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East Europe Report

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18 FEBRUARY 1987

EAST EUROPE REPORT

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LONG-RANGE PRIVATE FARMING PRODUCTIVITY STUDY DESCRIBED

Warsaw NOWE ROLNICIWO in Polish Jul-Aug 86 p 8-9

[Article by Prof Jerzy Chachula: "The Feasibility of Increasing Plant and Animal Production on Peasant Farms in Central and Eastern Poland"]

[Text] A study problem, titled as above and designated R-II-6, was set up in 1976. The problem was part of a study financed by the Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Technology. Its coordination was turned over to the Central School of Agriculture in the Agricultural Academy in Warsaw and the problem's coordinator was the Institute of Plant Production. It was directed by Prof Stanislaw Trzecki.

The goal of the problem was to organize the most comprehensive study possible on specialized farms, and in particular those specializing in plant and animal production. The need to conduct such a study was based then, and it seems now too, on many factors, including the fact that future commodity production, and especially farm production, and to a large measure also crop and husbandry production in relation to animals, lies in specialized and well-organized peasant farms. It is these farms which for a long time now have played a large role in our agriculture. It can also be assumed that their importance will continue to grow at a rapid rate.

We know also that in many other European countries a high level of farm production is achieved thanks to far advanced specialization of private farms. It should be mentioned that the studies begun within the framework of problem R-II-6 were in large measure a continuation of studies on specialized peasant farms conducted by the Animal Husbandry Department of the Central School of Agriculture during 1971-1975.

The studies begun in 1976 were integrated in four teams and subject groups: 1) plant production, 7 subjects; 2) animal production, 7 subjects; 3) economics and organization, 6 subjects; and 4) mechanization of agriculture, 6 subjects.

Overall, within the framework of the entire problem and the four separate study teams, 26 subjects were treated. Most of them, directly or indirectly, related to various phases of animal production.

The results of studies over the past 5 years were published first in several articles which appeared in NOWE ROLNICIWO, and particularly in issue No 21/24

in 1981. The results were also presented in other periodicals and in lectures and papers at scientific meetings of institutes and departments, or at meetings of Polish Animal Husbandry Society clubs. Final study results were published by the Central School of Agriculture.

The results of these studies facilitated collection of a great deal of valuable information of a cognitive character, for example: On the state of agri-engineering of some grain and root crops or on methods of feeding and keeping various kinds of farm animals.

The results also made it possible to determine where the unutilized reserves of our agriculture lay. It was found, for example, that correct organization of work, which greatly facilitates specialization of plant and animal production, was of primary importance. In addition, the results of all of the subjects studied showed that these reserves lie in raising the level of the farmer's professional knowledge. Study results also indicated the advisability of continuing them further on farms specializing in specific types of farm production. Studies of this type about peasant farms are needed because of the constant changes which are occurring in our countryside and on individual farms. Of these changes, those warranting particular attention are: Enlargement of farm acreage, application of new technologies in plant and animal production, animal-feeding mainly with fodder from own farms and concentrated feeds only from domestic production, gradual mechanization of field work, modernization and mechanization of farm buildings, and steady exodus of people from the countryside to the towns and the resultant shortage of labor.

Taking the above into account, after completion of the previous study cycle, a new series of studies was begun which was conducted during 1981-1985. They were coordinated by the Institute of Animal Husbandry and Technology of Animal Production under the Central School of Agriculture in the Agricultural Academy. The studies were continued in four teams, including: Plant production, 5 subjects; animal production, 10; economics and organization, 6; and mechanization of agriculture, 4 subjects. In addition, early in 1983, a new subject team was set up titled "supplying water to the countryside," with 4 subjects.

In the studies conducted during 1981-1985 problems connected with animal production continued to dominate.

The studies were directed by a coordinating group composed of Prof Jerzy Chachula, chairman and director of the problem, and the following team leaders: Dr Tadeusz Barszczak, plant production; Dr Franciszek Horszczaruk, animal production; Dr Janusz Lewandowski, economics and organization; Prof Jozef Kuczewski (to 31 December 1983) and then Dr Czeslaw Waszkiewicz, mechanization of agriculture; Dr Regina Pozniak (to March 1985) and then Prof Czeslaw Grabarczyk, supplying water to the countryside.

The studies conducted as part of problem R-II-6 were very specific in their nature. The basic condition for their success was the correct choice of farms and then maintaining constant contact and cooperation with the farms. The necessary records were kept on each farm included in the studies. Those

conducting the study visited the farms at strictly established time intervals. During the visit, the correctness of the records was checked. Questions, if there were any, were answered. Information and materials were collected and professional advice was given. The latter was especially important, because in addition to the study activity, ongoing applications activity was also conducted, which helped to increase commodity production on the particular farms.

An integral part of the studies was the preparation, at least once in 2 years, of detailed descriptions of the farms. These descriptions, made according to strictly established models, are a rich source of information, useful for various analyses and reports. Study results continue to be sent to those interested, i.e., to the farm services of the 12 voivodships collaborating with the Central School of Agriculture, as well as to the farm services of three voivodships in the Lublin region, where several subjects were also studied.

The studies dealing with the subject of "supplying water to the countryside", begun in 1983, were a separate problem. They were aimed at developing the best ways to supply the countryside with water and solve the problem of water-sewage disposal on the peasant farms, with particular attention to intensively conducted animal production. The results of these studies were forwarded on an ongoing basis to the interested institutions and most of them were put into practice through the pertinent design offices.

In conclusion, attention should be called to one more positive aspect of study problem R-II-6, namely its contribution to the training of students and the young cadre of science-teaching employees. During 1976-1986 the farms cooperating with the Central School of Agriculture at the Agricultural Academy in Warsaw, the Agricultural Academy in Lublin, and the Higher School of Agriculture in Siedlce, served as study material for the preparation of 147 master's theses, 15 doctoral dissertations, and 4 post-doctoral papers. In addition, the students received a great deal of practical training on the farms covered by the studies--training utilized in preparation of term papers, qualifying examinations, etc.

I want to also call attention to the fact that it was not just a case of finding subjects and materials which might service to qualify for a diploma, or for use as doctoral or post-doctoral dissertations. What was most important was that the young people participating in the studies, collecting materials and then working on them, were able to learn from the ground up, how peasant farms, specializing in various types of plant and animal production, located in various voivodships and under various environmental conditions, actually function.

The following pages of this issue of NOWE ROLNICTWO contain five articles in which the results of the studies made on problem R-II-6 during 1981-1985 are summarized.

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TOTAL FARMLAND ACREAGE SHRINKING AT FASTER RATE

Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 17 Oct 86 p 3

[Text] Polish agriculture again lost almost 40,000 hectares of farmland over the course of a year. A farm census conducted by the Main Statistical Office in June showed that total farmland acreage dropped to 18,799,800 hectares, while a year ago it totaled 18,839,000 hectares. Such a large shrinkage of farmland has not been recorded since the end of the 1980's [?] when we also irreversibly lost 40,000-50,000 hectares a year, land allocated for nonfarming purposes.

Our greatest shrinkage was in arable land, 26,900 hectares; meadows, 6,100 hectares; orchards, 3,600; and pastures, 3,200 hectares. Forestlands increased by 3,100 hectares. The remaining areas and wastelands grew the most, by 36,700 hectares, which means an increase in farmland acreage designated for buildings and roads.

Farmland acreage designated for nonfarming purposes come mainly from private farms, which over the year lost a total of 31,500 hectares. Farmland acreage in the hands of socialized farms rose slightly, by 1,700 hectares and now totals 4,415,600 hectares, i.e., 23.5 percent of total farmland acreage. But this does not mean that the acreage of farmland belonging to state farms increased. On the contrary, there too, there was a drop of 3,900 hectares. The group farms of the agricultural circles also have 6,900 hectares of farmland less. However, the area of state and public lands not comprising farms grew, as much as 12,200, to a total of 128,800 hectares.

No shrinkage in farmland acreage was recorded in only three voivodships: Chelm (plus 108 hectares), Lomza (plus 81 hectares) and Skierniewice (plus 507 hectares). Some increase in farmland acreage in these voivodships is the result of recultivation of wastelands. In the remaining 46 voivodships farmland acreage shrunk from a few hundred to a few thousand hectares.

Of the urbanized regions, the Krakow and Katowice voivodships lost approximately 2,000 hectares of farmland over the year. Taking into account that these voivodships are small, the loss should be regarded as large.

The largest shrinkage during the past year (2,825 hectares) was in the Bialystok voivodship and in the Siedlce voivodship (2,274 hectares). The

agricultural census also showed considerable losses in such voivodships as Piotrkow, Tarnobrzeg, Olsztyn and Gorzow (from 1,400 to 2,100 hectares).

In light of the June farm census the effectiveness of protecting farmland acreage against its designation for nonfarming purposes seems to be very low. After a distinct halt to this process during 1981-1984 (total shrinkage during that period amounted to 40,800 hectares), during 1985-1986 the land area designated for nonfarming purposes again clearly rose (a total of 69,800 hectares).

At the end of the year, compared with 1980, Poland will have almost 2 million more inhabitants. The population is rapidly increasing, while farmland acreage, which determines the size of food production, is again shrinking greatly.

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CENSUS FIGURES SHOW CROP STRUCTURE CHANGES

Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 23 Oct 86 p 3

[Text] The most important change in the structure of grain crops, as shown by the census conducted in June by the Main Statistical Office, is the large drop in rye-cultivation acreage, crops of which fell during 1984-1986 by almost 785,000 hectares, while at the same time wheat crops grew by 178,000 hectares, barley by about 280,000 hectares, and mixed grains by about 200,000 hectares. In 1986 wheat crops, for the first time in our history, exceeded 2 million hectares and are now only 735,000 hectares less than rye crops. It should be recalled that back in 1982 rye crops were over twice (by 1.7 million hectares) as large as wheat crops.

Changes in crop structure point to a distinct growth in cultivation of intensive varieties of grain (wheat, barley) produced primarily for sales. The increase in mixed grain crops indicates a larger interest in cultivation of fodder crops. During 1984-1986 buckwheat, millet and other grain groups also more than doubled in size. Total acreage for grain cultivation shows that since 1980 there has been a steady, gradual growth, several dozen thousand hectares a year. In 1986 grain was sown on 8,215,500 hectares, which comprised 57 percent of the total crop acreage. In addition, over 80 percent of the grain crops were grown on private farms, occupying 76.7 percent of the arable land.

The shrinkage in rye-cultivation acreage is occurring very rapidly in the voivodships which have the best soil. For example, in the Elblag, Legnica, Opole and Walbrzych voivodships during 1984-1986 the rye-cultivation acreage dropped by about half. Its place was taken by wheat and barley. Where the soil is not as good, the process of sowing more intensive varieties of grain is proceeding more slowly. The change in crop structure is undoubtedly due to the difference in their price--clearly to the detriment of rye. In the voivodships and on the farms where the soil is poorer and where wheat and barley cannot be sown, this means a drop in income from grain cultivation. Another striking change in crop structures is the gradual decrease in potato-cultivation acreage. In 1960 there were 2,876,400 hectares planted in potatoes; in 1970, 2,732,200; in 1980, 2,343,700; and in 1986, only 2,008,400 hectares. The shrinking acreage means a drop in total crops, but in spite of this farmers have trouble this year selling them. This is due to the gradually diminishing importance of potatoes as feed. There is probably a

connection between this and the difficulty, continuing to this day, of obtaining meat (which is rationed).

Rather important changes are also occurring in the commercial plant group. Acreage for sugar-beet cultivation is shrinking (since 1982 by almost 70,000 hectares, i.e., approximately 15 percent), while at the same time there has been a strong growth in rape-cultivation acreage--rape crops since 1982 have doubled, and in 1986 for the first time in history exceeded half a million hectares. Private farms grew 80.4 percent of the sugar beets and socialized farms grew 33.5 percent of the rape. We are now producing a surplus of rape, and sugar beets in amounts which only slightly exceed domestic needs.

In general, the share of labor-intensive crops (potatoes and sugar beets) in the crop structure is dropping, while the share of crops whose cultivation even now, under our present conditions, can be mechanized, is growing. The shrinking potato- and sugar-beet-cultivation acreage will not result in market shortages only if yields of these crops clearly increase. But their growth rate is negligible.

Another crop whose acreage is rapidly shrinking is corn, 75.7 percent of which is grown on socialized farms. In comparison with 1980, corn cultivation acreage fell by more than half in 1986. This is due to the large drop in cattle and dairy herds. On socialized farms, for which corn was raised mainly for green fodder, it was one of the basic bulky fodders.

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INFERIOR PACKAGING HURTS FOOD EXPORT GROWTH PROSPECTS

Bialystok GAZETA WSPOLCZESNA in Polish 24 Nov 86 p 4

[Article by Leszek Kolesnik: "The Art of Winning"]

[Text] Export of Farm-Food Articles

The export of food is surrounded by myths and a great deal of controversy. Everyone of us has heard stories about how much meat, for example, is being exported, and that if all of it were delivered to the shops meat rationing would not be necessary. We forget that for the hard currency which meat exports bring we are importing farm machines, feeds, pesticides and equipment for the food industry.

Other countries learned long ago that onions, paprika, or even tulips, can bring in a considerable amount of money, often more than would be gotten from sales of machines or coal. For example, Hungary obtains \$180 per capita each year from farm exports--Poland only \$30. Agriculture's share in our total foreign trade revenues continues to be inadequate, amounting to 10 percent.

The Greatest Blunder

The director of the Department of Foreign Commodity Sales and Cooperation in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Economy, Stanislaw Jankowski, does not mince words when he talks to me. He says that the biggest blunder committed during 1980-1982 was the withdrawal of some Polish ham from the Western markets, particularly the American ones. During the 1970's we sold 46,000 tons of ham each year in the United States; however, in the early 1980's sales were scarcely one-third of that. Polish ham wins out over all of its competitors, without challenge. Hungary tried to buy a license to produce it but the license was not granted. Now we are having problems in obtaining the confidence of purchasers. They do not like unreliable suppliers.

Nowhere in the world are geese tastier than ours. We have no problems in selling horsemeat and game abroad, but on the whole the export of animal-derived products is growing slowly and we will never achieve the success that we have in the case of fruits, vegetables, and their products--in short, plant-derived products. Everything points to the fact that the export of these articles will double during the current 5-year plan.

INTERPEGRO Foreign Trade Society, with a momentum typical of a firm which is still new, is entering the Soviet market and the Western countries with apples, onions and frozen fruit. It plans to sell approximately 30,000 tons of onions alone to the FRG, Great Britain and West Berlin, and 40,000 tons to the socialist countries. Last year INTERPEGRO (and other firms also) came up with a real export winner--apple juice. It sold like hot cakes. This year foreign purchasers are not quick to buy such goods. They drag their feet and argue about prices, because they now know that the processing plants have problems with storing the "liquid apple." They are still unable to afford acid-resistant tanks.

It is hard to call it a winner, but certainly the idea of selling abroad the apple pomace which remains after the juice is extracted, is an excellent one. The INTERPEGRO traders found some buyers in the capitalist countries and are selling it for very good money. Fresh apples are reaching the foreign markets, but admittedly with difficulty. The greatest of these is the lack of attractive packaging for our goods.

"Our farm-food articles are good, we can even say they are excellent, but the packaging is disastrous," says Stanislaw Jankowski. "For example, Thailand would buy apples from us but it requires that each piece of fruit be wrapped in tissue paper and then packed in an attractive wooden box. Where do we get all of this? The backwardness in the packaging industry is having a negative effect on our farm export."

"Inka" As a Winner

The packaging manufacturers demand dollars from the producers of the final products in exchange for deliveries. That is the situation in which the Skawin Food Concentrates Factories, which produce "Inka," find themselves. This grain coffee is extremely popular among consumers in Canada, Australia and New Zealand as a health food. Approximately 1,000 tons are exported each year. If it were not for the shortage of packaging we could sell another thousand to the United States. The amount of hard currency obtained from the export of "Inka" has made Hungary envious, which is why they would like to produce a similar coffee.

During the International Agri-Industrial Fairs POLAGRA-86 in Poznan, the National Company of Food Concentrate Enterprises UNISCO offered an interesting and extensive product line. But the packaging of these products, which would surely have been bought by foreign customers, was not attractive. It was drab and shoddy, and completely unacceptable to buyers in the capitalist countries. We are losing hard currency because of a small detail, it would seem.

Actually, packaging fulfills a very important function. It not only makes a food item more attractive, it protects it against spoilage. Some difficult-to-comprehend paradoxes appear in this regard. Many producers of processed food complain about a shortage of cartons. Yet, it appears, we are selling large quantities of them to foreign countries. Because of lack of coordination between ministries we are losing foreign exchange which we could earn a lot more of if we filled these cartons with fresh apples, for example, for export.

This year we signed an agreement with the Soviet Union to supply fruits and vegetables to the year 2000. This is good news for Polish horticulture because without regular, long-range export of fruits and vegetables we will not be able to cope with their abundance.

In order to steadily export to the Soviet market we must prepare ourselves well. We can already say that efforts will be made to arrange special transloading and storage facilities at the border in Malaszewicze.

Recently, triticale appeared on the list of export winners. Foreign Trade Office ROLIMPEX is besieged by customers looking for seeds in the "superelite" class. During the 1980's we have earned substantial foreign exchange in selling grass seed. Ten thousand tons annually was shipped to the capitalist countries. The rise in grain prices disrupted export plans and cultivation of very risky grasses was no longer profitable for the farmers. And that is too bad. In the future, when price ratios improve, we will again export seeds.

Not Like a Meteor

--Polish food is known for its good quality, says Stanislaw Jankowski. There are many opportunities to expand exports. But it is not enough to have the appropriate goods--we must be able to provide steady, regular deliveries. We cannot appear on the Western markets like a meteor, which has happened often in the past, because we will never gain confidence with our foreign buyers and consumers. If we solve our packaging problems we will make it possible to conduct regular sales of farm-food articles. In our thinking and our decisionmaking we should break through the stereotype that we export only our food surpluses. Enterprises and foreign offices must be oriented towards steady export production.

In many official speeches and publications we have learned of the need to start a "battle for export." We need foreign exchange in order to pay our foreign debts. We must also buy products which are not made in this country. Polish agriculture and the entire food economy has a chance to respond to this challenge. In recent years exports of farm-food articles have risen greatly. In addition, we made definite progress in balancing foreign-trade turnovers with capitalist countries. As a result the debit balance in this sector has fallen to almost zero.

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DEBATE SIMMERS OVER HORSEPOWER VS MECHANIZATION

Koszalin GLOS POMORZA in Polish 25 Nov 86 p 5

[Article by Wieslaw Wisniewski: "Are We Going Back to Horses?"]

[Text] We have lived to see the day when the cheapest and most practical farm tractor is again the horse. It is not surprising, therefore, that the opinion is being expressed in various places (see Prof R. Manteufl's article in a recent issue of POLITYKA) that we need to rebuild our horse herds. True, the reference is most often to riding horses, but the experts say that use of a draft horse today for many jobs in agriculture would also be fully justified from the economic as well as the practical standpoint, even in large enterprises.

But what I have to say next is no way a declaration of support for Professor Manteufl's new idea. On the contrary, I believe that before our meadow and forest trails become crowded with elegant groups of strollers on horseback, we must first take care of several other matters on our rural landscape. We should first give some thought to how we can help those thousands of chilled-to-the bone children get to distant schools everyday and back home again; how to make sure that they get a bowl of hot oatmeal at school and a warm place in which to wait after school when it is raining or snowing.

I suggest, however, that we give some attention to the problems of farm mechanization and transportation because they are just as disturbing as the status of investments, which we wrote about several weeks in a row.

First, a few necessary general comments. When we look at the latest statistics on farming throughout the world, the number of tractors, the basic means of mechanization in Polish agriculture, seems to put Poland almost at the head of the developed countries. We have, without question, the largest number of tractors per 100 hectares of farmland of all of the CEMA countries and stand very high in this respect on the world scale. In other words, last year Poland had one tractor per 23 hectares of farmland, compared to 27 hectares in Yugoslavia, 40 in the GDR, 86 in Romania, 109 in Bulgaria, 118 in Hungary, and 202 hectares in the USSR. As far as other countries are concerned, the following surpass us: Japan, 3.4 hectares per one tractor; FRG, 8.2; Holland, 10.7; Austria, 10.9; Belgium, 13; Italy, 15; and Sweden, 19.5. But the United States is much worse off with 95 hectares per tractor;

Canada with 107, and many others, known universally for their good agriculture. Why, then, do we have so many problems with mechanization and is it possible that they are imagined?

One look at the above statistics immediately tells us that throughout the entire world, the area of arable land per one tractor has a close relationship not, as it would seem, with climatic conditions or the political system, but with the average size of the farm--the basic production unit. In countries where large farms predominate in agriculture (and this includes all of the socialist countries except Poland and a considerable number of capitalist countries) one tractor services several times more land than in countries where small farms predominate. If we examine the question of mechanization from that angle, we see that in the countries where farms are very small and scattered (which does not mean that they are worse, as shown by the example of the West European countries), the number of tractors is about the same as the number of farms. In other words, the area of land per one tractor there almost equals the average size of a farm. That is how it is, for example, in Japan, West Germany, Denmark, Holland and Austria.

If, after the above, we attempt to assess the situation in our agriculture, we will find that unfortunately we have no reason to be satisfied with the state of mechanization. If we wanted to obtain similar European parameters we would have to obtain--with our Polish average farm of five hectares--as many tractors as Japan has, or in the worst case, Holland, i.e., one tractor for at least every 10 hectares.

If we want to describe the size of the problem even more precisely, we must separately assess the situation in state farm enterprises and separately in private farms. And it is as follows: Despite the fact that the average for the entire country is 23 hectares per tractor, in the state sector it is 37 hectares and in the private sector, 21. Correspondingly in Koszalin Voivodship it is 25 hectares in the state farm sector and 16 in the private; in Slupsk Voivodship it is 26 in the state and 18 in the private.

We see from the above that the situation in the Central Pomerania region is quite a bit better than in Polish agriculture as a whole, which is undoubtedly due to the somewhat different structure of our regional farming as well as the higher degree of mechanization of our private farms. We can say, therefore, that thanks to this favorable situation, private farming in our region with its average 8-hectare farm in Koszalin Voivodship and 9-hectare farm in Slupsk Voivodship, now has more or less half as many tractors as European agriculture. But for our agriculture to come close to the world leaders without making any structural changes, the number of tractors operating on private farms would have to least double. Farmers in Central Pomerania, therefore, can be glad that from the standpoint of mechanization they stand slightly above their colleagues from the central and eastern regions of the country, but they must have a sense of some backwardness in comparison with many countries of a similar farming structure.

But this does not yet fully describe the problem being discussed. Although the tractor is the most important ingredient in the mechanization of agriculture, it is not the only one. The availability of machines

accompanying a tractor and other means of locomotion is equally important. I would especially like to say a few words about the latter, because this is a problem which affects both sectors of agriculture equally.

The basic function of the tractor in a well-organized farm is to pull and drive farm machines and equipment. Means of production and agricultural products are transported on every farm by vehicles, which is a very critical element in farming. That is why we must take into account that in the countries mentioned, in addition to the number of tractors given there is a similar number of means of vehicle transport. In our country, however, these tractors are not so much in addition to as instead of vehicle transport, which takes over its functions. And this is the second, after the shortage of tractors, principle reason for the poor efficiency of our agricultural transport and high--probably the highest in the world--operating costs of farm tractors. In a situation where the tractor is the only means for mechanization of field work and internal and external transport, there can be no talk about improving the operating efficiency of tractors or reducing costs. Even a cursory observation of our farm transport will fully confirm these fears. The same tractor leaves the farm with one porker and two trailers loaded with grain. And this takes place at a time when fuel prices are increasing at an alarming rate (300 percent in the last 4 years).

That is how it is on the great majority of our private farms, where a delivery vehicle, to say nothing of a truck, is an extremely rare phenomenon. And it is not much better in this respect on the state farms, where vehicle transportation is probably the worst of all of the mechanization problems.

In the following articles in this series we will attempt to describe this problem in detail, using specific examples, and we will also attempt to make some suggestions in this matter.

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CHEMICAL INDUSTRY RESULTS SUMMARIZED

Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Slovak No 49, 1986 p 2

[Article by Ladislav Neubauer, member of the Central Committee of the CPCZ: "The Chemical Industry"]

[Text] The 17th Congress of the CPCZ evaluated the results achieved by the chemical industry during the previous period. During the 7th Five-Year Plan production rose by 10.6 percent, despite a lower volume of crude petroleum processed. What is positive is the fact that the efficiency of production rose. On the basis of structural changes in the processing of crude petroleum and as a result of the more intensive development of low-tonnage chemistry, the materials intensiveness of chemical production declined by almost 10 percent. During the final year of the 5-year plan, in comparison with 1980, productivity of labor in gross production rose by 8.2 percent. At the same time productivity in terms of adjusted value added, grew more rapidly and, during that period, rose by 42.5 percent--to a total of Kcs 162,000 on average per worker.

The tasks of the chemical industry during the 8th Five-Year Plan are demanding. In conjunction with the conclusions drawn by the 17th Congress of the CPCZ, additional steps to render production more efficient are anticipated and, in comparison with the previous period, a substantial improvement in the valuation of all production process inputs is also anticipated. Intensification programs were adopted for the fulfillment of tasks in 1986, as were programs designed to lower the materials intensiveness of production and other realization measures.

Results thus far show that even though, in comparison with 1985, the dynamic development of the chemical industry is continuing, it is not possible to fully guarantee the goals stipulated by the plan. A number of objective and subjective influences are impacting upon the process of realization. For example, in forming the plan it was not possible to anticipate the current development of world petroleum prices and prices of petroleum products, nor was it possible to figure in such enormous difficulties encountered in assuring the availability of balanced raw materials resources.

The results of fulfilling the plan are also unfavorably influenced by the slow acquisition of production involving new capacities in the aniline block of the

Ostrava Moravian Chemical Enterprises, in the production of electroconductive charges of Chezocarb at the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Chemical Enterprises at Litvinov, at the new plant of the Paint and Lacquer Enterprise at Prague-Hostivar, and elsewhere. Not even a substantial exceeding of the start-up curve can always guarantee the fulfillment of quality indicators of the plan. This is demonstrated by the example of the new capacity in the Paint and Lacquer Enterprise at Uherske Hradiste.

In comparison with 1985, the chemical industry in the CSR increased production for a 10-month period by 3.3 percent. Deliveries to market inventories increased and substantial increases were even recorded with respect to exports to the Soviet Union and to the other socialist countries. On the other hand, exports to nonsocialist countries, in terms of prices which include freight charges (franko ceny) are running below the average of past years. It is not possible to fulfill the demanding tasks involved in lowering the materials intensiveness of production, planned levels of adjusted value added outputs are not being maintained, neither are profits. For example, in the economic production unit of Chemopetrol fulfillment of the annual task in production is expected to be accomplished at a rate of 2.6 percent. With respect to the indicator of adjusted value added outputs, the pace is 5.9 percent lower than that stipulated by the plan.

Similar developments are noted in the chemical industry of the Slovak Socialist Republic. Compared to 1985, a pace of production in excess of 3 percent is expected and fulfillment of the indicator for productivity of labor based on adjusted value added outputs and excluding the influence of foreign trade is expected to amount to an index of 112.

The further development of the chemical industry is influenced primarily by the real opportunities to guarantee raw materials, as well as by the development of investments, which will not be exerting a positive influence until the final years of the 8th Five-Year Plan.

And the share of chemically processed crude petroleum will continue to increase which will contribute to increasing the production of white products at the expense of heavy heating oils. This will be aided by the construction of fractionation units at Litvinov and in Bratislava which will, for the most part, be placed into operation toward the end of the 8th Five-Year Plan.

Development of the petrochemical industry ties in to the production of plastics where it is anticipated that rising demand in the construction industry, in engineering, and in the electrotechnical industry will be covered. The production of chemical fibers will also increase.

Deliveries of automotive fuels to market inventories will continue to grow. The program for the gradual reduction of lead in gasolines is being realized and is also significant from the standpoint of protecting the environment. Similar measures are being prepared to reduce the amount of sulfur in diesel fuel. Deliveries of automotive fuels to socialist organizations are planned in conjunction with the long-term program of rationalizing consumption.

Development of low-tonnage chemistry having a high degree of raw material utilization and low energy consumption is a component of the state goal-oriented program SCP-09--Selected Chemical Production. The program is primarily aimed at production of the qualified chemical industry and chemical specialties for the development of chemicalization pertaining to the remaining branches of the national economy.

Particular attention is devoted to the development of cooperation within the framework of the Comprehensive Program of Scientific and Technical Development Among CEMA Member Countries and to the program of cooperation involving the Soviet Union, the GDR, and the other socialist countries.

Coordination meetings involving the chairmen of party organizations in the economic production units of Lachema, Chemopetrol, the Bohemian Rubber and Plastics Enterprise, and at Unichem have shown that a significant factor in the process of realizing planned projects is the development of worker initiative. In conjunction with preparations of the plan for 1987, it will be purposeful to expand the practical experiences collected by enterprise collectives which have signed up for the Initiative of the Central Trade Union Council and who have accepted the "Challenge of the Municipal Party Organization and of the Enterprises of the City of Prague."

The fulfillment of the tasks set for 1987 will also depend on the activity of working collectives, and on the manner in which it is possible to successfully further mobilize available reserves.

