” and other newspapers in the People’s Democracies devote numerous articles lo

the gigantic undertakings of Communism, the spearhead of which is aimed at the false propaganda of the reactionary capitalist press, which on orders from its bosses fills its pages with slander and lies against the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism, whipping up war hysteria.

The venal bourgeois press is trying to pass over in silence the decisions of the Soviet Government regarding the great constructions in the U.S.S.R., to hide from the peoples the facts that speak of the Soviet peace policy. But the peoples are not to be deceived! The truth about the U.S.S.R. reaches the broad sections of the people in the capitalist countries.

The Communist and democratic press in the capitalist countries widely comment on the report about the great undertakings of Communism in the U.S.S.R. The French "**Humanite**", the Italian "**Unita**", the London "**Daily Worker**" and other newspapers published articles, maps and information about the decision of the Soviet Government. In an editorial entitled "Ways of Peace", the "Daily Worker" writes: "The launching of the plan to transform the Kara-Kum Desert means that within a few years the dream of ages will be fulfilled... It is true," emphasises the newspaper, "that the peoples not only of Asia but of the world will be glad". The Danish "**Land og Volk**", characterising the significance of the Soviet Government's decision, writes: "The main objective of the Socialist offensive which the West fears so much has been exactly defined. It aims not at conquering neighbouring States. By means of planning and useful work for society, huge deserts will be erased from the map of the Soviet Union. This at present is one of the basic aims of the policy of the Soviet Union."

The launching of these majestic undertakings in the U.S.S.R. will stimulate tremendously the growth of the ranks of peace supporters in all countries. The truth about the creative labour and the great plans of Communist construction in the U.S.S.R. inspires common people throughout the world to struggle against the threat of a new war, for peace, democracy and Socialism.

REMILITARISATION OF WESTERN GERMANY. Jerzy Kowalewski

The recent conference of the Foreign Ministers of the United States, France and Britain, and the meeting of the Council of the North Atlantic Pact countries clearly revealed the desire of the American imperialists to go ahead quickly with the formation of a West German Army and to revive German militarism. The official communique of the Council of the North Atlantic Pact states that the meeting discussed questions of far-reaching significance, questions primarily concerning the creation of combined armed forces in Western Europe. By “combined armed forces of Western Europe” ‘the American imperialists have in view, above all, a German Army which they plan to use against the U.S.S.R. and the People’s Democracies, to bring pressure on France and other Western European countries, and to win world domination.

The American and British imperialists never had any intention of carrying out the Potsdam decisions regarding the demilitarisation of Germany. Practically from the very beginning of the occupation they began to prepare the revival of Prussian militarism and to use the West German war potential for their predatory purposes. Ever since the American aggressors began to suffer defeat in Korea, their interest in stepping-up the West German war potential quickened.

The aggressors decided to make active use of their last reserve in Europe—the universally hated fascist assassins and militarists, as well as their monopoly patrons who are busy today promoting the “improved” American variation of the old Hitler “theory” of an

“united Europe”.

Feverish haste marks the activity of the American aggressors in this respect. A “New York Times” correspondent had this to say about the views of American circles in Germany: If the militarisation of Germany within the framework of an European defence system, or outside this system, is to take place in general, it should be completed before the spring of next year. The “New York Daily News” demanded immediate recognition by the United States of the fact that Western Germany must be given the means that would enable it to take its proper place—alongside the U.S.—in the anti-Communist front.

The imperialists realise that the formation of a German army and the restoration of German militarism would inevitably give rise to fresh indignation among the peoples. In order to soften this indignation, Winston Churchill, the most wily of the warmongers, obligingly coined for the Americans the slogan of an “European army”, which was immediately and jubilantly picked up by German reaction. The French newspaper “**Le Monde**” wrote that “the formula of an European army seems to be... the only formula which allows the Germans to take part in the defence of the West”.

This point of view is shared by the entire imperialist camp, despite the contradictions wracking it. “The Times” commented that at a time when the Korean war has revealed to the West the serious problem of manpower, Churchill’s call for an European army with Western Germany participating, was received with relief.

The “**Kölnische Rundschau**” recently wrote that the quickest way to include the Germans in the American front would be “to put them in American

uniforms, give them American arms and include them in American regiments”.

The course of events has shown that it is [his very form that the American imperialists selected. This is evident above all, in the decision to unite the industrial police and the so-called German workers' squads into a regular armed force. This army is directly subordinate to the American Commander-in-Chief and not to the command of the American occupation authorities in Germany. The significance of the reorganisation of the industrial police and the workers' squads is disclosed by the D.PA.—the press agency of the Bonn “government”. According to this agency, the reorganisation is part of the general reorganisation of the American army in Western Europe to augment its numerical strength and fighting capacity. The “**Tägliche Rundschau**” wrote that, according to a secret American report, these combined detachments numbered 287,000 at the time of reorganisation, this figure including, in addition to German soldiers, 30,000 Anders' troops and displaced persons of various nationalities. In all, according to the data of the Information Bureau of the German Democratic Republic, there were 449,200 men in the armed forces of the three Western zones and in Western Berlin at the end of April.

This purely mercenary army plays a dual role. It directly complements the American army of aggression in Europe and, simultaneously, it is the nucleus of the West German army, for the formation of which plans are being elaborated by the Hiller generals and officers grouped in the “Bruderschait” organisation. This organisation, incidentally, has changed its character since the spring of 1950. It is, in effect, a state organ,

an ersatz general staff, working under control and guidance of Anglo-American officers.

Military cadres of particular interest to the Americans, namely, military specialists, officers, parachute and tank troops, etc. are now being enrolled in Western Germany with the participation of this organisation. Courses and schools for German airmen and air force technicians are functioning in Vosberg, Ulzen, Bremen and Ansbach. Under the pretext of registering the unemployed, ex-soldiers are being listed for the Western German army and for all kinds of foreign legions now being despatched from Germany by the oppressors to Korea, Viet Nam and to all other countries where the peoples are battling for freedom.

The mobilisation of West Germany manpower for the needs of the American aggressors is the most important factor in the policy of the re-militarisation of Western Germany now being pursued. But the warmongers are not unmindful of other factors, namely, of Western Germany's war industry and military bases.

Here are a few facts which illustrate the feverish activities of the Western German war industry, facts reported only in one issue of "Tägliche Rundschau". The "Krupp Panzerwerke" is being restored at an accelerated rate for the purpose of producing tanks. Since January this year, the motor works of "Wolf and Sons" in Langenberg (Rhineland), has been turning out heavy motors for tanks. The "Ramer-Werke" near Hamburg is producing tanks at a rate of 30 a week. Tanks are being produced also at the "Konkordiahitte" works in Coblenz.

"Le Monde" reports that the "Messerschmitt" factories in Augsburg are also turning out parts for

aircraft and can, at a moment's notice, begin production of military planes. The "Schmieding" works in Cologne is producing compressors for aircraft. The B.M.W. motor-works in Munich and Allach are rapidly being restored. Chemical plants in Mannheim, the Hohlmagwerke and many others are producing munitions and gases. The "Rottweiler Riustungsbetrieb", producing gunpowder and pyroxylin, has already reached the 1940-1941 level. The "Steinthal" optical works in Munich is producing periscopes for American submarines and the electro-metallurgical plants in Nurenberg are making essential parts for these submarines.

At the beginning of June, the American, British and French High Commissioners issued an order concerning war production in Western Germany. According to this order, reports the German press, production of munitions, poison gas, fuel for jet propulsion, radar equipment, etc., will be started.

Military considerations govern the different branches of industry working for aggression. The export of steel for war purposes has jumped nearly five-fold in the past period. So great is the demand for steel that the German monopolists with whom the orders are placed are beginning to dictate their terms which, of course, pursue the aim of the further development of West Germany's war potential.

