

059177

JPRS 82564

30 December 1982

East Europe Report

POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 2090

19990505 138

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A

Approved for public release;
Distribution Unlimited

FBIS

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

REPRODUCED BY
NATIONAL TECHNICAL
INFORMATION SERVICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
SPRINGFIELD, VA. 22161

12
117
A06

NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

PROCUREMENT OF PUBLICATIONS

JPRS publications may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161. In ordering, it is recommended that the JPRS number, title, date and author, if applicable, of publication be cited.

Current JPRS publications are announced in Government Reports Announcements issued semi-monthly by the National Technical Information Service, and are listed in the Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Correspondence pertaining to matters other than procurement may be addressed to Joint Publications Research Service, 1000 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

30 December 1982

EAST EUROPE REPORT
POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 2090

CONTENTS

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- Report on Session of Romanian-Hungarian History Commission
(Alexandru Porteanu; REVISTA DE ISTORIE, Sep 82) 1

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

- October 1982 Issue of SED Theoretical Journal Reviewed
(NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, 20 Oct 82) 4

- Youth's Economic Performance, 'Socialist Class Consciousness'
Assessed
(EINHEIT, Oct 82) 5

Young People in National Economy, by Wolfgang Herger
Young People in Agriculture, by Rainer Huhle

- Skilled Worker Training Requirements for School Graduates
Discussed
(Wolfgang Rudolph; EINHEIT, Oct 82) 20

- Future Graduates' 'Level of Communist Education' To Be Raised
(Wilfried Possner; EINHEIT, Oct 82) 27

- Youth Organizations To Promote 'Class-Oriented Defense
Motivation'
(Various sources, various dates) 34

West German Commentary,
FDJ Functionaries' Discussion, by Karl-Heinz Borgwadt,
Peter Miethe

Entertainment Arts To Teach Youth 'Values of Socialist Way of Life'	
(Various sources, various dates)	41
West German Commentary	
GDR Art Scholar's Critique, by Lothar Bisky, Dieter Wiedemann	
Data on Youth Organization's Structure, Functions Published (EINHEIT, Oct 82)	48
People's Representations To Expand Responsibilities, 'Personal Dialogue'	
(Heinz Eichler; EINHEIT, Oct 82)	50
Honecker's Book on SED's Cultural Policy Reviewed	
(Klaus Hoepcke, et al.; EINHEIT, Oct 82)	58
Summaries of Other Major 'EINHEIT' Articles	
(Eberhard Heinrich; EINHEIT, Oct 82)	62
Recruitment of 10th Grade Students for Military Careers Stepped Up	
(INFORMATIONEN, Jul 82)	66
Engineer Troop Commander Sees Continued Equipment Upgrading	
(W. Seifert Interview; MILITAERTECHNIK, No 6, 1982)	69
Age Factor in Ruling Party, Government Circles Reviewed	
(INFORMATIONEN, Aug 82)	76
Armed Forces Equipment Chief on Upgrading of Training Devices	
(Werner Fleissner Interview; VOLKSARMEE, No 46, 1982)	83
Charge of Scientific Deficiency in GDR Historiography Disputed	
(Various sources, various dates)	87
Historian's Interview, Manfred Bensing Interview	
Kurt Hager on Historians' Tasks, by Kurt Hager	
Dissident Writer's Book on Compliant GDR Authors Reviewed	
(Barbara Meyer; NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG, 7 Dec 82)	94
West German Book on GDR State Security Service Reviewed	
(Karl Wilhelm Fricke; DER SPIEGEL, 1 Nov 82)	96

HUNGARY

Revised Scholarship, Student Aid Measures Cause Delay, Confusion	
(Istvan Rethy; NEPSZABADSAG, 14 Oct 82)	100

POLAND

Government Press Spokesman Scores Reagan-Kohl 'Communique' (TRYBUNA LUDU, 20-21 Nov 82)	103
--	-----

ROMANIA

Ilie Ceausescu's View on Defense of 'Historic Truth' Hailed (Liviu Borodi; SAPTAMINA, 19 Nov 82)	105
---	-----

Briefs

Governmental Personnel Changes	107
Peoples Councils Appointments	107
Personnel Changes in Light Industry	107
Appointment in Bihor	107
Appointment in Tulcea	108
Peoples Councils Appointments	108

YUGOSLAVIA

West German Comment on Situation in Croatia (Viktor Meier; FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE, 26 Nov 82)	109
--	-----

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

REPORT ON SESSION OF ROMANIAN-HUNGARIAN HISTORY COMMISSION

Bucharest REVISTA DE ISTORIE in Romanian Sep 82 pp 1048-1049

[Article by Alexandru Porteanu: "The Eighth Session of the Joint Romanian-Hungarian History Commission"]

[Text] The proceedings of the 8th session of the Joint Romanian-Hungarian History Commission were held in Bucharest and Sibiu between 20 and 23 April 1982. The Romanian delegation was composed of Academician St. Pascu, chairman; Dr Dan Berindei, deputy chairman; Dr Alexandru Porteanu, secretary; Venera Teodorescu, member; and Prof Iosif Kovacs, report writer.

The Hungarian delegation, headed by Academician Andras Mocsy, included Zoltan Szasz, secretary; Dr Agnes Szabo, member; Dr Peter Gunst, Dr Tibor Kolossa, Dr Bela Pomogats, and Ildiko Lipcsey, report writers. Other Romanian specialists also participated in the discussions: Lecturer V. Curticapeanu, Dr Al. Dutu, Lecturer Teodor Pavel, Paul Oprescu, Dr Apostol Stan.

The topic: "The formation process of the nations in central and southeastern Europe under the conditions of the dissolution of feudalism and the appearance of capitalism, with special emphasis on the formation of the Romanian nation and the Hungarian nation." On this subject, the Romanians presented the reports: "The formation of the modern nations in Southeastern Europe" (Acad. St. Pascu) and "The formation of the modern Romanian nation" (Dr Dan Berindei), and the Hungarians, "Socio-economic problems of the formation of the nations in Central and Eastern Europe," (Dr Peter Gunst) and "The beginnings of the bourgeois transformation of the Hungarian state-- problems of liberalism and democracy in the formation of the system of the new institutions (in the absence of the report writer Dr Karoly Voros, the report was presented and defended by Dr Tibor Kolossa).

Although the discussion of the first topic stressed, initially, the role of economic factors in the formation of nations (without maintaining determinist economic points of view on this matter), the deepening of the discussion permitted the outlining of the importance of the historic roots of the modern nation, the significance of the national awareness and of cultural factors, and the role of the nation in the formation of the national state.

Both sides stressed the complexity and specific character of the historic process mentioned in the area of central and southeastern Europe, its role in the formation and development of the national states.

Although the Hungarian side stressed the liberal-moderate character of the institutions of the state in the period of the dualism, it also noted the significance of the "political illusion" represented by the concept promoted by the Hungarian ruling classes in regard to the so-called "single Hungarian nation" which included all the citizens of the state, including the national minorities. Although the oppressive policy toward the national minorities was not delved into deeply, the historians from the Hungarian People's Republic concluded that the principal weaknesses and anachronisms of the institutional political system of the Hungarian state in the period of the dualism lie in the area of the nationality problem, which involved the majority of the population. Also, by the same system, the access of the Hungarian people to political life was substantially hindered.

From the discussions there emerged a certain consensus in regard to the restraining role played by foreign domination and in regard to the fact that the political structures of Transylvania were, in part, different from those of Hungary, especially in regard to the electoral system, which had a more restrictive nature than the anachronistic electoral law of 1913 in Hungary. The Hungarian report maintained that the new classes, the bourgeoisie and the proletariat, their most active strata, were formed, at the beginning, of elements which were foreign from an ethnic point of view, which hindered the democratization of the national movement and the workers movement; the Romanian side gave the necessary explanations in regard to this opinion, mentioning the dominant characteristics and the principal indigenous sources of the formation of the new classes.

On 22 April, in Sibiu, the topic "Romanian-Hungarian cultural relations under conditions of the building of socialism" was discussed, on the basis of a report with the same title by the Romanian side (Prof Dr Iosif Kovacs) and the report "Romanian-Hungarian literary and cultural contacts, 1945-1948" by the Hungarian side (Dr Bela Pomogats), to which a co-report, entitled "Chronicle of 1948 on Romanian-Hungarian cultural relations" (Ildiko Lipsey).

While the report of the Romanian side represented a synthesis of the entire period of the building of socialism, the Hungarian side restricted itself to the 1945-48 period.

The reports and discussions presented a rich and varied picture of Romanian-Hungarian cultural relations in the framework of the new political realities of the post-war period, for the first time in the history of the two peoples, in which a large number of prominent personalities of the two countries were involved. The evaluation of these extensive manifestations gave rise to a proposal that a chronology of Romanian-Hungarian cultural relations for the period mentioned be compiled. In general, the discussion of this topic was the occasion for a noticeable rapprochement of the views expressed by the two delegations.

In conclusion, both sides stressed that the activity of the Joint Romanian-Hungarian History Commission should be taken into consideration to a greater extent in the framework of Romanian-Hungarian cultural relations.

After the reports were presented, a Hungarian delegate expressed the opinion that while in the 1945-1948 period, the role of public opinion and of the masses and, predominantly, social interests, were asserted, after 1948, in Eastern Europe, the emphasis was placed more on official and state contacts and initiatives from below were of less importance. In response to this statement, the Romanian delegate stressed that after the consolidation of the new socialist order it is natural that the role of the socialist state in cultural policy and in promoting cultural relations would increase.

On the afternoon of 22 April, in Sibiu, there was a work session of the Commission; a protocol noting the results of the session was signed and the work plan for the Commission for the future session, scheduled to be held in the Hungarian People's Republic was established. The session will have the following themes: "The European role of the struggle of the Romanian and Hungarian peoples against Ottoman expansion (14th to 16th centuries)" and "Romanian-Hungarian cultural, scientific and artistic contacts at the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century". It was decided, in the protocol, that, at future sessions, bibliographic reports would be submitted on the treatment of the history of each people in the historiography of the neighbor country. "The members of the Commission will strive to extend in their countries the climate of friendship and collegiality in which controversial historical issues should be treated, thus contributing to the avoidance of bitter polemics."

On the whole, the 8th session of the Joint Romanian-Hungarian History Commission was the occasion for the discussion of important topics, in a constructive work atmosphere; some differing views did not affect the value of the consensus achieved on important aspects, of common scientific interest. The session showed, once again, the usefulness and necessity of a dialogue between the historians of the two countries as a concrete and important form of scientific and cultural collaboration.

CSO: 2700/57

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

OCTOBER 1982 ISSUE OF SED THEORETICAL JOURNAL REVIEWED

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 20 Oct 82 p 4

[Klaus Kimmel review of East Berlin EINHEIT in German Vol 37, No 10, October 1982, signed to press 18 September 1982, pp 977-1088: "Youth--Course, Goal, and Prospects." Translations and/or summaries of articles by authors cited below as well as by others are published in pages following this review]

[Text] "Youth in Our Society" is the topic of EINHEIT No 10, 1982. To do something useful for society, for the benefit of all and thus for one's own happiness, and to devote one's entire personality to the strengthening of socialism and peace in accordance with the "Peace Effort of the Free German Youth (FDJ)"--this, to a high degree, brings the fulfillment of a purposeful life today. With this fundamental idea, Wolfgang Herger begins his contribution about the purpose in life of the Communists as a yardstick for the young generation.

The heart of Communist education for the entire youth, according to the writer, is and will remain the acquisition of the scientific world outlook of the workers class, the distinctive development of an unshakable socialist class position that stands the test in every situation. The point here is more than ever actually to reach each and every young person. Particularly in ideological work with the young people it is imperative to elucidate the dialectics of safeguarding peace and of implementing the party's economic strategy. "The more openly and specifically we talk with the young people about the great responsibilities of our era, the more consciously and responsibly will they struggle to achieve the required high level of performance."

Wolfgang Rudolph focuses on new requirements in training class-conscious qualified skilled workers. Rainer Huhle outlines current tasks of the FDJ in agriculture, proceeding from the decisions of the 12th GDR Farmers Congress.

Further contributions deal with "Studying--A Proving Ground" (by Wilfried Possner) and with the development of class-oriented defense motivation among the young people (by Karl-Heinz Borgwadt and Peter Miethe). Lothar Bisky and Dieter Wiedemann analyze intellectual-cultural claims and activities of young people.

"Facts and Figures" about the development of the FDJ since 1971 provide a lucid supplement.

CSO: 2300/70

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

YOUTH'S ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE, 'SOCIALIST CLASS CONSCIOUSNESS' ASSESSED

Young People in National Economy

East Berlin EINHEIT in German Vol 37 No 10, Oct 82 (signed to press 18 Sep 82)
pp 893-990

['Youth in Our Society' feature article by Dr Wolfgang Herger, member, SED Central Committee; chief, Youth Affairs Department, SED CC: "The Communists' Purpose in Life--A Yardstick for the Young Generation"]

[Text] On the 'Peace Effort of the Free German Youth (FDJ)'

Youth seeks to prove itself and build a meaningful life. Each young generation seeks for the measure by which its thoughts and actions can be gaged. To do something useful for society, for the benefit of all and thus for one's own happiness, and to devote one's entire personality to peace and socialism--this, to a high degree, brings the fulfillment of a purposeful life today. Therefore the 10th SED Congress appealed to the youth in our country: "Acquire the communists' purpose of life to do everything for the benefit of the people!"¹

More and more young people, especially the young comrades and members of the FDJ, apply that measure. Every day they find out: Only socialism and the struggle for its constant improvement can provide the youth with the goal and direction in its seeking a meaningful life. Youth is called upon to carry on the course of sacrifice and the efforts of the preceding generations under party leadership. That is possible only in peace. GDR youth and its political organization, the FDJ, therefore are among the most resolute contenders for safeguarding this most elemental human right. That was shown recently once again by the FDJ's Whitsuntide demonstrations in 1982 and the Seventh Pioneers Meeting in Dresden. As in the struggle for peace every good deed counts that fortifies socialism and makes it invulnerable to its enemies, the FDJ Central Council has summoned GDR youth for a peace effort under the motto, "My Deed for Our Socialist Fatherland." Doing everything for the people's benefit and dedicating all one has to the protection of peace--that belongs inseparably together and conforms with the communists' purpose in life.

Socialist Class Consciousness and Performance Dedication

Everywhere in our country the young generation, alongside the elders, achieves great things in implementing the 10th party congress resolutions. Many young workers stand in the front rank in implementing the tasks of the 1982 plan. Tens of thousands of youth brigades are engaged in accordance with the principle, "Everyone With a Fine Balance-sheet Every day." Thousands have answered the FDJ call to the new central natural gas pipeline youth project in the Soviet Union. Pupils and students not only have stood up to the high demands for learning and studies, but also, during the summer months, at building sites and production halls and in the fields. Young cooperative farmers have shown their mettle particularly during this year's grain harvest. The young members of the armed organs--alongside their comrades in arms from the Soviet Union and other socialist countries--are reliably protecting our socialist accomplishments and thereby the peace.

All these achievements are more and more based on a stable socialist class consciousness. Taking part in the fulfillment of such tasks important for socialist society helps more and more young people in acquiring the communists' purpose of life. They realize their deeds serve the good of the people and are of use to them themselves--for the molding of their personality and their own well-being. And so, from the commitment to society personal happiness arises.²

Under which essential social conditions do the shaping of a socialist class consciousness and the formation of communist modes of thought and action take place today?

--Our youth is growing up under the favorable conditions of our stable socialist society. Social security and comfort in a country in which the care for the young generation, its harmonious development, its happiness and assured prospects are the principle of party and state policy are among the everyday experiences of youth. It knows neither material misery nor dread about its existence nor worry about the future. In its own life it fortunately never became acquainted with the ills and crimes of imperialism that deeply affected the lives of the senior citizens--thanks to the sacrificial struggle of the communists and their allies. In contrast, in connection with the so-called Shell Study, "Youth '81," on large parts of FRG youth it was found: "The outstanding result: young people take a dim view of their and all our future."³

--Our youth is the witness and coshaper of the greatest revolutionary change in our history. Led by the SED and, in its vast majority, organized in the FDJ, youth has a part in shaping the developed socialist society and so helps create in the GDR the prerequisites for the gradual transition to communism. In this gigantic revolutionary movement it is shown confidence and assigned an exceptionally great responsibility. Often it stands in the front rank of this movement, particularly in coping with the scientific-technical revolution for socialism.

--Our youth grows up at a time when the worldwide class conflict between socialism and imperialism has entered a new stage. It is the witness of decisive victories by the Soviet Union and the other socialist states in shaping a new, humane social order, a witness to historic successes by the national liberation

movements in many countries on the earth. At the same time, youth also opposes the dangerous exacerbation of the international situation, the threat to world peace by the arms buildup policy of the United States and the other NATO states. It especially most seriously reacted to the assessment of our party that since World War II peace has never been as much threatened as it is today.

In our political-ideological work with youth we further have to consider that new generations keep growing into this age-group. Every year, circa 200,000 at the age of 14--provided with their first political experiences, which they gained in the Ernst Thaelmann pioneer organization--become FDJ members. Especially at that age--the last years among the pioneers and the first 2 or 3 years of FDJ membership--penetrating developments in their consciousness and entire personality take place. The ideological position becomes firm, the class standpoint takes shape. Furthermore, young people in this brief time span have to make decisions that control all their future life in our society--about their trade, their contribution to the defense of our homeland, about their friendships, love, marriage and family. The politically most conscious among them get set for joining the party of the communists.

Developments differ of course, as far as individual adolescents are concerned. In one and the same collective there are young people with already fully shaped Marxist-Leninist class positions together with others who are still ideologically undecided or passive in their conduct. Even under socialist conditions no one is born a revolutionary. Moreover it must be kept in mind that youth--for understandable reasons--is among the special target groups of imperialist diversion.

On the whole we may regard it as an accepted fact that the vast majority of youth in our country is distinguished by socialist class consciousness. Trust in SED policy, firms bonds with the socialist fatherland, an unconditional love for peace, friendship with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries and anti-imperialist solidarity are the distinguishing marks. The great political interest shown by young people is conspicuous. They seek clear and party-minded answers for their questions and tolerate no general or round-about talk.

The basic political stance of youth in our country combines with a great dedication to performance. One often talks about our youth's performance capability due to the achievements of our practically oriented training and education at our secondary schools, in vocational training and at the colleges and technical schools. That is indeed correct but only half the truth. A distinctive sign of our youth is that it also is ready for high achievements in strengthening and defending our socialist fatherland. This performance readiness--including the performance capability--is at present rather underrated than fully resorted to in many enterprises, cooperatives and institutions. The outstanding results of the mass movement "FDJ 10th Party Congress Mission" have underscored anew that youth is able and ready to confront the tasks of the 1980's.⁴

The shaping of the developed socialist society requires continuing the communist education of all youth at a higher level. The heart of communist education is and will remain the acquisition of the scientific world outlook of the workers

class, of Marxism-Leninism, the distinctive development of an unshakable socialist class position that stands the test in every situation. The point here is more than ever actually to reach each and every young person. Therefore the 10th party congress posed the task: "In this successful work each young person should be led to a high performance readiness, unshakable class consciousness and a combative dedication to the cause of communism."⁵

This ultimately aims at the formulation "communist education of all youth at a higher level." That makes it necessary for all the social forces responsible for education to ask themselves: "How do we truly reach each individual?"⁶ That in turn requires using consciously the potentials of the politically organized collective--i.e. the pioneer or FDJ group. A crucial youth policy party task therefore lies in strengthening the FDJ organizations on all levels and in all social sectors so that they will always live up to their function as the helper and reserve of the SED. In that sense all party executives now ought to issue measures in support of the "FDJ Peace Effort."

The party congress referred to the responsibility all society has for the communist education of youth--from the parents via the teachers, those in teacher training, the armed organs, the economic functionaries all the way to the various social organizations. The responsibility of our party members moved to the front: "We expect of each comrade--starting with the education of his own children--to hand over to youth the experiences of his own life and to help reinforce the revolutionary unity of the generations."⁷ The young socialists' circles and the talks about gaining the "good knowledge" medal, the youth forums and round-table talks with party functionaries, the club evenings and FDJ membership meetings with anti-fascist resistance fighters and labor veterans are well suited for such encounters between the communists and youth.

We keep running into the experience that youth is ready for great achievements for the strengthening and protection of socialism when it has properly understood the meaning of the main task and the GDR's position in the international class conflict. Therefore, particularly in ideological work with youth it is imperative to elucidate the dialectics of the two tasks which the fourth Central Committee plenum formulated as safeguarding peace and doing everything for the implementation of the party's economic strategy. The more openly and specifically we talk with the young people about the great responsibilities of our era, the more consciously and responsibly will they struggle to achieve the required high level of performance.

The Party's Economic Strategy--Challenge to the Performance Readiness of Youth

The five-year plan tasks, especially those in coping with scientific-technical progress, challenge the ability and readiness of youth for helping implement the party's economic strategy in all combines, enterprises and cooperatives. Therefore our party has charged the FDJ with great responsibilities in all economic sectors. In this sense the "FDJ Peace Effort" calls for a great contribution from each basic organization and every member to fulfilling and overfulfilling the plan goals. This mainly involves --the economic FDJ initiatives derived from the economic plan and from the basic trends in socialist competition,

--drawing ever broader sections of youth into the acceleration of scientific-technical progress, especially through the MMM (Fair of the Masters of Tomorrow) movement,
--the work of all youth brigades in line with the motto, "Each every day with a fine balance-sheet" and the forming of more youth brigades, and
--taking on significant economic tasks as central youth projects.

The specific economic FDJ initiatives are geared to important qualitative plan parameters. So last year, 2,870 jobs and 82 million working hours were cut, a value of M 1.6 billion was achieved through the FDJ's "materials economy" campaign, 424,000 tons of scrap and 78,000 tons of old paper were made available for recycling, and 11,809 apartments were converted or completed. Rural youth, through the FDJ's "fodder economy" campaign, produced a saving of M 38 million. For these economic initiatives, M 47 million could be transferred to the "young socialists account." In 1981, 87.1 percent of all basic FDJ organizations took part in the economic initiatives. The economic targets desired for 1982 are, on an average, 10 percent higher than those of the previous year. By 30 June they had already been met by 60 percent. In 1982, each basic organization is to take part for the first time in the economic initiatives. In some kreises that is already the case, mainly because of targeted economic propaganda in the basic organizations and specific missions assigned to the FDJ groups or members.

Of increasing weight are youth achievements in coping with scientific-technical progress. In November, the 25th Central MMM will be held in Leipzig and the Eighth Central Performance Show of Students and Young Scientists. In this connection the 11th FDJ Parliament assigned the task to carry on the scientific-technical work of youth at a broader range and higher level.

That purpose is also served by the FDJ initiatives in "microelectronics" and "industrial robots" through youth projects in bezirk, kreis and basic organizations. The center is the VEB communications plant in Erfurt. In 1982, the production of microelectronic circuits is expected to double in that enterprise. A "program on youth participation in scientific-technical progress" sets down the proportion of youth in R&D and production till 1985. Through 61 partial youth projects the young communications workers take part in the production of crucial items. The founding of five youth research collectives gathering the most capable college graduates functions as a stimulus for performance. New and advanced developments are being worked on there.

This level has, however, not yet been reached in all combines, enterprises and cooperatives. That is why the Central Committee at its fourth plenum came out with the criticism "that in some combines the performance readiness and capability of young workers, engineers and scientists are not sufficiently utilized."⁸ In 1981, only 55.5 percent of the industrial MMM tasks was derived from the science and technology plans. In the enterprises the involvement of young working people with MMM fluctuates between 95 and 20 percent. Of the more than 40,000 youth brigades, only 23,119 were given an MMM task in 1981. Still many young graduates are not taxed enough. Even of the performance willingness of apprentices much more could be made, as a recent Workers and Farmers' Inspectorate check revealed. Over that especially, more party control ought to be exercised.

Mainly its youth brigades express the grown economic potentials of the FDJ. In 1971, there were 15,685; now there are 40,642. The 11th FDJ Parliament resolved that all youth brigades should work in accordance with the motto, "Each every day with a fine balance-sheet" and that 5,000 more youth brigades are to be set up until 1985. "Each every day with a fine balance-sheet" is a high criterion for communist education in the youth brigades and for their performance contribution. There are two aspects to that motto:

- each works honestly, with discipline and creativeness, and seeks to fulfil and exceed the plan each day, and
- the performance comparison among comparable collectives--within the scope of the competition--focuses on highest achievements and lowest expenditures.

At the fourth session of the FDJ Central Council, youth brigade chief Jochen Preissler, labor hero, of the Wismut regional FDJ organization, reported on how his youth brigade conducts its performance comparison with another. The plan is broken down in detail all the way to a third of a shift. Each brigade member has a personal plan to work on. Every day the achievements of both collectives are publicly analyzed. The performance comparison aims at taking over whatever are the better experiences so that both brigades achieve optimum values. Since his brigade always showed itself superior to its competition partner, Jochen Preissler handed his collective over to what up to then had been his deputy, and he made himself the brigade chief of the other youth brigade. The performance comparison continues, of course.

If FDJ executives in the Peace Effort--supported by the party organizations and trade unions--enlist all 40,642 youth brigades in conducting the performance comparisons in accordance with the motto, "Each every day with a fine balance-sheet," that then conforms with the higher level of communist education the 10th party congress has called for. For that, ensuring party influence also is imperative in those 4,017 youth brigades that up to now have no comrades as yet. The FDJ therefore has adopted the goal to prepare its best members as SED candidates distinctly from youth brigades.

Nor are the reserves exhausted by any means for forming new youth brigades. On the average, in the centrally managed industry 25.3 percent of the young working people is organized in youth brigades. But this fluctuates among the combines between 52 and 8 percent. When technological changes are made, the retaining or formation of youth brigades is often ignored. Furthermore--as a Workers and Farmers' Inspectorate check revealed--only one-third of all apprentices receives special training in youth brigades.

Yet our party has always assigned important projects in socialist construction to the FDJ. Right now, there are the following central youth projects:

--"FDJ Initiative Berlin." In this largest youth project in FDJ history, more than 14,000 delegates from other bezirks work together with their Berlin colleagues. There are 889 youth brigades engaged in 277 youth projects which include, e.g., Berlin-Marzahn, the largest housing construction project in the GDR.

--"Natural gas pipeline" Soviet Union. In February, the SED Central Committee Politburo accepted the FDJ application for being assigned the GDR efforts in

building natural gas pipelines in the USSR as the central youth project "natural gas pipeline." Up to 1985, FDJ delegates will build at sites in the Ukraine and in the RSFSR 540 kilometers of pipes, seven compressor stations, dwelling units and social facilities. The first delegates have started working. By the end of the year there are already going to be as many as 5,000.

--Central Youth Projects from the Central Science and Technology Plan. Since the 10th FDJ Parliament in 1976, the ministry for science and technology and the Central Council have each year been assigning tasks from the science and technology state plan as youth projects, since the 11th Parliament, mainly on robot technology and microelectronics. Of the 92 youth projects handed out thus far, 53 are already completed, most of them ahead of schedule and showing a high economic effectiveness.

--Centrally Assigned Investment Youth Projects. At the 11th Parliament, the FDJ Central Council and the State Planning Commission for the first time handed important investment projects over to FDJ collectives. There are now 17 youth projects like that including, especially, rationalization projects, projects for the production of microelectronic devices, and for the production of robots, on the electrification of segments of the German Railroad and on a speedup in replacing heating oil.