Exceptional significance with respect to speeding up the realization of the conclusions from the party congress and the projects of the 8th Five-Year Plan, with an emphasis on fulfilling the tasks set for 1987, will be ascribed to the annual membership meetings held by basic party organizations.

All means of political activity are aimed at decisive tasks and at measures designed to further increase the efficiency of production, at the more rapid implementation of the results of scientific and technical development in practice, at producing the materials intensiveness and energy intensiveness of production, at raising the technical level and the quality of products and their exportability, at safeguarding the tasks emanating from supplier-consumer relationships and economic agreements. This requires everywhere the creation of a creative, active atmosphere and the overcoming of stereotypes as well as tenacity, improvements in organization and in discipline.

The goal cannot be the softening of plan tasks. At all levels of management it is necessary to create such conditions that would allow worker collectives in the chemical industry to readily fulfill the plan tasks.

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COMMODITY STRUCTURE SHOWS NEGATIVE IMPACT OF HIGHER OIL PRICE

West Berlin DIW WOCHENBERICHT in German Vol 53 No 47/86, 20 Nov 86 pp 601-609

[Article: "Is the Consolidation Policy in GDR Western Trade in Jeopardy?"]

[Text] During the past 5-year plan period, the GDR succeeded in reducing its indebtedness to the West to a considerable extent. Exports of mineral oil products to OECD countries and deliveries in the intra-German trade, partly consisting of processed Soviet oil, contributed greatly. The considerably lower prices of oil and mineral oil products of recent times also have consequences for the GDR's foreign trade: for one, because of the CEMA pricing formula (moving 5-year average), the price for crude oil from the Soviet Union is higher than the world market price. For another, the GDR as an exporter of mineral oil products to Western countries--the FRG and other OECD countries--is suffering considerable foreign exchange losses.

The directive on the new 5-year plan projects "notable export surpluses" in trade with the so-called capitalist countries in order to "further strengthen the economic and political inviolability of the GDR." The question is whether attainment of this objective is put into jeopardy by the price development in the oil markets. Preliminary data of the partner countries for 1986 show that the GDR achieved lower trade balance surpluses than during the same period of last year in intra-German trade and trade with the other OECD countries. The 6-months result published by the GDR confirms this development.

Changed Trade Policy

GDR trade with the West in the 1970's and 1980's has been determined by varying goals of trade policy as well as by outside factors on international markets over which the GDR had no control. During the 1970's, GDR trade policy vis-a-vis Western industrial states, the so-called capitalist industrial countries, aimed at an import policy based on borrowing; in recent years, consolidation of its balance sheets had priority. Furthermore, prices clearly influenced the GDR's Western trade in exports and imports--among other reasons, because at the beginning of the 1980's, the GDR had concentrated on the oil business, which was very advantageous at that time.

According to GDR data, the deficits of total trade with the West² between 1970 and 1981 inclusive amounted to 41 billion units of account (VM).² Until 1985 inclusive, this import surplus was reduced to VM30 billion through expansion of exports and temporary throttling of imports. Both the structure and the reduction of the trade deficit with the West concerned mostly the other OECD countries, while GDR indebtedness in its trade with the FRG was low.

Unlike the intra-Bloc trade, where the GDR had to accept strong deficits because of the price and quantity development, in trade with the West it managed to improve its balance sheets since the mid-seventies and even came up³ with positive terms of trade, mostly due to the sale of mineral oil products.

The sale of mineral oil products was of interest to the GDR in several respects: for one, the GDR acquired hard currency for crude oil purchased from the Soviet Union through processing and selling the products in the West. For another, in case the GDR bought its crude oil from the West for its exports of mineral oil products to Western countries, it earned the manufacturing cost margin of the refining trade. In this context it is unimportant whether it bought this crude oil directly from OPEC countries--as was formerly done--or did "triangular transactions" with the Soviet Union within the framework of intra-German trade, as has happened in recent years. In these triangular transactions the Soviet Union delivers oil to the GDR, charging it to the FRG. The mineral oil products manufactured in the GDR are sold to the FRG within the framework of intra-German trade. The Western business partner simultaneously is the purchaser of the crude oil from the Soviet Union, seller of the crude oil to the GDR, and buyer of the mineral oil products from the GDR. For the USSR, this transaction is the same as an export to the West. Within the framework of intra-German trade, the GDR must make units of account available for the crude oil, but is also credited units of account for its mineral oil products.

For several years now, the GDR has been selling mineral oil products not only to the FRG but also⁴ to other Western countries, for example, to Scandinavia and the Netherlands.⁴ It is being claimed, time and again, that triangular transactions are carried out with these countries as well as with the FRG, but this cannot be substantiated.

To what a large extent mineral oil transactions influence the structure of the GDR's Western trade and its trade balances, is shown by the following facts (according to GDR data):

--Among GDR exports to capitalist industrial countries, the items of fuels, mineral raw materials and metals in 1984 already amounted to 11.3 billion VM, or 40 percent. In 1970, this product group occupied fourth place with not quite 20 percent. Today, the second most important product group in GDR exports to the West are industrial consumer goods with a share of about 20 percent. Chemical products follow at some distance.

--Among GDR imports from Western industrial countries (including the FRG) the product group of fuels, mineral raw materials and metals meanwhile holds the most important position with about 20 percent. Up to 1983, machinery,

equipment and transportation means were in first place; however, as of 1984 the GDR greatly restricted these imports. Since then, agricultural products and foodstuffs, then machines, equipment and transportation means as well as chemical products make up about 15 percent each of total imports from Western industrial countries.

--Last but not least, the surplus in the GDR's trade with the West is due to the mineral oil business. Between 1980 and 1981, exports of fuels, mineral raw materials and metals rose from 4.9 billion VM to 7.2 billion VM. Since then, this product group has shown the highest surplus. It has replaced the exports of industrial consumer goods from their dominant position of "financers of Western imports," which they had held for a long time.

Improved Trade Balance through Sales of Mineral Oil

There are no adequate GDR data for a more detailed analysis of trade with the West according to countries and products. It can, however, be undertaken on the basis of partner country statistics. They exist in the Federal Office for Trade and Industry according to the production sector system for the FRG as well as in OECD statistics in the international product list for foreign trade (SITC). It must be pointed out, however, that compared to GDR statistics, there are some significant discrepancies--evidently for reasons of method--⁶ and that GDR statistics and the CEMA system are based on a different goods classification.

In the past, DIW has often reported extensively on the development and goods structure of intra-German trade.⁸ The following remarks are limited to GDR trade with the other OECD countries, here also called OECD trade of the GDR.

With regard to GDR imports according to countries (see Table 1) it must be stressed that Sweden, the Netherlands, Denmark and the United States have lost ground since the mid-seventies, while Austria, Japan, Spain and Canada have achieved above-average growth rates. In some cases, political influences also played a role, for instance the embargo regulations of the United States. In addition to countries with position gains and losses, there are also a number of countries which managed to retain their relative status. France, Great Britain and Italy continue to be the GDR's most important suppliers.

An analysis of the goods structure of exports to OECD countries meanwhile shows the same structural weakness and preponderance of raw materials as has been the case for a long time in intra-German trade. Due to the GDR's greater participation in the international mineral oil trade, the amount of products of basic industries and production goods industries has almost doubled since the mid-seventies. By 1984, their share had risen to over 60 percent (see Table 2). The share of products of capital goods industries, and especially of machine production, is very low and even decreasing. With less than 6 percent, machines only have a marginal existence in the GDR's range of exports. In the past decade, the GDR had to accept position losses while in the preceding decade, machine building products still supplied over 9 percent of exports to OECD countries.

Table 1. Country Structure of the OECD Trade 1) of the GDR

Key:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. GDR imports | 14. Belgium-Luxembourg |
| 2. GDR exports | 15. Japan |
| 3. 5-year averages | 16. Denmark |
| 4. Shares in percent | 17. Switzerland |
| 5. Trading partners | 18. Finland |
| 6. All OECD countries | 19. Norway |
| 7. France | 20. Spain |
| 8. Sweden | 21. Greece |
| 9. Austria | 22. Canada |
| 10. Great Britain | 23. Other OECD countries |
| 11. Netherlands | |
| 12. Italy | |
| 13. United States | |

1) Without intra-German trade and without trade with New Zealand

Sources: Historical Statistics of Foreign Trade, 1965-1980: OECD (Paris 1982).
Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade, Series A, OECD.

Table 2. Structure of GDR Exports to OECD Countries 1)

Industrial Sector	Shares in Percent		
	1976	1980	1984
Products of basic and production goods industries 2)	35.3	49.6	62.7
among these:			
Iron and steel 3)	7.4	7.5	9.4
Chemical products 4)	16.9	18.2	18.7
Non-ferrous metals and their wrought products	2.1	2.1	4.7
Mineral oil products	4.7	18.8	23.9
Mining products	2.2	1.4	2.9
Products of capital goods industries	28.5	23.3	18.2
among these:			
Machine building products	8.9	8.4	5.8
Watercraft	4.5	2.2	1.4
Electrical products	7.0	6.6	5.7
Precision instruments and optical products	2.7	1.8	1.2
Products of consumer goods industries	20.3	20.3	14.7
among these:			
Musical instruments, sports equipment, toys, jewelry	4.3	3.6	2.5
Wood products	4.8	5.9	4.6
Textiles	4.0	3.7	2.5
Products of agriculture and foodstuff industries 5)	15.2	5.8	3.7
OECD countries in total 6)	100	100	100

1) Without FRG. -- 2) Including mining products. -- 3) Including foundry products and products of drawing shops, cold rolling mills and steelworking. -- 4) Including synthetics and rubber products. -- 5) Including forestry and hunting, fishing and tobacco products. -- 6) Including products not classified.

Source: Bundesamt fuer gewerbliche Wirtschaft [Federal Office for Trade and Industry]. Eschborn.

Table 3. Structure of GDR Imports from OECD Countries 1)

Industrial Sector	Shares in percent		
	1976	1980	1984
Products of basic and production goods industries 2)	37.1	31.6	34.4
among these:			
Iron and steel 3)	7.1	4.9	11.8
Chemical products 4)	16.7	15.4	16.1
Non-ferrous metals and their wrought products	4.4	5.9	1.8
Mechanical wood pulp, cellulose, paper and cardboard	5.4	2.4	1.9
Products of capital goods industries	31.6	25.7	22.4
among these:			
Machine building products	13.9	13.4	13.0
Structural steel products	10.7	3.9	2.1
Electrical products	2.9	5.2	4.0
Products of consumer goods industries	9.8	9.6	9.2
among these:			
Textiles	6.8	7.0	6.0
Products of agriculture and foodstuffs industries 5)	21.3	32.5	33.5
OECD countries in total 6)	100	100	100

1) Without the FRG. -- 2) Including mining products. -- 3) Including foundry products and products of drawing shops, cold rolling mills and steelworking. -- 4) Including synthetics and rubber products. -- 5) Including forestry and hunting, fishing and tobacco products. -- 6) Including goods not classified.

Source: Federal Office for Trade and Industry. Eschborn.

Table 4. Product Structure of the GDR's West Trade 1)
Share of Total Trade during 1980 to 1984, in percent

Key:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. GDR exports 2) | 18. Trading partners |
| 2. GDR imports 2) | 19. All OECD countries |
| 3. Basic materials | 20. France |
| 4. Among these: | 21. Sweden |
| 5. Mineral oil | 22. Austria |
| 6. Chemicals | 23. Great Britain |
| 7. Capital goods | 24. Netherlands |
| 8. Consumer goods | 25. Italy |
| 9. Foodstuffs | 26. United States |
| 10. Basic materials | 27. Belgium-Luxembourg |
| 11. Among these: | 28. Japan |
| 12. Chemicals | 29. Denmark |
| 13. Capital goods | 30. Switzerland |
| 14. Among these: | 31. Finland |
| 15. Machine building | 32. Norway |
| 16. Consumer goods | 33. Spain |
| 17. Foodstuffs | 34. Greece |
| | 35. Canada |
| | 36. Other OECD countries |

1) Without intra-German trade. -- 2) The classification of products corresponds to the system of product listing for FRG product statistics. -- 3) Including mining products. -- 4) Including plastics and rubber products.

Source: DIW computations according to data by the Federal Office for Industry and Trade, Eschborn.

Table 5. The Most Important Western Trading Partners of the GDR 1) According to Product Groups, 1980 to 1984

GDR Exports 2)

Product group, Value in DM	Country	4) Share in %
Mineral oil products	Sweden	36.7
(6.9 billion)	Norway	21.0
	Denmark	15.9
	Netherlands	9.7
Chemical products 5)	France	12.2
(5.2 billion)	Netherlands	11.8
	Sweden	11.0
	Great Britain	9.7
	Belgium-Luxembourg	9.5
	Finland	7.3
	Italy	7.2
Iron and steel 6)	Italy	25.7
(2.0 billion)	France	17.2
	United States	12.1
	Sweden	7.4
	Belgium-Luxembourg	7.0
Machine building products	France	13.3
(1.9 billion)	Greece	13.0
	Italy	11.6
	Great Britain	8.5
	United States	8.5
	Sweden	5.3
	Austria	5.2
	Turkey	5.1
Electrical products	France	20.7
(1.5 billion)	Sweden	12.1
	Greece	10.5
	Italy	9.1
	Netherlands	7.8
	Belgium-Luxembourg	7.7
	Great Britain	6.6
Non-ferrous metals and non-ferrous wrought goods	Great Britain	76.4
(1.1 billion)	Netherlands	6.1
Textiles and clothing	France	25.9
(1.0 billion)	Netherlands	12.0
	Sweden	10.6

[continued]

Product group, value in DM	Country	Share in %
	Finland	8.4
	Austria	8.2
	Great Britain	6.2
	Denmark	6.4
Products of agriculture, forestry and hunting	France	22.0
	Austria	18.1
	Belgium-Luxembourg	17.9
(0.9 billion)	Italy	11.2
	Netherlands	9.4

GDR Imports 3)

Products of agriculture, forestry and hunting	United States	37.2
	Canada	14.7
(5.9 billion)	Great Britain	8.7
	Spain	7.1
	France	6.1
Machine building products	Japan	29.0
	France	17.4
(3.9 billion)	Austria	12.7
	Switzerland	9.6
	Italy	8.1
Chemical products 5)	Netherlands	19.7
	France	13.9
(3.4 billion)	Austria	12.8
	Switzerland	10.4
	Italy	9.5
	Sweden	6.2
Iron and steel 6)	Austria	43.4
	France	16.1
(1.6 billion)	Belgium-Luxembourg	10.1
	Sweden	7.6
Products of foodstuffs industries	United States	24.9
	France	10.8
	Spain	10.0
(1.6 billion)	Greece	9.6
	Italy	7.8
	Netherlands	6.7

[continued]

Product group, value in DM	Country	Share in %
Textiles (1.5 billion)	Austria	30.8
	Italy	19.5
	Netherlands	15.3
	France	9.1
Electrical products (1.3 billion)	Japan	36.2
	France	16.7
	Switzerland	9.3
	Austria	8.1
Structural steel products (1.3 billion)	France	58.4
	Austria	18.3
	Spain	7.0

1) Without the FRG. -- 2) The product groups listed represent 75 percent of total GDR exports to the OECD. -- 3) The product groups listed represent 85 percent of GDR imports from the OECD. -- 4) The country's share of total exports and imports, respectively, of GDR trade with the West. -- 5) Including plastics and rubber products. -- 6) Including foundry products and products of drawing shops and cold rolling mills and steelworking.

Source: DIW computations on the basis of data of the Federal Office for Industry and Trade, Eschborn.

Graphs: GDR Trade with the West 1) According to Product Groups, 1976 to 1984
in Million DM

Key:

1. Products of basic and production goods industries
2. Exports
3. Imports
4. Products of capital goods industries
5. Imports
6. Exports
7. Products of consumer goods industries
8. Exports
9. Imports
10. Products of agriculture and foodstuffs industries
11. Imports
12. Exports

1) Without intra-German trade.

Source: Federal Office for Industry and Trade, Eschborn

In the OECD trade, products of consumer goods industries (1984: 15 percent) are not as strongly represented as in intra-German trade. The largest single group is wood products (furniture). The most important buyer by far of these GDR products is Great Britain. France and Sweden are next. For textiles, France and the Netherlands are the most important customers; for products of the clothing industry it is France, which for years has been buying about one-third of GDR exports to OECD countries.

In GDR imports from OECD countries (see Table 3), basic materials are less preponderant than in exports. Basic and production goods industries have an unchanged share of about one-third. In this sector, the major product groups are chemical products, iron and steel. For the GDR, the most important suppliers of chemical products are the Netherlands and France. However, in recent years Austria has gained greatly in importance. This applies even more so to products of the iron and steel industries. In this sector, between 1980 and 1984, Austria held an annual share of over 40 percent of GDR imports from OECD countries (see Table 5).

Just as important as the basic materials sector are the products of agriculture and the foodstuffs industry. Grain imports continue to be significant. Of the 1984 imports listed (SITC parts 0 and 1) in the amount of DM1.5 billion, DM1.2 billion were for grain (barley, wheat, corn). Since 1983, Canada has been the most important supplier; before then, it was the United States with shares at times as high as 50 and 60 percent (1978 and 1980). In addition to grain, fruit, vegetables, tobacco and tobacco products and some specialties play a certain role in foodstuffs and luxury food imports.

For tobacco and tobacco products, the Netherlands, Greece, Switzerland and Turkey are the most important supplier countries of the GDR. In recent years they have traded off the top position several times. For other foodstuffs, the suppliers are above all Spain, Greece, France and Italy. For the sector of agriculture and foodstuffs trade overall, it is noteworthy that during the last decade the GDR had a considerable import surplus (see graphs). This gap can be closed only if the GDR can achieve its declared goal of gradually reducing its grain imports. The excellent harvests of 1985 and 1986 have created favorable preconditions for that.

After the basic industries and agricultural sectors, capital goods constitute almost one-fourth of imports from OECD countries. Machine building products predominate (1984: 13 percent). Products of capital goods industries have been affected noticeably by import restrictions, particularly since 1983. The import surplus existing in this sector was eliminated in 1984; yet one must ask how long the GDR can maintain the policy of cutbacks in capital goods imports from the West without hurting growth and competitiveness. Investment activity had already been deferred in the past 5-year plan.

The goods structure according to countries shows considerable differences. For example, in exports to Scandinavia the basic materials sector dominates because of mineral oil transactions. In exports to Greece, capital goods dominated (90

percent) during the years 1980 to 1984 (annual average). Among exports to France, Japan, Italy and the United States, the share of capital goods was also high.

Consumer goods play a major role in exports to France, Great Britain, Switzerland and Canada. In the case of Switzerland, this concerns wood products and fine ceramics. To Canada, the GDR exports glassware and fine ceramics.

Among GDR imports it is noteworthy that 43 percent of all products purchased in the Netherlands are chemical products. Next to France, the Netherlands are the most important supplier in this sector. Machine building products play a major part in imports from Japan and Switzerland. Between 1980 and 1984, Japan was the most important supplier of machines; Switzerland was in fourth place. Among GDR imports from Italy and Switzerland, consumer goods play a certain role. In both cases the GDR imports primary products of the clothing industry. From a few countries, the GDR imports primarily, or almost exclusively, agricultural products as well as foodstuffs and luxury foods. This holds true for Canada, the United States and Greece, and to a slightly lesser degree, for Spain, also (see Table 4).

Prospects

The liquidity problems at the beginning of the 1980's caused the GDR leadership to correct its Western trade policy: according to GDR statistics, already in 1981 there was a drastic reduction of the deficit vis-a-vis the capitalist industrial countries, and as of 1982, export surpluses were attained. Since then, the GDR has worked purposefully toward rapidly overcoming the liquidity and indebtedness crisis. But due to the liquidity shock, the GDR leadership has become overly cautious in its Western trade policy. This is indicated by the fact that the GDR has amassed relatively very high foreign exchange accounts in Western banks, and that the liquidity and security thinking today evidently ranges far ahead of foreign trade profitability and computations of growth losses due to throttled imports. So it is logical when the GDR emphasizes that it continues to strive for high export surpluses in its trade with Western industrial countries.¹⁰

Independent of that, however, at present there is room for doubt whether the GDR wants to continue so purposefully its policy of consolidation in trade with the West, and whether it is even able to do so in view of today's conditions of the world economy. If, for instance, indications are correct that in some cases, the GDR is again planning some larger investment projects (Belgium, Sweden), this would denote a relaxing of its consolidation policy. This would also confirm the supposition that the GDR established its foreign exchange cushion in order to have funds for greater capital goods purchases during the current 5-year plan.

This year's development does not yet permit final conclusions whether the GDR will continue determinedly its consolidation policy. True, partner country data show that during the first 7 months, GDR imports in US dollars increased by 40 percent. This, however, also reflects the dollar's downturn. Computed

on the basis of the European currency unit, ECU, which is not affected by the fluctuations of the dollar exchange rate, the increase was only 6 percent. Nonetheless, the export surplus has dropped slightly compared to the previous year. This result may, however, also be due to the price development of oil.

It is already evident that the GDR suffered considerable revenue losses from this year's exports of petroleum and mineral oil products. On the basis of constant amounts of supply (about 13 million tons) and world market prices cut in half, the loss in revenues in 1986 can be estimated at a total of \$1.3 billion. This would be about 15 percent of the total of export revenues from Western industrial countries in 1985. This, however, describes only the revenue loss affected by prices. But import prices for crude oil have also dropped. Insofar as the oil destined for re-export comes from the USSR (about 7 million tons), it is accounted for in transfer rubles, and no dollar expense accrues. There is no information available on how high the offset price is for this part of Soviet deliveries. If speculations are correct that the GDR is charged on the basis of world market prices for those quantities of oil not consumed domestically, then, after the drop in oil prices, it would have to make correspondingly fewer deliveries to the USSR for these imports. In this way it could reduce more quickly the deficit accrued in the past.

The oil bought by the GDR in West European spot markets must always be paid for in dollars. In addition, barter deals may also play a role in purchases from OPEC countries. There, the GDR pays with deliveries of goods which cannot be sold for hard currency. In this case, the drop in oil prices does not lead to savings in foreign exchange.

Overall, however, the lower sales revenues are balanced by considerably lower foreign exchange expenditures in purchases. For this reason, the net loss from mineral oil transactions can be estimated at \$0.8 million for 1986. This corresponds to about 10 percent of export values in 1985. Additionally, due to the dollar devaluation, there is also a loss of purchasing power of \$150 million.

It cannot be excluded, however, that the GDR will continue to carry on the mineral oil business with OPEC countries and Western industrial countries despite the price development. After all, when purchasing from OPEC states, the GDR has the opportunity to pay with deliveries of machines which would be much more difficult to sell in trade with the West. Therefore, through the sale of mineral oil products, products not fit for Western trade can be used to procure hard currency. Continuation and even expansion of these transactions, however, depend on in how far supplies of crude oil from OPEC countries are secured and sales of mineral oil products to OECD countries are ensured.

It seems certain that the GDR in principle will continue to pursue its goal of consolidating its Western trade in the coming years, also. Without a doubt, however, recent world market conditions have made it more difficult. So the GDR is faced with the choice of balancing the revenue losses from the mineral oil business with continued import restrictions, or to relax its consolidation policy. The former would be at the expense of future growth, the latter would postpone reduction of the deficits incurred in trade with the West.

Furthermore, the GDR has the possibility of advancing consolidation through increased exports. This would succeed only, however, if it were to improve greatly the product structure of its exports in trade with the West. The GDR should use the occasion of the "disappearance of the oil cloud" to tackle structural problems, not just talk about them as previously. In the long term, it cannot afford to make up half of its export program in the already small West trade with minimally processed products of raw materials which it does not have, or with goods which meanwhile are also supplied by threshold countries of the Third World of at least the same quality and often even more inexpensively. If the GDR wants to succeed in international competition, it must offer performances which are above this level. In the long term, only an honest confrontation with the conditions of world markets will ensure the competitiveness of the GDR economy.

Footnotes

1. Compare "Der Primaerenergieverbrauch in der DDR und seine Struktur." [Primary Energy Consumption in the GDR and Its Structure] Editor: Jochen Bethkenhagen in: WOCHENBERICHT DES DIW, Nr 51/52-1985.
2. The "unit of account" [Valuta Mark] is the accounting value used by the GDR to report its foreign trade. The value of the unit of account (VM) compared to the domestic GDR currency is not known. With regard to other currencies, it is established via the transfer ruble (TRbl). This relation is constant and amounts to 1 TRbl = 4.67 VM. For 1985, this computes as 1 VM = \$0.255 = DM0.754.
3. In intra-German trade, they [the terms of trade] improved by about 30 percent in the GDR's favor between 1973 and 1980, according to DIW computations.
4. In addition to exporting mineral oil products, the GDR for some time has been re-exporting considerable quantities of crude oil. Evidently, this was done primarily for reasons of liquidity. See "Der Primaerenergieverbrauch....", op. cit., p 578.
5. Compare Doris Cornelsen and others: "Konsumgueterversorgung in der DDR und Wechselwirkungen zum innerdeutschen Handel" [Consumer Goods Supplies in the GDR and Reciprocal Effects on intra-German Trade]. In: Beitrage zur Strukturforchung des DIW, Vol 8/1985.
6. See "Zum Westhandel der DDR" [On the GDR's Trade with the West]. Editor: Horst Lambrecht. In: WOCHENBERICHT DES DIW, Nr 39/1975. -- Also compare Maria Haendke-Hoppe: "Die DDR-Aussenhandelsstatistik und ihr Informationswert" [GDR Foreign Trade Statistics and Their Information Value]. In: FS-ANALYSEN, Nr 3/1978. -- See also Peter Ploetz: "Wirtschaftsbeziehungen der DDR zu den westlichen Industrielaendern" [GDR Economic Relations with Western Industrial Countries]. In: FS-ANALYSEN, Nr 5/1985

p 55 ff. -- Despite these and other attempts to clear up the discrepancies of statistics, they have not really succeeded to this day.

7. DIW will soon deal in greater detail with the methodical and statistical problems in assessing the GDR's Western trade by presenting more extensive documentation on the GDR's trade with the West within the framework of a special issue. This documentation will appear under the title of "Der Westhandel der DDR in den Jahren 1975 bis 1985, eine vergleichende Betrachtung des Handels der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik mit der Bundesrepublik Deutschland und den uebrigen OECD-Laendern" [The GDR's Western Trade between 1975 and 1985, a Comparative Look at GDR Trade with the FRG and the Other OECD Countries] and is meant as an updated and enlarged version of a corresponding work by DIW of 1977 (see special issue Nr. 119).
8. See most recently, "Innerdeutscher Handel: Kontinuitaet erforderlich" [Intra-German Trade: Continuity Needed]. Editor: Horst Lambrecht. In: WOCHENBERICHT DES DIW, Nr 10/1986.
9. On this assessment, see Fritz Homann: Zur Zukunft des innerdeutschen Handels [On the Future of Intra-German Trade]. In: DEUTSCHLANDARCHIV, Nr. 10/1986, p 1086. On successful crisis management, also see: Karl-Heinz Gross: Die innerdeutschen Wirtschaftsbeziehungen [Intra-German Trade Relations]. In: FS-ANALYSEN, Nr 5/1985, p 29 ff. In this context also compare a DIW assessment at the height of the indebtedness discussion. It states: "At present, the problem of indebtedness overshadows GDR foreign trade, and the problems to be overcome are considerable....The GDR position offers no economic reasons that would speak against the granting of continuation loans." In: WOCHENBERICHT DES DIW, Nr. 32/1982, p 417. Editor: Doris Cornelsen.
10. Compare Erich Honecker: Staerke des Friedens fuer den Sozialismus entscheidend [The Strength of Peace is Decisive for Socialism]. In: NEUES DEUTSCHLAND of 20 October 1983. Also see Juergen Nitz and Paul Freiberg: Probleme und Perspektiven der Ost-Westbeziehungen [Problems and Prospects of East-West Economic Relations]. In: IPW FORSCHUNGSHEFTE, 3/1984, p 19. --Compare the directive of the 11th SED Party Congress on the 5-year plan for the development of the GDR economy in the years 1986 to 1990.

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CSO: 2300/139

BRIEFS

BYPRODUCTS REDUCED BY NEW TECHNOLOGIES--In the near future the GDR wants to significantly reduce industrial damage to the environment by introducing technologies which produce fewer industrial byproducts. In East Berlin, Prof Seidel of the Center for Applied Ecology in the Ministry of Environmental Protection explained, that currently in the GDR in one year alone some 80 million tons of solid industrial byproducts are produced, of which 30-35 million tons are recycled. This is noteworthy by international standards, but it is still not good enough. We are just "on the verge of a development which must set as its goal the full ecological integration of production and the environment." Prof Seidel expressed the viewpoint, that it is feasible "to completely recover raw materials and process-additives and to reuse them in their complex forms." In this connection he pointed out that the GDR is currently working on the development and introduction of 140 processes designed to reduce the output of industrial byproducts. These are to be implemented primarily in those branches where they will contribute decisively to better environmental conditions. This selection is based on thorough analyses of the environmental damage created by individual productivity sectors, the international standard of scientific and technical development, and the technical stage of development specific to the individual country. According to the scientist's statements, these reduced-byproduct technologies are to be increasingly introduced in the chemicals industry for the recovery of sulfur and nickel, in the metallurgical industry and in the production of potash salts, with energy production and in briquette factories, in the glass and ceramics industry as well as in the paper and pulp industry. [Text] [Bonn IWE WIRTSCHAFTSDIENST in German Vol 27 No 45, 12 Dec 86 p 5] /9738

CSO: 2300/152

ECONOMIC LAW CHANGES PROTESTED BY SELF-MANAGEMENT BODIES

Role Felt Increasingly Threatened

Warsaw ZYCIE GOSPODARCZE in Polish No 45, 9 Nov 86 pp 1,6

[Report from the Sixth National Conference of Self-Management Representatives, by Irena Dryll]

[Text] A battle over the scope of self-government and its role in the second stage of reform was fought in the Hall of Columns of the Sejm for 2 days (29 and 30 October). This was happening at the 6th National Conference of Workforce Self-Government Representatives, convened as before on the initiative of the Sejm, which exercises in this way, among others, its sponsorship of self-government assigned to it by the law on self-government adopted in 1981.