Preparations for aggression are even more pronounced in the sphere of organising American war bases in Western Germany.

The German press is filled with reports of hurried measures being taken to adapt the railways and highways to the needs of American military transport (for instance the Osnabrück-Hannover highways. The

transformation of whole areas into training grounds, into fields for manoeuvres and into other closed military areas, has become the scourge of the population. Guards are stationed along the borders of these areas and are empowered to open fire on anyone who approaches them, By degrees, the Americans are turning the whole of Western Germany into a vast military base.

German monopolists, yesterday's war criminals, Army generals and SS officers, and also the political representatives of their interests, wholeheartedly support the American policy for the remilitarisation of Western Germany. They have every reason to be enthusiastic about the policy of their powerful transatlantic colleagues, the more so since the American occupiers are doing everything to woo them, even going so far as to release such notorious war criminals as Flick and the directors of IG Farbenindustrie. Also the Right Social-Democratic and trade union leaders unconditionally support the armaments policy. Tito renegades and trotskyite agents, who enjoy the full support of the Western occupation authorities, are the exponents and propagandists of this criminal policy.

But the majority of the German people are more and more reacting to the policy of remilitarisation with hostility. Not only workers, but also the urban and rural petty-bourgeois elements, the working intelligentsia, considerable groups of merchants and industrialists and even many officials belonging to the Adenauer State organs are opposed to remilitarisation and other measures aimed at impelling the German people towards the abyss of a new war.

The resistance of the German people to

remilitarisation is displayed in different ways and is acquiring such dimension's that it can no longer be ignored. The frequent cases of Germans refusing to serve in the workers' squads in protest against the arming of these units, and also the refusal of Germans to take to arms, compelled the Frankfurt correspondent of "**The York Times**" to state that it is common knowledge that a large number of Germans would refuse work rather than join the projected military units.

"**Le Monde**", in a dispatch from Bonn, noted that German public opinion takes serious objection to the rearmament policy. "**The New York Herald Tribune**" reported, as typical of the German point of view, statements by political figures who recall that Germany has already lost two wars and is in no hurry to lose a third.

The sentiments of the population of Western Germany are even more clearly expressed in the columns of the German press and not only in the democratic press but in bourgeois organs as well. The "**Stuttgarter Zeitung**" writes about "the crisis in confidence in the West", The "**Badisches, Tagestalt**" claims that the subject of militarisation meets with a frigid reception in Germany", and the Dortmund "**Westdeutsches Tagesblatt**" frankly writes: "Let the world know that Germany is not the least bit interested in arming its youth"

Western Germany is today the arena of ruthless reprisals against the defenders of peace. Recently, as reported by the Associated Press, a representative of the American High Commissioner openly declared that if the Adenauer police does not suffice, the Americans themselves will take action against the champions of

freedom. This threat is already being applied.

The terror against peace supporters in Western Germany gives still more weight to the statement made at the Third Congress of the Socialist Unity Party that the occupation troops of the Western powers have become a plain army of intervention engaged in unlawful actions that run counter to the Potsdam decisions.

“The measures to militarise Western Germany,” pointed out Comrade Ulbricht, General Secretary of the German Socialist Unity Party, “must be countered by the national resistance of all peace-loving forces... It is necessary to expose all measures for preparation of armaments manufacture or parts of armaments; it is necessary to explain to the workers the reason why these armaments are being produced and which are levelled against the German people; it is necessary to stop this production by stopping work at the enterprises... The maintenance of peace means combating all forms of American or British war propaganda... means drawing the majority of the population into active struggle in the spirit of the Stockholm decision.”

The working class of Germany at the head of the broad masses of the German people will, with increasing vigour, wage the struggle against the remilitarisation of Western Germany, for the defence and strengthening of peace, and to frustrate the imperialist schemes to turn Western Germany into a base for aggression.

AGAINST REACTION AND WAR

DECLARATION BY LEADERSHIP OF THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY

On September 14, the Leadership of the Italian Communist Party published the following declaration:

The clearest indication of the failure of the Government's policy, directed at isolating the democratic forces and their leading parties, at intimidating the people and whipping up a reactionary psychosis and unleashing war, and an indication of the consolidation of the democratic forces during the past two months, is the growing success of the campaign for signatures conducted by the partisans of peace for prohibition of the atomic weapon. Before the American attack on Korea, the number of signatures stood at four million; since then, this figure has soared and as a result of the spontaneous and organised support of the people now reaches 16 million signatures.

The police persecution and threats by the Church merely go to show how great is that part of the Italian people prepared openly to take their place in the ranks of the peace front and against the Government whose policy, after the American aggression in Korea, has encountered silent hostility and passive resistance even among broad bourgeois circles and especially among the Middle class.

The unequivocal peace policy pursued by the Soviet Union and the great loss in prestige suffered by the United States as a result of the Korean war provoked by it, undoubtedly contributed to this result. The

Declaration points out that the ruling circles of Italy, under cover of anti-Communist and anti-Soviet hysteria, have not yet answered the Italian people on such an elementary question as:

Why do the national interests of Italy demand its participation in a war bloc against the U.S.S.R. and the Peoples Democracies when the Soviet Union is calling for mutual understanding and economic co-operation in the spirit of absolute respect for national independence?

In view of the open acts of American aggression in Korea and China, nobody has even attempted to show that the interests of the Italian people make it necessary for the people to become involved in this aggression in the wake of American imperialism. It is clear to every honest and sincere Italian, that the national interests of Italy are diametrically opposed to the interests of American imperialism, for the imperialists have always been the natural enemies of the country.

Not a single Italian, rich or poor, bourgeois or proletarian, who remembers the experience of the past, can understand why the present Christian-Democrat rulers must repeat the criminal mistakes of the fascist rulers. Let the American rulers break their necks in the attempt to win world domination. Our country, which nobody threatens, states the Declaration, must stand aside and keep as far away as possible from this new disaster.

Not a single Italian, concerned about the fate of the country, can understand why, when nobody threatens it, when it has not yet reached the pre-war level, Italy must again take the fatal road of an armaments drive, of war preparations, that is, the road of new inevitable

economic and civil degradation.

Finally, the ruling parties and Government have not yet given a clear answer to the question regarding the obligations they have contracted with American imperialism.

All Italians must be on guard against the danger of a return to a regime of naked reaction, the danger of which is growing rapidly together with the danger of war in view of the obvious intentions of the American imperialists and of those in Italy who are in the service. The fate of each individual depends on this, the fate of every person in our country... All tendencies manifesting a sincere desire to hold back the country from the dangerous road of naked reaction and war, toward which the present rulers are pushing it, must be encouraged, approved and supported.

RESOLUTION OF POLITICAL BUREAU OF FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY

The Political Bureau of the French Communist Party recently adopted the following resolution:

The Political Bureau draws the attention of the people of France to the meeting in New York where the three Foreign Ministers—Acheson, Bevin and Schuman—are examining ways and means of accelerating preparations for an aggressive war against the Soviet Union and the Peoples Democracies. The Political Bureau once again resolutely denounces the degree to which France is subordinated to the interests of the American imperialists, contrary to her own interests and to the detriment of her independence...

The American plan amounts to the following:

1. To establish an industrial base in Germany and to prepare cannon fodder for an aggressive war against our ally—the Soviet Union.

2. In the shape of a German army to obtain a means of pressure and blackmail against France and the prospect of reducing France to a third-rate country in Western Europe where the Nazi revanchists would be the masters.

All the dangers threatening our country and peace are aggravated by the appointment of General Marshall to the post of Secretary of Defence—champion of the rearmament of Germany and author of the plan of war and impoverishment which has brought so much misery to our country.

The Political Bureau, having heard a report on the struggle launched against tending the term of military

service for men of the second 1949 class and against the 18-month term of service, condemns these measures which run counter to the interests of the country and which have been adopted on orders from the American imperialists.