--"FDJ Microelectronics Initiative." The heart of this initiative is to delegate 480 FDJ members to the Frankfurt/Oder semiconductor plant, the Erfurt communications plant and the Center for Research and Technology in Microelectronics in Dresden, to increase the production of microelectronics components.

--"Havel Fruit." There are 2,500 FDL members engaged in this central youth project which was handed over in 1975. They are responsible for working on the largest fruit growing area in the GDR and the processing capacities that go with it. On 10,000 hectares more than half of the apples, one-third of the tomatoes and one-fourth of the strawberries in our country are produced.

High criteria apply to all these central youth projects. Primarily they are to set an example for how youth exerts itself toward high effectiveness and production quality and copes with the tough problems which naturally arise with demanding tasks that often thrust into virgin territory. In these projects, our party's economic strategy is meant to be implemented in a model fashion, especially through the acceleration of scientific-technical progress.

In their struggle for the fulfilment of the tasks assigned, the youth projects meet their tests as places for communist education. Class consciousness, performance readiness, the collective spirit and managerial capabilities develop. In that sense then the youth projects are significant "cadre forges." Simultaneously they are centers for interesting FDJ work where the young working people's bonds are deepened with their political organization and from which many impulses arise for FDJ work in all areas.

In April 1983 the FDJ Central Council and the FDGB National Executive Committee will sponsor a "Congress of GDR Working Youth" in Berlin. It will discuss how the 10th party congress resolutions have become the yardstick for what working youth and all young people in our country are doing and what the new tasks are they assume in the FDJ Peace Effort.

Improving the Working and Living Conditions of Youth

The youth--together with all other working people--is doing a great deal for implementing the main task. Young people are not passive beneficiaries of our party's social welfare policy but they help improve, according to plan, the working and living conditions of the entire people, and so also their own.

Especially through the ideological work done with youth it should be brought out clearly that high achievements for society ultimately benefit each and every one. Thus in 1981, our state allocated M 17.6 billion for the education, social care and cultural and sports activities for young people and children. That was more than 10.5 percent of the entire state budget. Of it, M 10.6 billion went for school education, M 2.2 billion for college and technical school affairs, and 0.83 billion for vocational training. M 2.65 billion was spent for the social care of children and adolescents.

One out of every five newly built or modernized apartments between 1971 and 1981 went to young couples. For the social assistance of these young couples our state spent M 4.8 billion in credits since 1972. Of them, M 1.1 billion did not have to be repaid because of the birth of children.

Young workers--men as women--enjoy job security. For equal work they get the same wages as their older colleagues. The learning and study conditions for youth have improved steadily during past years. Between 1971 and 1981, as many as 36,171 classrooms and 1,431 gyms were created. Whereas in capitalist countries more and more teachers are becoming unemployed, in our country the number of employed teachers has risen from circa 140,000 in 1971 to 170,000 in 1981. Every secondary school graduate has an apprenticeship coming to him. Between 1971 and 1981, as many as 2.2 million young people have started an apprenticeship. Some 76 percent of the college students, 59.4 percent of all technical school students, and 25 percent of the apprentices live in boarding homes. The social situation of pupils, students and apprentices has been steadily improved. Starting in September 1981, all students for the first time got a basic monthly stipend of M 200. The pay for apprentices was raised. Pupils in 11th and 12th grade get training subsidies of M 110 and 150 respectively per month.

Much is done for the leisure time interests of youth. Vacancies in youth club facilities rose from 160,000 in 1971 to 379,000 in late 1981. The publishing volume of books for children and adolescents has doubled since 1971. It came to circa 22 million in 1981. There are much more dance events for youth now, even if not all wishes are satisfied in that field as yet. Tourism and sports are promoted generously. Whereas during the whole year of 1974 some 190,000 young people traveled in the GDR and abroad with "Jugend-tourist," the FDJ's travel bureau, in the first half of 1982 alone, that

figure rose to 886,600. Some 65 percent of all children and adolescents between 6 and 18 years of age is engaged in organized sports in the DTSB. For maintaining and expanding sports arenas, M 2.78 billion were allocated between 1971 and 1981.

Of great importance for promoting the young generation is the GDR Youth Law which was issued in a new version in 1974. It has become the regular routine of many state managements to take a position regularly on its implementation. In 1981, all bezirk councils and 210 kreis councils together with the FDJ bezirk and kreis executives conferred on measures for its implementation. During the "1982 Youth and Athletes Week" state and economic functionaries once again gave account to youth on the fulfillment of the law. Youth promotion plans stand up well as valuable instruments of socialist youth policy. Thus the Youth Law creates essential premises for the young people to meet their tests in strengthening and defending socialism and thereby acquiring the communists' purpose of life. What matters now is that all party organizations and state managers take measures by which to support the implementation of the FDJ Peace Effort.

FOOTNOTES

1. Comrade Erich Honecker, "Bericht des Zentralkomitees der Sozialistischen Einheitspartei Deutschlands an den X. Parteitag der SED" (SED Central Committee Report to the 10th SED Congress), Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1981, p 146.
2. Cf. Alfred Kosing, "Meaningful Life in Our Society," EINHEIT, No 7/8, 1982, pp 676 ff.
3. DIE ZEIT, Hamburg, 16 July 1982, p 14.
4. Cf. Egon Krenz, "The Youth Association Is a Strong Force in the Peace Struggle," NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, 17 September 1982, p 3.
5. Comrade Erich Honecker, "Bericht . . .," op. cit., p 146.
6. Cf. Margot Honecker, "Assuring Each Pupil of the Best Start in Life," EINHEIT, No 7/8, 1982, pp 716 ff.
7. Comrade Erich Honecker, "Bericht . . .," op. cit., p 147.
8. Comrade Paul Verner, "Aus dem Bericht des Politbueros an die 4. Tagung des ZK der SED" (Excerpts from the Politburo Report to the Fourth SED Central Committee Plenum), Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1982, p 64.

Young People in Agriculture

East Berlin EINHEIT in German Vol 37 No 10, Oct 82 (signed to press 18 Sep 82) pp 997-1001

['Youth in Our Society' feature article by Rainer Huhle, secretary, Central Council, Free German Youth (FDJ): "Agriculture and Rural Youth"]

[Text] In conformity with a 10th SED Congress resolution, the 12th GDR Farmers Congress was held a few months ago. It demonstrated the loyalty of the co-operative farmers and of the workers in agriculture, forestry and the foodstuffs industry to the policy of the working class party. The firm determination was expressed to confront the higher requirements and help enforce the economic strategy in achieving through lower costs still greater services in feeding the people and consolidating our workers and farmers power. The Congress adopted far-reaching resolutions, countersigned by the FDJ, on further advances in our socialist agriculture. It amounts to a concrete implementation of the Youth Law that 10,000 young people attended the kreis farmers conferences, FDJ members themselves handed in 2,100 proposals for the draft documents, and one out every four congress delegates was wearing the blue shirt. "It is impossible to talk about our agricultural development," Comrade Erich Honecker has said, "without paying tribute to the young people among our farmers and the great FDJ contribution. The FDJ has always been dedicated to socialist development in the countryside and thereby represented the interests of rural youth. Since the democratic land reform to our own days, from Ruegen to the Rennstein, it has left traces of its active partnership in every village. Today, we need the FDJ initiative more than ever."*

We regard this as an appreciation for the revolutionary traditions of the FDJ throughout the 30 years of our socialist agriculture's successful development and, following the 10th party congress appeal to the youth in our country, derive from it the great responsibility of the young generation for the further implementation of the Marxist-Leninist agrarian policy in the 1980's. The documents of the 12th Farmers Congress, especially the speech of Comrade Erich Honecker, secretary general of the SED Central Committee, provide us with the guideline for the continuing implementation of the 10th party congress resolutions in agriculture, forestry and the foodstuffs industry and form the basis for FDJ work in the countryside. It attests to a deep trust in our party policy that the young cooperative farmers, workers, members of the young scientific-technical intelligentsia, and apprentices in agricultural production are making an ever more active personal contribution to consistently carrying on the main task policy and enforcing the economic strategy. The yardstick for their actions in the "FDJ Peace Effort" is to help through higher achievements on the fields and in the stables while decisively improving the cost/benefit ratio in stably supplying the population with foodstuffs and industry with agricultural raw materials at ever higher levels.

Our youth very well understands at a time when peace is dangerously threatened by the imperialist warmongers: Misusing foodstuffs as means of blackmail and suppression is an expression of imperialism's anti-humanity. Having made the experience that none but socialism can offer youth secure prospects, the rural youth supplies the following response: We do all we can to strengthen our state through high economic achievements. Through greater efforts of our own we shall increase our supplies in crop products to take care of the demanding tasks without grain imports. The various initiatives for the all-round strengthening and protection of our socialist fatherland, in following up the fourth SED Central Committee plenum, again document the urban and rural youth's agreement with the 10th party congress course for the safeguarding of peace and the well-being of the people.

*Erich Honecker, "Workers and Farmers Hand in Hand for Socialism and Peace," NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, 15/16 May 1982, p 3.

A New Generation Has Grown Up

In his significant speech at the 11th FDJ Parliament, Comrade Erich Honecker said: "With great joy we can record that in the GDR's countryside a new generation, highly educated and full of vitality, has grown up. And not by chance. Through the socialist transformation of agriculture, the workers and farmers power also has changed the looks of the village and will continue to change it for the good."*

A vivid expression of the SED's successful agrarian and alliance policy is that, based on socialist production relations, the basic rights of the young generation have also been realized in the countryside and a life in social security and free from worry about its subsistence is guaranteed to farming youth. Today, the cooperative farmers and agricultural workers are highly skilled. The proportion of specialists rose from 5.9 percent in 1960 to 89 percent in 1981; the figure of college cadres rose tenfold. The proportion of youths in the total number employed rose from 7.2 percent in 1970 to 13.5 percent in 1980. More than 85,000 young people are directly tied up with cooperative property. Love for agriculture, a high performance readiness, initiative and creativeness, loyalty to the cooperative and to the enterprise, and close bonds with the village more and more control the thoughts and actions of the farming youth. Agricultural youth is a great social force which--as was emphasized at the fourth Central Committee plenum--proves "by its deeds that it has accepted the challenge to its performance determination and creativity and is ready for actively participating in the fulfilment of the tasks of the 12th Farmers Congress."**

Our aim is to explain to all young people in the countryside the SED's domestic and foreign policy through various mass political activities and to familiarize them with the tasks in the continued implementation of the Marxist-Leninist agrarian policy. In all FDJ collectives a combative and propelling atmosphere must be developed, and each and every young person must be mobilized toward making a responsible and initiative-rich contribution to further improving the performance of agriculture. That is why the 11th FDJ Parliament has appealed to all groups and basic organizations in the cooperatives, enterprises, cooperative facilities and villages to take an active part in the movement, "Rationalizing--Producing More, Better and Cheaper." As producing more, better and more cheaply challenges the attitude of each FDJ member in agriculture, we want to turn that movement in the truest sense of the word into a mass movement in all basic FDJ organizations. In this we aim our competition initiatives at using each square meter of soil, improving soil fertility and increasing hectare yields. We want to make our contribution to meeting the livestock production plan daily, supplying our cattle with feed from our own economy, reducing animal losses, and tapping new reserves in the FDJ campaign in the "fodder economy."

*Erich Honecker, "Der Sozialismus loest die Lebensfragen der Jugend" (Socialism Solves the Vital Problems of Youth), Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1981, p 18.

**Comrade Paul Verner, "Aus dem Bericht des Politburos an die 4. Tagung des ZK der SED" (Excerpts from the Politburo Report to the Fourth SED Central Committee Plenum), Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1982, p 65.

This year's harvest was the first acid test after the 12th Farmers Congress in socialist competition; the grain harvest, of over 10 million tons, was the biggest in GDR history. Alongside more experienced cooperative farmers, 1,054 FDJ harvester-thresher units, 385 FDJ straw clearing units, 173 FDJ transport brigades and 1,570 students in the FDJ "grain harvest" students brigades showed their mettle.

Model initiatives in response to the fourth Central Committee plenum came from the basic FDJ organizations in the Kerspleben cooperative. Spurred by the effective support from the party organizations and LPG boards, they assumed the goal to provide fresh feed for cattle for 200 days and raise summer catch crop yields by 100 hectares. Their target is to reduce livestock feed consumption in cattle and hog breeding, tap new fodder reserves and save an additional amount of fodder at a value of M 45,000. With the support of FDJ members in the basic organizations in the village and the Kerspleben party organizations, through multiple gleanings on potato and turnip acreages, 1,000 decitons of grain units in fodder are to be made available. The experiences with the Kerspleben cooperative demonstrate it pays off, in accordance with the SED principle, to place trust in young people and assign great responsibilities to them in the cooperatives, enterprises and villages.

"The chief course for the requisite performance improvement in the 1980's," Comrade Werner Felfe stated at the fifth People's Chamber session, "in agriculture also is the still closer combination of the advantages of socialism with the accomplishments of the scientific-technical revolution."*

In socialist agriculture also youth, science and technology belong together. In 1981, some 34 percent of the young people in agriculture, forestry and the foodstuffs industry took part in the MMM (Fair of the Masters of Tomorrow) movement. That was an achievement that confronts the LPG boards, the state managements and the youth association with new tasks. After all, it is a matter of drawing more young people from the LPG crop and livestock production into solving scientific-technical tasks. Of the total of 9,600 MMM tasks assigned, 74 percent came out of the science and technology plans. Every other youth brigade was drawn into the solution of MMM tasks. The agricultural, forestry and foodstuffs industry exhibits at the 24th Central MMM attested to the scientific-technical creativeness of rural youth. Computed on an annual basis, those accomplishments yield a benefit of over M 7.6 million. The achievements of the young innovators made for a saving of 90,000 working hours, of material at a value of M 4.5 million, 4,700 tons of solid fuels and 509 tons of diesel fuel and heating oil.

These and other examples teach us: wherever LPG boards and state executives assign demanding tasks to rural youth, according to plan, mainly from the science and technology plans and the rationalization conceptions, their proclivity toward tinkering and exploring is encouraged and we succeed in involving them still more extensively in the MMM and innovator movement, more young cooperative farmers, workers, apprentices and members of the young scientific-technical intelligentsia are inspired to cope with science and technology, and their love is aroused and deepened for the demanding modern farming trade.

*NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, 3 July 1982, p 4.

Also in agriculture, the youth brigades are becoming more and more the centers for communist education and the shock troops in socialist competition. Their number climbed from 1,862 in 1970 to 5,289 last year. And so at present 32 percent of the young people in crop production enterprises and 20 percent of them in livestock production enterprises work in youth brigades. At that, there still is much to be accomplished here. "It is highly pertinent," Comrade Erich Honecker said during the 12th Farmers Congress, "to help the FDJ executives in organizing the work in youth brigades and on youth projects in accordance with the motto, 'each every day with a fine balance-sheet.' The chances for setting up more youth brigades and handing over more youth projects have by no means as yet been exhausted."* The idea is to raise the number of rural youth brigades by 1,000 up to 1985.

The young people in agriculture completed 7,400 youth projects last year. Some 40 percent of the youth projects comes out of the science and technology plans. To mobilize further reserves the FDJ collectives should be given more responsibilities by handing them youth projects for focal points of the intensification of agriculture and husbandry. And there, a highly skilled mastery, the capacity use made of farm equipment and its repair and maintenance, a higher materials and energy management, the rationalization of stable installations and the production of means of rationalization present testing grounds for youth initiatives.

Much Attention for New Blood

Experiences in socialist competition illuminate that for further performance improvement in agriculture observing the standards of the best units, constant performance comparisons and generalizations of the most advanced experiences are an essential key to the successful solution of ambitious tasks. Following the example of the competition initiative of Harald Behrens, youth brigade chief in the Wilhelm Pieck crop production LPG Hamersleben and delegate to the Farmers Congress, many youth brigades in crop production picked it up in their spring cultivation, their maintenance and their harvesting with a public performance comparison. The youth brigade of the Hamersleben LPG accomplished 1.5 decitons of grain per hectare above the plan, a saving of 6.1 liters of diesel fuel per hectare, and several times won the bezirk's harvest competition. The public performance comparison among LPG and VEG livestock production youth brigades in "Junge Welt" aimed at optimum values and maximum increases in the daily volumes of high-grade milk while economizing as much as possible in fodder. The optimum values achieved have already become permanent values. The milkers' occupational skills and responsibilities have grown. They seek still better breeding results and achievements and a more radical reduction in animal losses. Many other FDJ collectives, even in LPG's with a lower production and efficiency level, joined the youth brigades' competition for optimum values.

Public performance comparisons provide the youth association with important experiences for its further work. Working in accordance with the competition slogan, "each every day with a fine balance-sheet," calls for good sense and

*Erich Honecker, "Workers and Farmers . . .," op. cit., loc. cit.

presents a challenge to the campaign position of the entire collective. Acts of awareness are wanted from each and every one. Each brigade member has to be familiar with his plan and has to be given tasks that can be concretely accounted for. That way alone can one sense every day how much depends on one's own diligent and honest efforts on behalf of our socialist cause. It has been found useful effectively to assist our best youth brigades and young exemplary cooperative farmers and the workers in agriculture, forestry and the foodstuffs industry in their turning into initiators in socialist competition. Competition initiators also are models for the even younger generations taking over in our socialist agriculture. Encouraging them and popularizing their accomplishments, and awakening profound interest by their example for the demanding agricultural trade, greatly ensures that there will be enough young personnel to take over in agriculture. This also bestows a heavy responsibility on the work of the youth association. The point is, after all, to attract 17,000 school graduates each year to the agricultural trades up to 1985.

Entertaining, interesting, diversified and close to nature is the farmer's activity. That can inspire the boys and girls. That is why the FDJ pays so much attention to educating and bringing up young cooperative farmers. It sees to it that the fine tradition is carried on for children to follow in their parents' footsteps. And experience teaches us: wherever the LPG works closely together with the school, the youth association, the Ernst Thaelmann pioneer organization and the parents, and where the training is provided by experienced instructors and specialists and work collectives, and where adolescents are early in the game familiarized with interesting scientific-technical tasks, we manage to interest the children of cooperative farmers in agricultural work and recruit adolescents as members of cooperatives while they are still apprentices.

Providing young people with knowledge and skills in agriculture and husbandry from their earliest youth, and instilling in them love for the soil and for animals, and for cooperative work, and firm bonds with the village--that is what counts, and for this the FDJ also proves a mighty force. So we bring it about that the LPG itself remains young and that youth in turn, full of initiative, contributes to the all-round consolidation of the LPG. Of great weight in this is the apprentice training in accordance with modified instruction plans since 1 September 1982 so as to direct the new blood in agriculture more than before at further performance improvements in crop and livestock production. Adolescents learning the trades of agro-technician, zoological technician, agro-technical specialist or specialist in cattle or hog production receive extensive basic agricultural training. The responsibility of the cooperatives and enterprises for attracting school graduates to agricultural trades and for a high-level vocational training is thus notably heightened.

The various activities of the basic FDJ organizations and pioneer friendship groups toward instilling the love for agricultural trades in children and adolescents range from assisting the activities of the working communities via the further development of sponsorship relations all the way to polytechnical instruction. Numerous basic FDJ organizations, youth projects and youth brigades make distinctive contributions to a high-level vocational training by assuming sponsorships for the apprentices to be trained and by effectively conducting socialist vocational competition.

Dynamic farm production and village development presents a testing ground for many FDJ generations. That attaches great importance to our distinctive efforts in further deepening the cooperation and further molding cooperative democracy and improving working and living conditions and opening up new opportunities for fashioning an interesting intellectual-cultural and athletic and touristic life for rural youth. We firmly count on the ideas and initiatives of all basic FDJ organizations and on the activity of those FDJ members who were elected into the LPG boards and cooperative councils. A great responsibility for representing the interests of all rural youth goes to the over 14,000 FDJ deputies in the communal representations. In all groups and basic organizations we espouse a party-minded atmosphere and high energy for all FDJ members. We seek stable and strong basic FDJ organizations in each cooperative, enterprise, cooperative facility and village. We want to recruit more young cooperative farmers and workers into membership in our socialist youth associations and prepare our best members for membership in the working class party. In implementing the Marxist-Leninist agrarian and alliance policy in the 1980's also, the FDJ will prove itself a faithful helper and reliable fighting reserve of the SED.

5885

CSO: 2300/71

SKILLED WORKER TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL GRADUATES DISCUSSED

East Berlin EINHEIT in German Vol 37 No 10, Oct 82 (signed to press 18 Sep 82)
pp 991-996

['Youth in Our Society' feature article by Prof Dr Wolfgang Rudolph, director, GDR Central Institute for Vocational Training; chairman, Scientific Council for Vocational Training: "Develop Class-Conscious, Qualified Skilled Workers"]

[Text] The typical occupational course of development for girls and boys in the GDR is that they acquire skilled workers qualifications after their graduating from the ten-grade polytechnical secondary school. That gives them important prerequisites for coping with the increasing requirements in their public and work life--including their continuing higher education. That this course is open to all young people without exception and that the acquisition of a trade is both a constitutional right and duty, for the assumption of which the socialist state also creates the necessary preconditions, constitutes a gigantic historic accomplishment. It is an irrevocable element of the SED's youth policy, the implementation of a fundamental demand of the revolutionary workers movement, and an indispensable necessity for successfully continuing the socialist revolution in the GDR. For those reasons our party has always paid great attention to vocational training, to developing class-conscious, qualified skilled workers.

The Training and Education of the Workers Class of Tomorrow

Vocational training is a developmental phase in the life of young people of great significance to society and to the individual. It performs an important contribution to the reproduction of our society's social structure at an increasingly higher level. All young generations of the workers class and the class of the cooperative farmers go through this phase of our uniform educational system. All master workers and increasingly more socialist intellectuals have acquired skilled workers qualifications.

For the young people's personality development this phase is marked mainly by a profound change in their social position. Lengthy as the preparations may have been, the fact still is that practically "overnight" pupils become workers, members of socialist enterprises, producers of our public wealth, and they become directly a part of the workers class or the class of the cooperative farmers. Acquiring a trade is a chief element in the socialization of personality.*

*Cf. V. G. Podmarkov, "Man and His Trade," SOWJETWISSENSCHAFT, GESELLSCHAFTS-WISSENSCHAFTLICHE BEITRAEGE, No 2, 1973, p 173.

Proceeding from there, our party has always let itself be guided in its educational policy by the following remark by Marx: "The enlightened sector of the workers class understands very well that the future of its class, and thus the future of humanity, depends on the education of the growing workers' generation."* In our republic therefore the direct influence the workers class brings to bear on the education of youth is among the advantages of the socialist educational system, especially of vocational training. And so the best brigades, many youth brigades among them, work closely together with apprentice collectives and train during such special training apprentices within their brigade. The activities of 100,000 experienced skilled workers exercise a great influence on the training of young qualified skilled workers. In many places, and most exemplarily in the workers centers in Halle Bezirk, the apprentices are familiarized with the traditions in the struggle and the work. Through combining the vocational competition with the working people's socialist competition, the apprentices are drawn early on into the struggle for economic performance growth. The great advantage our vocational training derives from its close linkage with the industrial reproduction process should be used still more definitively everywhere by drawing general rules from the many different fine experiences.

In the mission given them by the workers class, 56,000 professional pedagogues and managerial cadres in vocational training responsibly take part in the training and education of the budding skilled workers. Their main field is theoretical and practical vocational instruction aimed at the implementation of the goals and subjects set down in the teaching plans. They--as our entire educational policy--are oriented to the values that determine the looks of the workers class in coming decades. The specific task of vocational training is to prepare the young people directly for their working life. Tied to the knowledge and skills acquired at the secondary school and to the acquired convictions and attitudes, general education and communist education are extended by contents aimed at skilled workers activity with the idea of enabling the apprentices to engage in creative and independent work on their jobs. This conforms to the demand by Marx for "combining productive work, intellectual education, physical exercise and polytechnical training."**

Graduates Entering Vocational Training

<u>Year</u>	<u>Totals</u>	<u>Tenth Grade Graduates</u>	
		<u>Totals</u>	<u>Percent</u>
1965	183,603	98,477	53.6
1970	193,894	137,046	70.7
1975	206,837	162,264	78.5
1980	231,450	198,193	85.6

The vocational training teaching plans authoritatively set down the working class standpoint on training its young generations. Relying on the preliminary achievements at the polytechnical secondary school, it comes down to a continuing and permanent fashioning of important characteristics identifying the working class as the most revolutionary social force, such as profoundly pronounced

*Karl Marx, "Instructions for the Delegates to the Provisional Central Council on Particular Issues," Marx/Engels, "Werke" (Works), Vol 16, Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1962, p 194.

**Ibid., p 195.

Marxist-Leninist world-outlook and political steadfastness in the class struggles of our time, combined with the readiness and ability to strengthen socialism economically and militarily, communist labor ethics, high technical skills, creativeness in coping with the scientific-technical progress, social energy and the ability to take part in socialist democracy, a high cultural level and collective action.

Since these teaching plans are politically so very important, the socialist state is intent on keeping them always at the requisite level and permitting no curtailment in their implementation. Teachers, instructors and educators do for it what they can--as was once again ascertained by a Workers and Farmers' Inspectorate check in May this year--and are increasingly better helped in this by their enterprise managements. At the same time the need was underscored always to struggle resolutely for the fulfilment of this task in all enterprises. Neglecting the educational tasks set down in the teaching plans, interruption in instruction or a deficient quality in specific subjects and courses are bound to lead to negative consequences to personality development, to the future productive work, and in the skilled workers' attitudes in other public sectors.

Preparing Apprentices Better for Coping with the Economic Strategy of the SED

The 10th SED Congress emphatically emphasized that the knowledge and skills of the skilled workers constitute a reserve for economic performance improvement that is essentially inexhaustible. That also adds more weight to vocational training while we are carrying on the course of the main task. It must contribute significantly to forming the abilities and readiness of the skilled workers of the future to help cope with the SED's economic strategy. As was brought out in Magdeburg in June 1982, at the central experience exchange of the State Secretariat for Vocational Training with the chairmen of the skilled trades commissions, rigorous account has to be taken of these requirements when teaching plans and other training documents are reviewed or concretized.⁴

Combining the advantages of socialism with the accomplishments of the scientific-technical revolution--e.g. in the application of microelectronics and robot technology, in automation, in tapping new energy and raw material resources, in enhanced refining and so forth--requires higher knowledge and better skills. The struggle for a perceptible performance improvement demands politically responsible economic thinking and actions from every working person. Labor contents altogether are getting more intricate. Surveys and many practical experiences keep telling us that we must develop, especially, the disposition capability of skilled workers, their skill and readiness to adapt readily to growing and changing labor requirements and to new technologies, working tools and products. Highly important for this is a well balanced relation between general and basic vocational education and specialized vocational training and between theoretical knowledge and practical vocational skills, and so is preparing for occupational advanced training that lasts a lifetime.

*Cf. "Richtlinie zur Inhaltsbestimmung, Entwicklung von Ausbildungsunterlagen und Lehrplanbegleitenden Materialien fuer Facharbeiterberufe vom 25 Februar 1982" (Guideline on the Definition and the Development of Training Documents and Training-related Materials for Skilled Workers Occupations, of 25 February 1982), Staatsverlag der DDR, Berlin, 1982.