As usual, the hall was jammed; beside the hosts, i.e. the marshal of the Sejm and deputies from the Sejm Commission on Self-Government Affairs, chairmen of employee councils from about 250 enterprises all over the country took part in the meeting, as well as functionaries of party echelons and representatives of central administration, representatives of teams for self-government affairs set up at the people's councils of provinces, scientists and so on.

The discussion was, as someone put it, "lively"; the atmosphere was quite unlike that at the previous meetings. Requests to be given the floor were still being made before the opening of the conference and during the speech of Deputy Prime Minister M. Gorywoda. Twenty-nine chairmen of the councils managed "to elbow their way" to the speaker's stand; 16 persons introduced their statements into the record. Several of the discussants spoke in their own name and on behalf of their colleagues from the same province attending the meetings. Various arguments were used; a resolution of the 10th PZPR Congress and a PZPR CC Politburo report were quoted, as were Rosa Luksemburg and the pope. A couple of discussants drew enthusiastic applause. Several others, speaking as if they were at a production meeting, were drowned out by applause. A couple persons supported from the speaker's stand the speech of the council chairman from the Cegielski Enterprise, who was the first to speak. Some people stuck up for a chairman of the council at an enterprise in Wrzesnia who was fired without notice.

The topics of mundane self-government concerns associated with, for example, working out statutes, elections, cooperation with the director or trade union organization almost disappeared. Associations or even unions and mining guilds did not evoke emotion. During breaks, it was not the experts, but the politicians and economic functionaries from "the [highest] level" who were mobbed.

A Topic "In Its Own Right"

In itself, the topic of the conference--role of self-government in enterprise planning in light of the NPSG [National Socio-Economic Plan] premises and plans for the second stage of the reform--was not upsetting. It was the "instrumentation" that irritated the self-government activists, i.e. the draft law on changing certain (11) laws outlining the operation of the socialized economy, which is an integral part of the NPSG and, supposedly, the instrument on which fulfilling the 5-year plan hinges.

To be sure, they were able to familiarize themselves with the final version of the draft, which was submitted to the Sejm as late as the day the conference began. Everybody was handed a supplement to RZECZPOSPOLITA -- "Economic Reform", which carried the draft on 29 October. However, many of them were familiar with an earlier version. The fact that the Sejm version omitted some previously suggested provisions did not bring about a change of opinion or a reduction in the level of criticism.

After all, the draft in question was received as a peculiar crowning of all changes reducing the statutory powers of self-government, as the proverbial last straw. At the meeting, it played the role of a pebble which triggered an entire avalanche of self-government concerns which have been mounting for a longer while, and it brought home the extent of danger. The tone of many pronouncements was as if self-government had been backed against the wall with no way to retreat further. Regardless of whether this feeling is correct, it is a fact and a warning.

One of the discussants, Jan Pabisiek from the Warsaw KBM [Housing Construction Combine], spoke about a "partial dismantling" of the law on self-government, which has been picking up from year to year, and about the unfavorable results of this process:

"This breeds mistrust and apathy, dejection and impasse in the work of our council and self-government." Different examples of such dismantling were cited, reminiscent of well-known and, one would think, long-forgotten facts. For example: the overly extensive list of enterprises of key significance, which consequently determines the way the director is nominated, or the affair with nominating a numerous group of directors without competition; the ruling of the Supreme Court on the interpretation of the notion "income" vs "profit", unfavorable for self-government; the setting up of supraenterprise structures of the type of mining guilds, the MEGAT, unions, and a good number of mandatory associations (they were supposed to be created in exceptional cases), while simultaneously preventing the formation of enterprise organizations (e.g. companies) which, as was stated in the discussion, would not be to the liking of the parent agencies; making the remuneration of the

director, his bonus, and even profit-sharing plan dependent on these agencies.

The law on enterprise social and housing funds, adopted on 23 October, and the drafts of the law on collective bargaining, and the above law on changing 11 laws are the most recent examples.

As Jozef Kryszewski, chairman of the employee council in the "Cegielski" Enterprise in Poznan expressed it, "these three legal acts tear down to a considerable degree the principles of fundamental laws on which the reform is based: the law on enterprises, which, in keeping with the draft, would be revised, and the law on self-government."

To be sure, the latter law is technically not among the 11 laws affected; however, its further dismantling is unavoidable in light of the legislative agendas already decided on or those being prepared.

J. Kryszewski noted: "Many self-government bodies have passed resolutions and come out with statements on this matter, which have not drawn a response".

The "Fund" Law

Arkadiusz Goj, chairman from the "Warski" shipyard in Szczecin, said: "Our council has taken a stand four times on successive versions of the law on enterprise funds. We observed that they infringe on the powers of self-government as well as the trade union organization."

"The law on enterprise social and housing funds actually deprives the councils of the right to control its profits. We allocated 75 million zlotys for the reconstruction of the castle in Krasiczyn, we contributed to the historic landmarks of Krakow, to building hospitals, schools, to scientific research. Those were our last installments"--stated Jan Boratynski, chairman of the council in the FSO [Passenger Car Works] in Warsaw.

"The legislature 'has pared everybody down to size'. Enterprises having to choose whether to pay the tax on wages or on the funds, which are now taxed, will opt for wages. However, after what Deputy Prime Minister Gorywoda has said (among other things, he talked about tightening the arrangement regulating the funds for wages -- note by I.D.), I doubt that they will have enough for these wages. According to preliminary estimates, our spending on the social sphere is going to be 100 million zlotys less " -- that is how Fryderyk Komar from the Bielsko-Biala FSM [Subcompact Car Works] described this matter.

Jan Klapiec from the "Stalowa Wola" Combine cited the data which suggest that the opportunities for financing enterprise social actions will also decline precipitously in his enterprise:

"This year, we could afford to spend 345 million zlotys, next year, after the law takes effect, only 257 million zlotys."

Likewise, Andrzej Dubert, chairman of the council in the "Batory" Iron and Steel Plant in Chorzow, argued that the social sphere will suffer; the current

outlays will have to be cut by about 50 million zlotys:

"The workforce will hold the council accountable and, in all honesty, I do not know how it will respond to these restrictions, as well as to somebody else from the outside, specifically the Council of Ministers in cooperation with the national trade union organization, setting the guidelines for the distribution of moneys from both funds, as provided by the new law. In this way, conferences of delegates, which have thus far set the guidelines, will be 'relieved'."

Collective Bargaining

Collective bargaining is yet another matter. The draft law, now in the Sejm, changing the chapter of the labor code on collective bargaining does not enjoy favor in self-government bodies. Several discussants brought it up. According to the view expressed in this matter by A. Goj from the Warski shipyard, speaking on behalf of the participants from Szczecin province, the contracts will be an unfavorable influence on the process of restructuring the economy and will introduce an intermediate level, because of their branch nature. As it is, the draft law on collective bargaining transfers certain powers in matters of wages, thus far granted to self-government, enterprise directors, and trade union organizations, to a supraenterprise level, i.e. to the ministers and the trade union federations.

The above undertaking, currently being drafted, was seen by the discussant as a step backwards on the road to reform, a step which is a far-reaching change of the premises of reform rather than a continuation of it:

"In light of the premises of the economic reform, the enterprises were supposed to make their pay scales dependent on economic performance. It was assumed that higher wages will follow from better performance, and lower wages--from worse performance. At the same time, bankruptcy of an enterprise was to be the penalty incurred for its insolvency."

However, in the opinion of the chairman, these assumptions are not being realized. An obvious return to setting the policy of wages from the top has been especially apparent lately, whereas the draft law creates further prerequisites for exacerbating this trend. After all, it once again shifts the entire responsibility for the policy of wages in enterprises to central organizations and supraenterprise trade union organizations.

Pawel Iljin, chairman of the council in the Bierut Iron and Steel Plant in Czestochowa (statement for the record) associated the weakness of the collective bargaining concept mainly with the fact that it undermines the effort of enterprises to tie the wages to their efficiency and economic performance. In his turn, J. Boratynski from the FSO remarked:

"The concept of a collective contract setting forth obligations for an entire branch, signed at the level of state administration and supraenterprise trade union organization, runs counter to the idea of self-financing. Besides, it changes the status of ministers, heads of central agencies, central organizations and associations."

"Through the deputy from our region, we forwarded our opinion on collective bargaining to the Sejm. The deputy confirmed to us that he submitted it in the Legislative Commission. We also sent a copy of our statement to the Ministry of Labor, Wages and Social Affairs. Thus far, there have been no developments," as the representative of the "Cegielski" Enterprise communicated to the audience.

The discussant also recalled that many scientific communities and authorities had voiced criticism of the two-tier system of agreements on wages: branch collective accords and pay agreements in the enterprise. The apprehension is that these voices will not be taken into account.

It is easy to notice the pressure by trade unionists and the scope of difficulties experienced by government experts in negotiations on this "accord" matter. However, at the same time we should not ignore the things which are taking place in the wage policy. The growth of wages in some branches and professional groups, unjustified by increases in production and labor productivity or the general market situation, threatens to upset the equilibrium and gives rise to the tendency to rein in the wages again, "from the top". Self-government functionaries stress, and it would seem correctly, that forcing through the draft law on collective bargaining may exacerbate both of these unfavorable tendencies. Thus, for them not only their powers were at issue, but a certain model of the policy of wages and the dangers associated with it.

The 11 Laws

Finally, there is the third of the most pressing issues, the draft of changes in 11 laws, which, as I mentioned, played the role of a pebble, or rather a stone triggering the avalanche of reservations and apprehension, the draft which disturbed the feeling of self-government security. I will not review the draft in detail, because we presented its premises in the previous issue, and this issue carries an article on this topic on page 3. I would rather point out the atmosphere around this matter at the meeting, and additional factors which influence the level of emotional involvement and, at the same time, of frustration apparent in many statements. I believe that, apart from the substantive content of changes, several circumstances were important in this regard.

First, there is a fact which deputy Stanislaw Kania brought up in his introductory statement:

"Lately, we have come to encounter numerous manifestations of concern with the future of self-government among its functionaries. It was due to a document on reinforcing the position of director prepared by a group of employees of central administration."

To the mind of the deputy, this reinforcement should not take place at the expense of self-government. Thus, concern has been growing for as long as several months -- the [document on the] status of director was prepared in May of this year.

Secondly, there is the fact that the 10th PZPR Congress confirmed the continuity of existence of self-government in the present, unchanged format. This required that its legal status be preserved rather than changed. The necessity of this was stressed at the PZPR CC Politburo meeting on 23 September of this year.

Thirdly, there is the fact that proposed changes in the laws, be it the version entitled "the status of director" or the draft on changing 11 laws, coincided in time with two important anniversaries: 5 years since the key reform laws on enterprises and on workforce self-government were passed on 25 September 1981 and 30 years since the October 1956 [events].

The chairman of the council at ELANA in Torun asked: "As of now, has everybody drawn proper conclusions from the years 1980-1981 and the experience of 1956? What I mean is taking the power away from the self-government of workers, abandoning the economic reform and incapacitating the trade unions. On the one hand, what we have today is declarations on the continuity of self-government and the reform issued from the highest levels, and on the other hand, trends originating in certain groups and aimed at breaking with the basic principle of "the three S." For them, "the three S" means "old proven ways [stare sprawdzone sposoby]."

In the opinion of the discussant, the draft of revising 11 laws drastically reduces the authority of self-government.

He said: "I dream of another draft which would bring the organization of the center in line with the situation of enterprises changed by the reform."

After this short historical digression, let us look from two points of view, those of the Planning Commission and self-government functionaries, at this controversial draft which revises 11 laws, annuls one and contains several so-called independent provisions, i.e. those which are not based on any legal act adopted by the Sejm.

View from the Commission Level

Chairman of the Planning Commission, Deputy Prime Minister Manfred Gorywoda said, in the report on which the discussion was based, that the suggested changes closely associated with fulfilling the NPSG "are aimed primarily at increasing the effectiveness of economic arrangements in encouraging the increased efficiency of operations by economic organizations. The direction of suggested changes, including the consolidation of the position of director was not conceived as a measure restricting the powers of self-government, but as a way towards defining the tasks, responsibilities, and status of the director clearly and in line with the current needs."

In the opinion of the deputy prime minister, "(...) increasing vigor of self-government should be accompanied by the growing industriousness of directors. Creating conditions for increasing the efficacy of their operations, developing their activity, with full respect for the role and position of workforce self-government, requires that many issues associated with defining

the position of director be settled unambiguously. This, among other things, involves an express delineation of the jurisdiction of the director and self-government and stating precisely that the director has the authority to make independently all decisions on the affairs of the enterprise, with the exception of items belonging in the decision-making jurisdiction of self-government organs (...)."

The delineation of jurisdictions is one of the least ticklish issues, since the proposed provision, discussed above by the prime minister, just enlarges on the wording of that issue incorporated in the law on enterprises. Other proposals referred to in the discussion and reviewed by T. Jezioranski in the article on page 3 appear to be more controversial. I will only recall that the issues involve, for example, merging and splitting up enterprises, nominating and recalling deputy directors and the chief accountant, enlarging the competition jury, suspending the director and self-government resolutions. One of the suggested provisions states that a resolution of a general employee meeting or an employee council is not to be executed if executing it would necessitate in the enterprise an action falling within the scope of the bankruptcy law. To say nothing of the imprecise wording, in practice almost every resolution on economic matters, and primarily on the development of enterprises, must contain a measure of risk--there cannot be economic operations without it--and, therefore, may be suspended.

In the opinion of Franciszek Kubiczek, deputy chairman of the Planning Commission, who took a stand on individual provisions of the proposed law, the authors of the draft were after something completely different. Namely, as he put it, the directors should be deprived of the opportunity to hide behind self-government bodies:

"We have several hundred enterprises which are insolvent. In negotiations with the bank, their directors protect themselves by the resolutions of the council, which, in their interpretation, either have brought about this critical situation or have prevented the enterprise from breaking the impasse."

It followed from the statement by F. Kubiczek that the intent of the remaining disputed provisions was absolutely different from the interpretation self-government representatives have put on it. For example, in the matter of nominating and recalling deputy directors and the chief accountant, which, pursuant to the new provisions, should take place upon consulting the employee council, rather than, as has been the case, with its consent, the object was to let the director recruit his key cadres freely.

"As you know, he will not recruit these cadres without the consent of the [employee] council anyhow"--said the deputy prime minister.

This caused a stir in the audience: if that is the case, than why change the existing provision?

The intent of the provision for merging and splitting enterprises in special cases without the consent of the employee council, by a resolution of the Council of Ministers, was also different.

"In conjunction with the antimonopoly law, it will certainly become necessary to split up multiplant enterprises. This always causes resistance and perturbations. This is not to say that the government will not seek the consent of the council in both splitting and merging enterprises"---said F. Kubiczek.

Judging by his statement and arguments, none of the proposed provisions amending the law on enterprises was motivated by the intention to restrict the powers of self-government:

"It may be that not all of the provisions are well formulated; it may be that the wording is imperfect and should be made more precise"--he said.

If this is the case, there is so much more reason to review the reservations concerning individual provisions and critical remarks which self-government functionaries offered in abundance. I will cite several statements in order to show the extent of their criticism.

Polemics

Chairman of the council at "Siarkopol" in Tarnobrzeg Jozef Burdzel took a negative view of the proposed changes in laws, and especially in the law on enterprises:

"Formal reinforcement of the position of director will accomplish nothing. The economic condition of enterprises should be improved; then the director will be respected by the workforce and his superiors."

Speaking in the name of participants from Warsaw province, J. Boratynski said: "Changes in the law on enterprises consist of a considerable increase in the powers of parent agencies over the enterprise and its organs, a considerable weakening of the legal position of employee councils and, at the same time, a weakening of the legal protection of the enterprise director, despite pronouncements about 'reinforcing' his position."

He also added that proposing these changes goes to prove that it is possible to restrict the jurisdiction of self-government organs significantly without changing the law on self-government.

In his opinion, despite these incessant legislative worries, the lack of perfect economic parameters, intervention from the top and changes in the guidelines for financing, supplies and development of exports, it turned out that "(...) it was exactly the self-government organs who proved to be the most persistent proponents of stable rules and a strong economic center rather than a loose conglomerate of ministries and central administration.(...) They are the ones who have drawn up strict statutes on distributing bonuses from profits which enjoy the support of an overwhelming majority of workforces. These very organs adopt resolutions critical of the chaos in legal regulations emanating from the top and forward them to the Sejm, PZPR CC and the Council of State (...) While paring down to size the jurisdiction of self-government organs in every way possible, one should not expect that (...) they will share in the responsibility for introducing the reform regardless of which stage it is currently in."

Waldemar Szydlo from the "Chelmek" Footwear Works observed: "It was expressly stated in the materials of the 10th PZPR Congress that self-government will be reinforced, but this is not in line with the drafts of systemic changes discussed here today."

Jozef Zapalski from the MEGAT said: "The highest authorities offer assurances that self-government is in no danger. However, many administrative elements thirst for the conquest of self-government. I want to protest against this."

"A way has been found to put down the last organ of the enterprise which still enjoys some approval by the workforces"--Ryszard Pakula, from the FSC [Truck Works] in Lublin, commented on the draft.

Pointed statements were made about "the administration and bureaucracy scoffing at public opinion", as were the following proposals:

"I believe that the time is ripe to address the issue clearly and say unambiguously whether self-government is to be the guarantor of the reform or a systemic screen and a background for television" (A. Goj from Szczecin);

"If self-government is not needed, if employee councils get in the way, then this should be stated clearly" (Stanislaw Ksiazek from the WSK--PZL "Rzeszow").

"We should demand a clear and specific answer from the Sejm Commission on what self-government can count on and how long we, functionaries of self-government, have to face the vexing situation when views are bandied, freely and with impunity, which have been criticized not only by self-government bodies, but also by specialists in a given field of economics or law, as running counter to the premises of the reform and failing to comply with the laws passed by the Sejm" (J. Kryszewski from the "Cegielski" Enterprise).

"A fortnight ago, a pronouncement was made from the highest level, the PZPR CC Politburo, on the need to preserve the current legal position of self-government. Proposed changes in the law on enterprises weaken this position markedly. Are the intentions displayed by the Planning Commission indeed in keeping with the second stage of reform?"--asked A. Dubert from the "Batory" Iron and Steel Plant. He added:

"In my opinion, the opinion of a worker, they are definitely not. Maybe, a college degree is needed to understand the intent of this 'confusion in the law'; I am at a loss for another description of it. I will put it bluntly: one thing is said, another is done. I wonder whether adoption of these changes will become the beginning of the end of genuine self-government and a return to the old ways of the command and allocation system. However, I still hope that the meeting at the Sejm today and the views aired in this discussion will prevent the worst from happening. I would very much like to see that, as would my fellow workers from the iron and steel plant."

Chairman of the employee council of the Instruments and Holders Enterprise in Bialystok, Witold Krawczyk, taking the floor on behalf of the participants from Bialystok province, read and submitted to the Sejm Commission for Self-Government Affairs a resolution of the council which expresses "(...) profound concern with the changes drafted." The resolution reads: "The changes drafted will bring about a departure from the model of autonomous and self-governing enterprises in favor of the command and allocation model, which has been economically and politically discredited, thus shattering the hope to carry on the reform and a chance to overcome the crisis."

In the lobby, some (I stress, some) [self-government functionaries] discussed whether and how to dissolve [self-government organs]. I heard the view that it is worthwhile to go on until the very end, even if all that remains of the jurisdiction is general, secret and democratic elections to self-government organs. However, I also heard that a referendum should be held, the workforce should be asked whether it still wants self-government, or else the council should be convened and... activities should be suspended without a referendum.

I am quoting the excerpts from a discussion at the speaker's stand and in the lobby for several reasons. They reflect the heat of the discussion and, as deputy S. Kania put it, are an indication of sorts of the frame of mind of workforces. Also, they are a telling illustration of the view stated by PZPR CC Secretary Stanislaw Ciosek, who took part in the proceedings:

"With this conference, we are certainly entering a new phase in the development of employee self-government. This conference cannot be left without a response."

On behalf of First Secretary of PZPR CC Wojciech Jaruzelski and the entire leadership of the party, S. Ciosek also conveyed assurances that there may not nor will there be a retreat from self-government. At the same time, he stressed that conclusions and remarks of the 6th Conference will be discussed at a PZPR CC Politburo meeting with the participation of employee councils' representatives.

Conclusions are being prepared by a commission of deputies, participants of the meeting and experts.

In this report, I covered only a segment of the problems which resulted from the main thread of the discussion, which somebody defined as to be or not to be for self-government. In my next report, I will try to present the second, main thread of the discussion involving economic issues. After all, in this case they gave way to a discussion on the ways of entering the second stage of the reform, on legal instruments which must accompany it. As I see it, self-government functionaries called into question the philosophy of restrictions on self-government which are intended to bring about a "strong" reform. In their opinion, a "strong" reform calls for a strong self-government rather than the one with weaker powers. This conviction draws on the stand of supreme party echelons.

"We will protect the functionaries against the accusation that their objections arise from a disposition towards anarchy. However, we will likewise counteract the statement that the government strives to eliminate self-government. Your stand is a weighty political fact which cannot be dismissed."

OFFICIALS SPEAK TO SELF-MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIVES

Warsaw ZYCIE GOSPODARCZE in Polish No 47, 23 Nov 86 p 2

[Report by Irena Dryll: "Self-Management at the Premier's"]

[Text] This was a genuine man-to-man conversation, without dodging. It took place on 14 November at the meeting of Prime Minister Zbigniew Messner with a group of functionaries of employee councils, who took part in the 6th National Conference of Workforce Self-Government Representatives at the Sejm two weeks ago.

"I was upset by the echoes of the conference"--said the prime minister in the beginning, proceeding to give the floor to all those who had registered to speak, 21 out of the 27 self-government functionaries present at the meeting. Deputy Zbigniew Pruszkowski took the floor and reviewed the course of the 6th Conference on behalf of the Sejm Commission on Self-Government Affairs. Its representatives, including its chairman, deputy Stanislaw Kania, also attended the meeting. Beside the prime minister, Chairman of the Planning Commission, Deputy Prime Minister Manfred Gorywoda and Minister of Labor, Wages and Social Affairs Stanislaw Gebala responded to the suggestions and remarks of council representatives. PZPR CC Secretary Stanislaw Ciosek, as well as representatives of PZPR CC, government and Planning Commission departments were also present. The meeting, which, according to preliminary schedules, was to last 2 hours, went on for almost 4.

Unanimity

To be sure, various issues were brought up, but one dominated--the issue of changes in the legal system of the reform contained in the draft of revising 11 laws governing the operation of the economy to date, which was submitted to the Sejm. This includes the law on enterprises, which is considered to be one of the two pillars of the reform, along with the law on self-government. The unanimity displayed in taking a negative view of the entire package of changes, seen as "an 11-count sentence for the reform," was surprising: from the chairman of the council at the MEGAT, through the council representatives from iron and steel plants, combines, shipyards and other enterprises to the chairman of the state farm in Rozana and Prof Ludwik Bar, who attended the meeting.

He recalled that several years ago, work on both laws began in this very hall (the meeting was held in a beautiful and elegant skylight hall of the Office of the Council of Ministers). They were able to start proving themselves as a device of renewal and reform only after a certain period of time due to various reasons associated with the specific legal regulations. These laws need at least 2 to 3 years to prove themselves. Therefore, from this legislative point of view, neither of them should be changed as yet. Social considerations do not favor it either: these laws have symbolic meaning because they originated under certain conditions as an expression of social compromise.

The professor asked: "Are the cases of improper impact of the provisions of the law on enterprises so urgent and numerous, and the problems so significant as to justify its hasty and far-reaching revision? Can anybody support the need for changes by scientific empirical evidence, and if yes, then who? The draft of revising 11 laws does not meet these requirements."

Prof Bar recalled the resistance which accompanied the restoration of councils after the state of martial law. Currently, their vigor is on the rise; the degree of social confidence is growing.

"The risk of undermining the laboriously built confidence far outweighs the benefits of proposed changes"--such was the professor's conclusion. Conclusions of the remaining discussants varied.

Andrzej Dubert, chairman of the council in the "Batory" Iron and Steel Plant, said, among other things:

"I believe that it would be good to withdraw this package of laws from the Sejm and to propose some other solutions, which would indeed constitute economic instruments for the 5-year plan. Corrections in individual articles may not change much."

"As a worker, I am not required to be an expert on law; however, it does not seem to me that the law promotes the reform. The second stage of the reform, much talked about and ordained in the resolution of the 10th PZPR Congress, is to introduce economic coercion. Often times, what I can see in this package of laws has little to do with economics. It contains various arrangements, perhaps, some of them are called for, but all are mainly formal, legal and administrative in nature."

"The administrative slant" of the proposals was pointedly criticized; various arguments and examples were cited, and dangers were enumerated.

As follows from many statements, the most important danger involves the weakening of the position of the enterprise and its organs, i.e. self-government and the director.

The issue boils down to the question asked by Jan Klapiec from the "Stalowa Wola" Combine: "Should there be more administrative interference in the operation of an enterprise than we already have?"

As Edward Traczuk from "Pafawag" in Wroclaw argued, the proposed changes make it possible for the parent agencies and the Council of Ministers to encroach on the autonomy of enterprises. This, however, will not amount to strengthening the center. The mere increase in the powers of central administration at the expense of economic arrangements and devices is not identical with such reinforcement, which is otherwise called for.

Jozef Burdzel ("Siarkopol" in Tarnobrzeg) was of the opinion that some of the proposals can result in increased pressures on the center. He used wages as an example. The opportunity to freeze wages envisaged by the package of revisions may exacerbate, as he put it, the phenomenon of onslaught by individual branches and enterprises for reduced rates or preferences. As he graphically put it, "the directors will march on the center in order to squeeze as much from it as possible."

Other proposed solutions foreshadow broadening the scope of conflicts between the center and enterprises rather than reinforcing the center. Their intent is to restrict markedly the jurisdiction of employee councils. The proposal to merge and split enterprises in "especially justified cases" without the consent of the employee council, on the basis of a decision of the Council of Ministers, is a case in point. J. Klapiec argued that self-government will not oppose it if these cases are indeed "particular" and economically justifiable: "we have been through a merger of one of our enterprises with our combine. The council found the arguments convincing."

The Insolvency Provision

"The insolvency provision," which, as was stressed in the discussion, essentially undermines the notion of self-government, is another case in point. At issue is the introduction of the following provision into the bankruptcy law: "A resolution of a general employee meeting or an employee council is not to be executed, if carrying it out would necessitate in the enterprise actions following from the present law."

Reviewing the course of the 6th Conference, deputy Z. Pruszkowski mentioned, among other things, that the provision in question had run into resolute objections.

He stressed: "To be sure, it is justified that every action harmful to the enterprise be stopped. However, the provision suggested puts the director above self-government, making him an infallible arbiter, ruling on the merit and intent of self-government representation of the workforce. It threatens the heart of self-government and establishes a relationship unseen in our legislative system, bringing about the incapacitation of self-government and, consequently, the withering of its activities and operations."

The above-mentioned arrangement between the director and the council is also violated by the proposals of "director provisions," so called by us for the sake of simplicity. In theory, they were to bring about "a clear delineation of responsibilities" (changes in article 33, paragraph 2 of the law on enterprises) and "reinforcing the position of director" (changes in article 36 of the same law). In practice, they have revealed the uselessness of the entire "dispute over directors."

It is true that the director is frequently in an unenviable situation. It would be difficult to even briefly mention the factors responsible for this. Half in jest, half in seriousness it may be said that the director has too little money and too much trouble, including, perhaps, that with self-government. However, as was said in the discussion, if he is a proper man in a proper place, he will always come to an understanding with the council.

"It is said in the justification for draft changes, that many statements, especially in the law on state enterprises, bring about inaptitude in management, because the directors either hide behind the decision-making powers of the council, or the councils tie the hands of the director through their indolence and prevent him from acting promptly. If there are such glaring cases, they should be pointed out. In our area, we are not aware of such cases"--said chairman of the council in the "Cegielski" enterprise, Jozef Kryszewski. In his opinion, random situations should not be generalized and there should be no changes in the law.

As A. Pieprzyk from "Stilon" in Gorzow aptly put it, with regard to legal regulations, "a good director and good self-government need no more than what exists." Others, for example Edward Baja from the FSC in Lublin, confirmed that "in our enterprise, cooperation runs smoothly."

In the opinion of Witold Krawczyk from the FPiU [Instruments and Holders Enterprise] in Bialystok, directors should be given broader powers, but at the expense of parent agencies. In his statement, A. Goj from the "Warski" Shipyard in Gdansk emphasized the connection between the position of director and the extent of enterprise autonomy: "A director of an autonomous enterprise will not be under the minister's thumb."