The Political Bureau calls for the organisation of broad committees to maintain close contact with the soldiers and to intensify action against extending the term of military service.

The Resolution calls upon all members of the Party and all Party organisations to redouble their activity and to help the partisans of peace in the preparations for the Second World Congress, to direct their efforts toward extending the movement and to assure it an organisational base by setting up many thousands of peace committees.

The Political Bureau voices the indignation of the working peoples whose living conditions are deteriorating, are becoming more and more difficult as a result of the intensified war preparations. The Political Bureau calls upon the members of the Party and Party organisations to devote all their strength to bar the way to poverty, and, in the spirit of unity, resolutely to support the struggle of the masses for their demands both at private and state enterprises. The struggle for their demands can be successful only if it will be waged with the support, and in conditions of united action, not only by the trade union membership of different trends but by the unorganised working people as well.

The Political Bureau again denounces the arbitrary repression undertaken by Plevin against the emigrant working people, particularly against the Spanish Republicans, as an indication of the war preparations.

The peoples know from experience, stoles the Resolution, that the measures taken against the working class and its vanguard constitute, in Ille long run, a stage where all democrats may fall under the blow and all liberties destroyed.

The Resolution calls upon the people of France to defend the imperil led democratic liberties. At the same lime it calls on the working class vigilantly to guard their leaders and their organisations.

NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT IN IRAN WILL FRUSTRATE PLANS OF U.S.- BRITISH IMPERIALISTS

U.S., as well as British imperialists, have lately been exercising all their efforts to draw Iran completely into the new war being prepared by them against the freedom-loving nations which are headed by the Soviet Union.

In addition to the anti-popular military treaties and agreements, previously concluded with the Iranian Government, the U.S. has of late, added another military treaty which was signed in Washington on May 23 and which constitutes a further danger to the people of Iran.

By this treaty, Iran is to receive new U.S. "aid". American arms and ammunition are being shipped to Iran; the numerical strength of the U.S. military mission in Teheran is being doubled and will have monopoly rights in the administration of the Iranian army, to effect the militarisation of the country and also to utilise Iranian resources for U.S. war purposes. U.S. military advisers and experts have already taken charge of the army, police and gendarmerie of Iran.

The home and foreign policy of the Iranian Government is directed by the U.S. Embassy. Fulfilling the will of the Washington warmongers, the Government, the Mejlis and the Shah of Iran, have advanced the slogan "Guns come first!" Acting on this slogan, 80 per cent of the State budget, and the greater part of funds not shown in the budget, are spent on war expenditure, Tens of billions of rial are spent—not for the development of the productive forces of the country

but for the equipment of the army, the police and gendarmerie with American arms; for salaries to U.S. advisers and experts; for the construction of military roads, aerodromes and other installations.

This expenditure is covered by the ever-rising taxation which falls as a heavy burden on workers and all working people in the country and brings about the mass ruin of peasants and handicraftsmen.

U.S. finance capital, relying on the landlord-feudal hierarchy and the big comprador bourgeoisie of Iran, have transformed the country into a market for American goods that cannot be sold on the home market. For instance, whereas, in 1948, U.S. exports to Iran comprised 1,058 million rial and in 1949 increased to 2,095 million rial: the corresponding Iranian exports to the U.S. amounted to only 352 million and 122 million rial. In these two years alone, the U.S. extracted from Iran 2,679 million rial, bringing the people nothing in return but ruin.

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The British colonisers, while supporting the American expansionists in the matter of suppressing the national liberation movement in Iran and actively collaborating with Wall Street magnates in unleashing a new imperialist war, and, more particularly, in converting Iran into a military anti-Soviet, anti-democratic outpost, are simultaneously fighting against the U.S. to restore monopoly domination of British capital in Iran. The conflict between these two imperialist robbers explains the frequency with which Governments are changed in Iran, and the coming to power of either supporters of the U.S. or supporters of British monopoly capital. The imperialists, like highway robbers, employ arms to remove their opponents. The

attempt on the life of the Shah, the assassination of Hajir, Minister of the Court, Deputy Dekhan. etc. all had their source in the rivalry between American and British imperialists for possession of Iran, its cheap labour, raw materials and its market.

The main citadel of British imperialist domination, which Britain is trying to maintain in the struggle against the American colonisers, is the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company. This Company, like a huge spider, holds in its grip the people of Iran and bleeds them white. It squeezes millions of pounds out of the country, keeps it in the position of a colony and oppresses the people both politically and morally.

Competing with the Americans, the British imperialists, year by year, are increasing their exports to Iran—these rose from 1,081 million rial in 1948 to 1,561 million rial in 1949—while exports from Iran to Britain were, respectively, merely 329 million and 411 million rial, figures which testify to the colonial character of the trade between Iran and Britain. This trade resulted in a deficit for Iran, while British finance circles secured gold currency to the value of 1,902 million rial in two years.

The military-political and financial-economic oppression by the imperialists, the enormous military expenditure of the Iranian Government, undertaken in the interests of the warmongers, as well as the military-feudal regime, the ban on freedom of speech and press, persecution of the democratic Parties and mass organisations (trade unions, peasant unions, women's and youth organisations), reduce to nought the national independence of Iran, put a brake on the development of the national economy: industry, agriculture and finance.

The flood of U.S. and British goods, chiefly cotton fabrics, silk, leather, sugar, foodstuffs, etc., has had disastrous results for the ,poorly-developed Iranian industry. Unable to compete with the U,S. and British monopolists and receiving no support from the Iranian Government, factories are closing down, one after another, and small artisans are being ruined. In Isfahan, for instance, four textile mills, each employing from 1,500 to 2.,000 workers, have closed. A similar process is taking place in Teheran, Tabriz, Kume, Ahvaze and other towns In Iran. Tens of thousands have been thrown out cl work, while lens of thousands more work only part time. Wages are falling. Conditions of government employees are no better than those of workers and !he handicraftsmen who are being ruined.

To cover the huge deficit in the State budget, amounting to almost 50 per cent and caused by transferring Iranian economy onto the rails of war economy in the interests of the U.S. and Britain, the Iranian Government, besides increasing taxation of the working people, is reducing the salaries of professors, teachers and employees. In 1949, the Ministry of Finance alone dismissed 6,000 employees who, with their families, total about 24,000 people.

Iranian peasants are subjected to shameless plunder. They are ordered about like colonial soldiers by the U.S. military advisers and Iranian military clique in the pay of the American imperialists.

Taxes in kind and money are imposed on peasants to cover the military needs of the U.S. and Britain and also to meet expenditure for the suppression of the liberation movement of the Iranian people. They are ruthlessly plundered by the landlords and feudalists. As a result, hundreds of thousands of peasants have been

deprived of all means of subsistence. This is particularly the case in Iranian Azerbaijan and in Khorosan Province where the greatest anti-Soviet activity is evident.

Anglo-American imperialist domination, and the anti-people's policy of the Iranian Government greatly affect also the interests of the Iranian national bourgeoisie. In the past few months alone, 250 merchants have gone bankrupt. In March, eighty per cent of the bills were not met.

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Having taken the path of transforming the country into an anti-Soviet, anti-democratic springboard, and having subordinated the entire economy of the country to the interests of the imperialists, the Iranian Government, acting on orders from the U.S. and Britain, is pursuing a hostile policy in relation to the U.S.S.R. and the People's Democracies. However, only by entering into friendly and close economic relations with the peoples of these countries can the national sovereignty of Iran be ensured and, likewise, its prosperity and all-round economic development. In this way alone, can the people of Iran be saved from the horrors of the war that is being prepared by the imperialists.

The policy of war, ruin and hunger, the policy of terror and of strangling liberties, is giving rise to ever-greater discontent among the Iranian masses. Day by day the forces, counterposed to the aggressors, are growing stronger.