Surveys on the labor requirements in the introduction of microelectronics and robot technology and in the construction and use of means of rationalization have established that under the conditions of modern production processes the working people become no "button pushers," and their occupational qualifications are not devaluated, but that it raises higher demands for their knowing about economic and technological frames of reference going beyond their particular jobs. They need sophisticated practical occupational facilities and a permanent form of such attitudes as discipline, a sense of responsibility, endurance and reaction capability. Only by education and training aiming at that, which of necessity includes conveying the party's overall policy, can we bring it about that the working people consciously cope with the scientific-technical progress and do not fall prey--as they more and more evidently do in the capitalist world--to its social consequences they could not cope with.

Of an importance not to be underrated for educating the future skilled workers and motivating their struggle for high achievements in their skills is making an effective use of the intellectual potentials already created. Also the effect on the working and learning morality of the new generation of skilled workers is to be paid attention to if, as Comrade Erich Honecker emphatically demanded at the fourth Central Committee plenum, "the considerable potential in skilled labor is to be brought to full economic effect."*

Growing Combine Responsibility for Young Skilled Workers

Through having formed the centrally managed and bezirk-managed combines, we not only have more favorable possibilities for improving our efficiency in production, R&D, sales and foreign trade, but we also have better conditions for training our working people. "For solving the tasks in training and education the young generation of the workers class, the advantages and possibilities of the combines are to be used extensively in cooperation with the official state organs,"** as Comrade Erich Honecker put it in his report to the 10th party congress. Those advantages are in particular

- the direct combine responsibility for the content of 170 skilled workers occupations;
- the long-range planning for the vocational and qualifications structure, derived from the scientific-technical and economic development conceptions of the combines and recruiting for them the needed amount of school graduates, in cooperation with the secondary schools and vocational guidance centers;
- the effective use and target-directed improvement of the material and personnel conditions for a high level of vocational training, with an eye to the combines' overall development and by exhausting all their potentials; and
- raising the vocational training level and rigid central management, and rapidly applying the best experiences throughout the combines' vocational training departments.

These and other advantages of the combines can and must be used purposefully.

*"Aus dem Schlusswort des Genossen Erich Honecker, 4. Tagung des ZK der SED" (Excerpts from the Concluding Speech by Comrade Erich Honecker at the Fourth SED Central Committee Plenum), Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1982, p 93.

**Comrade Erich Honecker, "Bericht des Zentralkomitees der Sozialistischen Einheitspartei Deutschlands an den X. Parteitag der SED," Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1981, p 103.

Many of our combines are active in the working class centers, following their great traditions and having excellent educational potentials at their disposal. The apprentices are members of the combine enterprises. That they should sense every day by being involved in all decisive concerns in their enterprise: in the struggle for plan fulfilment, the scientific-technical innovations, the rationalization, the introduction of new technologies and procedures, and the various efforts in coping with the economic strategy. Indispensable for that also is the advanced training to which the vocational pedagogues were committed by the 10th party congress.*

Graduates of 1980 Starting Vocational Training in Terms of Trades

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Percent</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Chemistry	4,795	2.1	Textile/Clothing	10,645	4.6
Energy	3,203	1.4	Leather/Synthetics	1,734	0.8
Metallurgy/Materials Management	2,558	1.1	Foodstuffs Industry	7,453	3.2
Construction of machinery, equipment and installations	44,599	19.3	Trade/Gastronomy/Services	28,819	12.5
Manufacturing and procedural techniques	16,469	7.1	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	18,019	7.8
Electrical engineering/electronics	15,580	6.7	Construction	30,98	13.1
Automation technology	4,122	1.8	Traffic and Transportation	8,078	3.5
Lumber	3,604	1.6	Post and Telecommunications	4,237	1.8
			Economics and Administration	17,369	7.5

A decisive role lies in assigning demanding tasks to the apprentices that are appropriate to their training plans. That is an unmistakable yardstick for the attitude an enterprise takes toward its apprentices because it indicates, after all, how enterprise managers look at the future. A carefully considered and well planned apprenticeship production helps the apprentices in focusing on their productive labor as skilled workers. Many positive examples, especially from the apprentice training in advanced youth brigades, the assigning of responsible tasks in the construction of means of rationalization, and the production of consumer goods and export products, unequivocally demonstrate their lasting effects on the performance of skilled workers at the end of their vocational training and on the bonds established with their trade and enterprise. Equally fruitful, it turns out, is for the apprentices always to find out about the economic value of their productive tasks so that they consciously contribute their share to enterprise operations and their work morality is boosted.

Assigning ambitious apprenticeship production tasks not only means an investment in the future. Even for the present the apprentices are doing a great deal in fulfilment of industrial plan tasks. Many desired spare parts and consumer

*Cf. *ibid.*

items, many export products or means of rationalization, many structures built in our country, and not a few of our daily food items attest to the diligence and skill of the apprentices. And also in the services and supply sector they are often the ones who through their dedication help make our daily life more pleasant. To be sure, more could still be made of those potentials. At times one still runs into unjustified reservations about entrusting modern, efficient equipment to the apprentices or assigning them on focal points of industrial operations. Not always does vocational training pay enough attention to the great knowledge already acquired and the pronounced urge of young people to stand up in complicated test situations, test their capacities and perform something extraordinary. Sure enough, those tasks also must be appropriate to developing the knowledge, abilities and skills the teaching plan calls for. That requirement remains crucial in vocational training; in fact, ultimately that is its proper purpose.

Noticeable advances in this field were found in the survey, already referred to, by the Workers and Farmers' Inspectorate, which is gratifying. Some 90 percent of the enterprises checked have an apprenticeship production plan, confirmed by the enterprise manager, as a standard component of the enterprise plan. And yet it remains a permanent task to struggle for a high level of such a plan in each enterprise and for its purposeful implementation. That is the chief interconnecting link for further improving the level and effectiveness of vocational training both with regard to the personality development of the apprentices and the economic interest.

Vigorous Apprentice Involvement in Vocational Training

Teachers, instructors and educators carry out their mission in turning all apprentices into class-conscious, qualified skilled workers with devotion and dedication. Based on solid training, and helped by various advanced training measures and the experience exchange in the pedagogues' collectives, they strive for providing high-grade theoretical and practical vocational instruction. Experienced vocational pedagogues keep confirming that vocational training is most successful when apprentices are induced to do work on their own, the apprentices' activities in acquiring the substance of education and training are guided pedagogically, and a vivid interaction is achieved between education and self-education, while attention is paid to the potentials of the FDJ and apprentices' collectives. That makes it correct and necessary to keep thinking all the time about the apprentice of today, his prerequisites, his social position, his psyche, his ideas of life and so forth. That should be discussed. Our approaches thus far should be analyzed. New ones should be worked out and tried out. It goes without saying that all who are involved in the training and education of apprentices should take part in that debate.

Today's apprentices differ from the ones some 15 or 20 years ago. It surely is not immaterial that they already have an extensive political and natural science knowledge from their 10-grade polytechnical secondary school--since 1978 all school graduates have been instructed along new instruction plans, starting in first grade--and have a solid polytechnical education and their own personal production experiences, that they were publicly engaged in various ways while they went to school and have already done active political work

for several years as members of the Ernst Thaelmann pioneer organization and the FDJ. That young people experience a profound change in their social position when they start their vocational training was already pointed out. It is this new social position of which the apprentices, on the one hand, have to be made aware and which, on the other hand, has to be made more use of as a favorable condition for instilling a sense of responsibility. Nearly all apprentices belong to the FDJ and the FDGB where they assumed high political responsibilities as members of those social organizations. Quite a few make the decision while they are in vocational training to become members of the working class party.

In this phase of life a young person has to make many important decisions: on his life's occupation--that process, as one knows, is not finished by choosing an occupation; on his further occupational development. e.g., by college or technical school studies; on his future spouse (an apprentice may even already be about to establish a family and may have his own children to educate), and on much else. As such decisions to a large extent have to be made on one's own and consciously, they invite a sensitive and yet principled educational work by the vocational pedagogues, the work collectives, the enterprise managers, the functionaries of social organizations and naturally also the parents. We should take more account of the fact that especially at that age one is looking for models, who not rarely have a crucial influence on the rest of one's life.

These and other traits that are typical of apprentices--e.g. in leisure time activities and in psychological development--must be taken into account throughout the apprentices' entire educational process as much as their individual talents and abilities. Above and beyond our instruction as the main field of education and training, we can dispose, in GDR vocational training, of a whole arsenal of tried ways and means for furthering the apprentices' independent and responsible conduct such as socialist occupational competition, the apprentices' participation in the economic FDJ initiatives and the MMM movement, in youth and apprentices' projects, in fashioning a socialist communal life in apprentice dormitories, where more than one-fourth of all apprentices live, or in taking part in the work in social organizations. That has to be made use of still more purposefully in the vocational education process, partly also to discover special gifts and talents and sensibly encourage them.

The society has every good reason to expect of the apprentices that they, in accordance with their maturation and social position, make a constantly growing contribution of their own to developing into class-conscious, qualified skilled workers. That in turn requires that apprentices are shown confidence and assigned responsibilities. This principle of SED youth policy, which like a red thread runs from summoning the apprentices for their first occupational contest in 1949 to the resolution of 7 December 1976 by the SED Central Committee Politburo, the GDR Council of Ministers, the FDGB National Executive Committee, and the FDJ Central Council, on further improving the level of vocational training, and was again underscored at the 10th party congress, will continue to be the basic line for bringing up a new working class generation in our country.

5885

CSO: 2300/71

FUTURE GRADUATES' 'LEVEL OF COMMUNIST EDUCATION' TO BE RAISED

East Berlin EINHEIT in German Vol 37 No 10, Oct 82 (signed to press 18 Sep 82)
pp 1002-1007

['Youth in Our Society' feature article by Dr Wilfried Possner, secretary, Central Council, Free German Youth (FDJ): "Studying--A Proving Ground"]

[Text] The 10th SED Congress posed the task "to take another step in combining the advantages of socialism with the accomplishments of the scientific-technical revolution, fully exhausting the potentials of the scientific-technical revolution, and gaining a maximum increase in economic strength from the latest scientific-technical data."* Here lies an inexhaustible proving ground for pupils.

The higher demands arising from that for bringing up future graduates are complex in nature. They involve the entire personality, political steadfastness, scientific capability and a broad intellectual-cultural level. Forming such graduates to a not insignificant degree depends on further improving the students' level of training and communist education.

For the solution of this task our party's science and youth policies are intertwining more and more. In that respect, the implementation of the 18 March 1982 SED Central Committee Politburo resolution on the "tasks of the universities and colleges in the developed socialist society" has become an indispensable prerequisite for the continued successful development of socialist college affairs. Especially our party's orientation to increasing the students' own responsibility and a still closer cooperation between students and teachers gives the socialist youth association much more room for actively participating in improving the quality and effectiveness of studies and research.

Commitment to the Strengthening of Socialism

The 11th FDJ Parliament demanded "to take part in enhancing the productivity of mental work in studies and research, firmly tying up every student with the party policy and the working class ideals, and helping him to learn to understand his studies as a revolutionary mission from the workers class."** Such

*Comrade Erich Honecker, "Bericht des Zentralkomitees der Sozialistischen Einheitspartei Deutschlands an den X. Parteitag der SED," Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1981, pp 49-50.

**Egon Krenz, "Die Verantwortung der Jugend bei der Weiterfuehrung der sozialistischen Revolution in der DDR und die Aufgaben der FDJ nach dem X. Parteitag der SED, XI. Parlament der Freien Deutschen Jugend," Junge Welt publishing house, pp 76-77.

an orientation still more definitely aims at placing the focal point of the youth association's political-ideological work on everyday studies as the revolutionary proving ground. That is also reflected by the "FDJ Peace Effort" the fifth Central Council session issued. FDJ students understand that as a challenge to making their contribution to the struggle for the preservation of peace and the strengthening and protection of socialism by high achievements in their studies and in their scientific and productive activities. One of the chief tasks in this lies in inducing the students to come to grips with the political and scientific requirements of our era in a still more committed and personally binding manner and while proceeding from solid basic Marxist-Leninist positions, and in challenging them always to relate their study attitude and performance to overall social requirements.

We always look at the acquisition of scientific knowledge and skills as being closely tied up with the shaping or solidification of such personality traits as loyalty to the working class ideals, love for our socialist fatherland, friendship with the Soviet Union, diligence, a collective spirit and the readiness to assume responsibilities. The 1981/82 school year, from that vantage point, was a year rich in political and scientific tests. Typical of the open-minded political climate in our highest educational institutions has been and is that, under working class party leadership, teachers and students together seek to enhance the effectiveness and quality of education and training, extend further what has proven itself and at the same time are looking for new opportunities clearly to raise the performance level in studies and research.

The FDJ students' proposals for implementing the 18 March 1980 SED Central Committee Politburo resolution, their committed stance at the Pentecostal meeting of youth, their achievements in studies and in scientific and productive activities, during the FDJ Student Days, in civil defense and military training camps, and in the FDJ student brigades convincingly demonstrate: student youth is firmly tied up with the working class party policy and the socialist fatherland. Study motivation is more and more determined by the realization that both the exacerbation of the international situation and the level attained in the shaping of the developed socialist society require a still greater personal commitment to the strengthening and protection of socialism, and that high expectations of society must needs be connected with high achievements for society.

Struggle for Highest Achievements in Studies

In his concluding speech at the fourth Central Committee plenum, Comrade Erich Honecker pointed out that in view of the greatly increased intellectual potential and the considerable outlays for the development of science and technology the proportion of scientific top achievements was still too small and that we should have to make more definite headway in this regard.* The cornerstone is laid for it at the universities and colleges. Even though the urge for high achievements has perceptibly grown and become more intensive, still

*Cf. "Aus dem Schlusswort des Genossen Erich Honecker, 4. Tagung des ZK der SED," Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1982, p 93.

considerable efforts are yet needed to turn such a high performance level into a norm for all students. Teachers and students therefore are in honor bound in the school year that has just started to raise the broad mass of the students up to the level of the best ones and further elevate their performance through targeted encouragement measures. That mainly means using the strength of the FDJ for instilling in all students the firm resolve to use their studies effectively for absorbing the sciences and developing their own personality. Of the students in our era, siding with the cause of peace and socialism and the variety of interests and needs should be as typical as their stubborn efforts in the solving of problems and for accuracy in details. Their studies must already teach them that high scientific achievements always are the outcome of strenuous and arduous mental work and that their success is preceded by the hardships of everyday life.

Such positions on studies do not develop on their own. They are the outcome of a conflict-rich process, especially within the FDJ groups. To foster that and thereby turn the FDJ groups into motors for high student performances, that--the 11th Parliament emphasized--also is the most important concern of the contest for the title "socialist students collective." That this contest now involves nearly all FDJ groups is among the most significant successes achieved after the 10th party congress at the universities, colleges and technical schools. The title "socialist students collective" is awarded those collectives in which politically and scientifically committed students set the tone, where one constantly comes to grips with all students' study attitude and performance, resolutely opposes any mediocrity in thought, and develops ideas and propositions of one's own on how the training level might be further elevated. The most important business of the contest for the title "socialist students collective" is to develop the kind of climate in the FDJ collectives that stimulates each student in his efforts always to side with the cause of socialism and do as best he can for himself and for society.

Proceeding from there, all FDJ groups ought to feel challenged not to stop with ascertaining generally positive tendencies in the students' consciousness and performance development but to carry on a more differentiated political-ideological debate and more compelling still come to grips with any lack of seriousness still encountered in studies. In his FDJ collective a student learns to explain his political and scientific opinion, defend his ideas, get advice, give assistance and receive it, bear responsibility, and assess the attitude and performance of others and his own. Experience keeps demonstrating that the political atmosphere in the FDJ group goes a long way toward shaping the students' communist education and self-education.

In his discussion contribution at the Fifth College Conference, Comrade Egon Krenz asserted: "Which students study with dedication and zeal--which gives all he has and still has reserves--a good FDJ group leadership knows that, knows it before teachers and custodians can know it, and it is grateful for getting help from the teaching staff in solving such problems because from this the FDJ membership meetings and the entire political climate in the groups can only benefit."* That capacity is by no means everywhere being used as yet.

*"V. Hochschulkonferenz der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik, Protokoll" (Proceedings), Zwickau, 1980, p 162.

The cooperation between official state and FDJ executives, down to the groups, should however not be left to the discretion of one leader or another but it constitutes an essential problem in the implementation of the principle of the unity of generations at universities, colleges and technical schools. Imperative for it is helping especially the FDJ group executives in comprehensively assuming their responsibilities. That includes involving them in the decision-making on all business relating to the students' study and living conditions and equipping them systematically for conducting vivid ideological work. The monthly "group leaders' schooling" is most suitable for that.

Appropriating Marxism-Leninism as a Compass for Life

It has always been among the best traditions of the FDJ to promote a systematic study of Marxism-Leninism. Nowhere else in studies is the connection between the appropriation and application of a science and the fundamental task of the FDJ to help the party in educating youth into convinced fighters for communism so apparent. "The basis for a solid picture of the world and for higher study achievements in all subjects and for the practical application of science also will be in the future the manner in which the FDJ students acquire Marxism-Leninism in its entirety and absorb permanently the analytic method and dialectical mode of thought of the classical authors of our world-outlook."*

The membership meetings with the theme "Peace must be defended--peace must be under arms" which were held particularly in preparation for the Pentecostal meeting of youth, and the great number of topical policy forums of the students during the FDJ students summer of 1982, once again demonstrated the students' interests in the discussion of current political events and ideological questions and showed the ability they have developed to take a party-minded and committed position, proceeding from Marxist-Leninist viewpoints, on the basic issues of our social developmental processes and the class conflict in our time. That is, not last, the outcome of the confident cooperation between FDJ students and teaching staffs in basic Marxist-Leninist studies, to which the youth association has always paid special attention.

In most FDJ collectives it is understood to devote special attention to the attendance of lectures and of the seminars and test preparations in basic Marxist-Leninist studies and to reading the classic authors in the original. It attests to the FDJ students' high sense of political responsibility that when the decisions are made about handing out performance-related scholarships the results in the studies of Marxist-Leninist principles are considered particularly important and the question about the unity between knowledge and action is raised consistently.

In nuce, the particular attitude a student takes toward studying Marxism-Leninism reflects his relationship with the workers class and its party, its revolutionary traditions and its strategy and tactics in the continued shaping of the developed socialist society. What is especially important is to help

*Egon Krenz, "Die Verantwortung . . .," op. cit., p 77.

the FDJ students by means of Marxism-Leninism to come to see themselves as the subject of the class struggles of our era and comprehend why it is necessary always to take the position of the workers class in these struggles.

For more and more FDJ students a precise knowledge of Marxism-Leninism and of the party resolutions becomes imperative for comprehending the ongoing process of revolutionary changes, the causes for the confrontation and arms buildup policy by the most aggressive imperialist forces, unmasking them and looking through them and effectively opposing them and their far-flung ideological assaults on socialism. We find in the appropriation of the insights and method of Marxism-Leninism also the key to answering those ideological questions in which the students become increasingly interested in conjunction with the advances of the scientific-technical revolution. Among those questions are those about the social effects of scientific-technical progress on socialism and capitalism, about the role of man under highly automated production conditions, and about the interaction between science and production.

Because the implementation of the "FDJ Peace Effort" is eager to provide all students with a firm class consciousness and to help them to side with the party on behalf of socialism and peace under any conditions, it is our obligation to see to it resolutely also in the future that all students are firmly tied up with Marxism-Leninism. Wholly in this sense, there is currently under preparation at all universities, colleges and technical schools a central conference devoted to the theme "Marxism-Leninism--Guideline for Revolutionary Action in Our time," by which the FDJ students in our country are going to pay tribute next year to the 165th birthday and 100th death anniversary of Karl Marx.

Studies and Scientific-Productive Activity

The 11th FDJ Parliament called upon students and young scientists to take an active part in the students science contest and get set through top achievements for the Eighth Central Performance Show of Students and Young Scientists that is going to be held in November 1982 together with the 25th Central Fair of the Masters of Tomorrow, in Leipzig. Together with teaching staffs, many youth projects and students' rationalization and design bureaux have intensified their efforts to accomplish scientific top achievements, and nearly all universities and colleges have sought to involve still more students in research and further improve the level of instruction. Students made up 40.5 percent of the entire research capacity at universities and colleges in 1981.

The Technical University Dresden is sending its "program system for the design of innovative circuits and basic technologies and for the design and application of the A 277 circuit" to the Eighth Central Performance Show. It has thus far been used 30 times over again, received the gold medal and brought a benefit of M 7.5 million. The elaboration, justification and dispatching of such shows clearly indicate that "science-production activity is the way by which the students' ability for independent scientific work becomes more pronounced and scientific gifts can early be spotted and promoted,"* as Comrade Kurt Hager asserted in his concluding remarks at the Fifth College Conference.

*"V. Hochschulkonferenz . . .," op. cit., p 265.

Many FDJ executives and teachers are perfectly correct in pointing out that the chances to draw students into research precisely through the specific forms of science-production activity are not everywhere yet being used to the proper extent and that there are still great differences among various institutions in the degree of participation by students and young scientists in the youth projects and the students' rationalization and design bureaus.

We also have to make the best use of every lecture, seminar and self-study hour. Many FDJ collectives therefore took the resolutions from the third and fourth Central Committee plena to mean they should resolutely see to it that the problems derived from the SED's economic and science strategy are included in training everywhere and still more inform the requirements and the students' dealing with research subjects. Among those problems are an orientation to world standards, considering the cost/benefit ratio, frugality in dealing with material, raw materials and energy, the substitution for imported raw materials, reducing transitional time frames from the research results to production operations, the best use made of graduates, and the effective capacity utilization of the basic assets. Greater efforts also still have to be made in bringing the students to make the fullest use of their capacities in their regular studies. Crucial for that are a high teaching level, the ability of the teaching staffs to inspire the students for their special fields, and an efficient planning and organization of studies which allows the students enough room for independent scientific efforts.

A teaching staff will always find the FDJ backing it when it is a matter of turning study hours into a time of increasing demands; where high demands are made, the efforts for high achievements develop, leaving no ground for mediocrity and smugness. And this, in the final analysis, also is what makes those talents and gifts be noticed that make an above-average headway in the acquisition and application of the sciences, develop a pronounced problem perspective and accomplish original scientific solutions.

Promoting them in special ways is one of the most essential tasks in giving rise to an efficient new science generation that can come up with internationally recognized science achievements. Much has happened in this field since the Fifth College Conference. Among the special forms of promotion are special study plans, concluding diploma projects or dissertations ahead of time, and special courses. More also still has to be done, with FDJ support, by means of temporary college transfers or going abroad for the specially gifted and talented, so they can get still deeper insights into their sciences.

In all this, to us scientific creativeness has nothing in common with seclusion or egocentricity. Our experiences, rather, tell us that the most broadly interested and socially active students always also are among the scientifically most creative. For one thing they find it easier to comprehend in terms of time the close interaction between politics and science and to find social needs reflected by science development. And then again, due to their social commitment, they acquire such personality traits that are imperative for a scientist as a sense of responsibility, dedication, and the ability to work systematically and make the most efficient use of the time they have available. We expect of our best students that they will do still more for helping all students get a dedicated attitude toward their studies, sweep others along, and express criticism where mediocrity still is the order of the day.

Making Effective Use of the New Study Schedules

An important field for the democratic involvement of the socialist youth association for the further development of studies is the new study schedule plan that was introduced. It provides more time when there are no lectures, which reflects the trust in the students' performance readiness. To justify that, we must now discuss with all students in the FDJ groups and basic organizations that they should use all chances the time-off gives them to penetrate still more extensively into the sciences on their own so as to make the best use of their mental efforts for the sake of increased productivity. Furthermore, in the outcome of this year's control post operation, "FDJ and Studies--Tracking Reserves," proposals should be submitted to all official state executives on how we can render more effective the annual study schedules as such and the time-off from lectures, in particular.

Through the step-by-step implementation of the 18 March 1980 Politburo resolution, the prerequisites for elevating the training, teaching and research levels have further improved. A permanent task is fully to exhaust all inherent opportunities for training politically committed and highly educated graduates. What has been accomplished should be further expanded, yet new approaches also must be taken in the conveying, appropriation and application of knowledge.

This is a creative process that is also full of conflicts. Proposing it, our party fully counts on the FDJ students' sense of responsibility and political maturity. The results of the 1981/82 school year, the extensive preparations for the Eighth Central Performance Show and the wide echo the "FDJ Peace Effort" has found among student youth are an expression for that the SED can firmly rely on that the socialist youth association will continue to meet its tests at the universities, colleges and technical schools in our country as an active helper and fighting reserve of the working class party.

5885

CSO: 2300/71

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS TO PROMOTE 'CLASS-ORIENTED DEFENSE MOTIVATION'

West German Commentary

Bonn IWE-TAGESDIENST in German No 154, 9 Oct 82 p 2

[Report from Berlin: "FDJ Intends to Intensify Military Education for Young People." A translation of the East Berlin EINHEIT article cited below follows this commentary]

[Text] The FDJ leadership now has confirmed that the military education for young people is being further strengthened. Among other things, the FDJ now plans to "form still more working teams on military policy at schools and in extracurricular facilities." In the theoretical party journal EINHEIT (No 10, 1982), two functionaries of the FDJ Central Council furthermore announced that the direct military service preparations would more and more be shifted to the work collectives. The FDJ's "most important contribution" to socialist defense education was to "steadily shape class-bound defense motivations, convince all young people of the need for the protection of their socialist fatherland, and improve their capabilities for defense through a purposefully organized premilitary training."

FDJ Functionaries' Discussion

East Berlin EINHEIT in German Vol 37 No 10, Oct 82 (signed to press 18 Sep 82) pp 1008-1013

['Youth in Our Society' feature article by Dr Karl-Heinz Borgwadt and Social Scientist Peter Miethe, Free German Youth (FDJ) Central Council secretary and department chief, respectively: "FDJ and Socialist Home Defense"]

[Text] In view of the exacerbation of the international situation by imperialism, the 10th SED Congress unmistakably affirmed the fact that the focal point in the struggle of our time was "more than ever the safeguarding of peace, which ultimately decides over the presence and future of humanity." The 11th FDJ Parliament's response to that was: "We FDJ members are ready always and under

*Comrade Erich Honecker, "Bericht des Zentralkomitees der Sozialistischen Einheitspartei Deutschlands an den X. Parteitag der SED" (SED Central Committee Report to the 10th SED Congress), Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1981, p 11.

any conditions for the defense of our socialist home! We accept the statement in the SED Program that the protection of peace and of our socialist fatherland is the right and honorable duty of every GDR citizen."*

So the FDJ in our days worthily carries on one of its most creditable traditions--mobilizing youth for the defense of its socialist fatherland. At the Fourth Parliament in 1952, Comrade Erich Honecker, FDJ chairman at that time, asserted: "It cannot be ignored that youth has found its fatherland in the GDR because the interests of the state and of youth are identical in it!" And the conclusion he arrived at was that it was the logical consequence of the FDJ's resolute efforts on behalf of peace that in view of the remilitarization in the FRG it would promote, together with all young people, the armed protection of the GDR.**

Relying on the Soviet Union's experience that the armed protection of the socialist fatherland is mainly up to youth, the FDJ assumed the sponsorship for the armed organs in the young republic. A few weeks later already thousands of members and functionaries of the youth association joined the ranks of the garrisoned People's Police.

Members of the youth association they were who in 1956, when the NVA was founded, answered the call from the FDJ Central Council, "You Are the One Who Counts, as We All Do," and volunteered for their honorable service. Within the scope of the FDJ Effort, "The Fatherland Calls--Protect the Socialist Republic," after 13 August 1961 more than 285,000 young people announced their readiness to join the NVA. The military policy and defense sports mass activities, "GDR Signal," in 1969, 1974 and 1979 had a great effect. It conforms to this line of tradition that at a time when world peace and the survival of human civilization are threatened as never since World War II, the FDJ pays great attention to the defense readiness and capability of youth. The "FDJ Peace Effort" is a new expression of it.