One of the "director provisions" (changes in article 36 of the law on state enterprises) brings about substituting the wording "having solicited the opinion of" for the requirement to nominate deputy directors and the chief accountant with the consent of the council. Deputy Pruszkowski said that this is the only decision-making authority that self-government has in the matter of nominations to enterprise positions. Therefore, this proposal cannot be reconciled with the status of a council as an enterprise organ, because it is difficult to conceive of deputy directors, who have to work with the council on a regular basis, being nominated against its will. The practice of exercising this right to date also speaks against it: there are no negative cases or phenomena impairing the position of director or the interests of the enterprises. In other words, consent of the council does not provoke disagreement, nor does it threaten anybody or anything. It is difficult to comprehend why this should be changed right now.

"I wonder what the changes in nominating deputy directors and the chief accountant have to do with economic coercion"--said the chairman of the council from the "Batory" Iron and Steel Plant.

I Wouldn't Stir Up the Matter...

Responding to this last issue (we discuss others below), Deputy Prime Minister M. Gorywoda explained that this was, as it were, a suggestion from a management textbook: an autonomous director should select his fellow employees autonomously. The deputy prime minister said, however, that if he had foreseen such a reaction and were to decide now, after this discussion, he would not have stirred up this matter at all--"The issue was not who is more important, the self-government organ or the director. The purpose was to boost the vigor of the actions by the latter."

Discussing one of the most ticklish regulations, which I called above "the insolvency provision", the deputy prime minister admitted that it is indeed unfortunately worded. However, the intent was different in this case as well.

With regard to the issue of merging and splitting enterprises, he observed that the issue of splitting "remains to be settled." In its turn, participation of self-government in the management of groups should be taken into account in the case of these organizations. All of these matters are "to be cleaned up"; there are even certain proposals of changes. In the opinion of the deputy prime minister, the entire draft addresses many significant problems, and, if they are not solved, it will be impossible to fulfill the national socio-economic plan. This is the case, for example, with the issue of wages.

"We have very specific guidelines to slow down inflation, issued by the 10th PZPR Congress and the Sejm"--he said. With regard to the accusations of restricting the powers of self-government, M. Gorywoda offered assurances that this was not the intent of the authors of the draft. It is difficult to conceive of the government having any interest in such restrictions. "Personally, I would like to see the powers of self-government enhanced, for example, through making it necessary to secure its consent every time the planned growth of wages is exceeded. After all, with regard to wages the center is faced with an accomplished fact." He also emphasized the connection between the operation of the reform mechanisms and market and supply equilibrium. He said: "As early as the next year, the extent of central allocation of supplies will decrease markedly, and this was never brought up in the discussion."

Returning, however, to the 11 laws, the deputy prime minister emphasized the great sensitivity, as he put it, of self-government functionaries to all changes in regulations involving self-government powers in one way or another. "It may be that many of the doubts are the result of some awkward wording or incorrect interpretation of the intent of the authors. All reservations and conclusions of both the Sejm conference and the meeting with the prime minister will be closely studied and taken into account in further work on the draft law"--promised M. Gorywoda.

Minister S. Gebala could not make such a statement, as he was "warding off" accusations involving the law already passed on the social and housing funds and the law on collective bargaining. The latter will most likely be passed in several days. Self-government functionaries saw express restrictions of [their] powers in both laws, and especially in the draft law on collective bargaining, whereas the minister did not share such apprehensions. Among others, Jacek Topczewski from the 1st May WZPB [Provincial Cotton Industry Association] in Lodz spoke about this.

Giving a vote of no confidence in the changes proposed, self-government functionaries at the same time rose to the defense of the reform and its socio-economic format. Prime Minister Z. Messner referred to these statements in his closing speech. He said that the original, conceptual model of the reform envisaged complete self-regulation of economic processes, but under the conditions of equilibrium. Reality has been and is completely different: economic disequilibrium, [foreign] debt and economic sanctions. This brought about the model not "kicking in," certain rough points and problems have occurred, including subjective ones, resulting from a segment of the management cadres being unprepared for work under the new model. The government has been and is trying to rectify the situation in a variety of ways. Is every decision appropriate? Certainly not; however, stressed the prime minister, we cannot conclude from this that the government is slowing down the reform, as the political adversaries would have us believe. The government comes out in favor of the reform. However, it is at the same time responsible for the situation in the country and for what happens in it. For example, the government is reproached for maintaining cost-based price formation. The prime minister said: "Everybody is against it, and so am I. I am a specialist on costs, I have been working on it for many years. However,

the price of equilibrium between supply and demand, world price base and an inflation spiral are the alternative. Can we afford it?"

To illustrate such dilemmas, the prime minister pointed out the case of the shipbuilding industry, addressing A. Goj from the shipyard:

"If we were to act in keeping with the reform, we should basically close down this industry, because there is a recession in the world. Thus, it has to be subsidized for now. Would anybody at all forgive me if I allowed the Gdansk shipyard to become insolvent? The same is the case with "Pafawag": if we were to proceed pursuant to the reform, this factory would cease to exist."

The prime minister also cited other examples, e.g. he said that merging enterprises is not always treated as evil in and of itself. In this instance, he called on J. Boratynski from the FSO [Passenger Car Works] to be his witness, because the FSO has recently painlessly absorbed a plant in Nysa. Thus, the suspicion that every merger amounts to an attempt by the center to return to the old ways is not always justified.

I am quoting the above excerpts from statements in order to reflect, at least in part, the atmosphere of the meeting: open and, judging from the statements, favorable to self-government on the part of the government; assertive and full of anxiety on the part of self-government.

Anxiety and peculiar determination welled up in literally every statement. "Some are nervous, others are resigned"--said J. Klapiec. A. Dubert explained why:

"The 10th Congress of the party affirmed the need for self-government to exist in its present format. First Secretary of the PZPR CC Gen Jaruzelski has more than once spoken on the role and significance of self-government. The stand of the Politburo on 23 September of this year reinforced our conviction that the legal status of self-government will be preserved."

"However, the proposed arrangements discussed here, or the package of 11 laws, shake this position of ours. The statements by the government spokesman at the last conference, where he referred to '...certain small changes in the division of powers between the director and employee self-government,' did not reassure me, but, on the contrary, made me uneasy."

A thread of cooperation, agreement, and understanding was evident in many statements. "Same as the government, we have the good of the country close to our heart. However, we should not be a transmission belt, relaying the reasoning of the authors of the draft in question to our colleagues at the factories, but rather a partner"--said J. Boratynski. Others suggested that eventual new proposed arrangements be submitted for consultation in an appropriate fashion.

The prime minister stressed emphatically that the role of self-government is safeguarded by the party, whereas reinforcing self-government is a matter of course and a duty of the government. Self-government, which is an achievement of People's Poland, has been through ups and downs.

The prime minister said: "I myself was a functionary who supported self-government in 1956; I trained self-government activists." Returning to the topic of the meeting, he offered assurances that all views and conclusions will be carefully analyzed and taken into consideration. He remarked that, after all, backing out of an erroneous decision is not shameful, if it is substantively justified. Reservations, including those of a psychological nature are essential and cannot be neglected. In summation, the prime minister said: "We are going along the same road, in the same direction."

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OFFICIAL SHARES VIEWS ON HOUSEHOLD BUDGETS, STANDARD OF LIVING

Warsaw TYGODNIK POLSKI in Polish No 49, 7 Dec 86 pp 1,5

[Interview with Jan Kordos, director of the Department of Social Research at the Central Office of Statistics [GUS], by Ewa Gajewska: "From Payday to Payday"]

[Text] [Question] The status of family budgets in the passing year 1986 is still being analyzed. Therefore, we have to proceed from the data for the previous year. Nonetheless, the context is broader that way, as the GUS [Central Office of Statistics] report on living conditions in the years 1981 through 1985 is in print right now. There is plenty of information, though it is somewhat ambiguous. For example: real retirement benefits and annuities have not decreased for 2 years, and in the first half of 1986 they even grew by 3 percent compared to the first half of 1985. In other words, we have it good! On the other hand, the average retirement benefit or annuity in this period amounted to 11,415 zlotys--exactly one-half of the average wage. This is the ratio postulated by social policy as the socially acceptable minimum. The average retirement benefit is at a minimum level! How are we really doing? Can statistics respond to this question and reflect faithfully social reality?

[Answer] You have compressed many problems in this question. As a statistician, I am not equipped to deal with some of them. I am not aware of the minimum for 1985, therefore I cannot comment on these statistics. The statement that real income increased by 3 percent points up only a general trend in the period in question. Thus, all conclusions in the matter are an immense simplification. Over the same period of time, real income of an appreciable segment of retirees and annuitants declined (this is the case with about 48 or 52 percent of all retirees), though for a segment of them it went up considerably. Do we have it good? It depends who. This is why we segregate data according to the number of persons in the household, education of the head of the family, number of persons gainfully employed etc., on top of general averages for the basic types of households. Only the data for such homogenous groups are used for various comparisons.

[Question] So be it; however, it is apparent without any special analysis that large families, i.e. the ones with many children, are in the most difficult financial situation...

[Answer] Which is not at all to say that singles have it easier. It follows from our studies that, in order to maintain the same share of spending on food (e.g. 50 percent of all spending), a 4-person household required 8,000 zlotys of monthly income per person, whereas a single-person household--as much as 12,000 zlotys.

[Question] Analyzing family budgets for 1985, you have established the following regularity: the higher the education of the head of household, the higher the per capita income in this household. Therefore, the family of an associate professor lives better than that of a worker--is that so? Meanwhile, other studies carried out jointly by the GUS and the Polish Academy of Sciences indicate that the average salary of employees with a college degree is more than 15 percent below the national average salary. The ratio of the average salary of non-workers to that of workers has also slipped below unity. How is it possible that individual "blocks" studied by you do not fit the picture?

[Answer] This regularity -- the average per capita income depending on the education of the family -- has been registered for many years. Basically, nobody questions this fact. This, however, is not to say that the ratio of salaries is the same. In general, are these two groups comparable? The level of per capita income depends not only on remuneration, but also on the size of the family, which is important, and income from social benefits and other sources. You are trying to draw specific conclusions from general ratios. These "blocks" come from different boxes; this is why they cannot fit the picture.

[Question] I am already caught in this web of conditions and dependencies...Is there one authoritative indicator of the standard of living of a household?

[Answer] There is no universal measure to define the standard of living. This notion is too complex to be reduced to a single statistic. For statistical purposes, the amount of monthly per capita income is accepted, though an indicator of real income would be more appropriate in this instance, that is to say, an indicator of income adjusted for price changes (or for an indicator of the cost of living).

As you know, after a period of decline--by 20 to 25 percent on the average--we are registering a slow growth of real income over the last 3 years. We usually do not feel such growth, because it only affects a certain segment of households. Over the same period, real income declined considerably for a substantial part of the households. Let us take employee households by way of an example. In 1985, 34 percent of these families registered a decline in real income by 1 to 20 percent, and 9 percent of families--an even deeper decline. However, at the same time, income increased by 1 to 20 percent in about 36 percent of employee families, and in 22 percent of households--by more than 20 percent. The same is the case in other groups of households. We register the greatest differentiation among peasant households. This is where we find most rich families, but quite a few are poor.

[Question] The indicator of the cost of living, essential for the budgets, is established on the basis of a basket of goods and services purchased by households. How is the GUS coping with this task when certain goods "temporarily" disappear from the store shelves into thin air? The increasingly poorer quality of goods presents yet another problem. It is not discernible in the movement of prices, but it does influence indirectly the growth of the cost of living, e.g. expenses for repairing the washing machine for the n-th time.

[Answer] The name of the indicator is somewhat of a misnomer, because it suggests that the cost of living is indeed involved. Actually, it concerns only the movement of prices in the period in question. The goods in the basket should be adjusted in line with the current supply situation. Official price lists quote coffee at 320 zlotys a package, but in stores you will have to look for it far and wide. So, you purchase some at the market, while the GUS has to calculate what we really spent for coffee this year. Apart from registering store prices, we also study market prices and follow the so-called black market for goods and money.

However, we are having quite a problem with accounting for changes in the quality of goods. As of now we cannot calculate them properly. I believe that experience of other countries would be helpful in this matter. I cannot say more precisely when we are going to solve this problem.

[Question] Let us take a look at the breakdown of incomes. Does the study of family budgets confirm the popular opinion that wages do not support an adequate standard of living, and chasing jobs on the side and moonlighting are increasingly needed?

[Answer] We cannot ascertain on the basis of the GUS studies which income comes from jobs on the side and which from legal sources. We segregate income by basic categories such as: wage income, social benefits (including retirement benefits and annuities), agricultural (employee plots) and from other sources. This last group is a very diverse segment; we think that the level of income in this group is considerably underreported. Nonetheless, the share of wages received in the socialized economy is declining considerably. In 1980, such wages accounted for 56.6 percent of all income, in 1985 - 47.9 percent. The year 1985 marked a restoration of the significance of income from secondary occupations, following a decline earlier in the 5-year period. In 1980, it accounted for 1.5 percent of all personal income, in 1985--for 12 percent.

[Question] Now let us talk about spending. Have any new trends developed on this side of family budgets?

[Answer] Hardly. The share of food remains high--from 43.6 percent of all spending in employee households to 54.8 percent in the families of retirees and annuitants. Spending for food is always going to be higher in less affluent families...

[Question] This is obvious. The generally expensive non-food durables are much too expensive for these families.

[Answer] At present, households of retirees pay as much rent as employee families (about 10 percent of all spending), but twice as much for fuel and energy. This is due to many retirees and annuitants living alone in larger and, therefore, more expensive to maintain, older dwellings. At the same time, employee families have the highest preference for the needs of a higher order registered in our research as "the culture, education and upbringing block" (5 percent of all spending), whereas peasant families invest the least in this sphere (3.2 percent).

[Question] You have also been studying ownership of consumer durables by households. Along with income, durables are believed to be an indicator of living standard. The GUS questionnaire enumerates 25 items, beginning from a wristwatch, through the possibly already anachronistic tent, to a sailboat or motorboat. However, we would look in vain for such traditional signs of affluence as jewelry, furs or furniture. Besides, statistical information reflects quantity rather than standard or value of individual assets. Perhaps, you would agree that there is a colossal difference in affluence between a family owning an old "tiny one" [FIAT 126p] and those in possession of a new Mercedes 190.

[Answer] In these studies, we were not looking at the issue of affluence. We wanted to find out what social prestige individual assets enjoy and which type of households go for what as their first priority. Also, it is difficult to satisfy everybody by the set of durables included in the questionnaire; thinking along those lines, why shouldn't we include works of art or video equipment?

Differences in ownership of durables by households are not always a simple function of income. Tradition, education of the family and its cultural tastes, profession, residence in a rural or urban area are also a factor. Statistically, households of non-worker employees own the most durables, whereas households of retirees and annuitants and peasant households--the least.

[Question] I've been looking at the data on durables owned by families in 1985 and it is difficult to believe: one-third of the households of retirees and annuitants in the highest income bracket do not have even the basic durables. At the same time, 25 percent of non-worker employee households with per capita income under 5,000 zlotys own a car! Income has nothing to do with the ownership of durables. Nonetheless, our entire social policy leans on the criterion of per capita income as an indicator of the financial situation of families. Why is that so, why the disproportion?

[Answer] There are several reasons why ownership of durables cannot be fully explained by the level of income. First of all, prices of some durables are so high a "multiple" of the monthly wage that it naturally can have nothing in common with income. Therefore, income from periods of past affluence is drawn on (e.g. work abroad), loans and credit are obtained. Young families receive durables as a gift from their relatives, etc. We can go on citing more examples.

This also is a distorted image of our market, where various allocations, vouchers, "pulling strings" and what have you plays a role. Somebody may have a car, but he bought it at a reduced price, for a voucher. Someone else has got the money, but still cannot get hold of a refrigerator, and so on. We cannot explain everything in one study.

[Question] You will certainly redirect my question about the socially acceptable minimum to the Institute of Labor and Social Affairs, which handles this issue "in the line of duty." In its turn, the GUS establishes every year the so-called low income threshold. What is the basis for this? How many households fall below this cutoff line?

[Answer] You see, discussions on the minimum come back in every economic crisis. They are accompanied by the conviction--I would not know whether it is conscious--that calculating the socially acceptable minimum will become a panacea for the financial difficulties of families. The minimum is not a statistical category; nonetheless, it can be useful in various studies. I do not consider it very significant. Moreover, no single social minimum exists. Had independent research teams been set up, every one of them would have obtained a different value, the general assumptions being identical. In a way, it is a pity that such an experiment was not conducted.

Beginning in 1982, the GUS introduced the notion of low income in order to estimate, at least approximately, the percentage of families living in difficult conditions. However, I stress that the amount of current income should not be the only criterion for classifying a given household as a poor one. As I have said, low income is different in, for example, a single-person household and a 4-person family. We took the social minimum of 1981, i.e. 2,500 zlotys, as a base. In subsequent years, we inflated it by the rate of growth in the cost of living compared to the previous years. In 1985, 8,000 zlotys per person was low income. We estimate that in 1985 about 20 percent of employee households and about 35 percent of households of retirees and annuitants remained in the sphere of low income.

[Question] Is there a chance that we will penetrate all the secrets of household budgets and get a handle on the regularities not yet discernible?

[Answer] Apart from the annual studies of household budgets, which we have discussed, over the last 4 years the GUS carried out 12 studies covering many aspects of the living conditions of the populace. The topics varied from the socio-professional situation of women, through the living conditions of young families, time budgets, participation in cultural activities, to the recently completed studies of the living situation of families with many children and single-parent families.

However, not all of the phenomena and processes occurring in the households may be registered. This is why we resort to estimates and statistical assessments, along with regular studies. Since 1982, we have been systematically introducing a special unified system of studies of households. We hope that it will fill many "gaps" still found in social statistics.

[Interviewer] We wish you success. Thank you for your interview.

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MEASURES TO INCREASE CRUDE OIL, GAS PRODUCTION

Bucharest MINE, PETROL SI GAZE in Romanian Vol 37 Oct 86 pp 453-454

[Unsigned article: "Petroleum Worker's Day"]

[Text] We are celebrating Petroleum Worker's Day, a day on which all our people pay tribute to the traditions of revolutionary struggle of this detachment of the working class and honor the dedicated and responsible work of those who drill deep into the earth to raise up precious black gold, making their contribution to development of raw materials and energy resources of Romania and to the socioeconomic progress of our socialist homeland.

As a result of the party's policy of developing raw materials and energy resources, the petroleum industry has developed steadily during the years of socialist construction, and especially in the era the richest in accomplishments in the entire history of the country, the era of Nicolae Ceau-sescu. This sector has enjoyed the benefit of substantial investments, and on the basis of these investments new deposits have been tapped and new petroleum drilling and producing derricks outfitted with modern high-efficiency installations made by the Romanian machinebuilding industry have been set up in different areas of the country.

Acting on the basis of the experience it has accumulated over a period of 130 years, Romania has come to occupy second place in the world as exporter and third as manufacturer of petroleum equipment.

New deposits of hydrocarbons have been discovered through integrated geological studies conducted in close cooperation with specialists in production units.

The petroleum and gas deposits of the Romanian part of the Black Sea continental shelf, an area in which Romanian petroleum workers are currently putting the finishing touches on equipment with which to begin production of petroleum and gas, represent one of the most important recent discoveries.

Geological research activities will continue to be concentrated on study of the possibility of discovering new deposits at increasing depths (5,000, 7,000, and even 10,000 meters).

New technologies have been applied under the priority program for introduction of technical progress in well drilling. They include jet drilling, drilling with flow rate amplifiers, determination of the pressure differential at the bottom of a well in drilling to test the penetration rate, penetrating strata with fluids possessing controlled rheologic properties at high pressures and temperatures, drilling with slide-bearing bits, and others, which have contributed to increase in the efficiency of drilling operations.

In the area of petroleum extraction, efforts have been stepped up to increase production and well productivity and to improve the factor of petroleum recovery from deposits. Each year operations have been intensified to increase the flow of petroleum into wells, by means of fissure creation, treatment with acids and surfactants, reinforcement, etc. They have made a substantial contribution to extracted oil output. New methods of stimulating wells with combined thermal, gas, and chemical devices have been studied and applied. Romanian factories have developed and produced long-cylinder extraction pumps and pumps with metal-plated cylinders which double the service life of wells per pump. A new type of high-performance hoist for oil well operations has been designed and built in cooperation with mechanical engineers.

New methods and processes have been tested and applied to increase the petroleum recovery factor. They include injection of micellar substances, periodic injection of steam, damp burning followed by injection of water, and others, which have increased the total petroleum recovery factor.

The 1986-1990 5-year plan assigns especially important tasks, both quantitative and qualitative, to the petroleum and gas extraction industry. The objective requirements of providing domestic raw materials and energy resources and the objective capabilities of the personnel in this sector from the viewpoint of effort, equipment, and organization have been taken into account in assignment of these tasks.

The measures adopted in the campaign to organize and modernize production processes and the valuable guidance provided personally by comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, secretary general of the party, will ensure radical improvement in activities and substantial increase in all composite and efficiency indicators.

Increases in the amounts of petroleum extracted, associated gases, gasoline, and ethane relative to 1985 are expected by 1990.

The volume of drilling operations will rise 23 percent, and the number of wells to be drilled, equipped, and activated during this 5-year plan will be 9,000, or an average of 1,900 per year.

The commodity output in 1990 will be 43 percent, higher than that in 1985, labor productivity will rise 44.8 percent, and total costs per 1,000 lei of commodity output will drop 5 percent, with material costs decreasing 5.6 percent.

At the same time, 25 percent more tubular material will be recovered, re-conditioned, and reused, along with 15 To 40 percent more liners, pistons, and other spare parts for extraction pumps.

Consumption of raw and intermediate materials, energy, and fuels will also be reduced considerably. Electric power consumption for petroleum extraction will be 18 percent lower, and the reduction in fuel consumption will amount to as much as 12 percent.

Broad programs of measures aimed chiefly in the following directions have been drawn up and are being implemented at all organizational levels, from ministry to production brigade, to achieve these substantial quantitative increases.

a. Increase in the coefficient of utilization of available producing wells from 93 percent to 95 percent, by lengthening the well operating period between servicing operations, reducing the time required for carrying out well servicing operations, and improving the quality of operations.

b. Improvement in the technological conditions of well operation by increasing the capacity for extraction from wells by pumping, extending gas lift operation of wells, and increasing the volume of operations involved in intensifying the flow of petroleum into wells. The number of geological and technological operations to stimulate influx of petroleum is expected to increase each year. More than 2,300 operations will be carried out in 1987, more than in 1986, and the valve gas lift operating system will be improved and extended.

c. Extraction of petroleum and gas from the continental shelf of the Black Sea will begin as early as 1986, in accordance with the approved program, and will be expanded each year as a result of completion of the operations connected with determination of deposit outlines.

d. Intensification of measures for large-scale application of processes for recovery of petroleum from deposits, along with testing and initiation of new methods of increasing the degree of recovery. As was pointed out by the party secretary general on the occasion of his visit to model units, detailed programs have been drawn up for this purpose in the campaign to modernize production processes, for individual wells, deposits, and depth ranges, while petroleum extraction by mining methods will be extended at shallower depths.

e. Orientation of oil and gas production drilling operations toward areas which present the best production prospects, along with application of an array of measures aimed at increasing service drilling speeds by 8 percent, lowering non-production time by 20 percent, and increasing the number of meters drilled per active rig per year.

Action is also being taken to link flat rate remuneration more directly to physical output and the volume of work performed, so that the flat rate form of remuneration will become a true incentive to production.

The workers in the petroleum and gas extraction industry are pledging themselves to take firm action to bring about ongoing improvement in activities

and to ensure completion of the tasks assigned to them so as to make a contribution of the greatest importance to advancement of the entire Romanian economy, increase in the national wealth, and assurance of energy independence for Romania.

6115

CSO: 2700/89

DEVELOPMENT OF METHANE GAS INDUSTRY DISCUSSED

Bucharest MINE, PETROL SI GAZE in Romanian Vol 37 Oct 86 pp 455-460

[Article by P. Nita, engineer, technical director, Methane Gas Central, Medias: "Development of the Methane Gas Industry in Romania"]

[Text] The methane gas industry has undergone especially extensive development during the years of socialism, coming today to represent one of the prime sectors of the national economy. The natural gas supplied by the Methane Gas Central represents 45 percent of the energy budget of the country, and the amounts delivered as raw material and for technological needs make a substantial contribution to development of the other sectors of the economy.

The contribution to industrial development made during the years of socialism has been accompanied by increase in consumption of gas by the public. The methane gas industry has accordingly made its contribution to the efforts to raise the level of progress and civilization. Only a few centers in Transylvania were supplied with methane gas before the war, while at the present the public in the majority of cities and a large number of rural localities in all areas of the country are supplied with natural gas.

All development during the years of socialism has been at a high level. This development has been based on an original concept and has been carried out with equipment, installations, and materials most of which have been produced in Romania.

A national system of natural gas transmission has been perfected in recent years. All centers, industries, other economic and social units, and the public are supplied with natural gas by means of it and the distribution system.

At the urging of the general secretary of the party, Comrade Nicolae Ceaușescu, that priority be assigned to use of domestic resources in meeting the energy requirements of the national economy, the Methane Gas Central intensified geological research and efforts to develop production and transport potential during the 1981-1985 5-year plan so as to create all the conditions needed for meeting the natural gas requirements of the economy and the public. The efforts resulted in a number of noteworthy results, the most important of which were that the 5-year plan for discovery of reserves was

fulfilled to the extent of 105.5 percent and that the methane gas production plan was fulfilled to the extent of 104.9 percent.

The goal set for supply of gas from all sources was exceeded by 8.8 percent. At the same time, labor productivity rose 20 percent and significant savings were achieved in production costs, along with an appreciable volume of profits and additional retained earnings.

During the last 5-year plan, efforts were intensified to bring about technological development, introduction of technical progress, and modernization of gas extraction and transmission facilities. An effort was made in particular to increase yields, improve operating safety, and lower consumption. New facilities embodying the most advanced technology were built. They include an automated modular extraction facility, a facility for removing impurities from gas and gas preheating, a furnace for direct heating of process gas at gas dehydration stations, several types of pressure regulators and pneumohydraulic valves for gas transport, a number of elements for automation of production fields, and so forth.

The methane gas industry produces plants, apparatus, and gas utilization devices for a large number of economic units. High-efficiency burners for processes and furnaces in the machinebuilding industry, petrochemistry, and the glass, ceramics, cement, and other industries have been designed and produced with the assistance of the Methane Gas Research and Development Center in Medias and the mechanical enterprise under the central.

About 70 percent of the gas utilization apparatus was upgraded at the mechanical enterprise over the 1981-1985 period, with more than 200 standard-size items designed and produced. The production of subassemblies and spare parts needed especially for compression units has been greatly expanded. Cooperation has been established for this purpose with major specialized units in the machinebuilding industry. Most of the spare parts and subassemblies needed have been developed in this way, and significant savings of foreign exchange have also been achieved.

Efforts to increase the productivity of wells have been intensified over this period, through adoption and application of improved technologies, to stimulate gas inflow and assure rational use of deposit energy. Gas quality has been improved by activating a large number of improved plants for removal of impurities from gas.

New underground areas have also been developed for storage of gas in the vicinity of major centers, and significant gas compression facilities have been created to ensure the necessary flow rates to consumers situated great distances from the points of production.

The entire technological production, transmission, and distribution system has an integrated organization allowing the system to be adapted promptly and flexibly to wide variations in consumption. This permits uninterrupted delivery of gas even in the event of malfunctions or other emergencies.

The entire system is managed by special departments of the Central and other specialized units and by the National Gas Dispatcher Control Center in Bucharest, which adapts the capabilities of the production and transmission

potential as a whole to the consumption needs of the national economy. Modern computer and data processing resources are used increasingly in the information-decision making process, by means of the Central's own information system, its computer department, and the data processing units of the enterprises.

To improve personnel living and working conditions, a large number of housing developments and other facilities have been built throughout the years at the centers at which the personnel are employed, such as Medias, Tirgu Mures, Brasov, Danes, Balauseri, and other localities. A large amount of mechanical equipment has been purchased and produced to reduce the physical exertion required in labor-intensive operating processes. A large amount of funds was invested during the 1981-1985 5-year plan to improve safety engineering and labor safety conditions, 55 percent more than during the preceding 5-year plan.

A significant number of skilled personnel for all departments of the Central has been trained each year by the Central's school group and by other forms of training. Persons with intermediate and higher education have taken advanced training courses. In recent years, almost 50 percent of the personnel in the methane gas industry have taken qualification or advanced training courses.

Because of the good results achieved in carrying out their tasks, each year several units of the Central have won prominent places in the socialist competition organized for the country as a whole. In 1985, for example, the Medias natural gas production well was declared the foremost in production sector socialist competition, and the Tirgu Mures natural gas production well took second place.

The 13th Party Congress decided that during the 8th 5-year plan emphasis would be placed in economic activities on development of energy and raw materials resources, this being a condition of decisive importance for progress of the entire national economy. The congress also determined that firm action is to be taken to reduce the consumption of energy and materials per unit product. The Methane Gas Central is applying all its development and production resources to carry out these tasks.