The People's Party, which was driven underground in February this year, heads the struggle of the national forces. The People's Party is actively supported by the underground trade unions (C.O.S.P.I.), the people's youth organisations, the peasant unions and the Iranian women's organisations.

Despite terror and persecution, the democratic organisations, under the leadership of the People's Party, are successfully carrying on propaganda and organisational work among broad sections of the population. Through their illegal newspapers ("Mardom", "Zafar", "Razm" and "Rahabare Djavanan") and also by means of books, pamphlets, leaflets and appeals, they expose the policy of the aggressors and explain daily the tasks confronting the people of Iran.

Relying on the mass democratic organisations, the People's Party of Iran is mobilising the national forces of the country to fulfil the main task—the struggle for peace, against the warmongers and, above all, against the U.S.-British imperialists and their agents in Iran.

On December 23, 1949, when the Shah of Iran went to Washington on Truman's private plane—pompously called "Independence"—to sell the independence of Iran, the Central Committee of the People's Party issued a resolution which said:

"The people of Iran stand for peace and hate the Anglo-American warmongers. The people of Iran denounce the attempts of the U.S. imperialists and the Shah to involve our country in war. The people of Iran are deeply loyal to the camp of peace headed by the great land of Socialism, and are determined to uphold this camp." Despite the desire of the Shah, added the Central Committee Resolution, the people of Iran do not want to place their country in the service of the U.S. imperialists against the Soviet Union. The people of Iran will not, under any circumstances, fight against the Soviet Union—the bulwark of peace and democracy and will combat the criminal designs of the imperialists.

On the Day of Solidarity with the colonial peoples in February, and also during the World Democratic Youth

Week held in March, on May 1, the international holiday of the working people, and on International Children's Day, June 1, the democratic underground organisations circulated, throughout the country, numerous leaflets and calls in defence of peace, against the warmongers. The slogans "Death to American colonisers!", "Our people want bread not guns!" "Under no circumstances will we fight against the Soviet Union!" appeared on the walls of Teheran—including those of the Shah's palace and of the American and British Embassies.

The press of the People's Party and of the democratic organisations widely popularised both the Stockholm session or the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress and its appeal. In this way, a breach was made in the conspiracy of silence by which reaction sought to conceal from the people not only the Stockholm appeal but also the First World Peace Congress. The people learned of the great struggle for peace waged by all peace-loving countries, the struggle headed by the Soviet Union.

There are also other facts testifying to the deepening and widening discontent, to ever more frequent actions against the aggressive policy of the U.S. and Britain, and against the policy of the Iran Government—a policy disastrous for the people of Iran. That part of the Iranian press, which voices the national interests of the country and realises the disastrous nature of the anti-people's internal and anti-Soviet foreign policy pursued by the Government, more and more frequently exposes the aggressive plans of the U.S. and Britain and also of their servants in Teheran. For example, the newspaper "Dad" wrote on June 25, 1950: "We do not want to be a tool of the warmongers in the present international conflicts. Each step of the

Iranian Government along the path of clouding Iranian-Soviet relations will be a step directed against the ideas and desires of the Iranian people. Defending our sovereignty and permitting no government to interfere in our home affairs, we will not allow Iran to become a base for political and military provocations against the Soviet Union". The newspapers "Darija", "Paitahte Ma", "Beste Ajande" and others also come out in favour of establishing friendly relations with the U.S.S.R., and against the policy of turning the country into a military base and a colony of the Anglo-American imperialists.

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Like all peace-loving peoples, the people of Iran have come out against the imperialist adventure in Korea. They have ensured that their Government, which supported the unlawful decision of the Security Council, shall not send soldiers to Korea.

Prominent representatives of the Iranian intelligentsia and of other sections of the population in Iran are fighting against war, for peace and for the national sovereignty of the country. In July, an Iranian Peace Society was formed under the chairmanship of Behar (Malek-osh-Shoar), an outstanding Iranian poet and public figure. This Society includes representatives of wide sections of public opinion and well-known Iranian personalities in the sphere of science, culture and art. Among the foundation members are several deputies from the Mejlis. The Society has issued an address to the people of Iran in which it calls upon "all honest Iranians who wish their country well, irrespective of their political and religious convictions, to join the ranks of the partisans of peace and to take

part in their sacred struggle”.

The struggle for peace, against the warmongers, is merging more and more in Iran with the daily struggle for a better life for the broad mass of the working people in the country. Between January and June 1950, a number of strikes took place at factories in Isfahan, Shahi and Teheran. The main demand of the strikers was to raise wages, improve working conditions and to put into production the closed factories. There were also numerous demonstrations of unemployed and demonstrations before the Mejlis in defence of the political prisoners—members of democratic organisations. In many towns (Zendjan, Tabriz, Maraga) and regions of Iran (Khorosan, Seistan) hunger riots and peasant uprisings took place.

The People’s Party of Iran, and the mas democratic organisations affiliated to it, have done much to awaken politically the national forces of the country. But still more needs to be done. Bearing in mind that the struggle for peace is one of the main conditions of the struggle for national independence and democratic liberties, the People’s Party does not forget that success in this struggle can be achieved only by drawing into the movement broad masses of workers and peasants; by uniting them in mass democratic organisations.

All national forces in the country, irrespective of their political and religious views, should be drawn into this struggle. A broad people’s front in defence of peace, a front of struggle for democracy, against the warmongers should be formed. The conditions for such a front exist. Such a front will be formed in Iran.

TUDEH

LIFE OF WORKING PEOPLE IN YUGOSLAVIA. (Impressions of Italian Workers who fled Yugoslavia) J. Pellegrini, Member of Central Committee, Italian Communist Party

Recently, I had a talk with a group of workers who have returned from Yugoslavia Friulia (Venice region). These workers emigrated to Yugoslavia in 1947-1948 and some even crossed the border illegally. In Italy they were unemployed and decided to go to Yugoslavia because they hoped to find work.

Now back in Italy they express bitterness and disappointment with all they had seen in Yugoslavia and indignation at the injustice they were forced to endure. Very simply, they expressed their thoughts and feelings, asserting that the regime in Yugoslavia in no way differs from the Mussolini regime which had been their miserable lot in their own country.

Poverty had driven them from their country but poverty had also haunted them in Yugoslavia. They returned home, having experienced persecution and the threats of the Titoites, and having seen how, in Yugoslavia, the most elementary rights are trampled upon.

“It was just like the life in the Hitlerite camps”, said one of the workers who from personal experience was able to compare the Hitler fascist regime with the fascist Tito regime. “The only difference is that the Titoite regime tries to mask itself more skilfully than the Hitlerite regime. But the time has long passed when it could mislead anyone”.

The facts speak and accuse... “Thus, in the town of Circhina,” related this worker, “I was most surprised to find that the chairman, of the so-called people’s committee in the town was one of the richest local landowners, a certain Petrenel, who was simultaneously a captain in the Titoite intelligence service and that the chairman of the rehabilitation co-operative, Strave Janez, was a notorious reactionary, owner of six of the best houses in the town.”

And here are the conditions of the workers who had been attracted to Yugoslavia by the false propaganda. Maribor—a small Slovene town on the Austrian border—has become for the foreign workers residing there (mostly Italians) a synonym for poverty, and endless suffering. The “living quarters” assigned to them consisted of wooden barracks surrounded by barbed wire with only one entrance which day and night was guarded by a sentry armed with a tommy-gun. In the summer the barracks were like a furnace and in the winter as cold as a cellar. They are divided into 24 tiny cubicles, each of which contains 4-5 wooden bunks with a straw mattress and two dirty blankets for a bed. There is no linen. The workers had strict orders not to go outside the town boundary. Even passports were unnecessary since no visas were issued. Average monthly earnings were 2000-2500 dinars. But from this sum of 1500 dinars was returned to the enterprise for board and lodgings. Consequently, the workers were unable to send anything to their families in Italy.