Steadily Shaping the Defense Motivation of Youth

The protection of socialism demands of every boy and girl an unshakable political class standpoint. For that reason it is the most important contribution the FDJ can make to socialist defense education, and thus to the implementation of the military service law, steadily to shape class-bound defense motivations, under party leadership and together with all social forces, especially with the socialist defense organization, the GST. It is of special importance to convince all young people of the need for the protection of their socialist fatherland and to improve their defense capabilities through purposeful and organized pre-military training.

*Egon Krenz, "Die Verantwortung der Jugend bei der Weiterfuehrung der sozialistischen Revolution in der DDR und die Aufgaben der FDJ nach dem X. Parteitag der SED, XI. Parlament der Freien Deutschen Jugend" (Youth's Responsibility for Extending the Socialist Revolution in the GDR and the FDJ Tasks After the 10th SED Congress, 11th. FDJ Parliament), Junge Welt publishing house, p 79.

**Erich Honecker, "The FDJ--The True Agent of the Young Generation," "Zur Jugendpolitik der SED" (On the SED's Youth Policy), Neues Leben publishing house, Berlin, 1977, pp 184-187.

The positions from which we can start here are sound. That is proven by the outstanding achievements of most young people in the GDR in strengthening their home day by day. Confronted with the peace-threatening antisocialist crusading designs of Washington's first-strike strategists, they come to realize better and better that our joint socialist work of construction also has to be protected militarily. That is revealed especially also by the efforts of our FDJ members in the NVA and the other protective and security organs in ensuring always, even under the most complicated conditions, the reliable protection of the workers and farmers power.

The defense motivation arises mainly from the firm bonds GDR youth has with its socialist fatherland. For that reason we find an important task in making all young people still more persuasively aware, with reference to our country's successful development, of that socialism is worth to be defended. For the first time in the history of the German people a state now exists, the GDR, the supreme goal of which is peace and the well-being of the entire people. Our workers and farmers state at the same time is a state of youth because it finds a true, a socialist, fatherland in the GDR, where youth likes to live because it feels truly at home there, a country which, thanks to the sacrificial struggle of preceding generations, today holds, in firm fraternal alliance with the Soviet Union, a place of respect within the socialist family of peoples and everywhere in the world. This land with its industrious people, its forests and lakes, its magnificent places of culture and great historic traditions is close to the young people's heart. A meaningful life and happy prospects are in store for each and every one. That is attested to, e.g., by our 10-grade polytechnical secondary schools, solid vocational training and job security for all young people. This is the first time that the basic rights of youth have become a reality in a German state. Today, GDR youth exercises its right to codetermination, among other things, by the 30,188 young deputies, of whom 22,114 carry the FDJ mandate.

Considering the situation of youth in the capitalist countries, it becomes all the more apparent: only socialist society can ensure that each may make his life meaningful. In the FRG, the number of unemployed youngsters below the age of 20 climbed to 168,000 in July this year, an increase of 46 percent over the same period in 1981. How many personal destinies are tied up with that? How many dreams and ideas of a meaningful life have been shattered? The meaning of being unemployed, cast out by society, without purpose or prospects in life, is inconceivable to us. What sort of an inhuman society is that which has nothing to offer of real weight to an increasing number of young people but a place in line outside of the employment bureau, depression and dread of the next day? What character does such a society have where more and more young people after their schooling, yet without vocational training, end up in the streets? Who can be surprised that youth under capitalism more and more perceives itself as a "social fringe" and more and more young people seek in narcotics their only way out?

This places all the more boldly in relief the accomplishments, ideals, values and advantages of socialism. To protect them reliably therefore is mainly in the interest of youth itself. Because we want our socialist fatherland to prosper in peace and blossom more and more beautifully, we awaken and encourage

the defense readiness of youth and allow no one to upset it. This is wholly in the spirit of V. I. Lenin, who admonished the Ninth All-Russian Soviet Congress: "After having begun our peaceful work of reconstruction, we shall use all our strength to carry it on without pause. At the same time, however, comrades, watch out, guard the defense capability of our country and of our Red Army like the apple of your eye, remember that we do not have the right to allow even for a second any weakening of our workers and peasants and their achievements."*

It attests to the political maturity of GDR youth that, in view of the dangers to peace conjured up by imperialism, more and more are asking how we can prevent the outbreak of a third world war and what an individual can do for it. Even the question suggests the conviction that the peace forces in the world can resist imperialism's onslaughts on peace and life. Having become more aggressive, imperialism is now more dangerous. Even so: never yet were the forces in the world so strong that can prevent a war, can indeed banish it from the life of mankind forever. This optimism relies on the strength of the Soviet Union, the chief bastion in the struggle for the safeguarding of peace, and on the entire socialist community as well as the growing strength of the peace movement all over the world. We harbor no illusions: Imperialism is unscrupulous and ready even to risk a war to turn back the wheel of history and keep in place its obsolete system. So it must never see a chance to win such a war which would inevitably lead to a nuclear inferno!

In Central Europe, on the dividing line between the two opposed world systems, each and every one has an especially great responsibility also to prevent imperialism by means of our military might from spoiling for a fight. Without the armed protection of socialism there can be no peace. Therefore the personal act for strengthening socialism's defense capability lies in necessary and effective service to peace. That makes particularly high demands on the moral education of youth because decisions are demanded by individuals which, in the interest of society, also imply personal sacrifices. Helping the young people to acquire so aware a posture therefore is the major emphasis in the FDJ's defense policy activity.

Many sources feed the motives for defending the socialist fatherland. They are formed and reinforced in the learning and working process, through target-directed political-ideological activity, and in organizing one's leisure-time. That is of course much affected by the young people's parents and acquaintances. The FDJ has proven that its ideological work makes a significant contribution to youth's defense readiness. Of great topical importance here are the experiences we have gathered through the membership meetings on the theme "Peace must be defended--peace must be armed." They showed what great effect and mobilizing strength can come from ideological debates and a frank exchange of political opinions in the FDJ collectives when the theme touches an ideological nerve and everyone gets a party-minded and persuasive answer to his questions.

*"Werke" (Works), Vol 33, Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1962, p 134.

The young people--and that means boys as well as girls--are greatly interested in information about military-political connections, the national defense requirements and the service with the armed organs. We are grateful to the SED members, the NVA comrades, the border troops, the other protective and security organs of the GDR, and many reservists for their constant readiness to make themselves the young people's partners in discussions in the various forms of political mass activity as in membership meetings, on forums or in military-political round-table discussions. Young people want answers to the questions that move them. Therefore discussions conducted with expertise by experienced comrades is the best way also to form in the military-political area class-bound standpoints and convictions. Skilled and comradely response to questions, a sensitive concern for their interests and inclinations and for their problems as well, turns out, time and time again, to be a key to the hearts and minds of youths.

The Unity of Allegiance and Action

As a firm component of communist education, for the socialist defense education the unity between ideological work and concrete tasks, between word and deed, is of special importance. Decisive here is the readiness and capability for defending the socialist fatherland and peace, which must demonstrate itself mainly in the fulfilment of one's military service and in other forms of fulfilling one's defense obligation.

The demands going with it deeply penetrate the lives of the individuals, cause much discomfort and demand personal sacrifice, too. And that precisely is why, through test situations and emotional experiences, class-bound political-moral attitudes toward the defense of socialism have to be formed and constantly reinforced. The military protection of socialism makes high demands on preparing the future soldiers. They result from the implacable measures of war and from the incessantly growing political-moral, military-technical, psychological and physical demands of the service under arms.

In recent years, in concert with all social forces, a number of defense-policy and military sports activities have been used in the FDJ and the Ernst Thaelmann pioneer organization, in various forms made appropriate to the different age-groups, which conform still more to the young people's needs for interesting and experience-rich test situations. The "friendship" maneuvers for the Thaelmann pioneers and the traditional Hans Beimler Contests for the 8th grade FDJ members become an important age-group specific contribution to defense education if each receives a concrete task and the kind of test situations are established that call for toughness and tenacity, courage and skill. They are most effective in places where the great value of emotional experiences is taken into account as well as the urge pioneers and FDJ members have for adventure and romanticism, where their imagination is fired and they are drawn into the preparation, organization and analysis of all measures.

The outcome of the Seventh Pioneer Meeting also confirms: Children and adolescents want to be active, want to realize their own notions and ideas, and want to prove themselves in solving self-assigned tasks. That is why we shall advocate forming still more working teams on military policy at schools and in extracurricular facilities.

Military instruction as introduced in ninth and tenth grade in 1978 offers each FDJ member fine opportunities to acquire the basics in socialist national defense early. Best use is made of them wherever the FDJ groups and basic organizations in the secondary schools feel a shared responsibility for achievements, discipline and dedication and perform active political work in the military training camps.

A special place value in the immediate military service preparations for youths attaches to the premilitary training and the defense sports in the GST. The new training programs for premilitary career training in the GST conform to the higher demands placed on the fighting strength and combat readiness of the GDR armed forces. We dedicate the political strength of the FDJ to having the members of our youth association consciously fulfil the higher requirements and seek exemplary results in premilitary training with dedication and fighting spirit. The FDJ activists groups have proven a great mobilizing force for it in many places. They help the youths turn the struggle for reaching the training objectives into their own business. Through their political work they foster the spirit of initiative, the resolve to fight and the independence of all who take part in the training. It is an FDJ executive task to form such activists groups in all training units, familiarize their members with the training requirements, and see to it that our young friends get drawn into the preparation, organization and analysis of the training.

Higher and partly new tasks especially also arise for the FDJ from the fact that immediate military service preparation is going to be dispensed for most young people more and more in the work collectives themselves. The traditional rhythm of school-apprenticeship--military service--occupation can no longer be maintained for many who are subject to military service. Simultaneously, reservists' service gains new importance for national defense. Many basic FDJ organizations and youth brigades have already drawn the correct conclusions from it. By their political work they help increase the readiness to perform military service at any point deemed socially necessary. To make sure that everyone is physically in shape for it, they, together with the GST, the DTSB and the FDGB, make arrangements for regular sports activities for working youth. Many opportunities for that are offered by GST defense sports and the sports medal, "Ready for Work and for the Defense of the Home."

Of no less importance it is that the FDJ in the work collectives also concerns itself with the personal problems of conscripts, reservists and their families and that every conscript finds out, before, during and after his military service, that his armed service for the protection of our accomplishments enjoys high public recognition. The celebrations when recruits leave, the constant contact the FDJ collectives keep with them while they serve, and the celebrations when they return to their work collectives should therefore become regular procedure in each basic FDJ organization. It is sure to find the support of all social forces in the enterprises. High social recognition in the enterprises and work collectives, not last, also is accorded to those girls and young women who, in the civil defense units, in GST defense sports or in the Red Cross medical units, are making an outstanding contribution to our national defense. Their active defense policy and defense sports activity also enhances their understanding, as mothers, wives or girlfriends, for their sons or partners in military uniform.

The Military Profession--Opting for Peace and Socialism

As the SED's helper and fighting reserve, the FDJ bears an exceptional responsibility for ensuring military career replacements. By deciding to serve in a military profession, a young person deliberately expresses his patriotism and internationalism. Therefore, those FDJ members who take up the profession of officer, warrant officer or NCO enjoy a special respect in our socialist youth association. We consider it our responsibility mainly to see to it in all FDJ organizations that the most reliable and qualified boys opt for that profession. And those collectives best live up to their task in which precisely such young friends set the political tone by their class-bound stance, their exemplary study, and their dedication and pass their first political tests as functionaries in the youth association.

"FDJ Applicants' Collectives for Military Professions" have for 10 years proven an efficient way for the youth association to assist the working class cadres to get set for their military careers. Led by the FDJ kreis managements, in the more than 1,000 applicants' collectives active career soldiers and reservists help our young friends to get ready for their future military careers and especially also help shape their political-ideological positions further. Military-political training measures, providing realistic ideas and familiarizing the girlfriends and parents create essential conditions to reinforce the decisions of the 14 or 15 year old boys until they actually begin their courses at an officers college of the NVA, the GDR border troops or the ministry of the interior. But above all, each applicant here gets the chance to test himself in a practical sense in accordance with his inclinations, interests and capabilities. Each young friend should get distinctive tasks assigned there. Many of them are already assigned in GST training units or FDJ public order groups where they acquire their initial leadership qualifications. Something else that is important are the visits all career candidates make to the training institutions where they are going to get, after 4 years of study, diplomas as commanding or political officers or military specialists. Together with the armed organs, we are going to create similar opportunities also for the long-range preparation of career replacements for NCO's and warrant officers.

The FDJ has done quite a lot in the past for the defense readiness of youth in the GDR. In the future as well the socialist youth association will always assign a proper place to the requirements for the military protection of our accomplishments and so deserve the high distinction of the Scharnhorst Medal with which Comrade Erich Honecker, secretary general of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, decorated the FDJ on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of its assuming the sponsorship for the armed organs.

5885

CSO: 2300/71

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

ENTERTAINMENT ARTS TO TEACH YOUTH 'VALUES OF SOCIALIST WAY OF LIFE'

West German Commentary

Bonn IWE-TAGESDIENST in German No 156, 14 Oct 82 'iwe-kultur' supplement

[Report from Berlin: "GDR Youths to Become Involved With 'Valuable Art.'" A translation of the East Berlin EINHEIT article cited below follows this commentary]

[Text] Through more effective art propaganda GDR youths, the theoretical SED journal EINHEIT (No 10, 1982) has demanded, should be made more aware of "important works of art." Otherwise, considering ordinary offerings, "much of value" would be lost. That was all the more true in as much as only some of the works of art young people accept were "value-forming in the socialist sense," and among some youngsters one could find "tendencies of one-sidedness and mental barrenness."

GDR Art Scholar's Critique

East Berlin EINHEIT in German Vol 37 No 10, Oct 82 (signed to press 18 Sep 82) pp 1014-1018

['Youth in Our Society' feature article by Prof Dr Lothar Bisky, lecturer, Institute for Marxist-Leninist Culture and Art Studies, Academy of Social Sciences, SED Central Committee; and Dr Dieter Wiedemann, department chief, Central Institute for Youth Research, Leipzig: "Intellectual-Cultural Demands and Activities of the Young People." For related information see translations of articles published under quoted headings in the following JPRS issues of this series: "Artistic Works 'Reflecting Socialist Life' to Be Promoted" (by Ursula Ragwitz, SED culture functionary), 80637, 22 Apr 82, No 2002, pp 11-14; "Ideological, Political Deficiencies in Film Industry Discussed" (by Lothar Bellag, president, Association of Film and Television Specialists), 80515, 7 Apr 82, No 1996, pp 59-63; "Theater Criticized for Indifference to 'Politically-Oriented' Dramas" (by Hans-Rainer John, GDR theater journal chief editor), 80452, 31 Mar 82, No 1994, pp 23-26; "'Idealized' Hero Models Rejected for Young People" (East Berlin youth journal), 80582, 15 Apr 82, No 1999, pp 29-33; "Regime's Measures to Co-opt 'Discotheque Culture' Discussed" (West German article), 81941, 7 Oct 82, No 2062, pp 47-48]

[Text] Against the development of youth-specific entertainment in socialism, bourgeois ideologues have battered down with the "argument" that youth sought entertainment from rock music and adventure and thus evaded the educational goals of the party and the youth association. Through the media they also seek to persuade the GDR youth that the party and FDJ were just grinding their teeth in tolerating entertainment. That also implies the effort of propagating imperialism as a society of sensual pleasure and enjoyment, colors and games, while imputing to socialism an ideal of asceticism. What becomes completely distorted and suppressed is the fact that it was the workers movement that vigorously fought for the right of youth, not only to work and education, but also to pleasure and happiness, and that this has been among the basic demands of the FDJ ever since its founding. And what enemy propaganda refuses to see is most clearly in evidence today: the same young people who go for entertainment and take a vivid part in ideological debates are also the ones who enjoy "serious art" and entertainment art.

The Causes for Higher Intellectual-Cultural Demands

Needs for information and communication, for the enjoyment of art and culture, for entertainment and sociability, have broadly spread especially also among our young people. That is found in the various intellectual-cultural activities that have a pronounced mass character. Research has shown how with the greater cultural needs also the qualitative demands have developed that are made on contents and forms, mainly also on a substantive variety in intellectual-cultural life.

The growing demands are attributable to various processes working together. There first are the high educational qualifications. Consider that in 1978 there were the first graduates from 10th grade who had been educated along new teaching plans starting in first grade. Also the commitment of youth in all sectors of public life brings its influence to bear on its intellectual-cultural demands and activities. Compared with earlier generations, youth today grows up with an altered and also expanded "cultural experience." Used to television and having portable radios, record players and cassette recorders from early on, reading the press on a regular basis, using "family libraries" and engaged in travel and tourism, its cultural impressions are broadened. A young person of 25 years of age has by now seen between 2,000 and 3,000 movies on television or in movie houses. Furthermore, most young people today grow up under conditions where both parents are working so that their leisure time calls for greater self-reliance, children are encouraged to assume duties in organizing their daily family life, and so forth. In the overall effect of objective living conditions and the tendencies of the socialist way of life, the outcome of education and training and their own cultural activities, not only diversified intellectual-cultural needs have formed among youth but higher qualitative demands as well.

If one talks about a higher need for diversified intellectual-cultural life, that includes the substantively differentiated and specifically developed needs for education and art enjoyment as well as the needs for information and communication, entertainment and sociability. That gives rise to high demands made on shaping the proportions in the intellectual-cultural life of the youth.

The mass media today, e.g., provide rich cultural experiences at home but do not satisfy the need for collective cultural experiences, vivid communication, debates and diversified intellectual-cultural life in the territories. Territorial cultural institutions, that is to say, are by no means superseded by the "central cultural opportunities." And the best territorial cultural opportunities do not supersede intellectual life in the collectives and the FDJ groups.

None but intellectual-cultural life at improving quality can satisfy the level of needs and demands attained. And we are not blinding ourselves to that there are tendencies of one-sidedness and mental bareness among some young people, too. Surveys have established that such phenomena normally go hand in hand with the same kind of atmosphere at home and in the circles of friends. But experience also demonstrates that such young people also may develop more diversified interests once they get involved in the more demanding intellectual-cultural activities of their work, FDJ or sports collectives.

Also to youth applies what was remarked at the 10th SED Congress: "In the 1980's the demands made on the quality and effectiveness of our socialist culture and art will rise further. They help, after all, in releasing the creativeness in man and enhancing the working people's job satisfaction and well-being in socialist society. The point is to improve further everywhere the intellectual-cultural prerequisites for our performance improvements."* To that end we must also above all encourage and challenge the young people's need for cultural activity of their own. That applies to their active participation in forms of FDJ cultural mass activity, to popular cultural and art activities, and to individual cultural and art activity. Dealing with science and technology, working for MMM (Fair of the Masters of Tomorrow), tinkering and hobby work--all activities that enrich the creative potential of youth and give expression to it deserve appropriate attention in intellectual-cultural life.

A manifold promotion of the cultural activities of youth also always implies demands, especially with regard to the connection of work, study and culture. In our intellectual-cultural life one ought to take more into account that it is undoubtedly very important for the cultural development of young sales ladies, to take an example, to go to the theater, no less important, however, is their contribution to improving sales culture. Right now, the question that is becoming ever more prominent in our intellectual-cultural life is how the appropriated intellectual potentials, the cultural level acquired, can become practically effective, at work mainly, but also in other public domains. In summarizing a debate on communist education by Soviet scholars, the Soviet sociologist A. Kharchev writes: "It is important to overcome the encrusted yet ~~obsolete~~ obsolete notion that the formation of a socialist personality comes down merely to intellectually appropriating scientific, political and ethical information."** He supports that remark, among other things, by reference to the kind of people who are certainly highly educated and ideologically oriented in the proper way yet do not translate such knowledge and orientation into commensurate actions. For that reason it would also be important to form the

*Comrade Erich Honecker, "Bericht des Zentralkomitees der Sozialistischen Einheitspartei Deutschlands an den X. Parteitag der SED" (SED Central Committee Report to the 10th SED Congress), Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1981, pp 105-106.

**A. Kharchev, "Problems of Communist Education," SOWJETWISSENSCHAFT, GESELLSCHAFTSWISSENSCHAFTLICHE BEITRAEGE, No 12, 1980, p 1265.

emotio "emotional potential" of a personality. The aim would be "that everyone appropriates socialist culture in the whole range of its forms (from the ideological-political to the emotional) and manifestations (from the theoretical to the practical)."* The diversified intellectual-cultural needs most young people develop are an important starting point for working out connections between demands made on intellectual-cultural life and demands on one's own cultured acts, one's own performance in study and work, and for raising awareness of it time and time again.

Youth and the Arts

In all strata of youth the enjoyment of art is an everyday habit, a "victual" consumed daily. Yet the relation of the various groups of youth to the different artistic types and genres has developed most unevenly. Music, entertainment art, movies and literature are used massively. More young people attend theaters and concerts than adults do.

Remarkable are the changes in the preference for art. Young people of today select with discrimination and deliberation from the much expanded availabilities in art. In part they are forced to do so because all there is in art cannot be indulged in. Furthermore--especially as far as the mass media are concerned--they let themselves be guided by their own experiences and distinct expectations. That becomes clear when one thinks of going to movies, for instance. While movie attendance slightly declined in 1980, compared with 10 years before, the proportion of young moviegoers disappointed in particular films also declined in that period. Things can be shown to be similar in other arts as well, for instance in theater attendance.

One finds that in some fields of art the interest groups have become younger. Partly due to owning portable radios, record players and recorders early in life, rock music fans, e.g., are much younger now than they used to be years ago. Now it is mostly pupils and apprentices who go to the movies. Many of the ones below 14 years of age watch evening television programs regularly. In one sense that expresses an early cultural independence on the part of young people. Not rarely, however, on the other hand, pupils and children are partly overtaxed by such programs. That is shown in part by their being unsure in the aesthetic judgment they make about what they have been watching.

It is striking that the young people resort to the arts in their whole range and variety but the various age-groups certainly prefer different genres and types of art. And then there are specific art fans who normally know a lot about the arts of their concern and can then also advise their friends and acquaintances.

Much suspense and entertainment is expected of works of art. A not insignificant outcome of youth research tells us that young workers, apprentices and students mostly expect to learn something new from art and literature. That is to say, increase in knowledge is explicitly expected of works of art--which contradicts the assumption of many. Especially contemporary art is expected to furnish suggestions and orientations for one's manner of living. That expectation is massively developed. Literature and art enable the young people

*Ibid., p 1266.

to become acquainted, through aesthetic enjoyment, with the behavior patterns, values and attitudes of others, experience vicariously and "without risk" attitudes in certain situations, confront them in an identification process and probe into the values of the socialist way of life, of ideological issues and so forth in open debates or in talks with friends and acquaintances. That such talks go beyond the "narrow" horizon of everyday living is shown by the great resonance of works of art, including rock music, which express our youth's will to peace and its stance in the defense of the fatherland, shows itself also in the discussion on works of art devoted to the idea of solidarity and proletarian internationalism. Granted, as there are so very many different works of art, not all have a value-forming effect in the socialist sense. All the more important is the talk and discussion about and the issue-taking with what is presented.

There are times when artistic figures in films, novels, stories or theater productions turn into models for young people, which goes beyond being directly preoccupied with the work of art itself, but such models need not be looked at uncritically. Such models are normally not looked for and found in only one artistic figure but they often change when one is very young. With increasing life experience, ideological education and art experience, the relation to model figures in art stabilizes. They are chosen with more discrimination and are less subject to fluctuations and are then accepted as models selectively, with respect to particular attitudes. About the function of heroes in works of art young people have relatively clearly defined ideas. Heroes, as they understand it, have to be unequivocally exemplary and embody personality traits and values that can be acceptable as the goal of one's own life structure. E.g., Hella Lindau in the DEFA film "Die Verlobte" (The Betrothed) is accepted as a model: It is Hella Lindau's steadfastness and humanity and her knowing of the strength of communist ideals and of that of love, which turn her into a heroine young people also approve of. The movie's success among young people shows that heroes must be depicted with great artistic skill and achieve personal significance for young people.

Empirical surveys document that not every work of art produces an effect equivalent to that which comes out of the experiences with outstanding works of art. Not every film has the impact of "Die Verlobte." Some works even seem ineffective initially. The many works of art accepted by the young people is something that makes it necessary mainly to deal also with the long-range consequences of what initially seem to be ineffective works, especially the art of entertainment. They have an effect on social psychology, on ordinary consciousness, on value orientations in everyday conduct, on historical consciousness, on convictions and imagination and, not last, on the ideals as well.* Art production and dissemination for that reason are so significant for the socialist personality development. That is true of contemporary works as well as of our legacy.

*Cf. Hans Koch, "The Function and Effect of Literature and Art in the Forming of a Marxist-Leninist World-Outlook and the Forming of Communist Ideals and Value Concepts," "Literaturunterricht und kommunistische Erziehung der Schulkinder" (Literature Instruction and the Communist Education of School Youth), Volk und Wissen state-owned publishing house, Berlin, 1979, pp 7 ff.

We have been dealing here in detail with trends in young people's receptivity to art because we have to bring it about through more effective art propaganda and indoctrination that young people are made aware of important works of art. So much is offered every day that quite a lot that is valuable gets lost. More attention also has to be paid to the fact that the "change of generations" goes relatively fast as far as the reception of art is concerned. Important works of socialist realism which were important to the adults when they were young are no longer known to most young people, even if some of those works have certainly been of some interest even today. It has become an important question in cultural and art policy how that legacy, which shapes especially the development of historical consciousness, can be refashioned and made available to the new generation. The impact art has on youths depends not only of what is now being produced but more and more also on how the total potential of works of art is properly offered and used.

On Youth-Specific Entertainment

Especially in the 1970's our party resolutely saw to it that the opportunities for entertainment and sociability would broaden, especially for youth. The long-range orientation to the development of a youth-specific dance and entertainment music has done well. Entertainment opportunities broadened in the mass media through records and cassettes and so forth, and the development of our rock music was a success.

Entertainment, dance and sociability are indispensable components of a cultured socialist way of life. The need to take it easy and relax after hard work and study is also clearly of a mass character among youth and is not likely to abate. Satisfying such needs does by no means normally supersede other cultural needs. So it is all the more important to overcome still existing tendencies of underrating the entertainment needs of young people. Sociological surveys have shown repeatedly that the same young people who go to see demanding movies will also go to see entertaining adventure and detective films.

"In all fields we must enforce our socialist position, our value criteria, our sense of life, our social psychology."* The art of entertainment, in that sense, has to enlarge its massive effectiveness further by becoming more relevant to our reality and more intensively responding to the social experiences of youth. As young people resort to it every day, the many different opportunities in this field do contribute to social well-being and to an atmosphere of optimism and energy. They also can support the needed atmosphere in the 1980's of productivity and performance readiness. Effective songs in the peace struggle sung by the young people, suspenseful adventures, entertaining games and always again good music and much else are needed so that in this area of our intellectual-cultural life more progress is made also. They like combinations of music and information, as offered through the mass-effective youth broadcasts "DT 64," "Hallo--das Jugendjournal," and "rund."

*Kurt Hager, "On Questions of SED Cultural Policy," "Beitraege zur Kulturpolitik" (Contributions to Cultural Policy), Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1981, p 14.