Geological research will be continued with greater intensity over the 1986-1990 period to identify new gas-bearing structures and deposits in all prospecting areas. Operations will be greatly stepped up in the areas outside the Carpathians and very deep wells will be sunk in the Transylvanian Basin.

In keeping with suggestions by the party secretary general, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, all areas will be explored, including those with a low hydrocarbon potential. The older structures will be re-analyzed for this purpose, with the aim of discovering new gas-bearing strata.

In the area of production, the volume for this 5-year plan has been established in the context of conservation of resources, that is, conservation of available reserves for a longer period. Production facilities will nevertheless be expanded, that is, wells and especially compressor stations, so

as to provide for peak consumption during cold periods and to keep production potential at a high level.

The principal production facilities will be developed as described in what follows.

New underground gas storage deposits will be created in the vicinity of major consumption centers, the potential available during periods of lower consumption being used for this purpose.

During the 1986-1990 5-year plan the methane gas industry will place special emphasis on the qualitative aspect in all activities. Effort will be concentrated on solving the problems associated with sensible management of resources, including reduction of consumption and expenditure of resources in all forms.

In drilling activities, particular attention will be devoted to the problems associated with improving well construction and cementing technology. Expanding cement will be used to ensure better insulation of strata, and the quality of cementing operations, acoustic logging, and other exploratory operations will be monitored more closely.

The use of drilling fluids with a low content of solids and of low specific gravity, as well as other special fluids exerting the smallest possible influence on the physical parameters of collectors, will be greatly expanded.

In extraction operations, borehole bottom equipment and surface equipment for gas wells and processing and collection pipelines will be improved and modernized to reduce primary energy consumption, increase the degree of utilization of deposit energy, and keep well production at a high level. The system of dual working of gas deposits will be extended. Under this system, two installations are in operation at a single well, equipment with one row and with two rows of draw pipes being used. The technologies of evacuating water from gas wells by means of foaming agents, other chemical substances, or by other methods adapted to well extraction and equipment conditions will be developed and diversified.

Improved plants for separation and collection of deposit water and condensate will be produced and placed in service to improve the quality of gas.

A large number of stations with gas-operated motor-driven compressors, which the Romanian machinebuilding industry is to produce in the very near future, will be developed and activated during the new 5-year plan.

The pace of replacement of old pipelines will be intensified in gas transmission and distribution activities, and better plants for separation and retention of impurities will be installed. The networks and other distribution facilities will be modernized to reduce pressure losses, ensure a uniform pressure level over the entire network, and increase reliability of operation.

To lower gas consumption by units in the economy, the Methane Gas Central, in cooperation with the Methane Gas Research and Development Center in

Medias, will step up efforts to develop improved equipment and devices for utilization of gas. Priority will be given to development of heat-recovery gas burners with the aim of eliminating the use of cold air in combustion processes. Starting in 1986, the mechanical enterprise under the Central

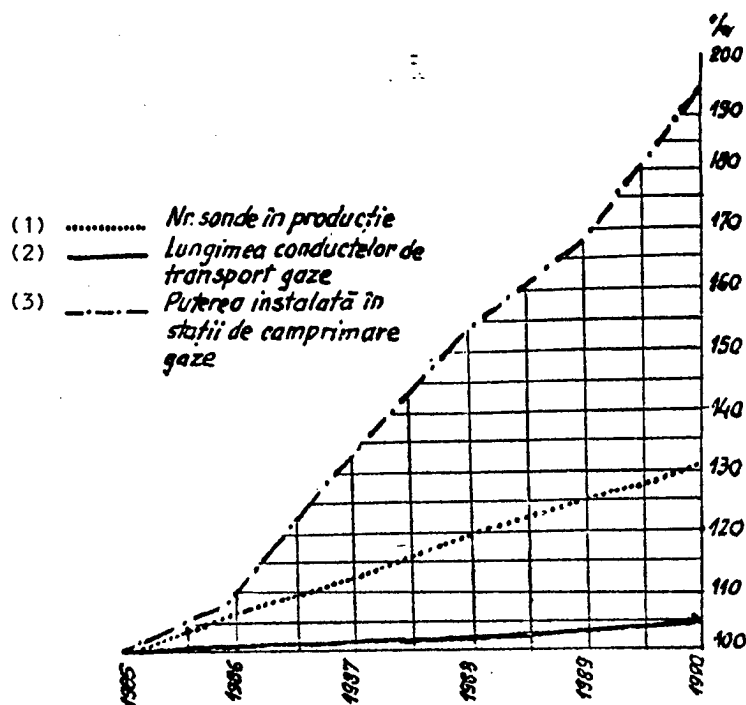


Figure 5. Development of principal methane gas industry production facilities over the 1986-1990 period.

Key:

1. Number of wells in production
2. Length of gas transmission pipelines
3. Installed capacity of gas compressor stations

will start up manufacture of a self-sustaining combustion plant with recuperator, with ceramic balls, intended for metal-heating furnaces (for heat treatment, foundries, etc). This plant, which has proved itself to be highly efficient, was designed and approved by the Integrated Heavy Equipment Enterprise in Jassy. We believe that its use on a larger scale would result in significant savings of natural gas.

These efforts will be paralleled by intensification of activities toward improvement in organization to increase the reliability of operation of installations, ongoing improvement in personnel working and living conditions, prevention of accidents, and improvement of skills and advanced training of personnel in all activities.

Particular importance will be attached to the problems associated with increasing labor productivity. For this purpose, effort will be applied toward development of centralized installations, modernization, automation, etc.

The personnel of the methane gas industry, in meeting the demands imposed by the tasks assigned by the party and state leadership, will act resolutely to provide the natural gas needed by the national economy, at the levels established, and to ensure rational use of this important natural resource of Romania.

6115

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ROMANIAN ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS AT BUCHAREST FAIR

Bucharest REVISTA ECONOMICA in Romanian No 42, 17 Oct 86 pp 9, 16

[Article by Anghel Stan, director general of ICE Electronum, Bucharest: "The Romanian Electronic Industry"]

[Text] We begin the presentation of Romania's exportation program at the 1986 Bucharest International Fair (TIB '86), with a prominent enterprise in the foreign trade of electronic products, the Bucharest foreign trade firm ICE Electronum, one of the largest of its kind in Europe. Electronum's TIB '86 stands exhibit more than 40 enterprises which produce computer and information processing services and equipment (hardware, software, system analysis, integrated information systems), industrial electronics for household use, communications equipment, medical electronics, and electronic components, as well as six institutes for scientific research and technical engineering, and service and construction-installation enterprises.

A simple mention of the units located at the Bucharest electronic industry booth, beginning with the Industrial Central for Electronics and Automation, the Institute for Computer Technology and Information Processing, the Design Institute for Automation and Telecommunications (IPA), the Electronica enterprise, the Computer Enterprise, the Television Recorder Enterprise, the Automatica enterprise, the Romcontrol-Data Company, the Peripheral Equipment Enterprise, the Conect enterprise, the Automation Components Enterprise, the Enterprise for Electronic Measurement Instruments, the Service Enterprise (IIRUC), and others, would provide a conclusive picture of the development of this branch in Romania's industry during the past two decades.

At the stands of each of these electronic sub-branches we will encounter interests and achievements of international priority. The Bucharest Computer Enterprise for instance, will present the Fellas equipment family, designed for data transmission through optical fibers, the Bucharest Microelectronics Enterprise will show Romania's microprocessors, with a broad range of applications in different areas of advanced technology, the Automation Components Enterprise, with electronic automation devices for slow processes (SRA), analog control systems (electronic detectors and adapters, signaling devices, indicators and recorders, secondary equipment,

auxiliary electronic equipment, specialized regulators), and the list could go on.

The expansion of the electronics industry in our country as throughout the world, was necessary given the desire to restructure industry and to improve and modernize production processes, a concern intensified in all industrial countries during the 1980's by the need to reduce dependence on the importation of raw materials and energy.

In Romania, the past 20 years have seen a more than 60-fold growth in the production of automation facilities and equipment for electronic and electromechanical computation. Between 1965 and 1985, the production of computers units (equivalent to 128 Kb computers) increased from 37 to 300. The upgrading process in that industry is very rapid. During the current five-year plan, the renewal of products is expected to be 95 percent in the industrial electronics field, 75 percent for electronic measurement and control instruments, and 91 percent for computer technology. The Directives of the 13th Party Congress provide that the electronic industry will penetrate massively in all economic and social activities, being oriented primarily toward the production of electronic components, automation facilities, as well as industrial and professional electronic equipment. In the area of computer facilities, production growth will occur mostly through the assimilation of new minicomputers and microcomputers for industrial process control, and through advanced types of peripheral equipment.

Romania's electronics exportation has grown at the same rate as its production; it includes several large groups of products such as: electronic equipment and instruments for telecommunications, as well as automation equipment, installations, and devices for the most diverse areas of the economy and computer technology. Among the first group are automatic telephone exchanges for local and long distance service, exported to Algeria, Greece, USSR, Czechoslovakia, and GDR. Also in great demand are electronic telephone exchanges entirely designed in Romania and recently introduced on the market. Two high performance telephone sets, Bucur and Ioana, have been built for home use; they are based on printed circuit technology for high fidelity voice service, are easy to install and maintain, and are available with dial or push-button operation. Also offered for exportation are CL-52 telephone line concentrators which bring great savings to the telephone network by reducing the number of connection circuits. This microprocessor-based electronic concentrator acts in a service area as a terminal for the telephone exchange, selecting concurrently up to 12 of 52 subscribers connected to the network. These devices are built by the Electromagnetica enterprise in Bucharest, which carries out an extensive exportation activity. Another remarkable achievement in communications is the ultra-shortwave radio transmitter-receiver for short and intermediate distances (8-53 km), produced by the Bucharest Industrial Electronics Enterprise. It can be used in agriculture, at construction sites, in geological prospecting, for traffic control, and so on; portable, lightweight, fabricated with professional components, it can transmit at 2500 different working frequencies. Also among the leading achievements of scientific research in the area of

electronic communications is the marine equipment, and that used for traffic management along the Danube-Black Sea Canal.

The second group of electronic equipment--for automation--is represented by the NUMEROM family for programming machine-tools, the ECAROM systems for monitoring industrial processes, the THETAROM equipment line for testing and research, and the TELEROM family for data transmission. One example of the new equipment for machine-tool control is the SPL-400 positioning and linear processing system, with a broad range of applications in the machine-tool field; it can control simultaneous positioning and sequential processing on three axes, constantly displaying the processing phase and possible errors, and it can define up to 99 programs at three levels. This equipment is installed on high performance Romanian machine-tools such as the FV-40 TNC vertical mill manufactured by the Cugir Mechanical Plant, but is also offered separately for exportation. In the ECAROM family, we find the SRAECAROM system produced by the Bucharest Enterprise for Automation Devices, designed to automate fabrication processes in the cement, construction materials, and chemical industries, to control electric power networks, metallurgical processes, and for research.

Among the recent achievement of the Automatica enterprise in Bucharest, is the family of programmable automation devices used for machine-tools, robots, sequential processes in machine construction, chemistry, and metallurgy. The performance of the programmable automation device AP-201 for instance, matches that of the most advanced products in the world, being already exported to India, Iraq, and GDR. The Automatica enterprise has also built the programmable automation device A. P. MICRO, intended to control easily programmable sequential processes (transformer lines, injection machines, electroplating, pumping stations, machine-tools) of low complexity, with simple interfaces; it is an economical alternative for more sophisticated equipment with identical functions. Among the THETAROM testing equipment is a recent achievement of the Cluj-Napoca subsidiary of the Institute for Automation Design, the automatic integrated circuit tester THETAROM FD 5055. Operating in conjunction with the Romanian microcomputer FELIX M-18 B, it is used in the electronic industry and in research to test both digital and analog integrated circuits. The range of automation devices is of course much more extensive, including "dedicated" equipment to control and manage oil fields, meteorological observations, and so on. This same institute has recently built the THETAROM-4010 for the automatic testing of electronic components.

In the area of testing and research equipment we find the multifunctional electronic laboratories (LE-01) of the Timisoara Enterprise for Electronic Measurement Instruments. Of modular construction (flats), these laboratories can perform over 20 functions such as component measurements, diode characteristic analyses, testing, filtering, voltage regulation, frequency modulation, oscillator circuits, amplification, oscillators, pulse circuits, electrical relays, logic circuits, integrated circuits, thyristors, time generators, and so on. The range of equipment designed for remote data transmission includes modern display terminals such as TELEROM 3V1, which can be used to read data banks, as well as for

synchronous and asynchronous data transmission from computers; it can accept as many as 16 display (DAF-1002) or printing stations.

Together with small production and high performance products, the Institute for Scientific Research and Technological Engineering in Automation also exports engineering services such as engineering, design of industrial automation systems, design of systems based on process computers, remote processing systems, applications software, technical assistance for system implementation, user instruction, custom production, and so on. Some of the contracts it has completed are: delivery of automatic testing equipment to GDR, a control system for a cable plant in France, greenhouse automation for the Chinese People's Republic, systems for automatic control and monitoring in cement plants built by Romanian exporters in the Chinese People's Republic, Iraq, Syria, and Pakistan, irrigation automation systems in Iraq and Lybia, and automation for thermal power plants in Turkey and GDR. More recently, it has undertaken capital repairs of electric power plants built by various firms on third markets.

The third group of electronic products--computer technology--is in the process of thorough upgrading and growth. During the current five-year plan, the value of computer technology production will double as it diversifies, particularly in the area of systems based on microcomputers and minicomputers "dedicated" to the processes they control. Among the remarkable achievements of the Bucharest Computer Enterprise are the Independent minicomputers of the 3.5-4 generation. FELIX I-102 for instance, is considered as the highest performance central unit produced so far by the enterprise. Used in research with FORTRAN programs, FELIX I-102 is 20 times as fast as its I-100 predecessor. The possibility of its adaptation to specific industrial process managements is heightened both by its hardware design and by its capability to write and use specific programs in advanced languages. Another family of minicomputers well received on the international market is the FELIX M 4000-CORAL, with multiple utilizations in industrial process management, machine-tool and industrial robot control, data transmission, medicine, research, and education.

The M 4001 CORAL, the smallest member of the family, has a 64 Kb memory and a speed of 350,000 operations per second; the M 4011-CORAL, with managed memory, has two operating types and a speed of 600,000 operations per second; the M 4030-CORAL can expand its memory to 4096 Kb, and can be used with several operating systems and programming languages.

The production of peripherals was developed together with that of (central) computer equipment. For instance, management and control systems for industrial processes in the machine building industry, chemistry, and metallurgy, which must record high-speed data, can use data collection equipment based on the Independent minicomputers. The joint production and sales company Romcontrol Data in Bucharest, founded 12 years ago by the Bucharest Industrial Central for Electronics and Automation together with the American firm Control Data Corporation, currently produces four types of peripherals: high-speed printers, matrix printers, magnetic discs, and magnetic tapes. The technical quality specifications of these products are

equal in all respects to those of Control Data Corporation; in fact, most (70-80 percent) of the company's exports, which represent about 50 percent of the production volume, are carried out through the distribution network of its American partner. The fact that part of the terminals exported by Romcontrol Data are incorporated (as original equipment manufacturer) into the computer systems of such companies as Honeywell Bull and CII in France, Siemens in FRG, and ICL in England, is a clear testimony to the quality of these products.

The four versions of the DAF 2015 interactive terminals can also be found in various branches: machine building, transportation and telecommunications, the light industry, education, and public information.

Along with the exportation of hardware, the Institute for Computer Technology and Information Processing (ITCI), the major supporter of computer technology in Romania, is writing software--programs and program packages--for foreign users, to meet their concrete utilization requirements. Some examples are ISOLDA, an interactive graphic design system for the machine building industry; PIX, a system for interactive design of printed circuits; ARTIS, a package of "dedicated" programs for computer-aided architectural design.

ITCI has now undertaken the design and exportation of production-management, programming, and control systems using process computers, thus expanding its activities to the full range of software. It is now concerned with diversifying and upgrading microelectronics production by producing the first Romanian personal computers, implementing Romanian inventions in medical electronic instruments, diversifying the production of custom integrated circuits, as well as working on digital electronic automobile devices and computer networks. For the next five-year plan, the Romanian electronic industry expects to make a growing contribution to the implementation of electronic control and management systems on Romanian tractors and motor vehicles, and to maritime radiocommunications; it will create remote transmission computer networks, develop automatic monitoring at oil fields, mines, and geological and meteorological stations, expand the production of medical instruments (biothermal analyzer, electronograph, and anesthesia and respiratory equipment), and increase the range of electronic consumer goods offered to the population.

The inspection of products exhibited by Electronum at TIB '86 will give visitors a more complete picture of the performance of this advanced branch in Romania's industry.

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PLANS TO DEVELOP TOURISM IN DANUBE DELTA ZONE

Bucharest REVISTA ECONOMICA in Romanian No 42, 17 Oct 86 pp 23-35

[Article by Dr Marin Nitu: "Prospects for Tourism Development in the Danube Delta"]

[Text] Tulcea County graciously combines nearly all the land features encountered in our country: the Macinului mountains, the oldest in Europe; the magnificent Danube Delta, the newest land in the country, still under formation; hills and flatlands, shady woods, famous vineyards such as Babadag and Niculitel; and the delta coastline on the Black Sea, with the large Perisor, Portita, Sf. Gheorghe, and Sulina beaches. This natural setting, together with many historical monuments, most of them dating back to Roman times, economic and sociocultural objectives built mainly during the past 21 years, as well as the warm hospitality of the people, endow Tulcea County with an enormous tourism potential. The main touristic zone in this geographic array is the Danube Delta, which stands out due to its original and beautiful landscape, and to its flora and fauna; it is one of the largest deltas in Europe, and at the same time one of the most natural, spectacular, and rich deltas in the world.

Of outstanding importance for developing tourism in the area is to maintain the ecologic balance of the Danube Delta. Three large natural reservations (Rosca-Buhaieva-Hrecisca, Perisor-Zatoane, and Periteasca-Leahova-Portita) have been defined for this purpose: they cover 33,500 hectares of land and water intended to safeguard characteristic environments of zoological, botanical, geologic, and limnologic interest; three scientific reservations (in the Caraorman, Erenciuc, and Letea forests) covering 1980 hectares of land for specialized scientific research and for safeguarding native genetic stock; natural monuments representing rare species of plants and animals over an area of 1090 hectares; and migratory bird refuges for nesting and rest, covering an area of 5930 hectares.

Natural reservations, scientific reservations, natural monuments, as well as nesting and rest refuges over an area of 41,500 hectares (9.4 percent) of the Danube Delta area, have been defined in its three biotypes: the river delta, the maritime delta, and the pond complex (Razelm-Sinoe).

The specific nature of tourism in the delta requires the development of an adequate material base. It should be stated from the start that compared to other touristic areas of the country, the Danube Delta, despite its outstanding merits, has lagged in terms of tourism facilities. This is made evident even by examining the means of access to the area, which are still few and insufficiently accessible, not only for tourism, but for economic development as well. In this respect the planned construction of a bridge over the Danube in the Braila-Macin area, and of a Braila-Tulcea railway, would be welcome.

In order to most efficiently exploit the Danube Delta's tourism potential by increasing traffic into its interior, it appears necessary to intensify efforts to produce and supply to tourism organizations specific, modern means of low-pollution transportation, such as hydrobuses, floating hotels, floating houses, boats with sleeping facilities, fast motorboats, rowboats and other recreational boats, all of which would assure diversified travel facilities for tourists; to create tourism harbors in the localities Independenta and Unirea, and provide piers and floating wharfs for ships at all localities and touristic sites; to maintain channels, streams, and lakes so that they are accessible to river transportation facilities at all scenic locations, and install signs and indicators for orientation and navigation. At the same time, after building the modern roads Tulcea-1 Mai-Chilia Veche, and Tulcea-Sulina as a function of the development of socioeconomic and tourism activities, it appears necessary to build the modern roads Sulina-Letea-Periprava, Sulina-Sf. Gheorghe-Perisor, and Portita-Chitur-Navodari, giving access to these magnificent areas, which are still too little known and utilized despite their high tourism potential. The urgency of this problem is heightened by the work being carried out to consolidate the shoreline belt in the Nord Midia-Sulina area, which will considerably reduce investment sums due to the construction of roadway dikes.

Relatively easier to achieve and, we believe, with lower investments, but at the same time extremely attractive for tourists, would be the creation of a seaway connection between localities on the Constanta coast of the Black Sea (Constanta, Eforia, Mamaia, Mangalia, as well as the Sf. Gheorghe and Sulina localities), which could thus become important points of entry into the delta; Black Sea cruises could be organized, combined with visits to the delta. This would have the additional advantage of avoiding delta travel in two directions, that is, visits that enter through the sea gateway and end at Independenta, Tulcea, or Unirea, or those that move in the other direction, by organizing excursions combined with sea, river, automobile, or railway transportation. Through good correlation of transportation arrivals and departures, this system would allow the fullest utilization of transportation capabilities, while increasing the numbers of visitors--especially for short stays--without a correspondingly greater risk of damaging the ecological balance (by avoiding the current round trips through the actual delta).

Not to be overlooked are delta visits of one or several days, which can be organized for foreign visitors who spend their vacations in neighboring countries (USSR, Bulgaria, Turkey, Greece), sea cruise travellers landing

at Constanta and Sulina, Danube cruise guests landing at Tulcea or Sulina, as well as all the tourists who cross our country by bus as part of international trips; all of this would of course require an additional effort of tourism publicity.

At the same time, it becomes necessary that some localities in and bordering the Danube Delta--Crisan, Independenta, Maliuc, Sf. Gheorghe, Sulina, Unirea--be included in the classification of resort, tourism, and recreation localities. Residence tax would be different for Romanian and foreign tourists, and would be used by people's councils to maintain the localities. A fee would also be established for visiting natural and scientific reservations, as well as natural monuments. The money collected would be used by the Romanian Academy and by the Commission for the Protection of Natural Monuments to maintain, equip, and guard these reservations.

Extremely important for a unified management of tourism activities in this area would be the formation of a Danube Delta enterprise for tourism, hotels, and restaurants, whose objective would be tourism, as well as sport fishing and hunting. The proposed measures would assure year-round employment of the seasonal personnel working in public housing and food service, by transferring them to other sectors in the delta, such as maintenance of touristic routes, and by including into tourism representative locations in the area--fishing grounds, fishing cabins, and so on--and what is very important, establishing tourism campgrounds in all localities in the delta.

The natural features of the delta have generated forms of tourism specific to this area. As part of organizing tourism in the Danube Delta, and considering the major reasons for tourism, the development of the technical and material base and the need to increase economic efficiency while retaining the delta's ecologic balance, we believe that the forms of tourism offered by this area must be organized primarily around the following:

1. Sightseeing as a major form of tourism, by means of which visitors can in a relatively short time experience the beauty of the delta, and get to know the places and people of the area, their history and their customs. Short trips would be organized to visit the delta (one or several days) for Romanian and foreign tourists vacationing at the Constanta seashore resorts or along the delta coastline on the Black Sea, or those who come to Tulcea by various means of transportation; some of these trips might be:

- a) Day trips which in addition to the Danube Delta museum in Tulcea, will include boat visits on canals, lakes, scenic locations and localities, so as to offer a picture of this entirely original way of life;

- b) One- or two-day trips to visit the delta, for Romanian and foreign tourists who go on Danube trips along the Vienna-Bratislava-Budapest-Belgrade-Iron Gates-Giurgiu-Cernavoda-Braila-Galati-Tulcea-Danube Delta route;

c) Two-day delta visits, with housing in the hotels Salcia in Maliuc, Iebada in Crisan, and Sulina in the town of Sulina, and obviously in others which will be built;

d) Delta visits of more than two days, for a more detailed knowledge of the area. Housing will be provided on cabin barges pulled by tugboats along the more scenic canals, lakes, locations, and localities of the delta;

e) Recreational plane and helicopter flights over the delta to offer an overall picture of the delta.

2) Recreational tourism can be organized in localities in the Danube Delta and along the delta coastline on the Black Sea; it is being increasingly requested by tourists for the natural conditions available in the area.

Tourists can be housed in existing hotels and at tourist campgrounds that can be created in appropriately zoned sections of localities in the Danube Delta and its surroundings, without requiring excessive investment funds. They will have areas for parking motor vehicles and trailers, and for erecting tents, and will be appropriately equipped; they will be located in appropriately zoned sections of non-agricultural localities, a matter which can be taken under consideration when establishing the zoning of each locality.

Tourist access will be provided by fast boats, and various boats can be rented from tourism organizations for navigation along canals, streams, and lakes. In practice, this form of tourism can be carried out in the delta's interior and surroundings, in the villages Caraorman, Crisan, Independenta, Maliuc, Mila 23, and Unirea, at the campground Pelicanul in Independenta, the Plaur hotel in Mahmudia, and the Albatros hotel in Unirea, as well as in the delta coastline on the Black Sea at Sulina, Sf. Gheorghe, and the Portita campground in Unirea.

The localities and locations along the delta coastline on the Black Sea offer tourists both sun and sea vacations and a leisurely visit of the delta, given the existence of vast beaches located near the most attractive areas of the delta.

It would be particularly enjoyable to organize in Tulcea a Lower Danube festival of delta celebrations, with extensive programs that would include folklore evenings, visits to historical locations, special topical programs such as "The World of Panait Istrati," "Through the Delta with Jules Verne," "Danube Trips of 100 Years Ago," and so on.

3) Health oriented tourism can be developed by exploiting the therapeutic properties of the sapropelic muds at Independenta, particularly indicated for chronic rheumatism. In the southern section, the village of Independenta is bounded by three salt lakes with an area of 75 ha, that contain deposits of black sapropelic muds with therapeutic properties; these muds are 45 cm thick in Saratura 1 lake, and 30 cm in Saratura 2, whose geological reserves have been estimated at about 18,000 cubic meters.

Saratura 1, with an average mineralization of 6.7 g/l is of interest as a therapy resort, with only open air, simple treatments being conducted at present. These treatments could become more comprehensive as the necessary facilities are built.

4) Sport tourism is one specific activity in the delta, and can be offered by organizing water sports, as well as hunting and fishing parties, as follows:

a) Water sports make it possible to learn more about the area, but require that tourists be well prepared for visiting the delta in small boats. One or several day group-trips could be organized, housing being available primarily in the localities Caraorman, Crisan, Independenta, Maliuc, Sf. Gheorghe, Sulina, and Unirea, as well as at the campgrounds Portita and Rosu. As these activities become more extensive, other fixed or mobile locations can be established along touristic routes;

b) Sport fishing prompted by the delta's rich fish life can be organized along the Danube's arms, in natural ponds, and on the Black Sea. Existing means of transportation and housing, which are constantly improving, can be used for this form of tourism. A significant contribution to the development of sports fishing can be made by providing cabin barges with greater comfort, building fishing platforms, particularly near housing locations, establishing rental locations for fishing equipment, boats, and so on;

c) Sport hunting can be organized around hunting facilities at Caraorman, Cardon, Crisan, Gorgova, Ilgani, Mila 23, Razelm, Sulina, and Uzlina, where birds and wild game can be hunted in the spring, fall, and winter, thus also using the delta's touristic accommodations beyond their major season.

To develop sports tourism, domestic and international competitions could be organized for kayaks and canoes, fishing and swimming, summer camps for foreign students and sports enthusiasts, as well as training camps in the sea sector of the delta.

5. Technico-scientific tourism specializes in learning about the natural environment of the delta, especially in its natural and scientific reservations, and its natural monuments. To this end, research bases have been and are being developed, and conditions have been created to carry out national and international scientific endeavors. At the same time, observation points and towers have been and are being organized for specialists in hydrobiology, ornithology, ecology, ichthyology, and indigenous flora, or for nonprofessionals, so that they might discover the extremely varied fauna and flora of the area, and the migrating birds.

By its nature, the entire delta territory can play an important touristic function. For the time being however, a more intensive touristic activity is being conducted only in specific sectors, being determined by the number and speed of vessels used for day trips, the location of hotels and touristic localities, and by existing housing facilities.

In the future, tourism will extend over the entire delta, and especially over the maritime delta, as the area is fully improved and used, and especially as agriculture and fish farming are developed in the river delta, given the existence of natural and scientific reservations, natural monuments, as well as nesting and resting areas for migratory birds. In the upcoming period, we believe that tourism in the Danube Delta should be oriented primarily in the following sectors:

1. In the Maliuc rest and recreation sector, located north of the Sulina arm, the largest tourist housing and travel centers are the localities Tulcea and Maliuc. The area offers intensive touristic activities as a result of its natural scenic environment, the existence of natural lakes such as Fortuna, and of canals that are always open (Mila 36, Sireasa, Sontea) to allow unimpeded tourism traffic throughout the year. Since it is very close to Tulcea, the area can be visited by means of short trips organized for Romanian and foreign tourists vacationing on the Constanta coast of the Black Sea.
2. In the Crisan rest and recreation sector, also located north of the Sulina arm, the largest tourist housing and travel centers are the localities Crisan, Mila 23, and Sulina. This sector is of great touristic interest due to its scenic natural environment, and especially to the scientific value of its existing biotypes, particularly in the Matita-Merhei area at the southern end of the natural reservation Rosca-Buhaiova-Hrecisca, and the scientific reservation Ietea.
3. The Rosu rest and recreation sector, located on the eastern portion of the delta, between the Sulina and Sf. Gheorghe arms, includes a scenic area with special characteristics created to a large extent by the lakes Lumina, Puiu, Puiulet, Rosu, and Rosulet, and by the scientific reservation Caraorman. Its position within the delta is heightened by the organization of one or several day trips, and by nautical tourism.
4. In the Independenta rest and recreation sector, located between the Sulina and Sf. Gheorghe arms, the major tourist travel localities are Crisan and Independenta. The area includes a very attractive zone with extremely good conditions due to the existence of the canals Crisan, Ceamurlia, Litcov, Perivolovca, the lakes Isacova and Uzlina, and the Sf. Gheorghe arm of the river.
5. In the Unirea rest and recreation sector, located south of the Sf. Gheorghe arm, the tourist travel locality is Unirea. It is of special touristic interest due to the beauty of its landscape and especially of Lake Razelm, the large number and variety of birds, and the closeness to the natural reservations Perisor-Zatoane and Perivolovca-Leahova-Portita.