A skilled worker (this also refers to Yugoslav workers) can earn at the most 4000 dinars a month. And whereas this is barely enough to make ends meet, groups of idlers spend the nights in State owned dancing halls, paying for wine and luxury foods out of their

unearned incomes. Meanwhile, the workers in the canteens get a miserable plate of cabbage soup and a slice of black bread. People queue from early morning, waiting for hours in the hope of obtaining some vegetables. In Lubiana, Zagreb, Belgrade and other cities, conditions are the same as in Maribor.

The “Socialists” (or rather spies) of the Zilliacus type and intellectuals like Jean Cassou laud, on instructions from their masters, Titoite Yugoslavia which they saw in the light of the receptions and banquets. Here, however, is what an honest worker says who saw the Yugoslavia where the people suffer in the conditions of the fascist dictatorship. One of the workers who returned to Italy related. “No reforms of consequence have been carried out in the Yugoslav countryside where the kulaks continue, to dominate and, as before, exploit the poor peasants. Dissatisfaction is rife among the poor peasants whose position has deteriorated. They say that none of the promises given them during the liberation war has been fulfilled, The poor peasants must deliver to the State the greater part of their crops. Agricultural production has seriously declined. The Titoites declare that all the efforts of the country must aim at building heavy industry. But no concrete results are evident from the sacrifices the population is made to bear, while hundreds of thousands in the police force are highly paid, draw huge rations and get most of everything they need. The factory managers who, in most cases, are the old owners, are just as brutal towards the workers and regard them with the old contempt. The economy of Yugoslavia has long ago been placed in the hands of the American capitalists who willingly grant millions of dollars in loans but demand in return political guarantees and all the best which the

soil of Yugoslavia yields.”

Yugoslav fascists made no end of fuss about their “Five Year Plan”. But here is the real state of affairs: workers employed in Fiume (Rjeka) say that utter chaos and disorder reign in the ship-yards and in other enterprises in the town. In the majority of cases the leading personnel lack technical knowledge since they are appointed not on merit but from the viewpoint of loyalty to the Tito clique. Very often there is no coordination in the work of the different shops in the same plant. The workers show absolutely no interest in their work. “Emulation” between brigades and factories which the Titoite press makes so much noise about, exists only on paper and is never the result of the initiative and will of the workers who are forced to fulfil definite obligations for the “development of emulation.” The vast majority of the workers are, however, indifferent to this “emulation” and more often than not it ends in failure. Bonuses are always awarded to shops in charge of UDB agents and Titoite henchmen without any regard for the level of production they had achieved.

The ship-yard trade union organisation had never defended the interests of the working people, had never taken care that agreements and wage rates were observed. In all other Yugoslav towns, trade union officials also always side with the management, and their main business is holding meetings which all are forced to attend. The subject matter at these meetings is the “greatness of Tito”, the “infallibility of his political line” and repetition of the same demagogic slogans.

Because trade union membership is steadily declining, all workers are made to join. The ordinary

working day has been established at 8 hours, but in addition, workers are “asked” (i.e. compelled: in Titoite Yugoslavia words acquire entirely different meanings!) “voluntarily” to put in two hours extra each day and on Sundays even 5-6 hours without remuneration. Those who refuse to work overtime lose their coupons for footwear, clothing etc.; moreover, the union officials report the “offenders” to the authorities. As a result, the workers get far less than the 15-16 dinars provided for in the agreement.

Serious dissatisfaction prevails in Yugoslavia in connection with the disorder in the matter of food distribution. Last April, crowds of women in Fiume (Rjeka) broke into three food shops in the main street and smashed them because the managers refused to keep open a little longer despite the fact that the women had waited in queues for hours. In May this year, a rumour was spread in Fiume that sugar would not be issued on the ordinary coupons. Families with children were extremely worried. Soon, to everybody’s surprise, there appeared on the free market an abundance of sugar at 500 dinars a kilogram. A rush began for this sugar but several days later sugar was again issued in the ordinary way. This incident aroused profound indignation, for the people realised that this was speculation on the part of those responsible for supplies. In order to justify the austere food situation in the town, the Titoites allege that it is due to the absence of a private trading sector thus preparing public opinion for the reopening of private shops. Privately owned restaurants and shops which compete with the State shops have been opened in Fiume.

From time to time the Titoites organise excursions allegedly “for the purpose of showing the working

people how Socialism is being built” in the country. A worker who participated in one such excursion related: “There were about two hundred of us. We arrived in Lubiana, the first stage of our trip. A group of Titoites dubiously met us, deafened us with demagogic speeches and as there was nothing to see in town we were taken to Zagreb. Again there were speeches, a superficial inspection of a factory, where everything was prepared for our visit, and then we were immediately whisked to Belgrade. There, we were taken to the Danube, where we saw people at work who looked more like convicts doing hard labour. This was followed by a visit to a museum and to the Zoo and all this in the company of a numerous suite of Titoites. We saw no other factories for we were taken back to Fiume. In the train we were made to sign a declaration testifying to our “enthusiasm” with what we had seen and... what we had not! Pietro Nutricio, a journalist and in the past a notorious Italian fascist, was told to write a series of fulsome articles on the trip

The working masses of Yugoslavia are now convinced that they have been placed in a position of slavery and oppression by a gang of unscrupulous swindlers who have sold themselves to American capital and who remain in power by means of deception and terror. Working people regard the members of the so-called Communist Party of Yugoslavia as fascist spies. The Tito regime is waging a bitter struggle against the genuine Communists, against all who remain faithful to proletarian internationalism and the Soviet Union, against the people of Yugoslavia as a whole.

But despite the persecutions, murder and prisons, resistance to the Titoite hangmen on the part of the people of Yugoslavia grows and gains strength daily. The

peoples of Yugoslavia are finding their own organisational forms of struggle against the bloody dictatorship. Having secured the failure of the State plan (this was admitted by leaders of the Tito gang themselves) the working people of Yugoslavia inflicted the first blow on the fascists holding the reins of power.

The people of Yugoslavia will now develop, as they did in the past, a ruthless struggle against their oppressors and enemies, The creation of a new, revolutionary, genuine Communist Party, founded on the principles of Marxism-Leninism, constantly reinforced with the best elements of the working class and the experience acquired in the daily struggle, is a true guarantee that the peoples of Yugoslavia will find the correct way for the overthrow of the criminal clique now in power and will return Yugoslavia to the camp of peace and democracy, will win its freedom and independence.

BOOK REVIEW

UNDER THE SLOGAN OF THE UNITED FRONT AND INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY OF THE WORKING PEOPLE (Publication of Volume I. of the Works of Maurice Thorez), Georges Cogniot, Member, Central Committee, Communist Party of France

Volume One of the works of Maurice Thorez—tried leader of the Communists of France, leader of the French workers and working peasants—has just come off the press. This volume includes articles, reports and speeches by Thorez in 1930 and during the first half of 1931. Collected in one volume they are documents which enable the reader to judge the work of the French Communist Party in the difficult conditions of economic crisis and class struggle in France in 1930-31.

The period covered in this volume was for the capitalist countries, France included, a period of deep economic decline. The Soviet Union, on the contrary, was advancing towards great achievements in production: the country was entering the “new stage of the victorious offensive of Socialism” (p. 71), as Maurice Thorez noted in an article written in August 1930, commenting on the Sixteenth Congress of the Bolshevik Party, an article which, in view of its significance, can be regarded as the main article in this volume.