There is a strong need for communication in the territories where young people spend their leisure. Every day, in the various forms of sociability and entertainment events, conversations with friends and acquaintances are held about music and movies, television and radio programs, books, politics, and matters of ordinary life, and about fashions and sports. Many young people go to discotheques not only to listen to music and to dance but also because they meet their contemporaries there. In some places it still is necessary to raise the level of discotheques and youth dance events so they will conform to the demands and diversified needs of young people; they must become more substantial and attractive. There still are too few youth-specific entertainment affairs and forms of sociability that evoke active participation, combine play and fun, are suggestive, lead to vivid discussions and promote communal experience. One could also pick up the readiness most youngsters have to get involved themselves in providing their leisure time with meaningful structure. That readiness is found primarily in the cultural activities the young people engage in, in the work, learning and study collectives, the FDJ groups, the FDJ youth clubs, the FDGB, the Culture League, the local people's representations, and in popular art. Carrying on a productive use of them also then expands the potential available for an ambitious intellectual-cultural life for and by youth.

5885

CSO: 2300/71

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

DATA ON YOUTH ORGANIZATION'S STRUCTURE, FUNCTIONS PUBLISHED

East Berlin EINHEIT in German Vol 37 No 10, Oct 82 (signed to press 18 Sep 82)
p 1019

['Youth in Our Society' feature report: "Free German Youth (FDJ) in Facts and Figures"]

[Text] FDJ Members (in millions)			"Good Knowledge" Medal Winners		
<u>1971</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1981</u>
1.8	2.1	2.3	393,809	396,759	653,437

Basic FDJ Organizations (in thousands)			FDJ Youth Clubs		
<u>1971</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1981</u>
24,8	26,6	27,5	--	4,327	6,651

Young Socialists Circles		<u>1971/72</u>	<u>1976/77</u>	<u>1981/82</u>
Circles		59,546	76,045	83,945
Members (in millions)		1,3	1,6	1,7

Economic FDJ Initiatives		<u>1971</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1981</u>
Benefit of FDJ's "Materials Economy" Campaign (in million marks)		608,0	1,034,0	1,670,0
Benefit of FDJ's "Fodder Economy" Campaign (in million marks)		--	13,8	38,5
Scrap Deliveries (in tons)		56,425	307,319	424,769
Old Paper Deliveries (in tons)		--	37,330	78,268
Saving of Working Hours (in millions)		--	45,0	82,1
Modernization or Conversion and Completion of Apartments (Dwelling Units)		--	6,659	11,809

Proportion in Labor Force of Young Innovators (in percent)

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1981</u>
State-Owned Economy Total	21,7	38,1	42,4
Ministry for			
Coal & Energy	32,6	52,8	62,3
Ore Mining, Metallurgy and Potash	41,2	56,2	62,4
Chemical Industry	25,2	50,1	52,3
Electrical Engineering/Electronics	28,0	44,6	46,3

Fair of the Masters of Tomorrow

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1981</u>
Fairs	11,200	27,700	43,200
Exhibits	195,000	582,900	741,000
Members	840,000	2,244,000	2,485,300

Youth Projects

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1981</u>
Projects	30,073	81,630	98,820
Members	374,000	1,019,226	1,157,024

Youth Brigades

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1981</u>
Brigades	15,685	27,862	40,249
Members	199,725	319,864	465,493

In 1981, youth projects were assigned 45,337 tasks from the science and technology plans.

5885

CSO: 2300/71

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIONS TO EXPAND RESPONSIBILITIES, 'PERSONAL DIALOGUE'

East Berlin EINHEIT in German Vol 37 No 10, Oct 82 (signed to press 18 Sep 82)
pp 1048-1053

[Article by Heinz Eichler, member, People's Chamber Presidium; secretary, GDR Council of State: "People's Representations--Focused on Higher Standards." For related information see translations of articles published under quoted headings in the following JPRS issues of this series: "Candid Discussions of Citizens' Trust in State Organs Urged" (SED Politburo statement) and "State Organs' Distrust of Citizens' Judgment Chided" (People's Chamber deputy's critique), 79943, 26 Jan 82, No 1966, pp 7-11 and 12-14, respectively; "Party Influence to Be Increased in State Organs (by Paul Verner, SED security chief), 80076, 10 Feb 82, No 1974, pp 7-12; "Legislative Cooperation Between State, Social Organizations Analyzed" (GDR law and political science journal), 81941, 7 Oct 82, No 2062, pp 27-35; a West German analysis of "Structure, Function of 'People's Representations,'" 80896, 25 May 82, No 2015, pp 14-21]

[Text] What are the potentials of the local people's representations? What are the central tasks for resolutely implementing the party's economic strategy in the territories? The emphasis is placed on making the working methods of the people's representations still more effective, applying their recommendations and suggestions, from their keeping constantly in touch with the citizens, to decision-making, and promoting their initiatives in every way, so as to tap all territorial reserves for economic performance improvements and for improving the working and living conditions.

In the SED Central Committee report to the 10th SED Congress, Comrade Erich Honecker, secretary general of the SED Central Committee, remarked that socialist state power under Marxist-Leninist party leadership and its authority and functional capability were the basis and premise for successful advances, and that this was and remained the cardinal issue of the socialist revolution. "As one knows, the workers and farmers power is profoundly democratic in character, it being a true people's power. Socialist democracy is the main trend in which state power will continue to develop among us. It ensures the broadest involvement of the working people in the management of social processes, especially in state management. We therefore focus our efforts at an

ever closer cooperation of the state organs with the social organizations, the work collectives and the various activities of the working people in all domains of life."*

This orientation of principle outlines the responsibility of the people's representations in coping with the growing political and economic requirements in the 1980's. The people's representations, as to Lenin, form the core of our unified socialist state power because they are "the immediate organization of the working masses themselves, making it easier for them to fashion the state itself and direct it in every possible way."**

Their basic function therefore is to represent the interests of the workers class and of all working people, translate them through their resolutions into the authoritative will of the state, and implement them in concert with the working people. By and through the people's representations, to a large extent, all classes and strata are ever more closely rallied around the workers class and its Marxist-Leninist party, without which the workers class is unable to fulfil its historic mission. The most important guarantee for the successful enactment of this process is the constant reinforcement of the working class party's leadership role. For that reason our party always pays much attention to further improving the efforts of the people's representations and their deputies and their ever closer ties with the masses. That also is expressed by the 10th SED Congress mission to render the law on the local people's representations and their organs more distinct in accordance with the new conditions.

The main task policy in its unity of economic and social policy also governs the activities of the people's representations. That this policy is correct and successful also has become persuasively apparent in the work of the local power organs in recent years. The working people's practical experience, to the effect that a commitment and performance for society also benefits the individual, has lent socialist democracy, and especially the work of the people's representations, new impulses.

Our party has always considered that the political fusion of all citizens under working class leadership calls for a composition of the people's representations that conforms with the structure of the population and makes sure that all classes and strata are represented by deputies elected into the state power organs in conformity with their social positions. From the People's Chamber down to the communal representations our republic has put a total of 205,242 deputies and 60,700 successor candidates to work. Which goes to say that right now one out of every 82 GDR inhabitants is a people's representative elected by the citizens. In the 1979 communal elections the number of deputies to the kreis assemblies, city-kreis assemblies and city-district assemblies and community representations was raised by a total of 10,675. In kreis towns and communities, one out of every 67 of the 11 1/2 million citizens living there carries the mandate of a people's representative today. That has given rise to

*"Bericht des Zentralkomitees der Sozialistischen Einheitspartei Deutschlands an den X. Parteitag der SED," Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1981, p 116.

**"The Proletarian Revolution and Renegade Kautsky," "Werke" (Works), Vol 28, Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1959, p 246.

more favorable premises for direct relations between the voters and the elected and for the work of the deputies in residential areas and work collectives. The social composition of the people's representations reflects the predominant role of the workers class in the GDR. Some 45.6 percent of the deputies to the local people's representation are workers, 50.3 percent of the deputies to the bezirk assemblies and 57.6 percent of those to the city-kreis assemblies, and these workers are mostly engaged in the most important economic sectors. Their political and technical qualifications are indicated by the fact that 35.3 percent of all deputies completed college and technical school training.

Starting from such fine premises, the activity of the people's representations is to be aimed consistently at fostering the working people's creative initiatives and performance readiness for fulfilling and surpassing the national economic plans and mobilizing all reserves, and at developing activities in mass solidarity that get closer to the citizens. In the recommendations by the State Council on the activity of the people's representations in kreis towns and communities, of 18 June this year, a point is made explicitly about the connection between the responsibility of the people's representations for all-round assistance to economic performance and efficiency development and the further improvement in working and living conditions and the development of public life in all towns and communities.* Implementing that demands, above all, making a still better use of the valuable experiences of the working people and their collectives and of the people's representations, their permanent commissions and their deputies. That is also served by the recommendations and information from the State Council, in conformity with its mission as of Article 70 in the Constitution, for supporting the people's representations, promoting their democratic activities, and influencing the consolidation of socialist legality.

Resolutely Implementing the Economic Strategy

"The implementation of the party's economic strategy takes precedence in state activity."** This precedence applies to state activities in their entirety and thus also to the work of the local people's representations. It calls for their participation in those economic and territorial priorities on which depends our ensuring the working people's material and cultural standard achieved and its step-by-step development. It is important here to recognize still better the connection between economic performance and efficiency development and a relevant practical democratic working procedure by the people's representations and to draw the necessary inferences from that. Placing the basic needs and possibilities the people's representations have to aid in economic performance development on a common denominator, the following has to be emphasized:

--The growing demands on the activity of the local power organs can be taken care of with success only if the people's representations in every way exercise their great responsibility as vested in the GDR Constitution. Because the centerpiece

*Cf. NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, 19/20 June 1982, p 5.

**Comrade Erich Honecker, "Aus dem Bericht des Politbueros an die 3. Tagung des ZK der SED" (Excerpts from the Politburo Report to the Third SED Central Committee Session), Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1981, p 51.

of our economic organization lies in full combine and enterprise responsibility for the management and planning processes in their sectors, the activity of the people's representations and their organs has to concentrate on shoring up the performance and efficiency development in accordance with economic priorities, i.e., on ensuring optimum territorial reproduction conditions for the combines, enterprises, cooperatives and institutions. They bear a special responsibility for the performance development in the enterprises and areas under their direct authority.

--The work projects and activities of the people's representations must be aimed at ensuring in every way the fulfilment of the economic plans they themselves have decided on and at encouraging the extra obligations the working people assumed for it. That applies to their resolutions and to their organizing their conferences, to the surveys by the permanent and temporary commissions, and the work of the deputies' groups and election district activists. The implementation of the plan targets in all positions, proper as to costs, qualities and deadlines, more than ever becomes the yardstick for their conduct and for evaluating the work they do. It is necessary here to develop more of an independent and plan-oriented activity and assign tasks to the people's representations and their deputies that accord with given local conditions and possibilities.

--The best conceptions are not of much use unless they are enforced consistently and uniformly on a high level in all kreises, towns and communities. It diminishes the achievements of pacemakers if in some territories, let us say in housing construction, in preservation or in optimizing transportation, planned tasks are not properly fulfilled and standard values are not obtained. The most important technique for doing away with unjustified disparities, it always again turns out, is to generalize and enforce the working people's best experiences and recommendations in practical plan implementation.

Especially with regard to fully exhausting all territorial potentials for overall social performance growth there are now tasks to be solved that are virtually tailor-made for the people's representations and the public forces engaged in them. That pertains particularly to more speedily enforcing the territorial rationalization, which greatly contributes to economic performance development and to improving the citizens' working and living conditions according to plan.

Bezirk assemblies and many other local people's representations are seeking to aim their rationalization conceptions more at plan implementation. It indicates they recognize the indissoluble unity between overall state and territorial requirements. It is indispensable, however, for the people's representations and their organs to get still more out of the opportunities that exist, as the Politburo at the fourth Central Committee plenum has demanded, "to make further headway in securing territorial production conditions, the tracking and tapping of further reserves for the performance development of the enterprises, the securing of supply, transportation and shipping tasks, while strictly abiding by the allocations in energy, fuel and propellant contingents, and in solving the very many different communal problems."*

*Comrade Paul Verner, "Aus dem Bericht des Politbueros an die 4. Tagung des ZK der SED," Dietz publishing house, Berlin, 1982, p 57.

It is mainly a matter of achieving effective economic and communal rationalization through still more sensible cooperation and more purposefully encouraging the initiative of the social forces in the enterprises and cooperatives, the work collectives and residential areas. A State Council task force presented a report early this year on experiences of the bezirk assemblies in organizing the work in implementation of the 10th SED Congress resolutions. It also defines as a priority of the bezirk and kreis assemblies and their organs to generalize and enforce in a binding manner, through rigid political, technical and organizational management measures, the best experiences and results in territorial rationalization in their areas of responsibility.

The deputies' personal responsibility is heightened in this process. They are the representatives of the voters' interests also in the sense that they head the contest for economic plan fulfilment and the towns' and communal initiative programs. They set examples by excellent job performances and by their commitments to surpassing their personal plan commitments and applying material and cost-saving working methods. In Magdeburg Bezirk, e.g., circa 13,000 personal commitments and proposals from deputies to local people's representations on all levels on economic performance improvements and effective communal-political solutions had already been submitted by the end of the first quarter this year.

The ramifications of such exemplary work are in many respects significant to the activity of the people's representations. Thereby the deputies create for themselves better prerequisites for their political mass activities in their collectives and election districts and for confident dialogue with their voters. They also form their own standpoints and judgments for working on the decisions in their conferences and for the meetings with the standing commissions. Their personal experiences enable them to place communal aspects in the framework of the necessary sociopolitical and economic requirements.

More Effective Working Methods for People's Representations

An important task of the local people's representations and their standing commissions is, together with the working people, their supervision over a uniform implementation of the resolutions. That is accomplished if proven experiences and optimum values are thoroughly studied and enforced without delay in all appropriate areas. Noteworthy performance reserves also are still found in more rapid information, an organized experience exchange and a target-directed application of the most advanced methods beyond bezirk or kreis boundaries. A realistic assessment of results achieved and broadly enforcing optimum levels also demand of the activity of the people's representations that their sound analytic surveys more and more end in accurate performance comparisons. They make it possible for the state organs to draw concrete conclusions on the application of the best working methods and reduce unjustified disparities in state management activity and political mass activity.

A realistic assessment of the work has to be undertaken for the sake of plan fulfilment, the shaping of the working people's working and living conditions, and the status of intellectual-cultural life. A performance comparison in 19 small and medium-size towns in Cottbus Bezirk, e.g., contains experiences in implementing economic targets and in the initiative program of the "Join-in!"

competition, as well as in organizing political mass activities. In the outcome of it, considerable reserves were located for improving the housing conditions, the collection of secondary raw materials and kitchen offal, and the beautification of the towns. Annual targets for housing modernization were raised by M 240,000 and the collection of offal, by circa 2,500 tons.

Territorial rationalization reveals most clearly that the involvement of working people and their collectives in state management has to be broadened constantly and cannot be left to spontaneous campaigns and parts of territories. This holds true in particular for conferences of the people's representations which deal with basic territorial development problems and high priority tasks of the national economic plan. The working people's best experiences in the practical implementation of plan tasks and their opinions and suggestions must be reflected in the debate and in the resolutions. More can be achieved here when the debates during the sessions, based on accurate activity reports from the councils and on targeted substantive reports, are concentrated on the topical problems in the planning process and of the performance development in economic key positions. Good results are being achieved by people's representations that involve as many citizens as possible in the decision-making process and carefully analyze the recommendations from the working people before the final decisions are made on the resolutions in the sessions. Thorough supervision enables the people's representations and their deputies to uncover obstructions to the implementation of resolutions and initiate necessary measures. Massive controls by the standing commission together with other state organs and social forces as well as the use of temporary commissions of the local people's representations to resolve economic priority tasks have stood up well in practice. Regular question periods during the meetings of the people's representations, where the deputies can bring up matters pertaining to the plan implementation in their work areas and suggestions received from the citizens, also help implement decisions made and qualify the activity of passing resolutions.

An active contribution by the people's representations to implementing the economic performance and efficiency targets implies solicitude for reinforcing socialist legality and ensuring order, discipline and security in all public sectors. The ever more diversified initiatives for it by the working people in the enterprises and residential areas are a persuasive expression of the development of socialist democracy and of the citizens' state and legal consciousness. The people's representations and their deputies ought to foster such initiatives still more and also any intolerance to damages of public property and to law violations. That creates important prerequisites for a public atmosphere in which the working people can sense their social security and comfort. With that in mind, the State Council in June came out with recommendations which, in particular, direct bezirk and kreis assemblies still more at updating their programs on ensuring legality, order and security by new experiences and at keeping regular controls over the implementation of the measures set down and drawing the broad public into this. Reports on the results of such controls and on the steps taken to do away with deficiencies belong to the regular agenda of the people's representations. That also holds true for status reports by managers of enterprises, institutions and cooperatives on protecting order and security in production, on labor safety and health protection, on preventing breakdown, fires and technical interference and preventing animal losses.

An indispensable condition for resolving all problems and a task of primary importance in political leadership activity lie in reinforcing and constantly deepening the people's representations' relations of trust with the citizens. No management, however well organized, no resolution, however well formulated, makes up for the deputy's personal dialogue with his voters. Talking with the citizens about the basic political issues in our time is more crucial than ever today in the political-ideological work done by the people's representations. "Through persuasive work in political mass activities, the consequences resulting from the intensified political and economic class conflict with imperialism, as they affect the solution of the economic tasks and the safeguarding of peace, have to be made clear."* That includes informing the citizens about economic interconnections and the communal concerns affecting their work and life, ensuring close cooperation between the deputies, the National Front commissions and the local councils, and keeping conversations with the citizens alive. A deputy must be assigned a permanent area for carrying on his political mass activities and must have detailed objective information about basic social issues, priorities in communal policy, and the citizens' concerns.

It is very important to make the work of the people's representations in kreis towns and communities more professional. Considering that two-thirds of our country's citizens live in such localities, it becomes obvious what rank their activities hold, in particular, in strengthening the ties between socialist state power and the citizens and for implementing the resolutions from the party and government leadership. The performance increase that is needed in all sectors, including those of crop and animal production, makes it imperative to activate the public forces in towns and communities. A communal policy of relevance to the citizens calls for the continued development, according to plan, of socialist working and living conditions for the good of the citizens in the over 7,000 small towns and communities as a crucial prerequisite for economic performance development.

Support for the economic performance development from the city-kreis assemblies in the kreis towns and from the communal representations first and foremost means tapping all local reserves for the production of the enterprises and for supplying the population. If the State Council recommendations there refer to a broad palette of measures, it merely underscores the variety of possibilities there are. Such diversification also is the focal point in organizing interesting public and intellectual-cultural life in the towns and communities. The same direction is indicated by our carrying on our communal work. What remains critical is to ensure and further strengthen the people's representations' own responsibility in the towns and communities in all state management matters, including material and financial planning. Given all due to the responsibility of their own--as the State Council recommendations of June this year affirm--mainly such joint tasks in communal policy are to be undertaken through which, by concentrating capacities and funds, the citizens' needs can be satisfied better and faster. Here too, lower costs are to bring a more effective yield for the citizens' benefits.

*NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, 19/20 June 1982, p 5.

Further perfecting the activity of the local people's representations and their organs has a significant influence on making overall state requirements prevail and on ensuring the necessary territorial prerequisites for a stable economic performance growth and the effectiveness of socialist communal policy. Fostering and supporting it constantly therefore is a significant part of our party's political work.

5885

CSO: 2300/71

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

HONECKER'S BOOK ON SED'S CULTURAL POLICY REVIEWED

East Berlin EINHEIT in German Vol 37 No 10, Oct 82 (signed to press 18 Sep 82)
pp 1084-1086

["Socialist Cultural Policy--Result and Task"--Review by Klaus Hoepcke, deputy minister for culture; chief, Main Administration for Publishing Houses and Book Trade, Ministry for Culture; of book "Die Kulturpolitik unserer Partei wird erfolgreich verwirklicht" (Our Party's Cultural Policy Is Being Implemented Successfully), by Erich Honecker; published by Dietz Verlag, East Berlin, 1982]

[Text] In reading the contributions compiled in this volume in which the secretary general of our party's Central Committee during the 1970's and the early 1980's dealt with fundamental cultural policy problems in the continued shaping of the developed socialist society, one keeps meeting the unity of the result and the task.

Even the occasions for some of those speeches remind us to what extent cultural institutions were established during the 1970's that serve the well-being of the people in our country: the Palace of the Republic--celebration at the completion of the framework in 1974, its opening in 1976; reopening of the German National Theater in Weimar--1975; Berlin's Sports and Recreation Center--framework completion celebration in 1980, its opening in 1981. If one adds the New Gewandhaus in Leipzig, Gera's House of Culture and the Potsdam Bezirk Library, one realizes that permanent material cultural values are among the landmarks of our party's successful cultural policy in recent decades.

A basic problem in socialist social policy, in which cultural policy is embedded as an inseparable component, is how with the material, the people's cultural standard of living might also be raised. Comrade Erich Honecker reiterates that connection time and time again. We have since become still more profoundly aware of the key role played here by performance improvement. A growing economic capacity, political stability and a rich intellectual-cultural life are interacting essential features of socialism. Regardless of where a communist stands, he acts in conformity with a realization that stems from the Marxist-Leninist world-outlook and that may be formulated as follows: Performance increase through cultural progress, cultural progress through performance increase. Therefore those statements deserve special attention by which Comrade Honecker explains the grown cultural standard of living as of

1980. He points to 6,100 titles published in more than 148 million copies as an annual output of the publishing houses; to 100 million book loans annually from the libraries; and to more than 10 million theatergoers, 80 million moviegoers and over 31 million visiting museums and 3.2 million attending concerts per year. And he recommends further improving the quality and effectiveness of cultural and arts institutions and making a much better use of available means and opportunities (cf. pp 302-303).

With the same power of conviction with which Comrade Honecker discusses the satisfying of cultural needs as a component of the main task he explains essential ideological aspects of our cultural life, like the formation of the socialist nation under working class leadership or the appropriation of our national legacy, most importantly the impulses in the speech that constituted the Martin Luther Committee. He compellingly discusses the internationalist liaison of GDR culture with the cultures of the USSR peoples and those in the other countries of the socialist community of states, and he emphasizes our being open to humanistic cultural achievements from all over the world in the spirit of the Helsinki Conference. Crystal-clear are his words when he says that in our country, building socialism directly on the border with imperialism, we shall turn back the most massive designs for counterrevolutionary ideological impacts and influences by the class enemy as stubbornly as any attempt at spreading hostile ideologies, in artistic garb, aimed against socialism and our party policy.

Among the more recent cultural policy pronouncements from Comrade Honecker, made in February 1982 before the kreis first secretaries, is the idea that the focal point of our cultural policy is the elevation of the cultural level of the workers class and its greater influence on the development of socialist culture and art. Knowing that today there are many and tomorrow there will still be more workers among the readers, spectators, listeners and visitors, is among the distinguishing marks, appropriate to socialism, of the GDR as a land of readers, and of theater, music and art lovers. The trade union groups with their culture and education plans and the FDJ groups and basic organizations can do a lot for it. Comrade Honecker's pronouncements also have implications for other sectors. One may think of popular art propaganda, of more responsibly fostering artistic needs in secondary schools and institutions, or of how the degree of intelligibility in new works might be raised for a wide circle of people interested in culture--and that is a question of principle with respect to the popularity of socialist works of art.

Ideas about raising the cultural level and the working class influence can be found in this book also where it deals with commissions given to artists, with the active intellectual partnership between the workers class and artists, and with the longtime and rich relations between them, or with the concern for a new generation of artists. When one cares that more children of workers and farmers attend a music school or become actors, one makes a contribution to a continuing enrichment of our art professions with talents from the people at large, which then also again strengthens the artists' bonds with the workers class and all working people. Elevating the cultural level of the workers class finally also means strengthening its direct involvement in popular culture.

Comrade Honecker suggests far-flung considerations, not least by that he always discusses cultural issues in connection with the development of public education, science and college affairs, physical culture and sports, architecture and the building trade, and public health and social welfare, without in any way excluding the problems in literary and art policy in the more narrow sense. He pays tribute to accomplishments and takes a position on discussion questions: "Socialist art can and must also assert itself where, to quote our party program, it is a matter of overcoming attitudes that are essentially alien to our socialist social order" (p 306). He orients us to the expectations those have of our art who are accomplishing our work of construction, and he adds a consideration to that that proved extremely fruitful in subsequent discussions: "That requires artistic treatment in the total range of its means of expression that is not only close but true to reality" (p 306). Several times he points to the rank and importance of art work done by the workers class.

The following statement comprises the basic idea of Comrade Honecker's cultural policy pronouncements: "Party-mindedness, solidarity with the people and a content in socialist ideas are and remain the criteria by which the value of a work of art is mainly measured" (p 307). Proceeding from there, he supports the creative search for new themes, contents and modes of presentation, for new forms in which there is much that is novel, surprising or even willful, for a variety of modes of expression, and for promoting talents. He pleads for not measuring a high realistic content and creative imagination of the artists "by the yardstick of style or artistic technique" (p 189). This at once manifests the credo for the substance and method of our party's art policy effort altogether. And it defines Comrade Honecker's personal relations with the arts and with writers and artists. About that the book also provides a vivid impression. See his speech before culture creators and artists of 22 June 1979.

Important for the ongoing art debates also are his remarks about the word of the taboos, often quoted during the 1970 by friend and foe alike. Thrown into the debate first in 1971, Comrade Erich Honecker comments on it in 1979, with an eye to the experiences gained meanwhile: "If I once said that, in proceeding from the firm positions of socialism, it seemed to me there could be no taboos in art and literature, and then added that these are matters of content as well as of style, or in other words that which concerns artistic accomplishment, I can only reiterate that today. We are interested in art and literature that can guide men, through deeply penetrating the present, still more actively toward the future, so he will take a still stronger part in the formation of communist ideals and explore what remains to be done for bringing them to realization. Such art and literature aspire the greatness of our cause, the achievements performed for it and the human values gained from it. That enriches ideas and sentiments, it entertains and is as vibrant as life itself" (p 224).

One aspect is touched on time and time again. That has to do with the "open, objective and creative debate on how the new object can be coped with better and better" (p 27), with the "openminded debate that leads ahead" (p 63), that profits from the working people's relations with art that is increasingly knowledgeable and combines the need with critical standards, with an "objective debate on principle between likeminded and fellow-seekers," where it can best

be accomplished "to appreciate what has succeeded, provide stimuli for further projects, frankly criticize the less successful and oppose ideologies and attitudes that are alien to socialism" (p 66). The promise is that from that and "from the debate in the associations and distinctive public discussions about works of art" (p 161) we can derive valuable impulses for a further upswing in socialist realism in the GDR and for the talent and skill of the writers and artists.

Much is made of a high level in literary and art criticism "by which advances in art creation should be clearly spelled out but weaknesses or errors in particular works of art should not be hushed up" (p 226). That presupposes a high degree of political responsibility, of course, on the part of the artists themselves, the institutions that disseminate art and the competent state manager. In preparation for the FDJ culture conference, things have become quite lively here. One must hope that on the occasion of the Ninth Art Exhibit of the GDR, like that of the Eighth a few years ago, the media will come up with conversations about art and life that will be useful in their controversial parts. That would, by the way, also be in line with the further implementation of the Politburo resolution passed 5 years ago on the tasks in literary and art criticism, which called for discussions about our art.