Together with the development of tourism in these sectors, great attention must be devoted to include into tourism facilities the huge beaches of the delta coastline on the Black Sea, which are still underutilized.

Starting with the motivation and concept of tourism development in the Danube Delta, it is estimated that in 1990 the delta could be visited by

about 330,000 to 340,000 tourists, compared to 45,000 in 1970 and 262,000 in 1980. Of these, it is estimated that 67-70 percent will take part in one- or two-day trips, and 30-33 percent in other forms of tourism.

But we continue to believe that tourism activities and publicity must be oriented toward the other forms mentioned here, which without leading to an excessive increase in tourism traffic, will significantly increase the economic efficiency of this activity. Arguing in its favor is the fact that many tourists who have first participated in short trips have afterwards demonstrated interest in longer stays with more comprehensive programs. The diversification of recreational forms, and improvements in the quality of services, are definite premises for increasing the economic efficiency and for better utilization of the immense touristic potential available in the Danube Delta.

11,023

CSO: 2700/83

TRAINING AT BORDER TROOP OFFICERS' COLLEGE DETAILED

East Berlin AR-ARMEERUNDSCHAU in German No 11, Nov 86 (signed to press 22 Sep 86)
pp 40-45

[Article by Lt Col Horst Spickereit: "Suhl Station"]

[Text] Traveling south from Suhl, one comes across an extensive grouping of light-colored buildings, several stories high, surrounded by the green expanse of the Thuringian forest--a study in contrasts. Up here on top of the Friedberg, at an altitude of 500 meters, 18-to 23-years olds are engaged in a 4-year course of study leading to their future career. This institution, the Border Troop Officers' College, trains the future political officers and commanders of the border units. Upon graduation they are awarded the academic degree of graduate engineering instructor or graduate social scientist, and the rank of lieutenant.

Steffen Neumann, one of the officer candidates will graduate in the summer of 1987. "For me, the incentive to become a border officer lies in the promise of assuming political responsibilities in the future," he says. "To be stationed at our state border, and to preserve the inviolability of our republic and the peace, requires certain attitudes, sometimes considerable skill, and the ability to make quick decisions. It is interesting, sometimes strenuous duty. I am looking forward to it." His father, a lathe operator, had counseled him that as long as this was his chosen occupation, he should make the best of it and drive for the top.

Steffen Neumann has heeded this advice. His grades average between A and B. He is trying hard to qualify for the overall evaluation of "excellent" at the end of his studies. As happens to almost all officer candidates, he had some difficulty in adapting to military life and to the highly structured military college service. But he managed to overcome many an obstacle through sheer willpower. To perform excellently, to win the inter platoon and inter company titles, to achieve consistency in their proficiency--that is what soldiering is all about for Steffen and his comrades. That will be their contribution toward securing the peace. Having been a squad leader in his first year at school and assistant platoon leader in his second, he was made a platoon leader in his third. These positions will serve to develop his leadership and teaching capabilities. "I like the college and its wide-ranging curriculum. One learns a lot and has a feeling for one's personal

development. A large part of the credit for this goes to the instructors, who are selflessly supportive. We students appreciate the way we are shown the way toward exercising responsibility and toward displaying initiative, for example in the way we determine our self-study program by ourselves."

The future officers must pass through a most comprehensive program: social science; border tactical and border technological training; the basics of engineering; together with instruction in mathematics, the natural sciences, and foreign languages. All this is divided into 23 study areas or college departments. They provide instruction in military education, international and national law, electricity and electronics, nuclear physics, optical electronics, thermodynamics, motor transport service, etc.

Naturally, the students' knowledge and proficiency is subject to constant testing, and they must take oral and written examinations. Steffen Neumann has counted them: There is a total of 25 examinations during the 4 years of study. The paramount event in this respect is the final examination given during the eighth semester, in the final year. A specified subject must be treated in writing with scientific care and defended orally. Steffen has already selected his thesis topic from among the available subjects: "Psychological Problems in Judging People."

The college has more than 30 classrooms, study rooms and laboratories with modern equipment. They are available to the officer candidates not only for their obligatory instruction, but also to the members of the two dozen science clubs. These are groups of highly motivated students who look for advanced training in certain areas. In this way they are not merely pursuing optional studies, but actually create new training materials for the specialized training facilities concerned. The names of some of these clubs are: Border Reconnaissance, Border Tactics, Automatic Controls, and Fire Training. The library facilities are also in great demand, because the comrades may choose from among roughly 70,000 volumes here.

Research and teaching under realistic conditions are mandatory for any institution of higher learning. In Suhl, the resources for this are the officers and warrant officers who have had many years of experience at the border and who now serve as instructors. They work together with civilian college professors who are experts in the areas of the natural sciences, engineering, and foreign languages. An important aspect of their efforts is research into more effective teaching methods and resources so as to provide even more intensive training. The Border Security Department, for instance, has recently developed a computer-aided terrain model for use in variable situation training. The Basic Mathematics and Science Department has made progress in infrared photography.

But all this scientific progress is no substitute for hard work on the part of the students. Some people have an easier time absorbing knowledge than others. What happens to those who are in danger of falling by the wayside?

The Free German Youth (FDJ) members have found a solution for this. They have established study groups in the companies. "These are groups in which one or two comrades who are strong in a particular subject help those who have

problems," reports Steffen Neumann. "They operate mainly during the afternoon and evening. These groups are especially active prior to examinations. This has been quite worthwhile, as the good test results show."

This is not the only area in which the FDJ is active. It works to promote off-duty cultural activities as well. The uniformed students like to attend concerts and plays in the district capital or in the "Border Troop House," an attractive club building near their duty station. The FDJ has also arranged for sponsorships with schools and commercial enterprises in Suhl to bring the young people together and to allow them to make joint plans for educational and recreational activities. Steffen's company, for instance, found friends in Suhl's "Fritz Goehlert" youth club, with whom they get together in scientific activities as well as in discotheques.

This covers only a small part of the activities available to the officer candidates in their off-duty hours. In addition, there are 11 sport sections at the school, five soldiers' choirs, 10 song groups, three cabaret groups, as well as photo and movie clubs. The choir of Company 11, Steffen's company, has been designated as "upper class."

Much is being done at the top of the Friedberg, high above Suhl, to provide the future border officers with excellent professional, cultural, and intellectual tools.

Chronology:

1 February 1951: Opening of the central school of the German Border Guards in Sonderhausen.

June 1958: The institution is moved to Gloewen.

2 December 1963: Establishment of the GDR Border Guards' Officers' School in Plauen.

1 March 1964: The school receives its battle flag and the honorary designation "Rosa Luxemburg."

25 February 1971: College status awarded.

6 February 1974: Awarded the Golden Patriotic Order of Merit.

12 August 1977: Awarded the Arthur Becker Honor Flag by the FDJ.

4 May 1982: Authority granted to award diplomas.

27 October 1982: Visit by a delegation of Romanian border guards.

2 July 1983: Visit by the defense minister of the People's Republic of Laos.

1 September 1983: Start of the 4-year curriculum with diploma.

5 September 1984: Start of teaching operations in Suhl.

27 November 1984: Visit by the head of the USSR Border Troops.

1 December 1984: Awarded Scharnhorst Order.

22 October 1985: Visit by the minister for national defense of Afghanistan.

11 March 1986: Visit by the head of the CSSR Border Troops.

9273/12951

CSO: 2300/114

GDR'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SKETCHED

Munich SUEDEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 6-7 Dec 86 p 11

[Article by Albrecht Hinze datelined Berlin/GDR in Dec: "International Solidarity: Emphasis on Training Specialists from the Third World"]

[Text] Although the official political jargon of the GDR does not contain the word "foreign aid" because it apparently connotes condescension and arrogance, foreign aid does exist under the name "international solidarity". When Erich Honecker enumerated the basic foreign policy issues of the GDR at the SED's party congress in April, he mentioned "an active anti-imperialist solidarity with all those peoples who are fighting for their national and social liberation, the development of an equitable relationship with all liberated countries, and support for their struggle for a new international economic order based on equality". But in the GDR's accounts of money, materiel, and personnel sent to Third World countries, its language comes close to customary international terminology. Hence, the title of the GDR's government report to the United Nations, which has appeared every year since 1982, reads: "GDR Support for Developing Countries and National Liberation Movements." Even though these reports are rather sketchy and ambivalent, they are quite informative.

According to the latest report, "bi and multi-laterally extended material and financial aid" has cost the GDR slightly more than DM2 billion or 0.86 percent of its produced national income, as the GDR calls its national product. It remains unclear, however, what these numbers mean. Are they referring to the gross or the net national product, to promised or already rendered services? Do they include development loans at favorable interest rates or interest-free contributions with a possibility of currency convertibility? And what about military aid? Furthermore, it remains unclear under what considerations money and materiel is distributed among different regions and countries and for what purposes.

It stands to reason that the percentage quoted in terms of national product is intended to show that the GDR has overshot the target set by the UN for Third World developmental aid by industrial countries. The target is 0.7 percent of a country's gross national product. If this is indeed the GDR's intention, it is not working. The socialist national product omits a whole range of services labelled unproductive, which are, however, included in the capitalist

gross national product. This is the reason why the calculation base for the GDR's percentage is lower than for the FRG's. Apart from all these reservations though, GDR expenditures on foreign aid have continuously risen by almost DM100 of 200 million yearly from DM1.5 billion in 1981--or 0.78 percent of its national output--to the present DM2 billion or 0.86 percent.

The GDR report to the UN emphasizes seven aspects vital for aiding developing nations and national liberation movements. Some key points are: development of the industrial, agricultural, and scientific-technical potential; cooperation in designing economic and social government plans, support for the creation of state and cooperative sectors in the economy, support for public education, professional training, continuing education, and the health sector as well as for immediate aid in case of natural disasters or other emergencies. According to findings by the German Institute for Economic Research which relies on sources from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the GDR concentrates its foreign aid essentially on those developing countries that belong to the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance. These include Cuba, Vietnam, and Mongolia as well as a few other socialist-oriented countries such as North Korea, Afghanistan, Laos, Cambodia, Yemen, Syria, Ethiopia, Angola, Mozambique, and Nicaragua. Supported national liberation movements include the Palestinian PLO, the Namibian SWAPO, and the South African ANC.

GDR data show that since 1970 about 80,000 foreigners have received specialized training in the GDR in the fields of industry, mining, agriculture, public education, and health. By 1985, about 8,000 of such "specialist cadres" had graduated from various education and training programs. At the beginning of 1986, a student body of 27,650 studied in the GDR. Also, during the last 15 years, 19,000 Third World students have studied at universities and specialized training institutes in the GDR. At present, this number is at 7,500. Most are enrolled in mechanical or electrical engineering, agricultural and economic science, civil engineering, teacher training and medicine. Last year's graduate count came to 2,126.

The GDR also reports that since 1970 it has sent to the Third World about 23,600 foreign aid experts, such as economists, engineers, teachers and vocational instructors as well as doctors and other medical personnel. At the beginning of 1985, 1,156 such experts worked abroad. Part of the GDR's foreign aid goes to support nursing care in GDR hospitals. A total of 6,400 patients have received care up to now; 1,244 alone during the last year. Disaster-related aid in 1985 amounted to DM100 million and went mostly to Ethiopia, but also to other, mainly African, countries. The report also lists courses, educational tours and internships which the GDR arranges in conjunction with organizations subordinated to the UN, such as the Industrial Development Organization UNIDO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization UNESCO, and the International Atomic Energy Agency IAEA. Topics included the extraction of raw materials, agriculture, environmental protection and radiation protection, tectonics, seismology and biotechnology.

The medical college "Dorothea Christiane Erxleben" near the regional hospital of Guedlinburg in the northern Vorharz is a very successful foreign aid

oriented operation and is used as a showcase by the GDR. The college is a training ground for mostly "paramedical cadres", such as nurses and nurse practitioners, medical-technical assistants, midwives, physical therapists and physicians' assistants (formerly known as field medics [Feldscher]). Of a total of 2,500 medical specialists who have received training in the GDR since 1961, about 1,650 have studied at Guedlinburg College. Of this number, 570 were physicians who received language training to continue their studies at universities. Each year, the GDR puts up about 10 million marks to fund this training program. Right now, the GDR is educating 380 physicians and 250 paramedical specialists, 429 of which are there because of intergovernmental agreements. The Free German Labor Union Federation (FDGB) and the Committee for Solidarity foot the bill for 150 of these students. The Committee for Solidarity raises funds by assisting the labor unions and by holding "Solidarity Bazaars," and by accepting contributions from other sources. This way, the Committee brings in about DM200 million yearly. Forty students pay their own way of about DM1,000 per month.

GDR trade with developing countries is a murky subject. GDR propaganda calls this trade "the cornerstone in the support intended for the effective creation and strengthening of the socio-economic infrastructure of developing countries." According to a UN report, the GDR's 1984 trade balance with developing countries came to 14.9 billion in foreign currency. This is about 8.6 percent of its total foreign trade. The Statistical Yearbook of the GDR, which follows its own nomenclature, quotes a little less than half this sum. For the year 1985, the yearbook cites 8.2 billion in foreign currency, whereas the GDR's report to the UN mentions no number for 1985, just as was the case for 1983. Then as now, the trade volume is not quoted in terms of export and import value.

At least the Ministry of Foreign Trade in East Berlin provides the information that the GDR has traditionally achieved an export surplus in its trade with developing countries. However, the columns of figures in the Statistical Yearbook contradict--at least quantitatively--the statement that the GDR's foreign trade balance with respect to developing countries is on a dynamic increase. At the beginning of the eighties, Third World trade showed a strong upsurge, but since then it has stagnated more or less at about 8 billion marks in foreign currency.

13196/13104
CSO: 2300/144

DEFECTION OF ATHLETES DENOUNCED

Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 7 Jan 87 p 8

[Article by Tomas Grossmann: "Keeping Silent Will Not Solve Anything"]

[Text] In our society physical training and sports enjoy the attention of fans as well as active participants. Naturally, our party and state organs ascribe a great deal of seriousness to questions pertaining to the development of sports. At this time, it is sufficient to remember that last year our party congresses dealt with this question. They evaluated the results, but also pointed out shortcomings and provided the impetus for further points of departure and direction.

In his political report of the Central Committee of the CPCZ to the 17th CPCZ Congress, General Secretary Gustav Husak stated: "In this entire area, political educational work is weak; it is inescapably necessary to improve it. It is necessary to appraise the influence which the example of a representative of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic exerts not only on young people, but on broad strata of the population. Consequently, Communists in the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Physical Education Association must analyze and propose measures to permit our sports to develop in all sectors in harmony with socialist standards."

These words were not spoken by happenstance. Standards are violated by sports personalities not only directly on playing fields, but, unfortunately, more than once even away from the playing fields. Some have poor relationships with their section, their physical training unit, their city, or their entire country. In isolated cases this is even manifested in illegally leaving Czechoslovakia. As is documented by telephone conversations and letters which we have received in our editorial offices, our public was very embittered last year by the emigration of ice hockey players F. Musil and Pivonka, by swimmers Hladky and Gery, and by tennis player Holikova. Our people, who carefully follow world class sports know well that nothing was preventing these people from further sports growth. On the contrary, in our country, they had the best conditions for this growth and, in the final analysis, without these conditions they would never have become representatives of Czechoslovakia. Readers who call in or write in to us, however, also dwelled on the fact that they found out about these steps by former representatives, which are worthy of condemnation, through unofficial channels and, not infrequently, with great

delay (the case of Gery) when, as the saying goes, even the sparrows were chirping about it.

Unfortunately, the physical training organization which was criticized by the 17th Congress of the CPCZ for its weak political-educational work is not taking an open position with respect to these questions and problems. And more than once the officials believe that one need not speak openly about this emigration, since it occurs in other areas as well and nobody publishes the names of the emigres. However, this position is not correct. The names of well-known sports figures appear in the newspapers quite frequently and they cannot, therefore, suddenly just disappear out of the blue. It is such situations which cause various rumors, other names are whispered, and honest people of good character are then placed in bad light. By way of effective daily and informal educational work, it would suffice if, in such cases, what happened were openly stated, the emigre were openly condemned and deprived of those honors which he held.

As early as 23 September of last year, on the basis of its own directives, the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Physical Education Association deprived swimmer Hladky of the honorary title of "Meritorious Master of Sports" and the honorific decoration "For Meritorious Service in the Development of Czechoslovak Physical Education, Third Degree," and deprived hockey players F. Musil and Pivonka of their titles of "Master of Sports." We believe that soon the organization will deal with the case of Gery, who was (more precisely still is) a holder of the same honors as those held by Hladky. And shortly the organization will also inform the public in the same manner in which information was provided with respect to the case of singer Matuska, who was deprived of the title of "Meritorious Artist."

It is true that what is more important is the better development among our young people of a spirit of patriotism, to educate them informally each day so that these representatives of our country would conduct themselves in an exemplary manner at all times and everywhere. This is important to permit our world class sports to once more develop in harmony with socialist standards, as was stressed by the 17th congress of our party.

5911

CSO: 2400/111

IMPORTANCE OF REVISING PARTY STATUTE STRESSED

Bucharest MUNCA DE PARTID in Romanian Nov 86 pp 81-85

["Information for Study Courses of the RCP Statute: The RCP Statute--the Fundamental Law of Party Life"]

[Text] The entire experience of our party clearly demonstrates that its force and capacity of action, the successful fulfillment of its role as the political leader of the Romanian society, and the increasing prestige and authority it enjoys among the masses stem from both the superiority of its ideology and the correctness of the policy it promotes, and from its perfect organization and continuously improving activities as the vital center of our entire social system. "The smooth performance of this center," stressed Comrade Nicole Ceausescu, the party secretary general, "is the sine qua non for the continuous development of the socialist society."

A special role along this line is played by the party program and statute. These two fundamental documents are linked by a dialectical connection. Through its provisions, the program scientifically establishes the long-term general strategy and the tactics required for building the new system, and the objectives and tasks of the entire people and of the party in the struggle to build socialism and communism, providing a safe guide for action and ensuring the unity of purpose and will of all the communists and of the entire nation. However, these can yield results only if they are blended with a thorough organizational unity, based on the strict norms and principles featured in the statute. That is precisely why, as Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu stated, "All the party activities must be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the party statute and the program, and with the principles of socialist ethics and equity."

1. The Role and Importance of the Statute for the Organization and work of the RCP

The party secretary general teaches that "For the communist party to optimally fulfill its role as the leading force in the society, the monolithic unity of its ranks must be ensured." Being the basis for the organization and running of the party, this is principally the role of the Statute. It creates the necessary conditions for ensuring the unity and cohesion of the party by defining its character, aims, and role, establishing its organizational

framework, and setting the basic rules for its organization and work and for the work of each communist. It has the nature of a fundamental law of party life, because it is adopted by the congress--the supreme party forum--and contains compulsory provisions for all the party bodies and organizations and for each communist, stamping a spirit of organization and discipline on all the structures and compartments of party work and contributing to developing the communists' responsibility and mobilizing them to fulfill the obligations stemming from their status as members of our revolutionary party. The statute is also important because it sanctions the relations between the party and the other social bodies in our country. and the guiding norms that determine the party's relations with corresponding bodies within the international communist and workers movement and with other democratic and progressive parties and organizations throughout the world.

The organization and performance of the party along revolutionary principles and norms, and the strict implementation and observance of these norms and of all the statute provisions constitute the guarantee for the optimal discharge of the party's leading role and for the implementation of the recommendation issued by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu at the 13th party congress, according to which we must further "strengthen the unity of action of all the party bodies and organizations, that being an essential requirement for successfully leading the construction of socialism and communism in our country."

2. The Contents of the Statute and the Requirements that Command Periodical Examination and Improvement of its Provisions

The principles featured in the statute--essentially, fundamental ideas and guiding theses--show how the party must be organized and must function in order to fulfill its mission. They are based on the revolutionary theory of the establishment, organization, and running of the party, creatively applied to the conditions and characteristics of our country and enriched by new theses and ideas, particularly after the ninth party congress, thanks to the extensive theoretical and practical work of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu and to his brilliant contribution to developing the concept of the role of the revolutionary party of the workers class in the conditions of the struggle to build socialism and communism. Such basic principles for the party are the fulfillment of its role as leading political force in the entire society, democratic centralism, collective work and leadership, universal discipline, close ties to the masses, etc. They constitute an objective necessity and stem from the nature of the communist party, the need for its superior organization, and its tasks and final objectives.

The norms constitute a complex of rules that ensure the implementation and observance of the principles. They are closely connected to the specific characteristics of each period, and their role is to precisely determine the significance and manner of implementation of the principles of organization and running of the party at each stage of social development.

The principles, norms, and regulations of the statute form a cohesive and indivisible whole; they are mutually conditional and dependent, and their total observance and implementation is the basic condition for achieving organizational unity, consistent activities, and discipline and for enhancing

responsibility in all the areas of party work.

Naturally, the statute features the fundamental norms of party life, while the detailed rules for implementing the various provisions are laid down through decisions and instructions of the Central Committee, its Political Executive Committee, and the Secretariat of the RCP Central Committee. Thus, for example, the statute envisages the norms for accepting new members in the party, electing party bodies, etc., but the actual manner in which they are implemented and the specific tasks incumbent on the party bodies and organizations at each stage are regulated through decisions and instructions. Drafted in the spirit of the statute provisions, these are compulsory for all the party bodies and organizations and for each communist.

The statute stipulates who may become a party member, the requirements linked to this status, and the rights and obligations of the communists. Sanctioning democratic centralism as one of the fundamental principles of organizational structure, the statute regulates the establishment of party organizations and the election of their leading bodies; it states the competences, functions, and tasks of party bodies and organizations--from basic unit up to the party congress--and pinpoints the relations among them, thus ensuring a close blending of centralized and unified leadership with broad initiative from party bodies and organizations and from communists, and the continuous development of internal party democracy. Important provisions refer to the relationship between the party and mass and civic organizations, their management, guiding the activities of state central and local bodies, and organizing political work among the army of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

The history of the party and its experience highlight the fact that the statute is not unalterable, given once and for all, and that its provisions must be continuously reviewed in the light of the new stages reached in building the new society. This is in particular a consequence of the fact that the party, as a promoter of social rejuvenation, is itself improving its activities, organizational structure, and methods of action so as to be able to deal with new requirements. "The party," Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu stressed, "like any other live organism or political body, has undergone changes and continues to change; it has to change in keeping with the changes occurring in the society." This could not be otherwise, because the tumultuous speed of economic and social-political development and the revolutionary changes that have affected all the areas also have profound implications for the party's work. In the confrontation with the practical and theoretical issues of building the new system, the party and its organizations are gaining new experiences and expanding their arsenal of working methods. All these make it necessary to periodically examine the statute provisions and to align them with the new realities. A study of the changes and amendments made in the statute, especially after the ninth party congress, show that one of the constant guidelines has been to continuously enhance the leading role of the party, perfect its structure, organization, and activities, deepen internal party democracy, increasingly assert the communists, and increase their responsibility for the entire economic and social-political life. Thus, in the spirit of older party traditions, the 10th congress instituted the position of RCP secretary general and gave the congress the competence and attribute of electing the secretary general. New regulations for perfecting the electoral system were sanctioned at the same time, and it was decided that the meetings

and conferences should discuss and name candidates for the immediately superior party bodies. Similarly, all party bodies were obligated to exhaustively discuss in the party organizations and with all the working people the major measures proposed to be adopted on economic and social-political activities, provisions that more precisely define the specific tasks of the basic organizations in relation to the sectors in which they are active, and expand the scope of the right to control the activities of administrative managements in implementing the party's political line and the decisions and directives of the higher party and state bodies, this right also being granted to party organizations in medical institutions, schools, and universities.

Essential changes were adopted by the party national conference of 1972, when it was decided that the candidates proposed at party conferences should be previously discussed with and advised by the general meeting of the party organization of the enterprise, institution, or agricultural unit in which the candidate is employed, and that other working people of the respective units should be invited to attend the meeting, too. At the same time, an article was introduced to the effect that the party bodies and organizations are obligated to judiciously allocate the cadres and to closely blend party and state activities, in keeping with the principle of cadre rotation in party and state jobs. Also, the Central Committee was given the right to organize, whenever it deems necessary, party and state bodies for various areas of activity.

Some of the extremely important amendments introduced by the 11th party congress were the inclusion in the statute of the "Solemn pledge" that must be signed by all those who are accepted in the party; provisions designed to ensure the election of the best communists to party bodies at all the levels, calling for proposing more candidates than the number of seats available, and ensuring that the candidates have a certain number of years of party membership--depending on the level of the respective body--etc.

Important changes were also decided by the 13th party congress. They were primarily aimed at further increasing the leading role of the party, reinforcing the fact that the party is the vital core of our entire nation, its leading political force, and the organizer and catalyst of the creative energies of the working and all other people in the struggle to build socialism and communism. The congress detailed the relations between the party and the Socialist Democracy and Unity Front and the "Fatherland's Falcons" Organization, specifying that the latter, as well as the other mass and civic organizations, must base all their activities on the party program. Particular significance is attached to the new provision concerning the party flag: thus, the chapter that was introduced in this connection stresses, in the spirit of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's thesis that "the supreme flag of the party and of all the other organizations is the tricolor," that the state flag of the Socialist Republic of Romania is also the flag of the RCP, whereby the party also has its own flag, which is displayed at all party events together with the national flag.

Another group of changes are designed to raise to even higher eminence the title of communist by more exhaustively defining the conditions required for party membership--the essential condition being the pledge to militate with

all one's might for the triumph of socialism and communism and to serve in all circumstances the interests of the people and the fatherland's independence and sovereignty--and developing the obligations of party members; it was established that each party member will periodically report to the party body or organization to which he belongs about the manner in which he is fulfilling the tasks and functions assigned to him. A new and particularly important provision states that young people of up to 30 years of age will be accepted in the party only if they are members of the Union of Communist Youth [UCY]. In order to strengthen the educational role of party discipline and enhance the communists' sense of responsibility for the party's decisions and the laws of the country, a new provision that has been adopted states that a person found guilty of certain violations will have his right to be elected to party leadership bodies or to be appointed to high ranking state functions suspended for up to 5 years.

Other amendments are aimed at continuously expanding internal party democracy; thus, according to one new provision, at each election of party bodies at any level, at least 1/3 of the number of members of the respective party body will also be reelected, in accordance with the principle of rotation. Similarly, further details have been added to the conditions concerning the election to party bodies of communists in positions of leadership in the UCY and the Union of Association of Communist Students, whereby the number of years of party membership required may be halved if they have at least 12 years in the UCY and at least 4 years in leadership positions in the above organizations. Of a particular important is the new provision that awards the national conference the right to appoint Central Committee members in case of need, within the limit of the number approved by the congress. Equally important are the additions that stipulate that the first secretaries of the counties decided by the Central Committee remain members or candidate members of the Political Executive Committee only for the duration for which they hold the respective position, and that the chairman of the Central Council of the General Union of Trade Unions, the first secretary of the UCY Central Committee, and the chairman of the National Council of Women are members or candidate members of the Political Executive Committee of the RCP Central Committee.

As can be seen from the above, the amendments and additions made in the statute concern matters of substance and essence that reflect the evolution of the party functions and the scientific manner in which its leadership, primarily its secretary general, approach and solve the major theoretical and practical aspects of building the new system and, in close connection with that, of perfecting the manner in which the party exercises its leading role.

3. Understanding, Endorsing, and Observing the Statute Provisions--A Basic Obligation for Each Communist. Methods of Political-Educational Work to Educate All the Communists in the Spirit of Unswerving Respect for the Provisions of the RCP Statute

Fulfilling the leading role of the party, efficiently exercising its functions, and asserting its entire struggle potential are indissolubly linked to the unwavering implementation and observance of the statute norms, and to the manner in which each party body and organization and each communist militate to implement all the provisions of the party's fundamental law.

"Respect for party discipline and unconditional implementation of the political line and decisions of the party and of all the statute obligations," Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu stressed, "constitute a key obligation for each communist, regardless of his position in the party."

Familiarization with the principles of organization, functioning, and activity of the party, and unwaveringly endorsing and observing them is something that is increasingly more necessary in the current conditions of the evolution of our society, when the role and responsibilities of the party, its organizations, and all the communists are continuously increasing in all the areas of economic and social-political life.