The economic crisis which began in the second half of 1929 and which acquired a world character could not but affect France as well. Thorez stresses this in his report to the National Party Conference held February

28, March 1, 1931, when with remarkable foresight he predicted the inevitability of the sharpening of those processes the possibility of which the “science” of the bourgeoisie and Right Socialists disclaimed at the time. This holds true also for 1950 when Jules Moch and his ilk, addressing the Congress of the French Socialist Party, came forward with a new, inferior edition of their inventions of 1930, chattering about the “incorrectness” of Marx’ theories, about “class harmony” and about “capitalism adopting the socialist method of planning”; these people would have us believe that “planned distribution of credit” is all that is needed to heal the ulcers of the existing system

In the same report to the National Party Conference, the General Secretary of the French Communist Party shed light on the serious economic crisis in the, United States at the time. He describes the complete paralysis that gripped the economy of American imperialism at a time when the United States was held up by all the apologists for the bourgeois system as the symbol of “the vitality of capitalism”. Inexorably, Maurice Thorez gives the facts showing the disastrous deterioration in the standard of living of the working class and the impoverishment of the small farmers. He compares these facts with the countless inventions resorted to by the French Government, supported by Right Socialist leaders of the Spinasse and Deat type—who became lackeys of Hitler during the fascist occupation—, inventions needed to extol “the country where high ages prevail, where every worker has a bathroom and an automobile” (p. 131). This flagrant lie was needed to promote the propaganda conducted with the aim of getting, the French people to submit to American imperialism. In this connection Thorez quite correctly

dwells on the position taken by Leon Blum who recommended that France recognise and pay the war debts demanded by the American Shylock (p. 144). Although twenty years have elapsed since then, these facts cited by Thorez are important also today when the boosted propaganda of the “American way of life” in France is accompanied by a vicious onslaught of reaction which is trying to place the country in bondage to American imperialism. Did not André Philip, one of Blum’s stalwart disciples, describe the abhorrent American regime at the Congress of the French Socialist Party as the “most progressive capitalism?”

In analysing the economic crisis at the time, Maurice Thorez bases himself on the profound scientific evaluation of the course of events made by Comrade Stalin in his report to the Sixteenth Congress of the Bolshevik Party, in which he disclosed the incurable ulcers inherent in capitalism and proved that in order “to destroy crises, capitalism must be destroyed”.

Thorez applies to France the scientific forecasts made by Comrade Stalin when analysing the international situation. He predicts “the aggravation of class antagonism in the country” (page 154), speaks of the “imminence of big economic battles which, at the same time, will also be a big political struggle”. Indeed, “the bourgeoisie seeks to solve the crisis at the expense of the working class. It launches an offensive with the help of social-democracy. But the workers oppose it. And they will oppose it more and more frequently especially if we will be able to prepare their struggle and guide it” (p. 155).

In the two main articles, written in January and February 1930, Thorez studies the question of the mass political strike and its preparation. He calls upon the

Party carefully to study the political methods and means of organising strikes “which ensure the maximum mobilisation of the forces of the proletariat”. He recalls the teachings of Lenin and the entire international experience of the working-class movement in order to stress the urgent need of linking the immediate economic demands of the workers with the general slogans of struggle of the working class for their liberation. He shows that the strike cannot be restricted merely to a passive stoppage of work; that it must be an active militant action of the workers, relying on the solidarity of all working people. The correctness of this was again and again borne out by the strikes of the past few years in France and by the recent mass political strike in Belgium.

As shown by Thorez, the maturing crisis made preparation for war “the main concern of the bourgeoisie”, and the desire for war, in its turn, led to the bourgeoisie “persecuting the revolutionary movement”, to repressions against, and assassination of, workers (p. 26). One of the basic peculiarities in the political life of France at that period is described in the words: “the old parliamentary democracy is beginning, more and more, to practise fascist methods. The comrades who too easily counterpose fascism and democracy are making a mistake” (p. 152).

All subsequent events confirmed these statements by Thorez, predictions based on the thorough analysis of the situation made by Comrade Stalin. In the heart of Europe, in Germany, in the country where, as Thorez pointed out, “capitalism’s health” was particularly shaken (p. 132), the imperialist bourgeoisie before long placed the Hitler fascist gang in power. To do this it turned to leading circles in the United States, Britain

and France for help, and strove to direct the aggression of German imperialism eastward, against the Soviet Union.

The Second World War upset the calculations of international reaction. The great victory of the Soviet Union resulted in the further weakening of capitalism, in the establishment of the People's Democracies in that part of Central Europe where Briand had dreamed of making eternal, as Thorez recalls (p. 143), the rule of the bandits of imperialism. This victory was the decisive factor in considerably enhancing the influence of the Communist Parties on the working class and on all working people, especially in France.

Thorez' book helps the reader to understand how some twenty years ago there first crystallised the conditions for this growing influence of the French Communist Party.

In July 1930, when he was elected General Secretary of the Party, Thorez devoted one of his articles to the situation in the French Communist Party whose activities at the time evoked "the sharp Bolshevik and beneficial criticism of the Comintern" (p, 44). At that time the influence and organisation of the Party had declined, Thorez disclosed the deep-rooted reasons for this: lack of attention to the demands of the workers, inability to conduct mass work, bureaucratic relations between the Party and the trade unions, actual rejection of the united front tactic, inability to distinguish between the Socialist' Party leadership which consciously carried out the political assignments of imperialism and the workers who still remain in the Socialist Party, idle talk and sectarianism.

Under the guidance of Maurice Thorez, the Party began "an inner struggle on two fronts: against

opportunism—the main danger—and against leftism which feeds opportunism and merges with it in practice” (p. 59). Under the leadership of Thorez, the Party succeeded in exposing and expelling the secret Barbé-Célor group which pursued a sectarian policy of sabotage and treachery.

In a detailed article, “The United Front Tactic”, written in September 1930, Maurice Thorez demonstrated the vital need to combat the treacherous policy of the Right Socialist leaders, and simultaneously to engage in work for strengthening the united front among the Socialist workers. He called upon the Communist Party to pay attention to the struggle for the immediate demands advanced by the workers at the plants (at that time, particularly, on questions of social insurance). Then began the successful phase of the struggle for the unity of the proletariat which, as a result of the mass actions against fascism, in France, led several years later to working-class unity of action, to the integral unity of the trade union movement, to the broad non-proletarian masses joining with the working class and uniting in the People’s front to fight for bread, freedom and peace.

The struggle against sectarianism, against political narrowness, for a broader alliance between all progressive and peace-loving forces, under the leadership of the Communist Party, constitutes one of the main themes in the volume just published. These questions are more urgent today than they were in 1930-1931. The rich experience we have acquired proves that nowadays the struggle against war, against the imperialist aggressors and for prohibition of the atom bomb can, and, must, unite the broadest sections of the people.

The other object of the unification and struggle of the masses is defence of democratic liberties. Twenty years ago the French bourgeoisie, on the recommendation of Leon Blum to “destroy Communist cadres”, organised a major police provocation against the Communist Party which Maurice Thorez exposed in his article “Mass Action must Destroy the ‘Conspiracy’” (pp. 35-37). A similar situation can be observed today: the Plevin-Moch-Queuille Government, in agreement with de Gaulle, the candidate for dictator, is burning with the desire to commit only on a much wider scale, the “exploits” which distinguished Tardieu and Chautemps in 1930. The leadership of the French Communist Party recently exposed a sensational anti-Communist provocation, plotted in higher circles and which, as planned by its authors, was to be the signal for widespread repressions. If in 1930, Maurice Thorez appealed to combat the “conspiracy” by “mass action” which would acquire an “ever broader scale”, there is no doubt that today the close alliance, vigilance, struggle and effective initiative of all patriots and supporters of peace will reduce to nought all the provocative plans, just as they recently compelled the military tribunal in Lyons to acquit the Roanne partisans of peace.

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Twenty years divide us from the period when the works collected in Maurice Thorez’ book were first written. Big events have taken place during these years. And the entire course of events has confirmed the correctness of the position which the French Communist Party tried to take at the time.