This latest volume in the series, "Studienbibliothek der marxistisch-leninistischen Kultur- und Kunstwissenschaften" (Study Library of the Marxist-Leninist Art and Cultural Sciences) is full of suggestions for our party's cultural policy activities on all levels. Often Comrade Honecker addresses kreis and bezirk managements and advises them to attach special importance to their political-ideological work with artists and regularly to inform writers and artists, through executive bezirk and kreis functionaries, about important results, tasks and problems of social development. In an "atmosphere firm in principle and marked by confident cooperation, which includes comradesly and personal relations between the executive functionaries and artists, we shall do what we can in further promoting and in every way supporting socialist realism" (p 174). These are words that should induce every party member to reflect on his relationship with art and with the artists. For the artists, in turn, the book may serve as a compendium of social criteria for socialist creativity that is both close and true to reality.

The revolution in ideology and culture is among the most intricate sides of socialist social transformation and development. The present book assists in better understanding the objective inevitabilities of that revolution. It shows how by conscious concern in raising questions, in requirements, in in critically evaluating what has been and has not yet been resolved, determination and caution have to be combined.

5885

CSO: 2300/71

SUMMARIES OF OTHER MAJOR 'EINHEIT' ARTICLES

East Berlin EINHEIT in German Vol 37 No 10, Oct 82 (signed to press 18 Sep 82)
'Resumes' addendum

And Once Again the Call Goes Out "To All ..."

[Summary of article by Eberhard Heinrich, candidate member, SED Central Committee; chairman, GDR Association of Journalists; pp 1020-1025]

[Text] Peace, more than ever the common good of mankind and the vital premise for its survival in our time, can and must be preserved and reliably protected through the concerted efforts of all anti-war forces. Again and with particular urgency, this warning and mobilizing call from Lenin's land goes "to all." The alternative for imperialist war and power policy opening up for the world in the outcome of the peace policy pushed for decades by the Soviet Union and the fraternal states allied with it.

Expenditures and Results

[Summary of article by Prof Dr Helmut Koziolk, economist, member, SED Central Committee; director, Central Institute for Socialist Economic Management, SED CC; chairman, Council for Economic Research; member, GDR Academy of Sciences; member, EINHEIT editorial board; pp 1026-1033. A translation of this article is published under the heading, "Better Cost Analyses Seen Necessary to Reduce Expenditures," in a recent JPRS issue of EAST EUROPE REPORT: ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL AFFAIRS]

[Text] Why is a favorable cost/benefit ratio such an urgent economic need? The answer contains not only some essential reasons and the results achieved thus far, but furthermore the sets of instruments are shown by which in the enterprises and combines and also in the other sectors of the social reproduction process the ratio can be decisively improved. A special point is made in this context of the role of cost analysis.

Economic and Ideological Requirements for More Effective Reproduction of Basic Assets

[Summary of article by Prof Dr Harry Nick, economist, research program director, Institute for Political Economy of Socialism, Academy of Social Sciences, SED Central Committee; pp 1034-1040. A translation of this article is published under the heading, "Intensification Process Requires Better Quality Management," in a recent JPRS issue of EAST EUROPE REPORT: ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL AFFAIRS]

[Text] The implementation of the party's economic strategy requires imperiously that full use be made of the possibilities growing through our scientific-technical progress in including its results in a new way in the reproduction of the extant material-technical base. To what extent do the relations change then between simple reproduction and accumulation? Which modes of thinking and habits have to be broken and which prerequisites have to be laid to turn modernization into the most important form of reproduction?

On Policy and Culture

[Summary of article by Hans-Joachim Hoffmann, member, SED Central Committee; minister for culture; and Prof Dr Werner Kuehn, secretary, Council for Culture, under Minister for Culture; pp 1041-1047. A West German commentary on this EINHEIT article is inserted below this summary]

[Text] Our party's cultural policy is an inseparable element of its overall policy which is aimed at the well-being of the entire people. Why does the implementation of our economic strategy demand and promote a high cultural and educational level, social awareness and man's inner maturity? How can the available intellectual and material resources be more effectively exhausted and new ones be opened up to enhance further the effectiveness of cultural life? What are the specific effect potentials of art? Why is it indispensable in the life of socialist society and for making its people-related policy prevail?

West German Commentary on H.-J. Hoffmann Article

Bonn IWE-TAGESDIENST in German No 156, 14 Oct 82 'iwe-kultur' supplement

[Report from Berlin: "SED Admonishes Artists to Be Loyal to Party Line"]

[Text] East Berlin's minister for culture, Hans-Joachim Hoffmann, has emphatically admonished GDR artists to be loyal to the political-ideological line. The further development of literature and art in the GDR, as he wrote in the

theoretical SED journal EINHEIT (No 10, 1982), essentially depended on "that the writers and artists--mainly also the young ones--identified with our party policy, with the aims of socialist society." The artists should have to stand in the political struggles "on the side of progress and socialism." The high political responsibility the party attributed to art required "that it did not remain indifferent to manifestations of thoughtlessness, ideological vagueness, and to signs of departure from clear, class-bound judgments of circumstances and interconnections, that it refused to tolerate any superficial reflection of life."

Active Party Groups Mobilize the Work Collectives

[Summary of article by Dr Anneliese Bauerhorst, senior assistant, and Dr Hans Buchholz, director, Main Department for Correspondence Courses, Karl Marx Party College, SED Central Committee; pp 1054-1059]

[Text] Concrete examples demonstrate how party groups are turning into the solid core of work collectives and how the exemplary and active efforts of the communists help fortify the relationship of trust with the working people. The consistent application of our economic strategy, the tapping of reserves and resources, the better utilization of scientific-technical data and the saving of energy and raw materials form the core of their political-ideological activities. How measures are set in the work collectives by the model effect of party groups and of each comrade.

In the Struggle for Daily Plan Fulfillment

[Summary of article by Hans Risse, chemist, director, VEB Tire Plant, Riesa; pp 1060-1063]

[Text] Ensuring smooth production requires combining rigid management and organization with persistent political-ideological work. Which experiences were gained by the enterprise collective of the Riesa Tire Plant seeking to improve production continuity further, especially by a higher quality of labor, the systematic application of scientific labor organization and the introduction of three-shift labor?

On the Occasion of the Yugoslav Communists' 12th Congress

[Summary of article by Peter Schubert, political scientist, staff employee, SED Central Committee; pp 1064-1067]

[Text] The balance-sheet drawn up by the 12th SAWPY Congress--the first one after Tito's death--on the

social development of the socialist federation and the requirements for the coming years which confirm and carry on Yugoslavia's domestic and foreign policy thus far. Objectives in the struggle for political and economic stabilization and the party's responsibility as the vanguard in solving the approaching tasks.

Bourgeois Economic Theory and Practice Under Crisis Pressure

[Summary of article by Dr Guenter Krause, economist, lecturer, Economic Sciences Department, Humboldt University, East Berlin; pp 1068-1073]

[Text] Under the pressure from the capitalist crisis, bourgeois economics is forced to increase its search for system stabilization solutions. To a large extent, "neoclassical"-conservative conceptions and practices hold sway there, Reaganomics in particular in the United States. A frankly reactionary social apologetics of capitalism and a glorification of the social function of the "rich," a cynical discrediting of the "poor" and forceful social welfare cuts, and an unscrupulous orientation to maximizing monopoly profits control what these concepts are like. The ills of this obsolete society will not be cured by them either.

5885

CSO: 2300/71

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

RECRUITMENT OF 10TH GRADE STUDENTS FOR MILITARY CAREERS STEPPED UP

Bonn INFORMATIONEN in German No 15, Jul 82 pp 10-12

['Background' report by FRG Ministry for Inner-German Relations: "School-boys More Actively Recruited for Military Professions"]

[Text] East Berlin and GDR dailies in numerous contributions these weeks point to the training opportunities for 10th grade graduates from general poly-technical secondary schools, both male and female, who are to begin their apprenticeship in September. Compared with previous years, this time they are more actively recruiting the boys for military professions while the generally available apprenticeships are in part more than before reserved for girls.

The example of East Berlin shows how one is recruiting for professional military training. BERLINER ZEITUNG, published by the SED, shows in a 12-page supplement for training occupations--which has been coming out for years--this year for the first time that when thinking about their occupational goals, girls should more consider technical occupations but the boys, especially, careers in military professions.

In presenting military professions, they are pointing explicitly to officers careers, though they are normally only available to graduates of the expanded secondary school or those who have completed vocational training with a graduate highschool degree; 10th grade graduates after completing vocational training may through a 1-year course as officer students qualify for college admission. In proposals for officer careers, they are pointing to various "training profiles," including for the first time the training for political officers. The comment reads: "They are party workers in uniform; their work is devoted especially to the communist education of the army personnel."

As other "training profiles" the following is mentioned:

--At the Ernst Thaelmann ground forces officers school they are training, e.g., commanding officers for motorized infantry units and tank, rocket, artillery and engineer units. That college also is the training institution for commanders and officers of communication units, the motor vehicle service, technical weapons service and rear services. At the Franz Mehring air force/air

defense officers college, they are training future pilots, officers for command organs, of the flight engineering service, radar troops and antiaircraft rocket units. Naval officers and naval machinists are prepared for their future military employment at the Karl Liebknecht naval officers college. Commanders of border troop units study at the Rosa Luxemburg officers college for border troops. And then there still is an Artur Becker officers college of the ministry of the interior for commanders and officers of the Alert Police and companies of the transport police.

Generally, however, 10th grade graduates are recruited for the NCO career or warrant officer training. The contributions dealing with that make the point that the NCO career is equivalent to the master workman qualification in industry. It demands skilled worker qualifications of 10th grade graduates. As an NCO he is trained in a 5 or 10-month course. Then he serves for 2 to 3 years. His training is then continued in an NCO career course of 3 to 5 months at a military institution and ends with his master worker qualification.

Career NCO's have various employment possibilities:

--He may be used as the leader of a motorized infantry or repair squad, master gunner, tank commander, runway supervisor, computer-squad leader, engineering equipment commander, platoon leader in a radar station, on a battle station, on a warship or a boat."

A future warrant officer must after 10th grade go through skilled worker training. The young skilled worker then has three chances to become a warrant officer:

--The first: He attends a 1-month course at an NCO school, at the end of which he becomes an NCO or mate. Then comes the practical work in an appropriate service position. Then he may take the warrant officers course for a year. The second chance is a 2-year course at a military technical school, after which he gets his warrant officer's commission. Finally, and third, he may also study at a civilian technical school. Then he gets a 3-month military course, after which he is appointed warrant officer."

As far as warrant officers' assignments are concerned, the BERLINER ZEITUNG only mentions in its supplement that they are made in the arms and services of the NVA and the GDR border troops in various special fields. Young people who want to know more about military careers, BERLINER ZEITUNG says, should address "those in charge of ensuring military replacements at the secondary schools" or the competent military district headquarters.

Comparable to NCO's are the members of the People's Police who, after similar training, serve with the traffic police, the transport police, in industrial protection, in passports and registration, with the criminal police, the fire department and in the administration of justice.

BAUERN-ECHO has published examples of the pay future career soldiers may expect. As net amounts the paper quoted for

--a squad leader (a first-year NCO, married, with 2 children), M 815;
--a deputy platoon leader (staff sergeant, 6 years of service, married, 2 children, M 1,025;

--a platoon leader (warrant officer, 6 years of service, married, one child), M 1,155;
--a master sergeant (chief warrant officer, 10 years of service, married, 2 children), M 1,222;
----a graduate of an officers college in his first officer's assignment as a platoon leader (lieutenant, 4 years of service, single), circa M 1,185;
-- a company commander (captain, 9 years of service, married, 2 children), M 1,495.

The average gross income for a skilled industrial worker in the GDR was M 1,018 per month in 1980.

When referring to promotion opportunities, one also mentions the furlough career soldiers get. It ranges from 24 calendar days in the first year of service to 46 days in the 16th year for career NCO's; for warrant officers and career officers it goes from 36 to 46 calendar days. For all three groups there also are two Saturdays off each month.

Of the 12,500 graduates from 10th grade in East Berlin more boys are likely to enter the military profession than had originally planned to do so because many training spots are reserved to a large extent for girls this year. BERLINER ZEITUNG says that 22 girls but only 16 boys are trained in men's fashions, in the clothing business there are only two apprenticeships for boys, but 221 for girls. As many as 221 girls may learn to become cooks, but only 108 boys may do so. The post office will employ almost exclusively female apprentices. As many as 704 salesgirls are to be trained, but only 30 salesmen. Among the economic buyers there are 679 apprenticeships for girls and 88 for boys, in the finance business there is a ratio of 168 girls against 9 boys. Even in trades like electromechanic, house painter and mechanic the share reserved for girls lies between 30 and nearly 50 percent. Only for auto-mechanics, airplane mechanics, carpenters and construction workers, apprenticeships go almost exclusively to boys.

No data are given on the total number of apprenticeships for the 12,500 graduates from 10th grade. It is only said that everyone gets an apprenticeship, which does not indicate whether the training spots in the military sector are included in it.

5885

CSO: 2300/82

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

ENGINEER TROOP COMMANDER SEES CONTINUED EQUIPMENT UPGRADING

East Berlin MILITAERTECHNIK in German No 6, 1982 (signed to press 14 Sep 82)
pp 283-286

[Interview "on current problems of engineering support" with Maj Gen W. Seifert, chief, Engineering Service, National People's Army (NVA); by MILITAER-TECHNIK editors (date and place of interview not given): "Everything for a High Level of Combat Readiness"]

[Text] [Question] Comrade Major General: The growing demands in the 1980's are also going to tax the members of the engineering troops of the NVA more heavily. That suggests our first question: What results have the members of the engineering troops achieved in recent months in dealing with the tasks assigned them by the 12th delegates conference? What are they concentrating on today to achieve further growth in fighting strength and combat readiness?

[Answer] In answering your question I should like to mention first that the assessment of the international situation and the tasks derived from it in further improving the GDR's national defense, as to the SED Central Committee report to the 10th SED Congress, are the basis and guideline for the actions of NVA members, and so also for the engineering troops.

Comrade Erich Honecker, secretary general of the SED Central Committee, commented on that as follows: "Increasing dangers arise from the growing aggressiveness of imperialism and the exacerbation of the international situation caused by the United States and NATO. Making peace permanent requires of the NVA and our protective and security organs to boost their fighting strength and their combat and operational readiness."*

Never since the end of World War II has world peace been threatened as much as it is now. NATO's aggressive imperialist circles are unscrupulously escalating their arms buildup and confrontation policy. They seek military superiority over the Warsaw Pact. Col Gen Heinz Kessler, deputy minister for national defense and chief of the NVA's Political Main Administration (PHV), in this

*Comrade Erich Honecker, "Aus dem Bericht des Zentralkomitees der Sozialistischen Einheitspartei Deutschlands an den X. Parteitag der SED," Berlin, 1981, p 126.

connection, at the 12th delegates conference of the SED party organizations in the NVA and the GDR border troops, called for unmasking the enemy's aims and designs. He called for "bringing all comrades to realize that the NATO armies in the early 1980's are much better prepared than ever before for aggression under any conditions of the situation and after an extremely brief preparation for it."*

I can assure you the members of the NVA engineer units have derived their conclusions from that demand which they apply creatively in the leadership activity and in education and training. For engineering support, the focal point is placed on problems such as

- perfecting the protection of troops and combat equipment from the enemy's conventional and mass annihilation weapons, especially in connection with the introduction by the United States of the neutron weapon,
- reconnaissance and surmounting of barriers of all sorts, and
- ensuring combat operations and troop maneuvers after the employment of weapons of mass destruction.

These problems affect all sectors of military affairs more today than ever.

In implementation of the resolutions of the 10th SED Congress and of the 12th delegates conference of the SED party organizations in the NVA and the GDR border troops, engineering units are seeking a permanent high fighting strength and combat readiness. Those concepts have become the yardstick for our performance capacity. In the 1980/81 training year, the year of the 10th party congress, as well as in the 1981/82 training year, our staffs, troop components, units and institutions have come up with good and very fine results. I only wish to refer to the tenacious and successful work of senior officers in political and military education and training and the close cooperation with the party, FDJ and trade union organizations. We also managed to increase the subordinates' responsibility for the combat and special technology and equipment in their charge. Out of that came many initiatives in socialist competition that led directly to a boost in fighting strength and combat readiness on the part of engineer troop components and units. And then there were other accomplishments like the construction of 800-meter pontoon bridges from the outstanding PMP pontoon park of Soviet design, the construction of command bridges for narrow and medium-size water obstacles at high speed and with new mechanization devices, the advances in the cooperation of all branches with engineer troops for overcoming enemy minefields, and the good and very fine accomplishments in specialized training.

This genuine growth in fighting strength and combat readiness became possible through a target-directed political-ideological work of the superior officers, the political workers and the party, FDJ and trade union functionaries. It became possible through a target-directed intensification of combat training, the initiation of new training programs and other military provisions.

*"Excerpts from the Report of the Secretariat of the PHV in the NVA to the 12th Delegates Conference of the SED Party Organizations in the NVA and the GDR Border Troops, submitted by Col Gen Heinz Kessler," PARTEIARBEITER, special February 1981 issue, p 23.

The minister for national defense, as you know, has asked for effective combat training with the lowest cost but without any cuts. We have some initiatives and rules for that. We conduct more all-round and other training in field camps. So we can make a more rational use of training tools and equipment, specialized and transportation equipment, and the distances and hours in driving. We have done well here, I must say. But there still are reserves left. Especially on the platoon and squad levels and for crews and operations units. There we still have to learn to think more economically, because that is where the means made available come into direct use. Also the superior officers have to get more training as well as the drivers, machinists and crews among the engineers.

[Question] You are talking about the political-ideological education, a more intensive combat and specialized training and about making the engineers more adept in handling military equipment. How can one meet the growing demands from scientific-technical progress in military affairs and provide the engineer units with better and more effective combat training?

[Answer] That has basically been answered by Col Gen W. Fleissner, deputy minister for national defense, in his contribution at the start of the 1981/82 training year.* On that basis, I shall comment on some specifics in the engineer units.

The revolution in military affairs and its effects on modern combat have also made the tasks in engineering support rise by leaps and bounds, and the time has shrunk for solving them. Mechanization alone can help us do more in reduced time frames. Army engineers, apart from tank units, command the highest motorized capacity per head.

There is not only more to do but what there is, is now more diversified and intricate. The variety of tasks and the high, above-average, degree of mechanization, compared to most branches and special troops, call for further specialization in the engineers' combat training.

Expert control over equipment in combat operations presupposes for the engineers, as it does in all other branches, special troops and services in the NVA, a firm class standpoint and sound ideological discernment.

A reflection of that is, at least that is the way I see it with regard to the accomplishments in engineer equipment, that the engineer troop components and units always came up with a higher operations readiness of their equipment than asked for by the coefficient for technical operational readiness. The troop components that came up with outstanding results were those of Erwin Panndorf, Horst Vieth and Kurt Roemling.

To make combat training better and more effective, however, means above all that training be simulated as much as possible to the warfare conditions and criteria. In individual and unit training, soldiers and units must seek great military skill under permanent stress. No idling or simplifications must be allowed.

*"Perfect Mastery Over Modern Combat Equipment Requires the Intensification of Political and Military Leadership, Education and Training," MILITAERTECHNIK, Berlin, 1981, No 6, p 281.

The decisions in armed combat, as you know, come from people. So our duty is to train them as best we can and enable them to act with consciousness and conviction; otherwise the most perfect equipment is of little use in modern combat. But for that purpose we also have to have superior officers who know what it means to provide socialist education and training. Most officers among the engineers have engineering diplomas from technical schools or colleges. The number of those that have studied at a military academy and gained an engineering degree there keeps growing.

NCO and warrant officers training and advanced training programs have been revised and the base for teaching has been improved at the teaching institutes. Greater reserves for that still have to be tapped in troop service because for much of the engineering equipment licenses for operating it must be obtained in the troop component or unit. Training documents thus must be in good shape and the courses must be high level. I think it necessary, for working out the methods for solving these tasks, to keep looking at the party resolutions and above all at the resolutions from the 12th delegates conference.

Thanks to our party and the GDR government, the NVA troop components are steadily being replenished with modern engineering equipment. To operate it must thus constantly be learned. The superior officers in the engineering units are heavily taxed because their equipment is so complex in nature. Even engineering platoons have different types of equipment.

That spectrum ranges from optical and electronic reconnaissance devices via obstacle devices and explosives, ground and woodworking equipment, amphibious and river crossing devices, power production equipment all the way to water production and processing installations.

A platoon leader, as that list suggests, must know a lot about the operations and the care or maintenance of the equipment in his charge. And he must be able to pass on his knowledge to his subordinates and train them to handle the equipment on their own.

It often happens in combat that drivers and machinists get detached from their unit and still have to act. For that they must be prepared in time, and they must be trained to exercise their responsibilities conscientiously. The rich store of experience by the Soviet Army engineers always again is a source of strength to us in our resolve to perfect our combat training and in our education and training as such.

Relations of friendship with the Soviet Army, especially with the "engineering units next door," of the GSSD, are a good tradition that has lasted for years. Take, for example, the Boehland pontoon company of the Johann Philipp Becker troop component. That company has had close relations for years with its partner, the company of Captain Sergei Gemenyuk. They build bridges, not only in their comradeship-in-arms, but also in firm friendship, which document the alliance between our two fraternal armies.

The soldiers in both companies know that a war against the socialist community of states, unleashed by imperialism, will face our coalition as a whole. But

they also understand their unit's combat quality greatly depends on the quality of leadership and their training condition. To learn from each other and jointly put up the best they have is one of their principles.

There is another example I like to refer to which confirms the close comradeship-in-arms between the NVA's and the GSSD's engineer units, the Ottomar Geschke troop component. The members of that component met with their Soviet partners for a performance comparison in erecting barriers and positions. Everyone tried his best and showed what combat training had taught him. A subsequent experience exchange served to apply new knowledge in education and in coping with military equipment to combat training in a target-directed manner.

Building friendship bridges and conducting performance comparisons in various fields of combat training are among the annual measures in cooperation with our Soviet partners. Of these traditions we are especially proud.

[Question] Combat training specialization for the engineering troops, as you have said, also calls for a better quality and effectiveness in the technical skills of the officers and specialists. What do you consider important with regard to technical maintenance and repair?

[Answer] The increasing tasks in engineering support can be solved only through well trained specialists and equipment that is kept operational. That makes high demands on operations and use and also on maintenance and repair. Our engineering technology includes hydraulic, pneumatic, electrical and electronic components. Properly running such modern equipment and fully exhausting its performance parameters is possible only for someone who knows a lot and has excellent practical skills. That is true for the drivers or crews and for the maintenance and repair specialists. The point is always to operate in such a way that a high operational readiness is ensured for engineering equipment. The whole process in engineering support has to be prudent and strict, from the combat training to the maintenance and repair, all the way to the planning and ensuring of spare parts.

The various types of engineering equipment must be used still more purposefully and effectively. Maintenance schedules must be strictly observed, and the maintenance itself must under all conditions be of a high quality because that alone will ensure the reliability of the equipment.

There is a very close connection between the technical training for officers and specialists and the quality of technical maintenance; that must be kept in mind in education and training and must always again be reviewed in the troop component, in accordance with distinct requirements.

As a good quality of training depends on a modern training base, modern technical training centers were set up in the teaching institutions as well as in some engineer troop components, where training officers can find the training equipment, tools and documents they need. A complex maintenance of armored, motor vehicle and engineering equipment must be organized in the service stations as well as under field conditions. And the equipment must be kept ready, according to plan and in good time, for the tasks ahead, with its appropriate forces and means. We must strictly abide by the legal regulations and military provisions on labor safety and protection against breakdown.

[Question] In socialist competition, the joint responsibility of commanding officers and enlisted men, of the military collectives and the superior officers, for the wanted growth in fighting strength and combat readiness finds its most striking expression. How do competition and the innovator movement help meet the growing requirements?

[Answer] MILITAERTECHNIK already published some results of socialist competition, especially of the innovator and MMM movement.* In addition I would like to say that socialist competition significantly affects all military life on our staffs and in our troop components, units and institutions and that our accomplishments would be inconceivable without socialist competition and the innovator and the MMM movement. What we have accomplished must, however, be still more extended. It is important, I think, to conduct the contest between man and man, and between collective and collective, more rigidly still and to generalize the best experiences. Experience exchange, the cheapest investment, must be used for eliminating still existing disparities in levels. All army members and civilian employees are to be drawn into the experience exchange because every initiative and suggestion is wanted.

The troop components of Kurt Roemling, Willy Becker, Erwin Panndorf and H. Philipp have come up with good results in socialist competition. Those units conduct the socialist competition and the innovator and MMM movement in a complex fashion. Commitments assumed are publicly accounted for, and everyone must confess whether he has fulfilled his obligation consciously, honestly and with benefit.

The tasks for the innovator movement, as mentioned in the contribution referred to, remain valid for the time ahead. The focal point continues to be the improvement of combat training, especially its material base, and more efficient maintenance and repair methods for technology and equipment. Closely embedded in that is the economical use of energy and material. Good results were achieved by the facilities of Fiebiger, Ehrentraut and Meyer.

[Question] The variety of engineer equipment also makes high demands on the material-technical support. How can financial and material means best be used economically on behalf of all-round engineering support?

[Answer] The variety of engineering equipment does present us with big problems. So already in recent years we have therefore initiated extensive measures for the development of stable foundations for material-technical support. Some rationalization projects have to do with improving transportation, transshipment and storage processes and the storage management in the engineering camps.

Proceeding from the resolutions of the 10th SED Congress and of the 12th delegates conference of the SED party organizations in the NVA and the GDR border troops and from order No 20/81 issued by the minister for national defense, good initiatives have come from the units, troop components, staffs and institutions that deal with an economical and effective utilization of financial

*H. Tesche and E. Regel, "A Fine Balance-sheet for the Innovators in the Engineering Troops," MILITAERTECHNIK, Berlin, 1982, No 2, p 82.

and material means. What has mattered and still matters is to use available means economically without any cutback in the level of combat training and combat readiness. We must still more effectively plan than we used to the financial and material means on the basis of inventory and consumption norms while paying attention to what we have in stock. Moreover, on the various command levels, inventory norms have to be constantly updated and supplies and reserves have to be ensured and remain greatly accessible.

Also in maintenance and repair, allocations must be used cautiously and effectively. Everyone will understand that scheduled maintenance and repair improve the reliability of the equipment and prevent premature losses, which would normally make for higher repair costs. So also in the future all engineering equipment has to be serviced contractually and on schedule, while the service intervals themselves should be further cut back. That will succeed all the more, the better and more efficiently we learn to involve the ideas of the service specialists and the associates in material-technical support in solving our tasks.

[Question] Would you then, please, in conclusion, summarize the chief tasks of the NVA engineering troops for the 1982/83 training year we are going into?

[Answer] They are set down in the basic documents. Let me, however, refer to some priorities that have to be taken account of in combat training and to be perfected through drill and exercises:

- troop cooperation in reconnaissance and in clearing barriers of various sorts,
- putting up barriers and field fortifications while observing the demands for tactical camouflage,
- establishing routes of march and forcing and crossing water obstacles,
- procuring and processing surface water at high quality,
- an efficient use made of engineering equipment and maintaining its operational readiness with strict regard for the demands of military economy, and
- fulfilling the tasks the engineering troops were assigned in the economy.

I wish all success to the members of the engineering units in solving these tasks.