Naturally, in order to be observed and implemented, the statute provisions must be thoroughly learned, understood, and endorsed. For this purpose, the party bodies and organizations are wielding various forms and means. Among them, a particular role is played by the organization and pursuance of political-ideological education within circles that study the RCP Statute, where new party members and those who aspire to win the lofty title of communist can thoroughly learn the principles of organization, functioning, and activity of the party. Equally important are lectures and debates on certain statute provisions, which are periodically held at general meetings. As is envisaged in the instructions concerning the implementation of the statute provisions on acceptance in the party, three-four lectures are presented in each basic organization yearly on the main issues of party life: the RCP's role as the leading force of our nation and the specific tasks of each organization and each communist at his workplace, the unity and cohesion of the party, communist discipline, democratic centralism and internal party democracy, the organization and management of work at each basic party organization, the rights and obligations of party members, the importance and obligations stemming from the "solemn pledge" of the communists, the communists' work and life principles, the principles of socialist ethics and equity, the rules for preserving the party membership card, record-keeping norms, and norms of transfer from one party organization to another, etc.

Recognition of the program and statute and effective participation in implementing them are among the fundamental requirements of party membership. This means that increased demands are placed upon those who apply to be accepted in the party to learn the statute provisions, and implies consistent concerns to educate all the communists to unabatedly observe them and to cultivate resolute attitudes against any deviation from them. Along this line, the most efficient method is to involve each person in the practical work and daily activities of the respective organization, on the basis of specific and mobilizing tasks, capable of turning to good account people's capabilities and talents and of contributing to the continuous development of their experience. It is also very important to systematically supervise the manner in which each communist respects the statute provisions; this aspect should also be discussed individually with the party members and be featured in their reports to general or office meetings, and must be supervised by the members of party bodies on a daily basis.

4. The Disciplinary Measures Envisaged in the Party Statute, Their Role and Importance for Strengthening Party Discipline and the Unity of Will and Action

of the Party

The idea of discipline can be concisely defined as strict observance of all the rules of behavior and order binding the members of a collective. Party discipline is one of the essential conditions for continuously strengthening the unity of the party, which allows it to function as a well organized team and to efficiently discharge its leading role. As Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu noted, "We must pay greater attention to party discipline and to enhancing the communists' sense of responsibility, proceeding from the consideration that each activist and party member is dutybound to do everything possible to fulfill the tasks entrusted to him. In the final analysis, a communist must be judged not by what he says, but by the results of his work."

A spirit of discipline and responsibility are qualities that are shaped in the course of the work process, within the life of the organization, and in the struggle to implement the party decisions. Being one and the same for all, discipline must be respected by all, and firm measures must be taken whenever it or the statute provisions are violated.

In accordance with the RCP Statute, the disciplinary measures that can be taken against party members are, according to the seriousness of the case: reprimand; vote of censure; vote of censure and warning; suspension for a period of up to 5 year of the right to be elected to the leading bodies of the party or to be appointed in managerial state positions; exclusion from the party--the supreme disciplinary measure.

Party disciplinary measures have a forceful educational impact. Designed to preserve a revolutionary spirit and to strengthen party discipline and morals, the unity and purity of the party ranks, and the sense of responsibility for fulfilling statutory obligations, it contributes to correcting those who erred and to preempting irregularities by the other party members.

Prompt reaction against any deviation from the norms of internal party life and from the laws of the state, and systematic cultivation of convictions and habits favorable to the strict observance of the party and state decisions are among the most important obligations of the party bodies and organizations and of each communist, capable of providing all the requirements for ensuring efficient party activities, for optimally fulfilling the party's role as the leading political force, and completing all the tasks required to build the socialist and communist society on the soil of our beloved fatherland.

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DECLINE OF JEWISH CONGREGATIONS EXAMINED

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[Article by Lothar Mertens, staff member on the research project, "The Social Structure of the Intelligentsia With University Degrees in the GDR and the Federal Republic of Germany," headed by Prof Dieter Voigt, of the Ruhr University in Bochum: "Jews in the GDR--A Dwindling Minority"; the author expressed his thanks to Ulrike Padberg and Dr. Monika Richarz of the Germania Judaica, Cologne, for their many comments.]

[Text] Following the end of World War II and the holocaust among Jewish German citizens¹ connected therewith, a cautious new beginning in the once flourishing centers of Jewish life started in the SBZ (Soviet Zone of Occupation)/GDR as well as also in the FRG.²

At the end of the war only 15 survivors returned to Erfurt which prior to 1933 had 1,100 Jewish inhabitants.³ In Zwickau only 5 of the former 460 Jews⁴ and merely 12 of Dresden's once 6,000 Jewish inhabitants lived in their city in the summer of 1945.⁵

Of the emigrants returning to the homeland after 1945, among others the literary historian Alfred Kantorowicz, the economist Juergen Kuczynski, the literary scholar Hans Mayer, the philosopher Ernst Bloch and the writers Anna Seghers, Stefan Heym, and Arnold Zweig took up residence in the SBZ.⁶ The KPD functionaries and journalists who had returned from exile, Alexander Abusch, Gerhart Eisler and the rabbi's son Albert Norden later on occupied high positions in the GDR state machinery.

In addition to the general migration to the West from the SBZ/GDR in the first postwar years⁷ a stepped-up flight movement took place in the early fifties because of the "psychological pogrom" (Margolin) in connection with the reemerging anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union following the so-called "doctors plot,"⁸ an alleged plot of Jewish physicians against Stalin, and the Slansky trial in Czechoslovakia.⁹ The offices of the Jewish communities were searched by members of the State Security Service and records confiscated.¹⁰

In January 1953 alone over 400 Jews fled to the West,¹¹ including--aside from leading members of the Jewish communities in Erfurt, Leipzig, Dresden and East Berlin--also politicians such as People's Chamber Deputy Julius Meyer or the former State Secretary Leo Zuckermann.¹²

On 14 and 15 January 1953 this was preceded by the statements of the U.S. rabbi Peter Levinson and the chairman of the Jewish community of the divided city, Heinz Galinski,¹³ who condemned the anti-Semitism that was becoming vocal again in the GDR and at the same time asked all those threatened to flee to the West, where help and friendly reception would be awaiting them.¹⁴ As all refugees from the other part of Germany, the Jewish emigrants received unemployment benefits, welfare benefits and, where applicable, social insurance pensions or retirement pensions.¹⁵ The following day, Julius Meyer (East Berlin), Leo Loewenkopf (Dresden), Helmut Lohser (Leipzig), and Guenther Singer (Erfurt), the community chairmen of the biggest East German cities, arrived with their families in the Western part of the former Reich capital.¹⁶

All of them were suspect to the GDR state organs despite political loyalty (such as, for example, J. Meyer) since they were associated with "Joint",¹⁷ an aid organization of U.S. Jews that distributed food and clothing to needy persons. Therefore they were regarded as potential agents of U.S. imperialism."

Material Conditions

This wave of emigration subsided quickly¹⁸ when, following Stalin's death, the social climate in the GDR improved. Persons of Jewish descent such as Albert Norden, Alexander Abusch, Gerhart Eisler, Hilda Benjamin, Friedrich Karl Kaul or Hermann Axen, who did not avow Jewish religious faith, now advanced to high positions in party and state.¹⁹ Since then the Jews recognized as "victims of fascism"²⁰ are generously supported by the state: in the construction of new synagogues²¹ as well as in the costly care of the cemeteries important to the religion.²²

The GDR did not provide any compensation as the FRG did.²³ Moreover the assets confiscated or expropriated in the Third Reich, which were transferred to the VEBs as part of collectivization, were not returned or replaced to their former owners even though the Soviet Military Administration in July 1946 had announced such a restitution to Jewish owners.²⁴ For example, the nationalized property of the East Berlin community had a value of M13 million.²⁵

For Peter Kirchner, the chairman of the East Berlin community, in 1974 it could be "clearly seen that the murder of the German Jews cannot be redressed by financial payments to third parties. The focus must be on the destruction of the fascist ideology and the anti-Semitic policy

caused by it and that takes place systematically in the GDR since the smashing of fascism."²⁶ The special benefits for recognized "persecutees of fascism" are, in addition to a five-year reduction in the retirement age, the preferred placement in rest homes and a monthly honorary pension of 1350 marks.²⁷

The East Berlin community annually receives M150,000 for maintenance of the Berlin-Weissensee cemetery,²⁸ Europe's biggest Jewish cemetery.²⁹ Private care is provided for only about 1000 graves.³⁰ In the GDR as a whole there are more than 130³¹ cemeteries of which 43 are classified as historical monuments.³² Four cemeteries are cared for at the behest of the Federation of the Jewish Communities.³³ But the touching care of the constantly shrinking religious community has limits as regards maintenance, especially in remote areas: "The visitor is faced with a picture of dilapidation."³⁴

The decline is especially clear--despite the mentioned state subsidy--in the case of the Weissensee cemetery in the former Reich capital. Since the opening in 1880 until 1926, 72,000 dead persons found their last resting place here from a community that numbered about 170,000 members in 1926. The staff included 67 white collar workers and 201 blue collar workers. However in 1980 when only barely 800 Jews lived in the GDR and about 27,000 in the FRG,³⁵ the cemetery had 115,000 graves which were cared for by three administrative employees and 11 other workers.³⁶ The Schoenhauser Allee cemetery has been cared for over many years by only one cemetery attendant who with much effort and admirable personal initiative, has tried to keep the place with its many art-history monuments from decay.³⁷ In places where no Jewish citizens reside any longer, e.g., in Gotha, the graves are maintained by the annual work parties of the "Atonement Action."³⁸ In July 1984, 15 female students of the East Berlin "Technical College for Scientific Information and Scientific Library Affairs" performed their work assignment that takes place in the summer months in the Weissensee cemetery instead of in an industrial enterprise.³⁹

Position in Society

In the GDR, too, occasional desecrations of cemeteries occur, thus in Zittau (1974), Potsdam (1975) or Dresden (1977). But these rare damages and graffiti are insignificant in number compared to the many anti-Semitic desecrations of graves in the FRG.⁴⁰ Anti-Semitism, which is officially denied, although rarely openly displayed in the GDR, still exists in parts of the population.⁴¹ Peter Kirchner noted in this connection in November 1982 with respect to the youths: "Since the official political line of the state is anti-Israeli, pro-Arab, the mass media emphasize especially this anti-Israeli component. They even emphasize the latter especially, so that we can no longer fail to note the very close relationship of this anti-Israeli attitude with the

traditional anti-Judaism. If an adolescent is fed almost daily--for political reasons--with negative information about Israeli Jews, he can hardly avoid transferring this negative image also to the Jews in his environment. We have emphatically presented these fears now again to the state secretary for church affairs and requested that the historical-cultural share of the Jews in German history be more strongly stressed to impart a more objective image of the Jews."⁴² The inadequate perception of East German Jewry is expressed in frequently imprecise and unsupported data on the communities and their size.⁴³ The Jewish communities in the GDR are not only one of the smallest but also one of the least noted social groups of the second German state.

However, on the part of the state the Jews do experience special attention and care since they belong to the circle of the persecutees of the National Socialist tyranny.⁴⁴ Therefore freedom of religion and the antifascist attitude of the socialist state can be documented quite impressively in their case.⁴⁵ For some Western observers the situation looks quite uncomplicated: "Serious problems between state and the Jewish population do not exist in the GDR for the fact alone that there are hardly any Jews any longer."⁴⁶ Such superficial opinions are not new. Herbert Ringer, the former chairman of the Erfurt community, commented on such opinions as early as 1969: "Most of our visitors arrive with the expectation to find us like mummies in a museum."⁴⁷

The emphasis of the Jewry is strictly limited to the ritual-cultural sphere.⁴⁸ Beyond that, the most important dignitaries, such as the chairman of the Jewish communities in the GDR, Helmut Aris, are also politically involved.⁴⁹ The state ties are documented by the constant mutual messages of greeting in NACHRICHTENBLATT. On the occasion of the 80th birthday of Herbert Ringer, the former chairman of the Erfurt community, congratulations were received, i.a., from Erich Honecker, Willi Stoph and Klaus Gysi, the state secretary for church affairs.⁵⁰ Finally the Jews on account of their small number and the glaring superannuation of their communities cannot achieve the social policy relevance as does, e.g., the peace initiative of the Protestant Church.⁵¹

As various statements from the communities document, the Jewish citizens regard the GDR as "our homeland in which we enjoy equal rights and equal esteem."⁵² An appeal for participation in the People's Chamber elections in June 1981 was concluded by Aris with the words: "With our election of the candidates of the National Front we make a declaration in favor of our fatherland, as it is expressed in the appeal of the National Council."⁵³

The federation president stresses at another point that the communities "receive intensive support from the GDR government" but does not conceal "that because of the different ideologies problems and differences have existed and still exist."⁵⁴

Community Life

The religious life of the eight Jewish religious communities in the GDR⁵⁵ is characterized by a steady decline in the community membership. While in 1945 there were 3,100 believers, in 1952 still 2,600⁵⁶, in the summer of 1967 there were only 1,200 members⁵⁷ and in the fall of 1986 about 380 persons⁵⁸ who were recorded as Jews by the Federation of the Jewish Communities. The central office of the "Federation of the Jewish Communities in the GDR" is located in each case at the place of residence of the Federation president. Since 1962 that has been Dresden, prior to that, under Hermann Baden, it was Halle.⁵⁹ These figures include only the so-called "believing Jews" i.e., those who avow the Mosaic faith and are also registered in the community statistics. One difficulty in this connection is the fact that many believers actively participate in the community life but do not wish to be officially registered.⁶⁰ The number of persons who, though coming from a Jewish home, but do not avow the Jewish faith or are converted to the Christian faith, in the opinion of Dr. Kirchner, is probably ten times as much as the number of the believers.⁶¹

Community	1986 (Own Calculation)	1982 (According to Herrmann)	1976 (According to Sachser)	Loss 1976-1986 in %
East Berlin	187	240	405	53.8
Dresden	50	60	81	38.3
Leipzig	48	51 ¹²³	79	39.2
Erfurt	31	40	49	36.7
Magdeburg	29	35	43	32.6
Halle	14	20	31	54.8
Karl-Marx-Stadt	12	12	15	20.0
Schwerin	11	12	25	60.0

Characteristic for the alienation of many GDR citizens of Jewish descent from the Mosaic faith is probably the autobiography by Franz Loeser,⁶² who lectured as professor of philosophy at the East Berlin Humboldt University and has lived in the FRG since 1984. Loeser's book contains descriptions of Jewish festivals authentic down to the detail in childhood and of the Jewish environment even though there is no longer any religious tie.

As compared with about 7.8 million members of the Protestant provincial churches and the 1.2 million faithful of the Roman Catholic Church, the number of Jews in the GDR is insignificant.⁶³

A focus of the community work is the Jewish-Christian dialogue with the Protestant provincial churches.⁶⁴ This ecumenical contact between the religious groups, which takes place not only in the GDR but also internationally, has been "successfully cultivated for years,"⁶⁵ in the view of the participants. The dialogue takes place primarily on the religious level. Other joint events are held on commemoration days for victims of fascism or the Reich Kristallnacht.⁶⁶ At lectures the Jewish elements of Christianity and the common biblical traditions are frequently emphasized.⁶⁷ Some community members distance themselves from the interest of the Protestant circles⁶⁸ since to them Jewish history is a permanent succession of the ambivalence of forced conversion and assimilation. Therefore the communication is not completely unproblematical. As Klaus J. Herrmann stresses, some Jews are also indignant over the fact that very frequently at Sabbath services they are only a small minority that is regarded by the majority of the participating Christian praying persons as living "showpieces."⁶⁹ The purpose of the dialogue is an ecumenical process of mutual understanding and not the formerly practiced missionization⁷⁰ of the Jews by the Christian denominations. Overcoming of old prejudices and creating awareness of Jewish cultural achievements are a function of the interdenominational community work.⁷¹ The East Berlin radio transmits every other week on Saturday religious music for the observance of Sabbath, which is produced by Cantor Laszlo Lugosi in Radio Budapest and then is played in the GDR.⁷² In addition for religious reflection NACHRICHTENBLATT "reprints the radio sermons held by national rabbi Dr. Martin Riesenburger who died in 1965."⁷³

In the postwar period new synagogues were built in Dresden and Erfurt and the desecrated houses of worship in East Berlin, Leipzig and Halle were reconstructed. In Karl-Marx-Stadt a new community house with prayer room was built. In Magdeburg and Schwerin, too, the communities have only prayer rooms at their disposal, i.e., no synagogues.⁷⁴ The Rykestrasse synagogue in East Berlin can accommodate 2,000 persons. However, the small community uses it only on high holidays.⁷⁵ On ordinary Sabbaths the services are held in a side room.⁷⁶ Since the repair in 1953 this synagogue has been officially referred to as "peace temple"; it was again renovated in 1978 and dedicated by Dr. Laszlo Salgo, the Hungarian chief rabbi.⁷⁷ Reconstruction of the New Synagogue on Oranienburger Strasse has also been decided; a Jewish museum is to be established on the inside. According to Dr. Kirchner, this Jewish place of worship was "the" center of Jewish life in Berlin until the "Reich Kristallnacht."⁷⁸

The state supports the cultural and social tasks of the East Berlin community with M170,000 aside from the financial assistance for the cemetery work. The above total includes one to two events a month,⁷⁹ upkeep of an old-age home, of the community library and a kosher

butcher shop. The old-age home, located in Niederschoenhausen, can accommodate 40, however only 4 Jewish residents are there now.⁸⁰

The library statistics for 1985 (1984 in parentheses) show 319 (262) users. The library use by the the community members is "still very little." Merely 23 users (7.3 percent) belonged to the community: "However, that need not surprise us, but it corresponds to the reality of our community life."⁸¹ In 1984, 192 readers were working and 36 were undergoing training. The library holdings amounted to 4,265 publications, an increase of 262 titles over 1984 could be recorded.⁸² Renate Kirchner, the wife of the community chairman, acts as librarian of the library which was established in the early seventies.⁸³

The circle of customers of the kosher butcher shop, which is open Tuesday to Thursday from 1000 to 1800 hours, includes, in addition to the about 10 East Berlin regular customers, the few orthodox Jews of the other seven communities. Moreover, on Wednesday afternoons, Moslem diplomats and members of the "Seventh Day Adventists" can make purchases in the butcher shop. Every two weeks a Hungarian Jewish butcher comes to the GDR to slaughter cattle according to the Jewish rites.⁸⁴

The other communities in the GDR are supported by the state with an estimated M250,000.⁸⁵ The East Berlin Handbuch Deutsche Demokratische Republik (GDR reference book) notes in this connection: "The budget of the communities is borne by the state."⁸⁶ The membership fees of between M18 and 44 are paid by only about half of the community members.⁸⁷

Every year a three-week vacation camp is held in Glowe/Ruegen, where the Federation has a vacation home. During the summer of 1982, 18 children from the communities in East Berlin, Dresden, Leipzig, and Magdeburg participated in this holiday event.⁸⁸ Regular religious instruction takes place for the children in East Berlin. Moreover, a Hebrew course is offered⁸⁹ in which grownups participate and which is conducted by an Israeli student.⁹⁰ The activities of the small youth group in East Berlin as well as the participation of the youths in the available events are very small.⁹¹ The adolescents, according to Kirchner, are fully integrated in the socialist society, so that their interest in Judaism is limited. The community chairman emphasizes that Zionism--in contrast to the FRG--plays no role in the youth work and that "the young people are not obsessed by the idea of emigrating to Israel."⁹²

Diplomatic Contacts to World Jewry

While the West German Jewish communities are oriented towards the Zionist World Congress and the State of Israel,⁹³ the Jews in the GDR, adhering to the official foreign policy of their country, are rather aloof towards the Jewish state.⁹⁴ "Of course, that is a very painful matter for us. Most of us have friends and relatives there. But we also have relatives

and friends in the United States and the relations between the GDR and the United States also sadden us. After all, we are a socialist state and Israel is still a capitalist state. That makes a harmonious relationship difficult. We must be realistic and support the policy of our government."⁹⁵

Thus far the GDR has not given diplomatic recognition to Israel and the Jews in the GDR contribute little to the World Jewish Congress (WJC).⁹⁶ However since the 1975 CSCE Conference in Helsinki a more flexible attitude towards visitor's visas can be noted.⁹⁷ Thus two "observers" were sent to the WJC meeting in Stockholm in May 1983.⁹⁸ GDR representatives also participated in the WJC conferences in January 1985 in Vienna and that of the European Division in Strasbourg.⁹⁹ The participation of an official delegation from the GDR in the WJC conference from 27 to 30 January 1986 in Jerusalem is to be labeled as sensational. The GDR representatives participated here--as did the delegates of almost all East Bloc countries (merely Romania and Hungary are official members)--as observers in the WJC sessions.¹⁰⁰ For the first time three representatives of the Jews in the GDR were permitted to travel to Israel¹⁰¹ where these congresses, according to Western assessment, are "always gala events of Israeli politics."¹⁰² An assertion that is documented by the guest speeches of Israeli President Chaim Herzog, Prime Minister Shimon Peres and four other ministers. The issuance of the visa can be explained by the signs of a potential improvement of Soviet-Israeli relations¹⁰³ which were supported by various signals in the recent past, such as the release of Soviet dissident Anatoliy Shcharanskiy,¹⁰⁴ the talks on shifting the transit point for Soviet emigres from Vienna to Warsaw¹⁰⁵ and finally an announcement disseminated by the Soviet news agency "Novosti" concerning the possible normalization of the bilateral relations during 1986.¹⁰⁶ Against the background of the rapprochement of the Soviet Union with the Zionist state, the more flexible attitude of the GDR government is understandable even though the critical view of Zionism continues to exist.¹⁰⁷

The distance to Israel becomes evident in a report on the (rare) visit of an Israeli delegation to the Magdeburg community: "Of course it was interesting for us, too, to find out how the citizen in the state of Israel now lives. If one compares what we heard, then it can be stated: 'In the GDR, citizens of the Jewish faith have a secure future, can shape their lives according to their wishes and spent their old age in peace and security. Inflation and unemployment are words that are never heard by us. But our co-religionists in Israel must constantly live with these problems and must cope with them.'"¹⁰⁸ According to a statement by Peter Kirchner, an agreement exists with the state agencies that the Jewish communities in the GDR, on the one hand, do not comment on the political situation in the Near East and that, on the other hand, no

positions on this subject are expected of them. According to its characterization, the topic has become "taboo."¹⁰⁹

Critical undertones are rarely found in NACHRICHTENBLATT, such as in the introduction to two book reviews: "The almost simultaneous publication of two publications on Israel and its citizens ought to arouse curiosity since in our mass media "daily critical reports" on that country and the conditions there are published."¹¹⁰ (emphasis by L.M.). In general the constant messages of devotion to the socialist state and its leadership are in the foreground of the reporting: "On the occasion of the 35th anniversary of our GDR congratulations were transmitted" to State Secretary Gysi and the local representatives of the party.¹¹¹ A message of greeting was also dispatched to the East CDU's 15th Party Congress in October 1982.¹¹² NACHRICHTENBLATT, which is published quarterly, offers "much form and little content."¹¹³

Uncertain Future

The situation of the Jewish communities in the GDR in recent years is characterized by a permanent membership decline of the faithful. Therefore in the long run extinction of the East German Jewry must be expected. This was already noted by Heinz Schenk, the East Berlin community chairman who died in 1971: "If no miracle occurs, there will be no more Jews in the GDR in about 12 years."¹¹⁴ The constant decline in membership, which can no longer be stopped, is caused by the extraordinary superannuation of the individual communities.¹¹⁵ In contrast to the Jewish communities in the FRG, in which--as a result of the permanent influx of emigres from the USSR--the average age of the faithful declined from 59 to 45 years,¹¹⁶ an unstoppable superannuation can be observed in the GDR. This development can be impressively demonstrated by the example of the East Berlin community. In the spring of 1960 it comprised a total of 987 persons (100 percent), consisting of 31 children (3.1 percent) and 19 adolescents (1.9 percent), 172 adults up to 50 years of age and 765 adults over 50 years old.¹¹⁷ In 1974 there were only 445 members (100 percent) left: 11 children (2.5 percent), 24 adolescents (5.4 percent), 96 up to 60 year old adults (21.6 percent) and 314 over 60 year old adults (70.5 percent).¹¹⁸ According to the statement of its chairman, the neurologist Dr. Peter Kirchner, two years later, on 30 June 1976, there were only 386 members (100 percent) left: 9 children (2.3 percent), 21 adolescents (5.4 percent), 92 adults up to 60 years old (23.8 percent) and 264 over 60 years old (68.4 percent).¹¹⁹ The total size of the community in only two years declined by 59 persons (13.3 percent). The change in this short period of time, aside from the declining number of children and adolescents, has been especially serious among those over 60 years of age. In December 1983 Kirchner in an interview provided the figure of 203 persons as the size of the community (52.6 percent of the size of the community in 1976).¹²⁰ Thus the number of the East Berlin community members was cut in half within a decade.

The chairman is afraid that the total number will decline to about 100 within the next few years.¹²¹ Reliable data on the size of the communities are not obtainable. If the data by Sachser (for 1976) and Herrmann (1982) are taken as the basis,¹²² the following constellation follows now (as of September 1986) taking into consideration the deaths recorded in NACHRICHTENBLATT; while East Berlin, Dresden, Erfurt, and Magdeburg lost one sixth of their faithful in only three years and Halle even one third of the faithful, the other communities were able to stabilize their size. During one half year alone (September 1985 to March 1986), the East Berlin community had to pay its respects to 14 departed members. In March 1985 the last female Jewish inhabitant of Halberstadt, which belongs to the Magdeburg synagogue community, died.¹²⁴ Almost 1,000 Jews had lived in Halberstadt prior to the Nazi assumption of power.¹²⁵

The superannuation is also evident in the ages of the community chairmen¹²⁶: Helmut Aris (Dresden) is 77 years old; Herbert Ringer (Erfurt), 80; Friedrich Broido (Schwerin) 85; Hans-Joachim Levy (Magdeburg), 65; Siegmund Rotstein (Karl-Marx-Stadt), 60; only Karin Mylius (Halle) with age 51 and Dr. Peter Kirchner (East Berlin) at 50 years of age are considerably younger. In May 1985 Herbert Ringer resigned from his office for reasons of age and health. Since October 1985 Raphael Scharf-Katz, who is also likely to be considerably younger,¹²⁷ has been chairman of the Erfurt community.¹²⁸

What makes it more difficult for the continued existence of the Jewry in the GDR is the fact that in a constantly shrinking community the younger member of marriageable age has a hard time finding a partner of the Jewish faith.¹²⁹ For in mixed marriages with a Christian marriage partner, even in the empire, only one fourth of the children were brought up in the Jewish faith,¹³⁰ a percentage that is likely to be even smaller in an atheistic state.¹³¹ Therefore the enthusiastic reporting is understandable when two marriages occurred in East Berlin in the fall of 1981: "For the superannuated community it is a great pleasure that two marriages took place in a strictly traditional manner."¹³² A circumcision, as occurred this January, is also "a rare and therefore all the more happily celebrated event"¹³³ for the small Jewish community.

Gabriella Henik of Leipzig in September 1979 substantiated her application for emigration to Israel with the absence of the opportunity for a Jewish education and regular religious instruction for her twin sons.¹³⁴ Her application was first rejected but was approved later on. The Jewish writer Barbara Honigmann, too, cited as a reason for her emigration to Strasbourg among other things the desire to educate her children in a Jewish environment (cf. the interview in this issue, p 1204). The problem of rabbis, too, is symptomatic for the declining importance of the Jewish communities. Since the death of Dr. Martin Riesenburger in 1965 no community has had a rabbi of its own. During

1966-1969, the Hungarian chief rabbi, Dr. Odon Singer, was pastorally active as a guest in the East Berlin community.¹³⁵ However, the appointment of the former preacher¹³⁶ as a rabbi was questionable since, according to Jewish law, he was not properly ordained. To accomplish the ordination three other rabbis would have had to sign the certificate of appointment.¹³⁷

Rarely, and when it does happen it is worth suitable mention in NACHRICHTENBLATT, does a foreign rabbi, as did Rabbi Cassell who had emigrated to England in 1939 come to a community as a helpful guest during the Jewish New Year's festival in September 1981 in East Berlin.¹³⁸ Ernst M. Lorge from Chicago participated as guest rabbi for the Jewish New Year's festivals in September 1984 and in November 1985. His travel expenses were paid for by the American Jewish Committee.¹³⁹

Occasionally visitors staying in the Western part of the divided city are willing to conduct the services, as for example the U.S. political scientist Klaus Herrmann. He was a guest lecturer in West Berlin for a few years and moreover during this time he conducted the services in the Rykestrasse synagogue in the Eastern part of the city.¹⁴⁰

The positions of cantors, i.e., the prayer leader and singer in the synagogue, are all vacant and are accomplished by lay cantors.¹⁴¹ Only on high holidays do cantors come from Hungary to East Berlin, Dresden and Leipzig. In most cases it is Cantor Laszlo Lugosi who takes care of the larger GDR communities.