Every page in Thorez' book breathes the spirit of proletarian internationalism and love for the Soviet Union. Every time the Soviet Union was attacked by the reactionary rabble, Thorez called upon the French working people to protest and to display "initiative and promptitude" (p. 116). In his message of greetings to the Sixteenth Congress of the Bolshevik Party and to Comrade J. V. Stalin. Maurice Thorez declared: "We clearly understand the historical role of this iron leader in the C.P.S.U. (B) and in the Communist International... We salute Comrade Stalin, vanguard fighter in the C.P.S.U. (B) and assure him of our profound devotion, based on full recognition of his merits as leader of the Bolsheviks" (p. 40):

The numerous articles and reports by Thorez express the will of the working people of France to help the workers and democrats of Germany: they voice the call to realise in practice solidarity with the revolutionaries in Indo-China etc. "Internationalism", he writes in his article, "Help to Our Brothers in Berlin", "constitutes the basis of our Communist conception of the proletarian struggle" (p. 98).

The reorganisation of the work of the Communist Party "under the keynote of the united front and international solidarity" (p. 99) proceeds in bitter struggle inside the Party which at the time "had not yet been under fire" and "slowly freed itself from the age-old influence of the democratic bourgeoisie and its product—social-democracy" (p. 199). Maurice Thorez reminds the reader that between the Tenth and Eleventh Plenums of the Executive Committee of the Communist International the former General Secretary of the Party, nearly the entire Communist group in the Paris municipality and a big group of trade union leaders

had to be expelled from the Party. However, Maurice Thorez never falls back on objective difficulties to soften the inevitable harshness of self-criticism. In many places in his book he openly speaks of the shortcomings in the work of the Party: about the distortions of the united front tactic, about insufficient assistance to the colonial peoples, the deteriorating anti-war work in the army, etc. "The Party is prepared for this Bolshevik self-criticism; it is waiting for it, and such initiative is already being displayed in the localities" (p. 54). Thorez calls upon the Party leadership to justify the hopes placed in it in this sphere.

Thorez combines this concern for self-criticism with an exceptionally business-like approach to matters, with clearness of purpose, with an ability to penetrate into all details of Party life, with the art of "linking up the most insignificant of demands with the main slogans." (p. 24). Practically every page of this first volume of Maurice Thorez' works contains brilliant examples of discussion and solutions of the concrete tasks facing the working-class movement: preparations for the portentous days of struggle, as for instance, August 1 (day of struggle against war), organising the unemployed, work among the peasants, etc.

At a time when the working class in many capitalist countries is waging a heavy battle in defence of freedom and peace and for their immediate demands, the first volume of the works of Maurice Thorez, true disciple of the great Stalin, courageous fighter for the consolidation of peace, for the victory of democracy and Socialism throughout the world, will serve the Communists in the capitalist countries as a theoretical and practical guide of major significance.

The important conclusion drawn by Maurice Thorez in his book is that to achieve “victory in the specific conditions of France” the only path open to the French working class is to fight, on the one hand, for the unity of the workers and the unification of all the democratic forces and, on the other, for proletarian internationalism.

This book will greatly help the French Communists to consolidate and strengthen their ranks, to intensify the struggle for peace and Socialism.

CHILDREN OF WORKING PEOPLE STUDY IN HIGHER EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS

The higher educational establishments in Hungary are attended by 30,000 students this year, a figure hitherto unparalleled. Under the Horthy regime the Universities and other higher educational establishments had an average student body of 11,000-12,000 whereas today the number of fresh-men alone exceeds this figure. Formerly, students belonging to worker and peasant families accounted for 3.5 per cent of the total student body whereas today they account for 49 per cent and in the first year for 59 per cent.

The number of higher educational establishments in the country has increased from 12 to 21. Fundamental changes have been effected in the system of teaching; the rich experience of the Universities of the Soviet Union was taken into account when revising the curricula and due attention paid to study of Marxism-Leninism in all faculties.

THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF “RUDE PRAVO”

September 21 marked the thirtieth anniversary of the first appearance in Prague of “Rude Pravo”, founded in 1920 as the organ of the left wing of the Social-Democratic Party. Beginning with May 18, 1921 “Rude Pravo” began to appear as the central organ of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

All the working people of Czechoslovakia are celebrating the thirtieth birthday of their paper. During the past thirty years “Rude Pravo” has loyally assisted the Party in the struggle for the cause of the working class, for the interests of the working people of Czechoslovakia, for Socialism.

On the occasion of this anniversary the editors of the paper are meeting with working people in the towns, at factories and in the countryside.

A conference of “Rude Pravo’s” worker and village correspondents was held in Prague at which their work was discussed. Six thousand five hundred sportsmen took part in a cross-country race in honour of the paper.

On the eve of the jubilee an anniversary evening was arranged by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia together with the Prague Regional Party Committee. The meeting was addressed by Comrade Slansky, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and by Comrade Zapotocky, Chairman of the Council of Ministers. An exhibition will be opened in a few days in Prague, portraying the history of the struggle waged by “Rude Pravo”. The “Svoboda” Publishing House is publishing a special pamphlet for the occasion.

COLLECTIVE-FARMS IN POLAND GROWING IN NUMBERS

The idea of collective farming is penetrating deeper and deeper into the minds of the working peasantry in Poland. By September 11 there were 1,708 agricultural producer co-operatives and many more are in the process of organisation. This increase is due above all to the successes achieved by the existing co-operatives: their yields are, as a rule, far higher than those of the individual peasants.

The reports made by the peasant delegations which this summer visited the Soviet Union and acquainted themselves with the achievements of the collective-farms, the machine and tractor stations and State farms in the Ukraine and in the North Caucasus, play a very important part in spreading the idea of collective farming. Members of the delegations speaking at rural gatherings attract many listeners and elicit many questions.

TERROR OF GREEK MONARCHO-FASCISTS

In Greece, 2,877 fighters of the national resistance movement have been sentenced to death. Some 30,000 Greek patriots are languishing in fascist prisons and concentration camps on the islands of Makronisos, Agios-Evstratios, Trikkeri and others where they are subjected to horrible torture.

At the trial of the 118 trade union functionaries, the Prosecutor admitted that the charge was unfounded, yet they were sentenced.

On September 12, the tribunal in Lami (Rumelia) imposed the death sentence on Dr. Psarornitasu who, at the last parliamentary elections, was a candidate of the democratic coalition. His crime was that during the election campaign he had advocated a general amnesty. In Patras (Peloponnesus) the members of the Committee of Professional Workers were arrested because, on September 8, professional people and handicraftsmen closed their offices, shops and workshops in protest against excessive taxes. The monarcho-fascists have arrested the mothers of the men sentenced to death on the charge that the mothers visited the Soviet Embassy and also the Embassies of the United States and Britain requesting them to intercede for the lives of their children.

But this brutal terror cannot break the morale of the fighters for peace and democracy. When the 118 trade union functionaries were sentenced to death, the patriots told Athens journalists: "We are not afraid to die. We devoted all our efforts in the struggle for the rights of the working people and today we

unhesitatingly give our lives which we devoted to this struggle”.

TITO CLIQUE REPRESSIONS AGAINST WORKING CLASS OF YUGOSLAVIA

The “workers’ councils”, which the Yugoslav fascists set up in the industrial enterprises, have begun their activities with repressions against the workers. Hitherto, the Titoite industrial directors themselves sacked undesirable workers. But the dissatisfaction of the workers and their opposition to the ruthless exploitation have assumed such dimensions that the Tito clique has created, for demagogic purposes, so-called “workers’ councils” and instructed them to maintain “order”. The Titoite press is trying to tell the working people that they themselves are running the plants and must cope with those who do not want to work for the Tito clique and its imperialist masters.

The Yugoslav fascists are striving, by means of these “workers’ councils”, to curb the ever-growing resistance of the working class. The Titoite press cannot conceal the fact that thousands of workers are being dismissed and that a new campaign against the working class has begun at the mills and factories.