5885

CSO: 2300/80

AGE FACTOR IN RULING PARTY, GOVERNMENT CIRCLES REVIEWED

Bonn INFORMATIONEN in German No 16, Aug 82 pp 8-13

['Background' report by FRG Ministry for Inner-German Relations: "Age Structure and Term of Membership in the Highest Organs of the GDR Parties"]

[Text] On 25 August 1982, Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED and chairman of the GDR State Council, turned 70. He is the seventh member of the 17-member SED Politburo who has crossed over the threshold of age 70. The super-annuation of this body continues steadily, for the membership of those who belong to it ends for the most part only through death. As a consequence, the average duration of membership in the Politburo is also very high--in addition to Honecker, eight full members were represented in it already under party chief Walter Ulbricht (1950-1971). All 17 full members of this most important SED body and its 8 candidates, who have no voting rights in the deliberations, occupy the highest positions in the party and state apparatus of the GDR. In the other GDR parties, too, the highest representatives have in the meantime reached a relatively advanced age, to some extent they still belong to the generation of founders.

The average age of the 17 full members of the SED Politburo is close to the retirement limit of 65 years effective in the GDR--in round figures it comes to 63 years. Already during the past 15 years there was a continuous increase in this magnitude of average age--from 57 years (1967) to 59 (1971) and finally to 61 years (1974). Currently, Erich Mielke, the 74-year-old minister for state security, is the senior among the full members*, and the junior is Konrad Naumann, first secretary of the SED Bezirk administration of Berlin (East), 53 years of age.

There are primarily two reasons for the constantly increasing age curve of the Politburo members. First of all, as a rule during the past 20 years or so, individuals--once they have been called to become members--belong to the

*Cutoff date for all age data is 25 August 1982, Honecker's 70th birthday.

Politburo until the end of their life. Ever since Honecker assumed the leadership of the party, there has only been one exception to this--unwritten rule: At the 10th SED Congress during the past year, Albert Norden, who was 76 at the time and had been a member of the Politburo since 1958, was not reelected. (During the first half of the Ulbricht Era, to be sure, this rule was not yet in effect. At that time several full members and candidates were excluded from this body, for the most part on the basis of the justification that they were guilty of "deviation from the party line."

Secondly, new members of the Politburo are called only when they have assumed authoritative positions in the party or state apparatus, which presupposes a certain age. Thus, for example, all Politburo members currently holding office were already at least 40 years old when they became full members. Only one exception exists in the case of Willi Stoph, who moved into the Politburo at the age of 39 (1953). Eight were between 40 and 49 at the time of their appointment, 6 between 50 and 59, and only 2 were already older than 60 years of age: Heinz Hoffmann (63) and Erich Mielke (69).

The full members of the Politburo--which in its sessions taking place every Tuesday decides on all important political and personnel matters of fundamental importance--in addition occupy the most important positions in the party, state, government and People's Chamber, frequently several simultaneously.

Thus Erich Honecker is not only general secretary of the party, but also chairman of the State Council and the National Council of Defense of the GDR. In the 25-member State Council, which has primarily representative functions and includes representatives of the other GDR parties, another 7 full members of the Politburo are represented, including 3 as deputy chairmen.

The GDR Council of Ministers, which includes more than 40 persons, is headed by 3 full members of the Politburo: The chairman, Willi Stoph, and his two first deputies, Werner Krolikowski and Alfred Neumann. Moreover, the two representatives of the GDR security system are among the full members of the Politburo: Heinz Hoffmann, minister for national defense, and Erich Mielke, minister for state security.

These five representatives of the Politburo in the government--their average age is close to 68 years--show the continuity of the administration of power especially clearly. Four of them have their present (or other) functions in the government already for more than 20 years, only one of them has been in the government for a mere 6 years. More specifically:

--Politburo member Willi Stoph (68) has been the chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers since 1964 (with a 3-year interruption, when he was chairman of the State Council); prior to that he was minister of the interior for 3 years, minister for defense for 4 years, and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers for 2 years;

--Politburo member Alfred Neumann (72) has been active in government functions since 1961, since 1968 as first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers;

--Politburo member Werner Krolikowski (54) has performed his duties as first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers since 1976 after previously holding the highest positions in the party (first secretary of the SED Bezirk administration of Dresden, Central Committee secretary for economic affairs);

--Politburo member Heinz Hoffmann has been minister for defense since 1960 after he had previously already been deputy minister (1952) or first deputy minister (1956);

--Politburo member Erich Mielke has been chief of the ministry for state security since 1957--a ministry which he helped to build and in which he was a state secretary since 1950.

Of the remaining full members of the Politburo--in addition to Honecker--nine are the highest party functionaries. Seven are secretaries of the SED Central Committee, who see to the actual coordination and control of party work (the remaining two of the total of nine Central Committee secretaries are Politburo candidates).

The oldest among the Central Committee secretaries is the 71-year-old Paul Verner, who since 1971--as the successor to Erich Honecker--has been responsible for security affairs. The secretary with the greatest amount of seniority is 70-year-old Kurt Hager, since 1955 responsible for cultural and scientific affairs in the Central Committee Secretariat. The now 66-year-old Hermann Axen, Central Committee secretary for international relations, has been in office since 1966, and Guenter Mittag (55) has been performing his duties as Central Committee secretary for economic affairs since 1962, interrupted by 3 years as first deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers. Horst Dohlus (57) has been Central Committee secretary for party organs since 1973; he has been in charge of the Central Committee department having the same name since 1960. Joachim Herrmann (53) has been Central Committee secretary since 1976, responsible since 1978 for the area of agitation and propaganda, having previously been editor in chief of the SED organ NEUES DEUTSCHLAND. Werner Felfe (54), who last year became the successor to the deceased secretary for agriculture, Gerhard Grueneberg, and previously had been first secretary of the SED Bezirk administration of Halle, has the least amount of seniority among the Central Committee secretaries.

The two remaining party functionaries are Erich Mueckenberger (72), who is at the same time the chairman of the Central Party Control Commission, heads the SED fraction in the People's Chamber and is also president of the Society for German-Soviet Friendship, and Konrad Naumann (53), first secretary of the SED Bezirk administration of Berlin (East).

All full members of the SED Politburo are deputies of the GDR People's Chamber, whose president is Politburo member Horst Sindermann (66), who previously for 3 years had been chairman of the Council of Ministers (1973-1976). In addition, some Politburo members chair important committees of

the People's Chamber. Thus, Hermann Axen, Central Committee secretary for international relations, is chairman of the Committee for Foreign Affairs; Paul Verner, Central Committee secretary for security affairs, is chairman of the Committee for National Defense; Guenter Mittag, Central Committee secretary for economic affairs, directs the Committee for Industry, Construction and Traffic; and the Committee for Public Education is under the direction of Kurt Hager, Central Committee secretary for culture and science.

Another full member of the Politburo, finally, is the chairman of the federal executive committee of the FDGB [Free German Labor Union Federation], Harry Tisch, who has been performing this function since 1975.

Candidate Members of the Politburo

Among the candidate members of the Politburo, too, there has been a steady increase in the average age since 1967. In 1967, it was close to 40 years, increased to 45 years in 1971 and to 49 years in 1974; it now (8 candidates) is close to 53 years.

This increase in the average age of the candidate members is traceable, above all, to the fact that 3 of them have already held their candidate status for more than 15 years. These three candidates were appointed to this function during the Ulbricht-period (between 1963 and 1967). What is conspicuous is the fact that these three--the 50-year-old Guenther Kleiber, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, the 55-year-old Werner Jarowinski, Central Committee secretary for trade and supply, and the 51-year-old Margarete Mueller, director of an agroindustrial association--thus far have failed to achieve promotion to full member. To be sure, they were selected as candidates at a relatively young age--Jarowinski and Kleiber at age 36, Margarete Mueller at age 32--but were forced in the course of time to let a number of coapplicants pass by them who had become candidates at a later point in time or managed the jump from Central Committee member directly to Politburo full member.

In addition to these three Politburo candidates of long standing, this status is held at the present time by the high party functionaries Ingeburg Lange (55), Central Committee secretary for women; Guenter Schabowski (53), editor in chief of the SED organ NEUES DEUTSCHLAND; and Werner Walde (56), first secretary of the SED Bezirk administration of Cottbus. Also candidates are the 61-year-old Gerhard Schuerer, chairman of the State Planning Commission, and Egon Krenz (45), first secretary of the Central Council of the FDJ [Free German Youth], the first of the Honecker successors as FDJ chief, who in this function was accepted as a candidate member of the Politburo.

Striking is the scant representation of women in the Politburo: There is no woman among the 17 full members; the 8 candidates include 2 women: Ingeburg Lange and Margarete Mueller.

Length of Membership or Term as Candidate Members

The duration of full membership in the Politburo at the present time is over 13 years on the average, while the duration of the term as candidate

members on the average is over 10 years. The high average magnitude in the case of members can be attributed to the fact that the older ones among the Politburo members have already belonged to this body for more than two decades. Willi Stoph, who in his time did not have to serve a term as candidate member during the coming year will complete the third decade of his membership in the Politburo. Erich Honecker, Erich Mueckenberger and Alfred Neumann each have 24 years of full membership, having previously served 8 or 4 (Neumann) years as candidate members. Since 1963--that is 19 years--Kurt Hager and Paul Verner have held a seat in the Politburo, both of them having previously been candidate members for 5 years. The following also moved into the Politburo during the time of Walter Ulbricht: Guenter Mittag (1966, after 3 years as a candidate member), Horst Sindermann (1967, previously 4 years as a candidate member), and Hermann Axen (1970, after 7 years as a candidate member).

In other words, nine of the Politburo members already had a seat and vote in the highest SED body when Walter Ulbricht still stood at the helm of the party. To this group of persons must also be added the three candidate members, Werner Jarowski, Guenther Kleiber and Margarete Mueller, who had already received this status in 1963 or 1967 (Kleiber). These 12 politicians--in addition to those deceased in the meantime--also formed the core of the Politburo when in 1971 the former FDJ chief (1946-1955) and subsequent Central Committee secretary of long standing for security affairs (1958-1971), Erich Honecker, replaced Walter Ulbricht as party chief, who was almost 78 years of age at the time. During the subsequent years a number of members and candidate members were newly appointed, almost exclusively occasioned by the death of previous members and candidate members and by the fact that the number of members or candidate members was increased. The new appointments in the Politburo involved, first of all, former associates of Erich Honecker from his work as FDJ chief--almost all of them had in the meantime attained the highest party functions--secondly, additional high party functionaries or members of the government, and, thirdly, associates of the new party chief from his work as Central Committee secretary for security affairs.

The first group includes the following functionaries, all of whom were formerly or are secretaries of the FDJ Central Council:

--the full members Werner Felfe (1976, candidate member since 1973), Joachim Herrmann (1978, candidate member since 1973), Konrad Neumann (1976, candidate member since 1973), as well as candidate members Ingeburg Lange (1973) and Egon Krenz (1976).

The second group (high party functionaries and leading members of the government) includes:

--the full members Werner Krolikowski (1971, without being a candidate member), Harry Tisch (1975, candidate member since 1971), Horst Dohls (1980, candidate member since 1976), and candidate members Gerhard Schuerer (1973), Werner Walde (1976) and Guenter Schabowski (1981).

The third group (representatives of the GDR security system) includes:

--Heinz Hoffmann (1973, without being a candidate member) and Erich Mielke (1976, candidate member since 1971).

In the entire Honecker era, there have thus far been only two discharges of members of the Politburo: In 1973 the then-candidate member (since 1967) Walter Halbritter--according to SED information "by his own request"--was relieved from his functions (he was then and is still today a member of the Council of Ministers and director of the Office for Prices). The second discharge (1981) involved--as already mentioned--Albert Norden, deceased in the meantime.

The Top Leadership of the CDU [Christian Democratic Union], the DBD [Democratic Peasant Party of Germany], the LDPD [Liberal Democratic Party of Germany], and the NDPD [National Democratic Party of Germany]

The top leadership of the GDR parties, too, has in the meantime reached a high average age; however, some parties have dissociated themselves from older leadership personnel and replaced them with younger ones at party congresses that took place this spring. But in these parties, too, there is a great deal of continuity among the top leaders; many of the chairmen and their deputies occupy the top party ranks for more than 20 years or these politicians have held high positions in the state and government apparatus, which were assigned to them by virtue of their party rank.

The average age of the CDU chairman and his three deputies is 64 years. Party chairman since 1966 is Gerald Goetting, who is 59 years old today and is at the same time one of the deputy chairmen of the State Council (since 1960) and the only deputy president of the People's Chamber (since 1980), whose president he also was at one time already (from 1969 to 1976). Before Goetting assumed the leadership of the CDU of the GDR in 1969, he had already been general secretary of the party for 17 years (from 1949 to 1966) and thus had already started his political career at the age of 26.

Goetting's deputies are:

--the 61-year-old Wolfgang Heyl (since 1971), who since 1963 has been the leader of the CDU fraction in the People's Chamber;

--the 68-year-old Max Sefrin (since 1966), who for 13 years was minister for health and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers (from 1958 to 1971);

--the 68-year-old Heinrich Toeplitz (since 1966), who since 1960 has been president of the Supreme Court of the GDR.

The average age of the top leadership of the DBD decreased this spring from 71 to 63 years after party founder Ernst Goldenbaum (83) and deputy Hans Rietz (68) retired from the top party leadership. As the new party chairman, the DBD Congress selected Ernst Mecklenburg (55), a deputy until then, who in the meantime has also taken over Goldenbaum's place as deputy chairman of the State Council.

Deputy party chairmen are:

--The 79-year-old cofounder Paul Scholz (since 1949), who for 15 years had been deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers (from 1952 to 1967) and minister for agriculture for several years;

--the 57-year-old Hans Reichelt (since 1982), who from 1953 on was active in the highest government functions in the area of agriculture and since 1972 has been deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and at the same time minister for environmental protection and water management.

The average age of the LDPD chairman and his three deputies is 60 years. Party chairman since 1967 has been Manfred Gerlach, who since 1960 has been deputy chairman of the State Council. Like his party chairman-colleague Goetting of the CDU, Gerlach--prior to his appointment as chairman of the LDPD--was general secretary of his party (from 1954 to 1967) and thus was likewise already at the age of 26 (that is for 28 years) active in the leading position of the party.

Gerlach's deputies are:

--the 57-year-old Hans-Joachim Heusinger (since 1972), who since 1972 has been deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of justice;

--the 79-year-old Willi-Peter Konzok (since 1951), who previously at one time was deputy minister for light industry (1950-1958);

--the 53-year-old Gerhard Lindner (since 1982), who previously since 1966 was secretary of the LDPD Central Executive Committee.

The executive committee of the NDPD, finally, is represented in the GDR party landscape only by the chairman, Heinrich Homann, (71) since the NDPD statutes do not prescribe deputy party chairmen. NDPD cofounder Homann, who--like his party chairmen-colleagues of the CDU (Goetting) and the LDPD (Gerlach) is a member of the State Council since its founding in 1960 in the capacity of a deputy chairman, has been chairman of the party since 1972, but had already been executive NDPD chairman for 5 years prior to that. From 1952 to 1967 Homann was deputy party chairman.

8970

CSO: 2300/62

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

ARMED FORCES EQUIPMENT CHIEF ON UPGRADING OF TRAINING DEVICES

East Berlin VOLKSARMEE in German No 46, 1982 (signed to press 8 Nov 82) p 3

[VOLKSARMEE interview with Col Gen Werner Fleissner, deputy minister for national defense; chief, Technology and Weapons (date and place of interview not given):
"In the Focus of Collective Innovator Work: Simulators, Trainers and Training Equipment--Innovator Collectives of National People's Army (NVA) and GDR Border Troops Demonstrate at 25th MMM (Fair of the Masters of Tomorrow) in Leipzig Effective Struggle for High-Level Combat Strength and Combat Readiness--Planned and Perfected Innovator Work Is Inseparable Component of Socialist Competition"]

[Text] On 8 November, the 25th MMM, the anniversary Fair of the Masters of Tomorrow, was opened in Leipzig. The doors will be open until 19 November. The young innovators of the republic are showing a total of 2,173 exhibits, of which 1,700 have already been used in factories and 250 outside factories.

The exhibit area of the National People's Army, the border troops of the GDR and the civil defense is located on the grounds of the Technical Fair in Hall 4.

Five of the 81 exhibits from the innovators in uniform have been developed jointly with Soviet inventors and efficiency experts. In addition, our brothers in arms from the Soviet army are exhibiting 15 of their own inventions.

One of the many attractions is a piece of training equipment for firing at aerial targets, which was made by a youth innovator collective led by Capt Klaus Bormann from the Franz Mehring Officer College of the Air Forces/Air Defense Command.

On the occasion of the 25th Fair of the Masters of Tomorrow, the representative of the Minister of Technology and Weapons, Col Gen Werner Fleissner, gave this interview to the editors of VOLKSARMEE:

[Question] The 25th Central Fair of the Masters of Tomorrow is an "Anniversary Fair. How do you, comrade colonel general, evaluate the development of the fair movement?

[Answer] If I think back to the first Fairs of the Masters of Tomorrow, a comparison between what has been achieved today and our starting point at that time clearly demonstrates the great growth process that our innovator and masters of tomorrow fair movement has achieved.

As the National People's Army developed into a modern, powerful coalition army, while it fulfilled its class obligation, the innovator and masters of tomorrow movement, with respect to both its level and its breadth, developed into an effective force in the struggle to achieve high combat and action readiness on the part of our forces, which all our chiefs, commanders and leaders are utilizing in full measure to achieve our political and military objectives.

Today the innovator and masters of tomorrow movement, as an integral part of socialist competition, is a strong social force that we cannot imagine as not being part of the life of our army.

It has also become a school of socialist brotherhood in arms, because a great deal in the activity of the innovators and in the process of improving efficiency links us with the "regime next door." Not only were technical solutions discovered and substantial military and economic solutions achieved in the innovator movement, but, most important, the personalities of socialist soldiers and combat collectives were formed.

While our innovators participated in the early years in the exhibitions mainly with simple models of technology and weapons, with cross-sectional views of power plants and devices to make work easier in the workshops, today there are many exhibits using electronic components to intensify military activity, to ensure an optimal cost-benefit ratio in solving assigned tasks and principally to qualify and accelerate the process of mastering combat technology. At this point, I would like to stress in particular the active role of the FDJ organizations in the National People's Army and the GDR border troops, which are playing a significant part in this positive balance.

[Question] Which achievements of the National People's Army and the GDR border troops are represented at the 25th Fair of the Masters of Tomorrow/

[Answer] The National People's Army exhibit area at the 25th Fair of the Masters of Tomorrow demonstrates how the young members of the army, the border soldiers and civilian employees are putting into effect the decrees of the Fourth SED Central Committee Congress and the objectives set by the Minister for National Defense. The innovators in uniform are represented by 81 exhibits, which provide a representative cross-section of the innovators' work in the army. Seventy nine exhibits were built collectively and are solutions taken from the plans of the innovators. To me it seems particularly valuable that it has possible to apply for patents on five of the inventions. Representing many who exhibited their innovations at the unit fairs and thus also demonstrated their creative activity at the Central Fair of the Masters of Tomorrow, I would like to mention the innovators' collective led by comrade Maj Bernd Scheibner from the army, which developed a trainer for the driver's cab of an SPG [self-propelled gun] in collaboration with innovators from socialist industry.

The value of this trainer lies in the saving of a large quantity of diesel fuel and of operating hours on the original equipment.

In order to make combat training even more effective, to achieve even greater proficiency in technology and weapons, our innovators have turned mainly to simulators and modern training equipment, to increase combat strength and combat readiness, while also taking adequate account of military-economic demands. I would not like to hide the fact that the following is also true in this area: what has been achieved is not what can be achieved. The National People's Army exhibit area at this year's Central Fair of the Masters of Tomorrow shows that our innovators and inventors have taken to heart the tasks set by the party of the working class and the orders of the defense minister and are directing their activities and initiatives toward making the best of available material means, monetary funds and even the time available to us. The creativity of our innovators, who devote a great deal of their personal free time to the work of innovation, is an expression of their complete identification with the policies of the SED for the benefit of the nation, in the interest of peace and socialism.

[Question] What must be done to shorten the time from the development of an innovation until it is put in practice?

[Answer] This is a problem with many levels. I see the basic premise in shortening the time for transmission and the broad introduction of innovations in planned innovation activity. It should constitute the largest area of all innovations. The following will have to be put into effect as a component of the innovators' plan: planned innovation as the subject of the leadership actions of chiefs, commanders and managers as well as of military superiors who have all the opportunities and authorizations available to them, innovation in the troop workshop, in an industrial operation in our republic or perhaps in workshop of our Soviet friends --all in the shortest possible time. That means the deadlines will be short in every instance, if everyone feels responsible, if work is performed without bureaucracy, if the informational process is developed and if duplicate work is avoided.

The accuracy of the leadership of military superiors is an important factor which can influence this. This means drawing up worthwhile plans, a timely orientation to the directions of scientific development, all the way to the purposeful continuing education of our people.

I see one important aspect to shortening the time of transmission and the broad introduction of innovations into practice in guaranteeing from the outset a high technological level for the innovation. Achieving the best composition of the innovators' collective plays a crucial role. Our experiences show that, when putting complicated innovator subjects into practice, it is practical to bring together both scientific and/or academic and skilled worker cadres, who are the most experienced sources for the task of innovation at hand, through the collective innovative work of soldiers, sailors, NCOs and mates, ensigns, officers and civilian employees. It is confirmed time and time again that through collective efforts the mental potential for an optimal solution is multiplied. A comparison of performance revealed that in the first 6 months of 1982 the value derived from planned, collective innovative activity was 10 to 1 better than that from individual suggestions.

Shortening the time from the development of an innovation to putting it into practice is a problem that is intimately bound up with the maturity and the level of the innovation.

In our army and in the border troops of the GDR, we therefore place great importance on the rapid realization of each innovation in the necessary numbers, for each innovator's suggestion that is not put into practice is wasted effectivity and has a negative effect, principally on the creative initiative of our people. Experience shows that in putting innovations into practice and in their broad utilization there is particularly good progress in the units and groups in which the activity of the innovators is a solid part of socialist competition.

Thanks are due to all the innovators and inventors, the chiefs, commanders and managers for the efforts they have made in preparing the 25th Central Fair of the Masters of Tomorrow.

[Question] Comrade colonel general, VOLKSARMEE thanks you for the interview!

9581

CSO: 2300/74

CHARGE OF SCIENTIFIC DEFICIENCY IN GDR HISTORIOGRAPHY DISPUTED

Historian's Interview

Leipzig LEIPZIGER VOLKSZEITUNG in German 2-3 Oct 82 pp 11

['We and Our Times' feature interview with Prof Dr Manfred Bensing, Karl Marx University, Leipzig, in view of the forthcoming Seventh Congress of Historians in East Berlin, 6-9 December 1982 (date and place of interview not given): "Who Writes Our History?" A translation of a report on the concluding speech given at the congress by SED Politburo's Kurt Hager follows this interview. For references to discussions of the same and related subjects see translation of article by Bayreuth University Prof Guenther Heydemann, published under the heading, "Crucial Phases in Development of GDR Historiography Analyzed," in JPRS 82290, 22 Nov 82, No 2078, pp 14-26]

[Text] [Question] GDR historians are getting set for their congress in early December 1982 in Berlin. You together with Prof Rossmann of the Institute for Marxism-Leninism are going to lead working circle II that will deal with GDR history since the early 1960's. This newspaper will report about it when the time comes. The forthcoming event induces us to ask about the connection between history and politics.

[Answer] That is indeed a cardinal question in our scientific work, an old and yet always new question, to us, settled in principle but always again subject of debate. I remember we history students in the late 1940's disputed vehemently about it because some of our college teachers then thought political party bias did not conform with the search for truth and objectivity, and a historian should stand above the classes and political parties.

[Question] Does that still apply today? Prominent FRG politicians, such as J. F. Strauss, have publicly announced that history was not worth anything unless it served political purposes.

[Answer] That is no disguise or hypocrisy but the frank acknowledgement of the fact underscored by Lenin that any statement about history, the image of history, always was of a class character, always served class goals, that there is an inseparable connection between history and politics. The GDR specialists in the FRG, proceeding from "western value judgments," do not blame us for party-mindedness as such, but only for one on behalf of socialism, our purported subordination to the "will and diktat of the SED," from where they seek to cast doubt on its being scientific. Some of them claim they have found

our successes, no longer denied, were achieved against the party and its line. They evidently view reality there through the spectacles of their outdated hopes.

[Question] What importance does the political orientation of the party have to your scientific work?

[Answer] I must ask our readers first to reflect on the following questions with me. Does not in principle hold true for our historiography what Karl Marx wrote in his Theses on Feuerbach about philosophy, that its task was not to interpret the world but to change it? I acknowledge that principle, else my scientific work would be meaningless. Changing the world in the sense of enforcing the objective inevitabilities of social development is in our era possible only on the side of the workers class, through implementing its world historic mission. That provides me with my class position. Our party policy is the concentrated expression of the class interests of the workers class in our country. For solid scientific work it is exceedingly important that this policy itself is based on scientific foundations, on the application of Marxism-Leninism, that it is the outcome of extensive analyses of social processes, and thus possesses a high truth value.

[Question] Would that not apply only to the importance of party policy to contemporary history? But what about older history? Such a question imposes itself in view of the forthcoming Luther anniversary.

[Answer] We could relate your question also to the Marx Year of 1983, which is likely to induce us to look more closely at the relation between politics and historiography in the work of the classic authors of Marxism. It is interesting that always political needs, principally those of the German and international workers movement, decided the choice of historical themes. Engels' dealing with the Mark cooperative or the German Peasants' War was no escape from politics into history but part of revolutionary efforts; in that case it was part of the proletariat's preparing its alliance policy toward the peasantry.

It is important to see how important topical inquiries have been for deeper research into history itself. Only remember the picture Engels drew of the first bourgeois revolution in Germany and his image of Muentzer or Luther. And today we have our party resolutions which help us understand history always anew. The enemy is lying when he claims the party dictates to the historians what has to be true. Rather, it orients historiography to questions that have become ripe for solution, to themes and aspects the dealing with which is suitable to supporting the struggle of the workers class. Historiography is not harmed by following such an orientation, but it would miss its task were it to under-rate even for a minute the political character of its scientific pronouncements.

[Question] Does the unity of politics and historiography effect changes in the image of history?

[Answer] Bourgeois historians and political scientists insinuate we constantly revise our image of history in conformity with (political) needs. Our historiography, like any other Marxist-Leninist social science, is a living science containing constants and variables. Constant are the ideological, philosophic

and theoretical principles. And changes do not come arbitrarily but are determined by the course of social development and the class conflict.

Scientific cognition, furthermore, is a process always leading from the particular to a more and more complex views. It also plays a role here that our science is relatively young and the reservoir of historians is not unlimited, and that our task initially was to make a radical break from the tradition concept of history. If they are now repeating their thesis that we are constantly revising our image of history by special reference to the image of Luther and the history of Prussia, it shows exactly the determining role of reactionary policy in bourgeois historiography. In contrast to bourgeois historians writing about the Reformation, GDR historians have from the outset emphasized the unity between the Reformation and the Peasants' War as components and phases of the early bourgeois revolution in Germany and always claimed Martin Luther for the progressive line of tradition. As to Prussia, GDR historiography has come to a point that allows it to turn more to the history of the ruling classes and to the role of the territorial states in the complicated period of history between the 16th and 19th centuries. That is a most natural process.

[Question] Let us go back to the relationship between party-mindedness and objectivity in historiography. We have defined party-mindedness toward the workers class as an essential condition for uncovering historic truth. Does that then already satisfy all requirements?