A Jew delegated in the mid-seventies to the Budapest Rabbinical Seminary died suddenly,¹⁴³ so that the hope for a rabbi in the GDR so far has remained unfulfilled. All expectations in the spiritual field therefore ride on Frank-Chaim Mylius, a young man from the Halle community, who started his study as a cantor at the Rabbinical Seminary in Budapest in October 1981.¹⁴⁴

Every year the communities in the GDR receive matzoth and matzo meal from the Hungarian Jews, so that the Jews in the GDR can observe the Passover holidays and the Seder according to the old tradition.¹⁴⁵

Frequently it is problematical for the religious services which are to be observed according to ancient rites that some community members have forgotten Hebrew or have never learned it. It can also happen that the faithful disagree on the execution and the performance of the rituals.¹⁴⁶ Also the wearing of a prayer shawl is rare, as Cella Girardet notes.¹⁴⁷ The services in the GDR correspond to the rite of the old German liberal Judaism, i.e., Jewish liturgy with organ accompaniment with Jewish prayer songs and choirs in the German language.¹⁴⁸

Regular services take place in East Berlin only.¹⁴⁹ Moreover difficulties arise not only in smaller communities but also in East Berlin in forming a quorum, a "minyan" (requiring a minimum of 10 male persons 13 years or older for a religious community service)¹⁵⁰ since, as Dr. Kirchner confirms, on ordinary Sabbath days at times only three or four faithful are present.¹⁵¹

The small attendance of the services on the holidays caused the editors of NACHRICHTENBLATT to point out that by decision of the GDR Council of Ministers, one of the High Holidays (depending on one's choice) is considered a legal holiday for Jews and therefore pay by the enterprises is guaranteed.¹⁵²

The professional chances for a 13-year-old boy who, on the occasion of his bar mitzvah, expressed the wish to become a rabbi were commented on by Kirchner: "This will take a few more years, we are joking about it and ask ourselves whether Jews will be present here for him."¹⁵⁴

FOOTNOTES

1. From the multitude of publications on this topic only the following are mentioned: Uwe Dietrich Adam, "Jewish Policy in the Third Reich," Duesseldorf 1972; Konrad Kwiet/Helmut Eschwege: "Self-assertion and Resistance. German Jews in the Struggle for Existence and Human Dignity, 1933-1945," Hamburg 1984.
2. See Ezra Bennathan, "The Demographic and Economic Structure of the Jews" in "Year of Decision 1932. On the Jewish Question at the End of the Weimar Republic. An Anthology" edited by Werner E. Mosse with participation from Arnold Paucker. Tuebingen 1965, pp 87-131, p 87 ff.
3. NACHRICHTENBLATT DER JUEDISCHEN GEMEINDEN IN DER DEUTSCHEN DEMOKRATISCHEN REPUBLIK, Dec 82, Dresden, p 18 (hereinafter referred to as NB).
4. Adolf Diamant, "Chronicle of the Jews in Zwickau, in Memory of a Small Jewish Community in Saxony," Frankfurt/M, 1971, p 41.
5. Adolf Diamant: "Chronicle of the Jews in Dresden. From the First Jews to the Flowering of the Community and its Extermination," Darmstadt 1973, p 228.
6. Monika Richarz: "Jews in Today's Germanies." In: "Yearbook of the Leo Baeck Institute," Vol 30 (1985), London, pp 265-274; p 268 f. Bloch, Mayer and Kantorowicz later on went to the FRG.

7. Siegfried Bethlehem: "Expulsion from the Homeland, Flight From the GDR, Guest Worker Influx, Migration Stream in the FRG." Stuttgart 1982, p 21 ff.
8. See Inge Deutschkron: "Israel and the Germans. Between Resentment and Reason," Cologne 1970, p 220 f.; Klaus Mehnert: "Before and After Stalin's Death," in OSTEUROPA, 3d year (1953), pp 96-108; p 101 ff.
9. L. Lesny: "The Slansky Trial," in OSTEUROPA, 3d year (1953) Stuttgart, pp 1-12.
10. Karl Wilhelm Fricke: "Waiting for Justice. Communist Purges and Rehabilitations. Report and Documentation," Cologne 1971, p 87.
11. Nathan Margolin: "East German Jews Don't Say Goodby; They Silently Vanish in the West," In: LOOK, No. 5, 10 Mar 53. Des Moines/Iowa, pp 73-74; p 73. Hal Lehrman: "The New Germany and Her Remaining Jews," in COMMENTARY, Vol 6 (1953), New York, pp 513-524; p 520.
12. See Karl Wilhelm Fricke: "The SED and the Jews. The Situation of the Jews in the 'GDR'--Agitation Against Israel," in SBZ ARCHIV, Vol 15 (1964), Cologne, pp 355-357; p 355.
13. Galinski had been elected chairman of the (still undivided) Jewish Community of Berlin. He emigrated a little later to the Western part of the city, where he is chairman of the West Berlin community to this day.
14. Margolin, p 73 (footnote 11).
15. Ibid., p 74. See also Bethlehem, p 57 (footnote 7).
16. "Leading Jews Are Fleeing. Among Them a People's Chamber Deputy." In FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG, No. 14, 17 Jan 53, p 4.
17. Robin Ostow: "The Jewish Community in East Berlin. An Interview With Dr. Peter Kirchner" (Unpublished manuscript; will appear in JEWISH OUTLOOK, Toronto, p 6.) A total of about 200 East German Jews were associated with "Joint." "Joint," actually "Joint Distribution Committee," an aid organization founded in New York in 1914 for the support of needy Jews outside the United States. See "Lexikon des Judentums." Editor in chief: John F. Oppenheimer, Guetersloh--Berlin--Munich 1971; column 332 ff.
18. According to Jerry E. Thompson: "Jews, Zionism, and Israel; The Story of the Jews in the German Democratic Republic Since 1945". PhD Washington State University 1978, p 74, a total of 556 Jewish

refugees were registered in West Berlin up to 30 Mar 53. See Fricke, p 355, according to whom an additional 50 Jews fled to the West between 1961 and 1964 (footnote 12).

19. Klaus J. Herrmann: "Political and Social Dimensions of the Jewish Communities in the German Democratic Republic. In: "Nationalities Papers," Vol 10 (1982), Charleston/Ill., pp 41-54; p 53. Harry Maor: "Concerning the Reestablishment of the Jewish Communities in Germany Since 1945." Phil. Diss., Mainz 1961, p 53, mentions the number of 3,000 persons who are not members of the community who are active in leading positions of the state and cultural life.
20. See Thompson, p 54, concerning the allied definition (footnote 18).
21. Adolf Diamant: "Chronicle of the Jews in Chemnitz, now Karl-Marx-Stadt. Rise and Fall of a Jewish Community in Saxony," Frankfurt/M 1970, p 157.
22. See Alfred Etzold/Peter Kirchner/Heinz Knobloch: "Jewish Cemeteries in Berlin. Preservation of Monuments in the German Democratic Republic," No. 1. Published by Institute for Preservation of Monuments. Berlin (East) 1980; p 2 ff. The gravesites and their care traditionally are more important to the communities than the possession of a synagogue.
23. Peter Dittmar: "GDR and Israel (I.) Ambivalence of a Nonrelationship." In DEUTSCHLAND ARCHIV, Vol 10 (1977), Cologne, pp 736-754. Part (II.): pp 848-861; p 745 f. Concerning the initial contacts in 1948, see Deutschkron, p 217 f. (footnote 8).
24. "Russians in Thuringia Restore Property Taken by Germans From Jewish Owners." In: NEW YORK TIMES, Vol 95, No. 32310, 11 Jul 48, p 5.
25. Thompson, p 256 (footnote 18).
26. "With Equal Rights and Receptive to Progress. Conversation of Guenter Wirth with Dr. Peter Kirchner, the chairman of the Jewish Community of Greater Berlin; In: STANDPUNKT, Protestant monthly, Vol 2, (1974), East Berlin, pp 47-49; p 48 f. Qualifying Detief Urban: "Anti-Semitism" In: KIRCHE IM SOZIALISMUS Vol 12 (1986), Berlin, pp 54-55.
27. Cf. Herrmann, p 44 (footnote 19). Zeev Barth: "Anti-Zionism and Anti-Semitism in the GDR." In: MUENCHENER JUEDISCHE NACHRICHTEN, Vol 20, No. 38/39, 14 Oct 70, p 10. Deutschkron, p 219 (footnote 8).

28. Brief notice in: KIRCHE IM SOZIALISMUS, Vol 10 (1984), No. 6, Berlin, p 6. Until 1955 the cemetery was also used by the West Berlin community, which then established a cemetery of its own in Charlottenburg, Heerstrasse; see Etzold/Kirchner/Knobloch, p 29 (footnote 22).
29. Peter Kirchner: "On the Jewish Cemeteries in Berlin, Capital of the GDR." In: "Remember, Never Forget! 40th Anniversary of the Fascist Kristallnacht Pogrom. A Documentation," published by the Federation of Jewish Communities in the GDR, East Berlin 1979, p 117.
30. Etzold/Kirchner/Knobloch, p 29 (footnote 22).
31. Arnim Stiller: "Jewish Community Life in the GDR." In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 29, No. 24, 14 Jun 74, p 3.
32. Adolf Diamant: "Jewish Cemeteries in Germany. An Inventory." Frankfurt/M 1982, p V.
33. NB, Sep 85, p 11.
34. Ibid., p 9.
35. Andreas Nachama: "The Jewish Communities in the GDR." In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 34, No. 38, 21 Sep 79, p 17.
36. Etzold/Kirchner/Knobloch, p 29 (footnote 22). Cella Girardet: "Jews in the GDR--A Minority Threatened With Extinction?" In: NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG, Vol 205, No. 220, 22 Sep 84, pp 42-44; p 42.
37. Renate Petras: "Berlin Jewish Cemeteries From an Art-historical Point of View." In: NB, Mar 83, pp 6-7. See also Etzold/Kirchner/Knobloch, p 16 ff. (footnote 22).
38. Matthias Vogt: "'Sign of Atonement' Action in Gotha." In: NB, Mar 83, p 5. See also op. cit., Dec 84, p 18; op. cit., Sep 85, p 38; op. cit., Dec 85, pp 14 and 16.
39. Op. cit., Dec 84, p 18. During the summer of 1985, 15 male and female students worked there again "as part of the FDJ Student Summer." Op. cit., Dec 85, p 14.
40. Diamant, p 206 f. (footnote 32).
41. Urban, p 54, f. (footnote 26). Marilyn Rueschemeyer: "A Jewish Writer in East Germany." In: EUROPEAN JUDAISM, Vol 17 (1983), No. 1, London, pp 35-37; p 36. Furthermore, see Arnim Stiller:

"'Encounter With Judaism' in the GDR. Anti-Israeli Attacks of the Chief of Government." In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 37, No. 48, 26 Nov 82, p 4. Barth, p 10 (footnote 27).

42. Cf. Friedo Sachser: "German Democratic Republic." In: "American Jewish Yearbook," Vol 84 (1984), New York, pp 210-211.
43. Thus Dietrich Goldschmidt: "Dialogue: Notes on a Presentation to the Annual Meeting of the American Jewish Committee, New York, 12-16 May 1982." In: EUROPEAN JUDAISM, Vol 16 (1982), No. 1, London pp 12-16; p 14, still mentions about 2,000 Jews in the GDR although the number was less than 1000. Manfred Fassler: "Reconciliation Means Remembering: Jews in the GDR and Church-Jewish Dialogue." In: "Church Under Socialism" Vol 11 (1985), Berlin pp 103-111; 104, in the spring of 1985 indicates the size of the Magdeburg community with 35, a figure which already applied in 1982.
44. Walter Osten: "Anti-Semitism Frequently Hides Behind 'Anti-Zionism.' The SED and the Jews." In: STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, Vol 26, No. 137, 19 Jun 70, p 6.
45. Cf. Here Horst Daehn: "Confrontation or Cooperation? The Relationship of State and Church in the SBZ/GDR, 1945-1980." Opladen 1982. Gerald Eugene Thompson: "The Political Status of the Jews in the German Democratic Republic Since 1945." M.A. Thesis. University of Iowa 1967, p 74.
46. "Jewish-Christian Commemoration." In: KIRCHE IM SOZIALISMUS, Vol 8 (1982), No. 2, p 4.
47. Herbert Ringer, quoted in John Dornberg: "Germany's Other Half. Profile and Character of the GDR." Vienna-Munich-Zurich 1969, p 285.
48. As an example Gerd Berger: "Visit to a Jewish Family." In: Werner Filmer/Herbert Schwan (Edit.): "Everyday Life in the Other Germany." Duesseldorf--Vienna 1985, pp 111-114.
49. SPD member prior to 1933; since 1946 SED member. Also a member of the National Council of the National Front, NB, Jun 81, p 11.
50. NB, Sep 85, p 34 f. That this is not atypical is shown by the reception on the occasion of the 60th birthday of Siegmund Rotstein, vice-president of the Federation and community chairman of Karl-Marx-Stadt. The 2-1/2 page report also included 5 photographs with well-wishers.

51. See i.a.: Eberhard Kuhrt: "Against the Militarization of Society. Peace Movement and Church in the GDR." Melle 1984; Reinhard Henkis: "Between Militarism and Pacifism. Peace Work of the Protestant Churches." In: "Peace Movement in the GDR, Texts 1978-1982." Edited by Wolfgang Buescher et al., Hattingen 1982, pp 14-28.
52. "A Genocide That Never Lapses." Interview of the president of the Federation of Jewish Communities in the GDR, Helmut Aris, for ADN. In: "Remember! Never Forget! 40th Anniversary of the Fascist 'Kristallnacht' Pogrom. A Documentation." Published by the Federation of the Jewish Communities in the GDR. East Berlin 1979, pp 80-83; p 83.
53. NB, Jun 81, p 10.
54. "Helmut Aris, 70 Years Old." In: FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG, No 97, 12 May 78, p 6.
55. The official designations are: Jewish Community Berlin (East), Jewish Community Dresden, Jewish Community at Halle/S., Jewish Community Karl Marx-Stadt, Israelite Religious Community at Leipzig, Synagogue Community at Magdeburg, Jewish Provincial Community Mecklenburg (Central Office: Schwerin). Jewish Provincial Community Thuringia (Central Office: Erfurt).
56. Klemens Richter: "Jews in the GDR." (review). In: DEUTSCHLAND ARCHIV, Vol 13 (1980), Cologne, pp 301-303; p 302.
57. Helmut Aris in interview with Jean Edward Smith: "Germany Beyond the Wall. People, Politics...and Prosperity." Boston-Toronto 1969, p 68.
58. See Herrmann, p 49 (footnote 19). Of the data cited there, those who died during 1982-1986 are to be deducted.
59. Klaus-Jacob Herrmann: "The Jewry in the GDR." In: KONTAKTE, Vol 6 (Dec 73) Toronto, pp 16-18.
60. Fassler, p 104 (footnote 43).
61. Peter Kirchner: "The Jewish Community in the Capital of the German Democratic Republic." In: "Emuna" Vol 9, (1974), Frankfurt/M, pp 11-114; p 112. About 3,900 persons of Jewish descent are registered as "victims of fascism." Ostow, p 8 (footnote 17).
62. See in connection in NB, Jun 81, p 20 the review of Franz Loeser: "The Adventure of an Emigrant." East Berlin, 1980. Also in the

book published following emigration to the FRG: Franz Loeser: "The Untrustworthy Society. Quo vadis, GDR?" Cologne 1984, p 14.

63. Reinhard Henkys: "State and Churches in the GDR." In: AUS POLITIK UND ZEITGESCHICHTE, Vol 35, No. 2, 12 Jan 85, Bonn, pp 25-38; p 25.
64. Fassler, p 109 f. (footnote 43). Christfried Berger: "Jewish Life in the Netherlands, Impressions of a Journey." In: NB, Jun 84, pp 8-10. The study group "Church and Judaism" has been in existence in the GDR for 40 years. In 1946 it emerged with completely new emphases and approaches from the "Protestant-Lutheran Central Organization for Mission Under Israel," which was founded in 1871 and banned during the Third Reich. The interest in the study group in past years has noticeably increased, especially also among young people. For the past 9 years, the activities of the study group have included the annual lecture series "Contributions to the Understanding of Judaism," which is jointly conducted by Jews and Christians and meanwhile enjoys so great popularity that over 600 persons participate per event on some topics. The group is headed by the Leipzig pastor Siegfried Theodor Arndt. For his "tireless effort not to permit to let the message and the challenge of the Jewish heritage to be buried," he, together with the Dresden historian Helmut Eschwege, was awarded the Buber-Rosenzweig Medal in Worms in March 1984, cf. MECKLENBURGER KIRCHENZEITUNG, No. 23/1986.
65. Siegmund Rotstein/Heinz-Joachim Aris: "International Seminar of Christians and Jews in Budapest." In: NB, Mar 86, pp 3-4; p 4. Oljean Ingster: "Reconciliation in Jewish-Christian Relations-- Mutual Tolerance or Divided Responsibility?" In: NB, Dec 85, pp 7-8.
66. See NB, Mar 86, p 13. "Church Under Socialism," Vol 8 (1982), Berlin, pp 4 and 49. Op. cit., Vol 10 (1984), p 6.
67. "In Conversation with Judaism." In: BEGEGNUNG, Vol 15 (1985) No. 2, East Berlin, pp 26-27.
68. Fassler, p 108 f. (footnote 43).
69. Klaus J. Herrmann: "The Confessional Church is not Free of Guilt. Interview of Manfred Fassler on the Occasion of the Anniversary of the Study Group Church and Judaism in the GDR." In: "Church Under Socialism, Vol 11 (1985), Berlin, pp 206-207.
70. Fassler, p 109 f. (footnote 43).
71. "Peace for All Mankind and Peoples." Karl Hennig's conversation with Dr. Peter Kirchner, chairman of the Jewish community at Berlin.

- In: STANDPUNKT, Protestant monthly, Vol 14 (1986), East Berlin, pp 131-133; p 132. Text printed in this issue on p 1240.
72. At present from 0800 to 0830 hours. NB, Sep 85, p 47.
 73. Peter Kirchner: "Conversations in the GDR Cultural Center." In: NB, Dec 85, pp 4-5, p 5. Uwe-Peter Heidungsfeld: "Memoirs of a Rabbi." In: KIRCHE IM SOZIALISMUS, Vol 11 (1985), Berlin, pp 30-31.
 74. Aris, p 81 (footnote 52).
 75. Monika Niermann: "In the Shalom Broadcast. On the Jewish Community in East Berlin." In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 40, No. 36, 6 Sep 85, p 9.
 76. Girardet, p 42 (footnote 36).
 77. Andreas Nachama: "Synagogue in East Berlin Re-Opened." In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 33, No. 47, 24 Nov 78, p 4.
 78. "East Berlin Wants to Restore 'New' Synagogue." In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 37, No. 20, 14 May 82, p 16. Peter Kirchner: "The 'New' Synagogue on Oranienburger Strasse." In: NB, Mar 83, pp 5-8; p 7. Peter Joachim Winters: "The 'New' Synagogue Becomes a Museum. Reconstruction of Part of the Destroyed Building in East Berlin." In: FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG, No. 164, 19 Jul 86, p 7. In Peter Kirchner's assessment, the interest in Judaism increases in the GDR. "The number of those who want to know more about the history and present situation of Judaism is growing," the chairman of the Jewish community in East Berlin stated in an interview with the NEUE BERLINER ILLUSTRIERTE (NBI). Donations from the population have already been received for the museum planned in the "New Synagogue"; cf. NBI, No. 30/1986.
 79. Kirchner, p 49 (footnote 26).
 80. Niermann, p 9 (footnote 75).
 81. NB, Mar 81, p 14 f. Thus the comment on the library statistics for 1980, which also applies to 1986.
 82. Op. cit., Mar 85, p 17.
 83. Op. cit., Sep 85, p 29. Ostow, p 12 (footnote 17).
 84. Niermann, p 9 (footnote 75). See also Girardet, p 44 (footnote 36).

85. Girardet, p 42 f. (footnote 36).
86. "Reference Book German Democratic Republic, Jubilee edition 1984. Published by VEB Bibliographisches Institut Leipzig, Leipzig 1984, second revised edition, p 730.
87. Herrmann, p 46 (footnote 19).
88. NB, Jun 82, p 10. No data on number of participants in recent years, cf. NB, Dec 85, p 12.
89. Kirchner, p 113 (footnote 61).
90. Peter Kirchner: "The Jewish Community in the Capital of the German Democratic Republic." In: EUROPEAN JUDAISM, Vol 11 1976/77), No. 1, pp 14-15; p 15. This information is missing from the article published in the FRG (footnote 61).
91. NB, Dec 85, p 15.
92. Ostow, p 13 (footnote 17; translated by author).
93. Richarz, p 272 f. (footnote 6).
94. NB, Mar 81, p 29. Stiller, p 4 (footnote 41). Kirchner, p 48 (footnote 26). Cf. Dittmar, p 736 f. (footnote 23).
95. Herbert Ringer, quoted in Dornberg, p 285 f (footnote 47).
96. Goldschmidt, p 15 (footnote 43). According to Kirchner, the communities do not maintain any contacts with official institutions in Israel, Ostow, p 15 (footnote 17).
97. "Jews From the GDR for the First Time in Israel." In: FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG, Vol 38, No. 18, 22 Jan 86, p 6.
98. Peter Kirchner/Siegmund Rotstein: "Conference of the World Jewish Congress" in NB, Sep 83, pp 5-7. In the talk with Robin Ostow (p 14), Kirchner also stressed the "observer status."
99. Peter Kirchner/Siegmund Rotstein: "Conference of the World Jewish Congress in Vienna." In: NB, Sep 85, pp 4-6. Peter Kirchner/Siegmund Rotstein: "Conference of the European Division of the World Jewish Congress in Strasbourg." In: Ibid., pp 6-8.
100. Peter Kirchner: "Eighth General Assembly of the World Jewish Congress in Jerusalem." In: op. cit., Mar 86, pp 4-6.

101. Irene Runge: "A Week in Jerusalem." In: WELTBUEHNE, Vol 81, No. 8, 25 Feb 86, East Berlin, pp 240-243; reprinted in this issue, p 1243.
102. Daniel Rosen: "Receptive for all Problems of our Time. Conference of the World Jewish Congress in Jerusalem." In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 41, No. 6, 7 Feb 86, p 2. See also Kirchner, p 5 (footnote 100).
103. "Israel: Talks With the Soviet Union are Continued. Negotiations Ended After 90 Minutes. First Contact Since 1967." In: FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG, No. 190, 19 Aug 86, p 2.
104. Friedrich Uttiz: "Human Rights Are Indivisible. On the Release of Anatoliy Shcharanskiy." In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 41, No. 7, 14 Feb 86, pp 1-2. Wladimir Struminski: "Part of a Propaganda Offensive by Moscow? The Political Background of the Release of Anatoliy Shcharanskiy." In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 41, No. 8, 21 Feb 86, p 3.
105. Only one third of the Jewish emigres goes on from Vienna to Israel. About 70 percent decide--once in the West--to emigrate to the United States or to West European states (France, FRG). If the transit point were shifted to Warsaw, this opportunity would not be available and all emigrants--completely in keeping with the bilateral agreement--would be forced to fly to the "Promised Land."
106. Zeev Barth: "Ebbing of the Rumor Wave. Continued Uncertainty Over Soviet-Israeli Contacts." In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 41, No. 7, 14 Feb 86, p 3. Arnim Stiller: "Why not 40 Years Earlier. Soviet News Agency Novosti Contradicts Gorbachev." In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 41, No. 5, 31 Jan 86, p 5. Cf. "Soon Visits by Rabbis?" In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 41, No. 4, 24 Jan 86, p 5.
107. "Israel in the Distorting Mirror (East). SED propaganda Book Practices 'Anti-Zionism.'" In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 41, No. 11, 14 Mar 86, pp 3 and 5.
108. NB, Mar 81, p 24.
109. Ostow, p 16 (footnote 17).
110. NB, Mar 81, p 29. See also the travel report by Irene Runge: "All Jews Are Responsible for One Another, Each for Everyone. Observations on the World Congress." In: NB, Mar 86, pp 6-9.
111. Op. cit., Dec 84, p 23 and passim.

112. Op cit., Mar 83, p 10 f.
113. Niermann, p 9 (footnote 75).
114. Quoted according to Stiller, p 3 (footnote 31).
115. Hans-Erich Bilges: "How Do the Jews Live in East Germany? Resignation Characterizes the Community Life." In: DIE WELT, Vol 23, No. 247, 22 Oct 86, p 5, notes that 90 percent of all community members are between 55 and 90 years of age. At this time, the East Berlin community still comprised 700 persons. According to Leo Katcher: "Post Mortem. The Jews in Germany--Now." London 1968, p 193, in the mid-sixties with over 70 deaths annually, there were a maximum of three births.
116. Hendrik G. van Dam: "The Jewish Community in Germany." In: EUROPEAN JUDAISM, Vol 1 (1966), No. 1, London, pp 4-10; p 6 f.
117. "Few Young People." In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 15, No. 9, 27 May 60, p 2.
118. Kirchner, p 112 (footnote 61).
119. Kirchner, p 15 (footnote 90).
120. Interview of Dr. Peter Kirchner by R. Hartmann, In: "Wus gewein...once upon a time. A Journey Through Old Jewish Centers; No. 3. Berlin." Documentation by Robert Hartmann, Second German Television, 1 Jul 85, 2210-2255 hours. However, no information was provided on the age structure in this interview. The interview was held in early December 1983, as is documented by a short notice in NB, Mar 84, p 12.
121. Ostow, p 17 (footnote 17).
122. Friedo Sachser: "East Germany" In "American Jewish Yearbook, Vol 78 (1978), New York, pp 424-425. Adolf Diamant: "Statistics of the Jews in Leipzig." In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 27, No. 32, 11 Aug 72, p 4. Herrmann, p 48 (footnote 19). In 1985 moreover two new members joined the East Berlin community. NB, Dec 85, p 14.
123. Information in NB, Dec 81, p 17. Cf. also Klaus J. Herrmann: "A Visit to Leipzig." In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 37, No. 13, 26 Mar 82, p 6.
124. NB, Sep 85, p 51.

125. Brief notice in: KIRCHE IM SOZIALISMUS, Vol 8 (1982), No. 3., Berlin, p 49.
126. NB, Mar 84, p 18. Op cit., Sep 84, p 16. Op. cit., Dec 85, p 17. Op. cit., Mar 86, p 19.
127. Op. cit., Sep 85, pp 19 and 25.
128. Op. cit., Dec 85, p 17. Op. cit., Mar 86, p 17 f.
129. Nicholas C. Chriss: "For East Berlin's Tiny Jewish Community, Attention is now the Deadliest Enemy." In: LOS ANGELES TIMES, Vol 96, 11 Oct 77, Part I, pp 8-9; p 8.
130. Arthur Ruppin: "The Existing Mixed Marriages in Prussia and the Religious Education of the Children." In: ZEITSCHRIFT FUER DEMOGRAPHIE UND STATISTIK DER JUDEN, Vol 4 (1908), Berlin, pp 74-76; p 75. Cf. Bruno Blau: "The Religion of the Children of Jewish Parents in Greater Berlin." In: ZEITSCHRIFT FUER DEMOGRAPHIE UND STATISTIK DER JUDEN, Vol 11 (1915), Berlin, pp 12-15; p 14.
131. See Daehn, p 101 ff (footnote 45).
132. NB, Dec 81, p 10.
133. Op. cit., Mar 86, p 16. Ostow, p 11 (footnote 17).
134. Yizhak Ahren: "Threatened by Extinction. The Situation of the Jewish Communities in the GDR." In: TRIBUENE, periodical for Understanding Judaism, Vol 23, No. 92, Frankfurt/M, pp 78-85; p 83.
135. Stiller, p 3 (footnote 31).
136. "Martin Riesenburger, 50 Years Old." In: DER WEG, Periodical for Questions of Judaism, Vol 1, No. 11, 10 May 46, Berlin, p 5.
137. Maor, p 104 (footnote 19); Thompson, p 242 (footnote 18).
138. NB, Dec 81, p 12.
139. Op. cit., Dec 84, p 18. Op. cit., Dec 85, p 14. Ernst Lorge, born in Mainz in 1916, was able to emigrate to the United States with his parents in 1936, where he has been active as a rabbi since 1942.
140. Chriss; p 8 (footnote 129). Concerning his person, see Herrmann, p 206 (footnote 69).

141. Stiller, p 3 (footnote 31). Kirchner, p 112 (footnote 61).
142. Cf., e.g., NB, Mar 81, p 17. Op. cit., Dec 81, p 18. See also Berger, p 114 (footnote 48).
143. Nachama, p 17 (footnote 35).
144. NB, Mar 82, p 19. In the spring of 1984 during his visit to his native city he acted for the first time as cantor. Op. cit., Jun 84, p 16.
145. Op. cit., Sep 85, p 20. Passover, one of the high Jewish festivals is observed with unleavened bread in commemoration of the Biblical exodus from Egypt. "Lexikon des Judentums," column 619 (footnote 17).
146. Chriss, p 8 (footnote 129).
147. Girardet, p 42 (footnote 36). For the religious background, see H.I. Gruenewald: "The Significance of the Prayer Shawl." In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 41, No. 14, 4 Apr 86, p 5.
148. Herrmann, p 17 (footnote 59).
149. Cf. passim in NB. For Leipzig see: N. Peter Levinson: "Visit to the Fair City of Leipzig." In: ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE WOCHENZEITUNG, Vol 37, No. 1/2, 1/8 Jan 82, p 7.
150. See "Lexikon des Judentums," Column 512 (footnote 17).
151. Chriss, p 8 (footnote 129). Ostow, p 12 (footnote 17).
152. NB, Dec 81, p 12.
153. Bar Mitzvah, Celebration of the Acceptance of the 13-Year-old Youth in the Circle of Men Religiously of Age. "Lexikon des Judentums" column 74 (footnote 17).
154. Chriss, p 8 (footnote 129; translated by the author).

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