The Titoite newspaper, “Luska Provicza”, published a news-item under the title: “250 undisciplined workers dismissed at the Litostraj plant”. The report goes on to say that the discharged workers will be sent to lumber camps. Many skilled workers are being down-graded. In offices, too, “the bad workers are being sifted from the good”, reports the newspaper. “So far, 67 people have been dismissed”.

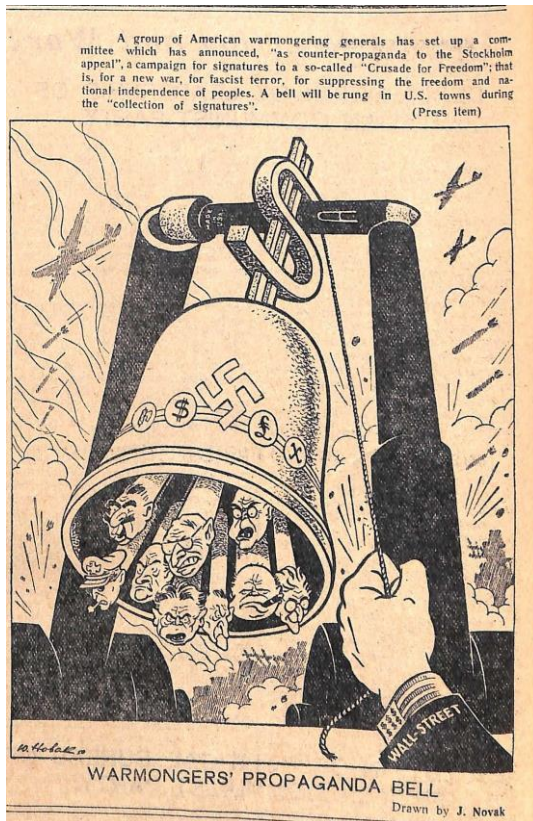
These mass repressions are involuntary admissions on the part of the Tito clique that it is encountering ever-greater resistance from the working class of

Yugoslavia which has begun a courageous struggle for the liberation of the country from the fascist yoke.

WARMONGERS' PROPAGANDA BELL

Drawn by J. Novak

A group of American warmongering generals has set up a committee which has announced, "as counter-propaganda to the Stockholm appeal", a campaign for signatures to a so-called "Crusade for Freedom"; that is, for a new war, for fascist terror, for suppressing the freedom and national independence of peoples. A bell will be rung in U.S. towns during the "collection of signatures". (Press item)



POLITICAL NOTES

1. JOHN FOSTER DULLES, BANKER, SLAVE-OWNER, WARMONGER

John Foster Dulles, in addition to his banking and monopoly activities, is one of the more sinister members of the imperialist gang of misanthropic fiends now conspiring to plunge the people into a third world war. It is not at all fortuitous that Dulles ranks as political adviser and consultant to Truman and Acheson and, at present, also United States delegate to the UNO General Assembly.

Taking as our text the old saying: “Show me your company and I’ll tell you what you are”, let’s have a look at the company kept by John Foster Dulles. The gallery includes not only the ordinary gangsters who swarm like summer flies on the dung heap known as American Big Business, it also includes “celebrated” international gangsters, living, and dead, of the calibre of Hitler, Mussolini, Churchill, Franco, Pilsudski, Syngman Rhee, pocket dictators in South America and corrupt politicians and espionage agents in the Marshallised countries of Europe.

Entry into this company came to John Foster Dulles via his big banking activities. He is the biggest corporation lawyer in the United States with offices occupying six floors at the interesting address: No. 48, Wall Street.

From these offices Dulles did business for the Schroeder Bank: which according to the American journal “**Time**”, was “an economic booster for the Rome-Berlin axis”; after his friend Franco seized power

in pain, Mr. Dulles' firm began to do business for the Bank of Spain.

Dulles is a director of the 300 million dollar International Nickel Corporation. By virtue of his link with the American Metal Company, Dulles has a grip on the copper industry, especially the copper mines in Northern Rhodesia, Africa. The thousands of Negroes employed in these mines are subjected to frightful exploitation.

Financial-political support for Hitler by Dulles continued all through the 1920's and 1930's and even into the war years. Senator Pepper, once declared: "One of Mr. Dulles' connections which I believe the American people are especially entitled to know is his relationship to the banking circles that rescued Hitler... and set up his Nazi Party."

At the beginning of World War Two one of the most active and influential fascist bodies in the United States was the organisation bearing the high-sounding title, "America First". It was a Dulles-backed organisation, and its main function was anti-Soviet slander.

The chief propagandist of "America First", a woman named Laura Ingalls, was later convicted as a paid Hitlerite agent; another member, Frank Burch, was convicted of having received 10,000 dollars from the Hitlerite government; a prominent "American Firster", the "journalist" Ralph Townsend was a paid Japanese agent. Fine company indeed for one occupying a high place in the U.S. Government apparatus!

Walking in the company of killers, atom bomb maniacs and traitors of every hue for six days of the week, Mr. Dulles evidently feels the need for "spiritual" relaxation on the Sabbath, and this perhaps, explains why we find him listed as "leader" of the United States

Federal Council of Churches.

On April 6 of this year, John Foster Dulles was appointed to the post of political adviser to Truman and Acheson. As subsequent events showed, this appointment had a direct bearing on the preparations for American armed aggression against Korea. The days immediately, preceding the invasion of North Korea were spent by Dulles in Seoul and Tokyo where, together with MacArthur; he issued his final instructions to the South Korean puppets.

This monster, whose ill-gotten dollars helped Hitler to power, whose hands are steeped in the blood of the peoples of Europe, China and Korea, is now financing the ultra-reactionary “Bruderschaft” of former Hitler generals and officers, the nucleus of a mercenary West German Army the formation of which is a part of the American preparations for a new world war.

But times have changed. The peoples are not what they were. The hundreds of millions who are battling for peace will put straitjackets on Dulles and the other atom bomb maniacs.

2. ADENAUER “CREDITS” FOR TITO CLIQUE

The Bonn puppet Government has granted the Tito clique a long-term credit of 50 million dollars and a short-term credit for a similar sum. The Vienna correspondent of “**The New York Times**” reports that the Austrian Government also intends to give the Tito clique a 10 million dollars credit out of the sum allocated to Austria by the Marshall Plan. If matters continue this way it won’t be long before the Tito clique will be getting a loan from... Luxemburg.

It is quite obvious that Adenauer and the Austrian Government are, in the given case, merely the medium through which the U.S. Government is extending financial support to Tito's fascist clique. As a matter of fact Yugoslavia receives money via the Marshall Plan into the orbit of which it has actually been included by the Tito clique.

The American imperialists are giving the Tito clique "loans" for the sole purpose of receiving in exchange new concessions, additional tens of thousands of tons of strategic raw materials, more airfields and naval bases. With American dollars the Yugoslav fascists are equipping their army, organising subversive activities and espionage in the Balkans and building prisons and concentration camps in Yugoslavia. The Americans are behaving in Yugoslavia in exactly the same way as they are in Western Germany—they dictate their conditions, plunder and strangle the people. That is precisely why the head of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development recently arrived in Belgrade. This bank plans to give Yugoslavia a third loan. But the masters of the bank are of the opinion that Tito must give new guarantees. This is the "basis" on which the talks are now proceeding in Belgrade.

As is known, the American imperialists invested more than six billion dollars in the Chiang Kai-shek "firm". These billions did not help the Chinese reactionaries. There is no doubt that the American dollars in Yugoslavia will also go down the drain. The Tito "firm" has long since been exposed to the world as the Yugoslav agency of the warmongers and no amount of dollars will help it to evade retribution for its terrible crimes.

Jan MAREK

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