[Answer] Being scientific means a historian must control his tools, the methods specific to his profession, and he must work painstakingly. The choice of theses and aspects as determined by working class interests in no way means that historic facts are treated arbitrarily.

[Question] As specialist in GDR history you are dealing with contemporary themes in the broadest sense, aren't you? Aren't there still particulars with regard to the relationship with politics?

[Answer] Contemporary historical research and historiography mean an encounter with events and processes that to a large extent are not completed, with their effects continuing, and in the shaping of which the historian takes a direct part. That makes for a great cultural experience but also for certain problems. Sometimes the lack of distance from events is used to argue that contemporary history can be no science but merely a terrain for propagandists and journalists. But when we look at literary history we find that most of the best work has been done by contemporaries.

Not the distance in time then decides on truth value but the historian's or journalist's class position. Great historiography has always been written through issue-taking on behalf of social progress.

A contemporary historian must of course always be willing to check his judgments if so many new sources or new evaluations call for it. Especially in that respect is the party's political and theoretical work of inestimable value.

Kurt Hager on Historians' Tasks

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 10 Dec 82 p 4

[Report on concluding speech by Kurt Hager, SED Politburo member and Central Committee secretary for culture and science, given at Seventh Congress of Historians in East Berlin, 6-9 December 1982: "History Sharpens the Eye for Our Achievements--Kurt Hager Spoke About the Historians' Tasks for the Present"]

[Text] "Precisely Karl Marx it was who first discovered the great law of motion in history, according to which all historical struggles, may they be in the political, religious, philosophic or the rest of the ideological field, more or less distinctly express social class struggles." With that quote from Friedrich Engels, Kurt Hager started his remarks on the topic "History and Present Times." But Karl Marx had not only discovered the causes and nature of social transformation but had, as a communist, also been engaged in recruiting and forming the workers class for its struggle against capitalism and for socialism.

Karl Marx As a Scientist and Revolutionary Model

"Marx is a scientist and revolutionary at one; he not only announced a concept of history of dialectical materialism, he also applied it in his theoretical work and his revolutionary practice. That must never be forgotten; it charts our direction," the speaker pointed out in his concluding speech at the Seventh Congress of Historians.

In the whole history of humanity, Kurt Hager said, there had been no other event with so profound and permanent an influence as the Red October of 1917. Today already, hundreds of million of people on four continents were advancing toward socialist construction. That most impressively confirmed Ernst Thaelmann's remark of 1925 that the October Revolution in Russia marked the "start of the greatest revolution in the history of mankind" and that in the future there would be "no significant political phenomenon in the world" that would not be affected by it, the speaker remarked.

In the native country of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels socialism also has triumphed. Under SED leadership, the GDR had become a stable socialist state, the Politburo member pointed out. That made socialism triumph on a territory from which two devastating world wars emanated in this century and where 50 years ago the fascist dictatorship was installed for the very purpose of erecting a dam against any social progress. It remained one of the most important tasks of Marxist-Leninist historiography in our country, the speaker said, to explore and present the magnificent transformation process which our people has undertaken in firm liaison with the Soviet people and the other peoples in the socialist community.

"The socialist revolution had to cope with gigantic tasks and keeps facing enormous problems. It does not complete itself by rendering the capitalists and landowners impotent and by establishing the workers and farmers power. Bringing socialist social conditions and relations to realization, overcoming modes of thinking and conduct shaped through centuries of exploiter rule,

fashioning a consciousness that accords with the new social conditions--all that calls not only for great efforts but for a lengthy historic period as well. As we all know from experience, for resolving many new problems life raises, virgin territory has to be entered and new creative solutions have to be sought." In establishing awareness of these revolutionary changes and requirements, the speaker asserted, our historical science and history propaganda are assigned a priority obligation.

Not Only a Chronicle for Posterity

It was not a matter of recording the history of our socialist fatherland merely as a chronicle for posterity. The history of socialism was aimed mainly at the here and now as it, after all, was the biography of the living generations in action. "It erects a memorial to all those who through the work of their hands and their ideas, under much deprivation and trouble, turned a ruined landscape into a flourishing socialist state. And we remember not only our successes but also the difficulties and reversals we had to overcome. Knowing the tough but successful course of the GDR is a source of justified pride in what we have accomplished and a spur to coping with the ambitious tasks of today and tomorrow."

Thorough research into GDR history was an indispensable prerequisite for spreading socialist historical consciousness, Kurt Hager affirmed. "We need an ever more comprehensive and differentiated picture of this magnificent and yet complicated process rich in conflict and problems."

That, the speaker said, required surveys on the ways and means by which the universal inevitabilities of the socialist revolution and of constructing the new society in our country came to prevail. Thorough research was needed on the diversified experiences of our party and its historic achievements for the good of the workers class and all working people. No diminishing but rather increasing efforts were needed in research and interesting spell-binding history propaganda to trace the whole wealth of our people's creative achievements in GDR development, down to the territories, towns and communities, the enterprises and the brigades. The vivid interest in regional history indicated the great need there is to find out particulars about how our life has changed and who has contributed exemplary and permanent changes.

The speaker then went into detail in discussing our historic legacy and our cultivating and preserving our progressive traditions. "An important spot in the socialist German's national historic identity attaches to the fact that socialism in the GDR is deeply rooted in history. It carries on the best traditions in German history which evolved in centuries of struggle for social justice and an order of human dignity. We are strengthening and protecting socialism in remembering all who, through their productive labor, their intellectual-cultural accomplishments, and their political struggle, advanced social development, who fought and suffered for social progress."

The socialist GDR, the speaker concluded, evolved out of the antifascist struggle and is the outcome of all of German history, of all class struggles and developments, the high points of which were the great people's revolutions.

Progressive Traditions Are Alive Among Us

Kurt Hager pointed out that our picture of our tradition developed as did our society itself and did the intellectual needs of the various classes and strata, so that our concept of our heritage was becoming more distinct all the time.

In that sense, the speaker declared, Martin Luther's work was being explored and judged in connection with and as a component of the revolutionary struggles of the early bourgeois revolution. His lasting achievements and revolutionary thrusts were as much being taken into account as Luther's limitations, dictated by the class interests of his era.

Our country's historians, Kurt Hager emphasized, were taking up a clear position against the reactionary forces and inclinations in German history. Thus the German communists and Marxist-Leninist historians have always been asking themselves about the social roots of fascism, about how it was possible for the fascist dictatorship to be established in Germany in 1933. More recent research has further corroborated the basic judgment that the fascist dictatorship is the open terrorist rule of violence by the most reactionary and aggressive elements of finance capital, a variant in monopoly capitalist policy.

The speaker recalled that mainly the communists were the ones who did all they could to prevent a victory of fascism in Germany, at a time when other political forces proved unable to defend the bourgeois democracy or even actively helped destroy it. In this context, Kurt Hager took issue with distortions by bourgeois historiography.

In detail Kurt Hager brought out in the further course of his remarks that it was none but socialism working as the decisive force in the world for social progress and fighting for the preservation of peace. Socialism had proven its vitality in the most complicated situations in history. Thanks to it, mankind did not succumb to the military and nuclear blackmail by the most aggressive imperialist circles. Historiography should have to make evident that the roots of war danger did not lie in technology but in the imperialist system and its aggressive policy. Still more than before the historic lessons and the traditions of struggle against imperialist war and for peace should have to be revealed and conveyed, the speaker affirmed.

In this connection he recalled the Basel Conference of 1912, Lenin's and Karl Liebknecht's fight against the imperialist war from 1914 to 1918, and the KPD's warning: "A vote for Hindenburg is a vote for Hitler, and a vote for Hitler is a vote for war."

Youth Greatly Interested in History

"Historiography is a report on the great achievements of the generations for the progress of humanity, a report of man's creativeness and will to peace," that way Kurt Hager summarized that part of his concluding speech, and then addressed the questions of the relationship youth has to history. He reminded us that many of our citizens have by now grown up under socialism. Many of them no longer recalled the birth of our republic, the 1953 conflict with our class enemy or the securing of our national border from their own direct experience, let alone the earlier phases of capitalism or of the fascist dictatorship.

Many socialist accomplishments have by now become accepted facts of our life, and that is good because it is part of socialist progress. Young citizens especially often can no longer imagine what it was like before the workers class and its allies seized power in our country," the Politburo member stated.

Those facts placed a great responsibility on the historians. "We can assert with satisfaction that considerable advances have been made in recent years in handing on the Marxist-Leninist conception of history to youth. We have many good books written for youth," he said. The great resonance encountered by relevant literary works, movies and television documentaries likewise expressed the interest in history, especially contemporary history.

The capability was growing to depict historic events and processes in a concise and well-rounded manner, in their unmistakable uniqueness. No one would assume, however, that not much still had to be done in this respect, Kurt Hager said. Public expectations of a vibrant and effective portrayal of history, especially those from youth, should be something for historians always to keep in mind in their work.

The speaker pointed out that historical events never proceeded without complications, without resolving the contradictions inherent in them. But social progress and the role of the workers class could be seen precisely in "how the working class party and the activities of the working people cope with these difficulties, and by taking this into account, historiography enhances its own value in forming a historical consciousness and in the communist education of youth."

In his conclusion, Kurt Hager addressed the methodological questions in massively effective history propaganda. He referred to Franz Mehring, who in the preface to his Marx biography also placed high demands on the language and the style. All bareness and fatuity in the presentation of historic events was bad, the speaker said.

Reaching the Hearts and Minds

Along with the historians in our country, it is the school, the home, the youth organization, the Ernst Thaelmann pioneer organization, the arts and the public media from where we get much independent work in conveying historical knowledge. The veterans of the party and of the revolutionary struggle, many forms in the preservation of our tradition and the museums, Kurt Hager emphasized, play an outstanding role in developing and disseminating our image of history.

"The historians and all who teach history should be aware of how great history's role is today when it is interestingly and convincingly conveyed. Its importance keeps growing because of the magnitude of our social tasks and the intensity of the ideological conflict today. We also should be aware that dealing with history does not do much good until it reaches the hearts and minds. There have been fine preconditions for that in our country for a long time. Much has been done, but much still remains to be done, and done better."

5885

CSO: 2300/91

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

DISSIDENT WRITER'S BOOK ON COMPLIANT GDR AUTHORS REVIEWED

Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 7 Dec 82 p 29

['Comments on Books' feature review by Barbara Meyer of Joachim Seyppel's book "Ich bin ein kaputter Typ. Bericht ueber Autoren der DDR" (I am a Finished Person. Report on GDR Authors), published by Limes Verlag, Wiesbaden, 1982]

[Text] "Give an accounting," "confess," "measure the present against the past"-- the guiding thoughts of a whole generation of German writers, who understand their own life's history as part of that other history, that of their country, which no longer forms a whole. "Die Mauer oder Das Cafe am Hackeschen Markt" [The Wall or the Cafe on Hackesche Markt] (1981) is the title of the last novel, rather in an autobiographic vein, by Joachim Seyppel, born in Berlin, which mainly deals with his childhood and youth reminiscences of Berlin in the 1920's and 1930's. The divided city, "the gigantic metropolis on the tumbling ground of history," which one "can saw through in the middle without killing it," also becomes the focal point in the account of the years 1971-1979, which the author voluntarily spent in the GDR. Seyppel sees the stations of his life as a piece of contemporary history: POW in the Soviet Union, emigration to America, 1961 return to West Berlin, after 8 years in the GDR as "GDR citizen" with a 3-year visa again domiciled in West Germany. Courted by both German states, accused of opportunism, finally defamed by one of the two, he had to find out how easy it is to make political capital from his search for national identity.

An open letter to Erich Honecker in the SED central organ NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in late May 1979, in which author Dieter Noll denounced his colleagues Joachim Seyppel, Stefan Heym and Rolf Schneider as "finished persons" who were "eagerly cooperating with the class enemy," which then also was instrumental in their being expelled from the GDR Writers Association, induced the returned Seyppel to settle accounts with the East German cultural policy.

What came out of it is by no means a well balanced presentation. The notes compiled from diary entries, letters, documents, essays and memoirs, attest to the perplexity of their author's. Cynical, polemical, often with the wrong intonation, and using a cheeky and sloppy mode of expression, but committed nonetheless, Seyppel, an insider who yet stands "outside," opens the curtain in front of the GDR's literary enterprise. The Biermann affair and the events connected with that then no longer make the impression of a sudden turn in the cultural policy thaw period but rather that of a logical consequence of a continual development since the Ulbricht era. The revelations about

the sordid practices in votes taken in the Writers Association, the expulsion of authors, the surveillance of private correspondence, the measures taken against uncomfortable fellow-citizens--from house arrest to imprisonment--are known to western readers from similar accounts by exiled members of the opposition. Seyppel's case is only another example showing that even close relations with highly placed personalities of public life do not shield a person from the clutches of the state and party organs.

And then one can read about the streamlined structure and excessive bureaucratism in that culture business an author depending on the publication of his works cannot evade. Almost absurd is Seyppel's search for his travelogue about Turkey, which never reached the booktrade, and which ended up "somewhere deep in Saxony" in a pigsty of a farm.

Seyppel portrays his East German writing colleagues implacably, turning their pictures, as in Hermann Kant's case, into caricatures. Partly getting lost in trivialities, such accounts are suited poorly to a search for truth that takes its clues from Augustine. Even so: This Saul became no Paul, the contender for "real socialism" became no assured champion of capitalist conditions. The attribute of "Janus head," applied to the president of the Writers Association Hermann Kant, Joachim Seyppel also applies to himself. "Was I then a martyr? Certainly not! There were long stretches of happiness in these years!" Inner discord, expressive of the external division of a nation, keeps one from making oneself comfortable hither or thither.

5885

CSO: 2300/81

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

WEST GERMAN BOOK ON GDR STATE SECURITY SERVICE REVIEWED

Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German Vol 36 No 44, 1 Nov 82, pp 68, 70-71

/Text/ "Clandestine Services: Strict Line"--Unattributed review of book "Die DDR-Staatssicherheit" (GDR State Security) by Karl Wilhelm Fricke, chief, East-West editorial office, Deutschlandfunk, Cologne; published by Verlag Wissenschaft und Politik, Cologne; 263 pp; DM 29.80/

/Text/ A documentation on the GDR State Security Service reveals: Industrial espionage saves the GDR M 300 million annually in research and development costs.

Marion and Peter Magdeburg, a married couple, were leading a contemplative life. They were happily married, merrily traveling all over the country, making a stop in Bremen or in Wiesbaden and on several occasions in Cologne, Mainz and even Bonn. There was only one thing that was conspicuous: In all these cities they regularly emptied certain post-office boxes.

Presumably nothing would have changed until this day about the everyday travel activities of the Magdeburgs, if a hotel proprietor had not suspected them of failure to pay their bill--it turned out that the suspicion was unjustified.

Instead, however, the police discovered another, a hot trail: The post-office boxes for which the couple had master keys belonged to the Federal Intelligence Service, the Office for Bundeswehr Security and three Land offices for the Protection of the Constitution.

For 5 years, until their arrest on 14 December 1980, the Magdeburgs read and photographed the mail of Federal secret services. The two were using a simple steam-producing device to open letters and later they returned them to the post-office boxes. The information was passed on to their employer on 22 Normannen Street in Berlin-Lichtenberg: the GDR Ministry for State Security (MfS).

The Magdeburg case is exemplary for the ordinary day life of German-German agents. There is no other area where the concentration of secret services from East and West is as heavy as in both German states; there is no other area where there is so much and such clever espionage activity as can be found at this boundary between two power blocs.

The most serious espionage cases in recent years--the exposure of Guenter Guillaume, a spy in the chancellor's office, and the change of fronts by Werner Stiller, first lieutenant in the GDR Ministry for State Security--may have been spectacular, but they reveal only a small part of secret-service activities. The giant bureaucracies are continuing their work in the dark, employing tens of thousands of full-time and part-time workers and using secret budgets that amount to several hundred million marks.

The journalist Karl Wilhelm Fricke, chief of the East-West editorial office at the Deutschlandfunk in Cologne, spent 15 years collecting material to shed some light on one of these enormous apparatuses. The result of this painstaking research: the first comprehensive portrayal of the GDR State Security Service.

In Fricke's opinion, the Ministry for State Security--which has approximately 20,000 permanent employees and between 60,000 and 80,000 "unofficial staff employees"--is "an indispensable instrument of control for the SED," a factor of power which, however, does not have any political power itself.

Walter Ulbricht, the original architect of the GDR made sure of it. Wilhelm Zaisser and Ernst Wollweber, the two first ministers of the Ministry for State Security, were turned out of office during the 1950's because they sympathized with oppositional groups which "were using divisive methods to seize control of the SED and the state." To put it bluntly: They were planning to overthrow Ulbricht.

Following Zaisser's removal from office, the SED leader had good reasons to keep any minister of the Ministry for State Security from joining the politburo. Erich Mielke, the chief administrator of the State Security Service has been in office for 19 years when--in 1976--Erich Honecker, Ulbricht's successor, made him a full member of the highest leadership body of the party, the most intimate circle of power.

According to Reiner Fuelle, a top agent who had defected to the West in 1981, the 74-year-old Mielke--who in the meantime has become "completely senile, who signs everything automatically"--took the State Security Service and within a 25-year period he developed it into an omnipresent security apparatus which strictly follows the party line.

The central office in Berlin controls 14 bezirk administrations and numerous branch offices; the 6,000-member "Feliks Dzierzynski" guard regiment is under the command of the Ministry for State Security as is the counterfeit printing press in Berlin-Oberspree, where bank notes are printed to be used in foreign countries. It even has its own choir and orchestra "contributing to the cultural work" in the republic.

The quality is less noble when it comes to the main tasks of the Ministry for State Security: surveillance of its own population. Werner Obst, a former department head in the Office of the Council of Ministers who came to the FRG in 1969, mentioned "more than 70 central letter distribution centers," where approximately 1,200 employees of the Ministry for State Security

("precinct 12") are snooping in the mail from the West. Obst: The Ministry for State Security has an enormous data bank "which includes all private correspondence between the GDR and the FRG, so-called "letter lines." Telephone calls to foreign countries are monitored in the central repeater station of Wildpark, south of Berlin.

For its listening actions, the Ministry for State Security is bound by legal regulations, if it is controllable at all. According to article 115 of the GDR Code of Criminal Procedure--in 1979 it was expanded for this purpose--the recording of telephone conversations is only permitted in cases of strong suspicion of serious criminal acts. At any rate, a confirmation by the competent judge is required within 48 hours.

Along with the internal stabilization of the system, the methods of the State Security Service have become more subtle. According to Fricke, cases of arbitrary acts--toward political prisoners, for instance--have become "the exception rather than the rule." The twofold function of the secret service and investigative organs provide adequate opportunities for the GDR State Security Service to influence unpopular citizens or those who are suspected of divergence.

Cadres, economic and party functionaries who travel abroad are familiar with Mielke's extensive, intricate net of surveillance. A secret directive by the minister states that GDR citizens "are to be watched" also "in West Berlin and in the FRG."

During the 1970's, when tourist traffic rose significantly, the Ministry for State Security increased its foreign activities substantially. FRG secret services estimate that there are between 2,000 and 2,500 GDR agents practicing their trade in the FRG. State Security Chief Mielke praised his undercover agents publicly, saying that the work of these "socialist emissaries" reflects "the very essence of the humanist character of socialist politics."

Preferred recruits for service at the front are "secretaries of 'mature age'" (Fricke). In 1979, when Ingrid Garbe, secretary at the German NATO Embassy in Brussels, was arrested for suspicion of espionage, a short time later four additional secretaries left Federal agencies for the GDR--all of them were working for the "firm" on Normannen Street in East Berlin.

The man who made the State Security Service one of the most effective espionage organizations is the senior officer and head of the secret services of the Warsaw Pact states: Markus Wolf, 59, who for 3 decades has been the chief administrator of reconnaissance. In 1979, following the defection of Werner Stiller--one of his leading officers--his career was in jeopardy. The facts and names that were smuggled to the West by the State Security agent not only endangered dozens of Wolff's spies, they also revealed the intensive involvement in industrial espionage by the GDR in recent years.

At a cost of M 5 million annually, Stiller explained to his new employers at the Federal Intelligence Service, the East Germans save at least M 300 million annually in research and development costs.

8991

CSO: 2300/63

REVISED SCHOLARSHIP, STUDENT AID MEASURES CAUSE DELAY, CONFUSION

Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 14 Oct 82 p 5

[Article by Istvan Rethy: "Scholarships: Complications and Solutions"]

[Text] In recent years the most frequently debated topic among students of our universities and colleges has been the amount of scholarship aid and the method of its distribution. Justly so, because before the new scholarship system began full operation this September, the last time a decision was made in this important question was 13 years ago. Prices have completely changed since then, and the faults of the earlier system have surfaced.

The Students Decide

The need for new regulations to increase the amounts of aid and to change the way social assistance is distributed was also approved by last year's KISZ [Hungarian Communist Youth League] congress. After this the proposal of the Ministry of Education, which was prepared in the meantime, was debated in the youth parliaments. Then in the spring of this year the minister's directive dealing with the new system of higher education scholarships was published.

The government raised the amount of assistance at the national level by 30 percent. The ministry developed only basic principles for a fairer distribution of academic scholarships and social assistance that would provide real incentives. According to the new directive, general educational scholarships of 200 to 1,200 forints per month--calculating from an average grade of C-- may be awarded. However, the students will determine how to weigh the results achieved in each subject and how much money to award for the averages.

The basic principle of social assistance is that the ministry provides a certain amount, which will be based on the average of the per capita incomes. In addition, the ministry has specified--for lack of a better way--that proof of income be obtained, that a differentiation be made between out-of-town and local students, and that dormitory and cafeteria reimbursement fees, which would be raised to 75 percent of the costs, be standardized. The additional income will increase the distributable funds.

However, the ministry entrusted the exact distribution of funds to the institutions. Independence for the schools has meant not only much work but also serious responsibility for the KISZ committees at the universities and colleges.

For this very reason the possible alternatives for the rules of distribution at most institutions were already worked out even when they did not even know the amount of the increase in the scholarships the government was going to approve.

The amount of the so-called compensation sum (80 percent of the averaged and totaled per capital incomes) became known only a few days before the start of the new academic year. Thus at the beginning of September the state's organs were not able to pay out social assistance even in the operating areas of those KISZ committees that exercised foresight.

The Data Were Missing

It is easy to understand that this situation caused some dissatisfaction among the students. However, the new scholarship system admittedly required an extreme amount of preparation by the supervisory organs as well as by the KISZ committees at the institutions. Data on several thousand incomes had to be summarized, and the methodological principles for computerized distribution had to be developed. This was certainly time-consuming work. Further delays in payment were caused when the necessary data from several institutions was not gathered until 2 or 3 weeks after the start of the academic year. Thus it was impossible to determine on time the amounts to be paid out to the individuals.

Tamas Biro, secretary of the KISZ committee at the law school at ELTE [Lorand Eotvos--University of Sciences] told us that because of the delay they were first able to make payments on 5 October, even then only advances. They tried to ease the grumbling of the students, which were due in September. In a few days their task forces will also make their proposals by taking into consideration the new viewpoints of who should receive how much social assistance as of 25 October. In addition to the information furnished on the questionnaires about income verification, data from the questionnaire regarding property and assets as well as personal information will be considered. In addition to the basic sum payable after the per capita income of the family, separate amounts are determined for sublet payments or dormitory fees; for lunch, for dinner, and commuting costs, and for siblings and dependents; and even for the self-supported. Biro's opinion is that on the basis of all this information the amount of support reflects the realities.

Received With Satisfaction

One of the things remaining to be resolved in the law school in Budapest is to differentiate between the amount of social assistance for residents of the well-appointed dormitories and for those of the poorly-appointed ones. Imre Nagy, secretary of the KISZ committee at ELTE, told us that the majority of the students accepted with satisfaction the modifications, which at last became final after so much debate and preparation. It has been found that this way the needy receive more social assistance and those with better financial circumstances receive less.

It was possible to measure this satisfaction at the Godollo University of Agricultural Sciences sooner than at other institutions because of the better

disciplined start of the academic year and because of the fact that most students live in dormitories made it possible to make payments in late September. Laszlo Guth, the secretary of the KISZ committee, informed us that the students who participated in developing the distribution system and the workers in the dean's office, which volunteered to supply the data and do the calculations, worked day and night during the first days of the academic year for the preparations. Because of this effort, they were able 2 weeks later to entrust the entire distribution of social assistance to the student groups. Their experience demonstrated that there is no problem of distribution in those groups which had the courage to take on the problem of differentiation, a problem that at times involves personal battles. But where the remaining sums were distributed the easier way, that is, in proportion to the number of people, nobody receives the 30-percent raise. Members of the KISZ committee feel that the easier way is the wrong solution, but it does not interfere in the study group's decision. But they do provide the opportunity for these groups to modify their ideas later. The students at Godollo University also accept the scholarship system that has been made flexible and fair.

Ivan Szandtner, secretary of the university and college council, which operates alongside the KISZ KB [Central Committee], summarized the experiences of the modification--available to them at this time--on our request:

"Of course, we do not yet have accurate information, but indications are that those studying in higher education were reassured by the fact that their opinions and suggestions were not only heard but also used. The new opportunities have made the assistance more circumspect and more realistic and have improved the democratic atmosphere of the institutions. The political responsibility of the KISZ committees has also increased. They must thoroughly prepare themselves to supervise the distribution system of scholarships and social assistance and possibly to make modifications."

And the students, and KISZ, the political organization of youth, will again have a role to play in this.

8584

CSO: 2500/18

GOVERNMENT PRESS SPOKESMAN SCORES REAGAN-KOHL 'COMMUNIQUE'

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 20-21 Nov 82 p 7

[PAP declaration by government press spokesman on "communique" published after the official visit by FRG Chancellor Kohl to the United States]

[Text] The government of the Polish People's Republic has with surprise become acquainted with the communique published after the completion of FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl's official visit to the United States. Several excerpts of this document are glaringly inconsistent with declarations made on other occasions concerning readiness to improve East-West relations, and also place the sincerity of these declarations in question.

The communique reveals, i.e., that the President of the United States and the FRG Chancellor have recognized each other as qualified to express opinions on the internal affairs of Poland. This constitutes still another example of interference in our affairs, and of the violation of the principles of the CSCE Final Act, which they are so willing to cite. They have with striking obstinacy striven to ignore the positive changes taking place in Poland, changes which are aimed at realizing important socioeconomic reforms and national accord on the basis of the legally binding Constitution of the Polish People's Republic. They are repeating yet another variation of the familiar formula which makes the development of bilateral relations contingent upon the fulfillment of certain conditions, and thus are pretending to issue instructions on how Poland should resolve its internal affairs.

The government of the Polish People's Republic categorically rejects this latest manifestation of arrogance and interventionism.

The accusation that the situation in Poland is having a negative impact on the building of security and cooperation in Europe sounds cynical. It is not Poland which is the source of the trouble. The cause of the trouble is the imperialist policy of the United States, which aims to change the balance of forces in Europe and the world, and also to play on Polish affairs toward this end, which is apparently supported willingly and obligingly by the new government of the Federal Republic of Germany. The Polish people and the peoples of Europe know and remember history. No one has the right to set Poles against one another and impair the foundations of Europe's security, which is unequivocally affirmed in the CSCE Final Act.

In light of this communique, it becomes even more evident that the so-called Polish problem is being used as a screen for promoting the arms race and imposing a "new American-West German order" on Europe. It is also clear that, with the help of declarations of this sort, the attempt is being made to divert public opinion from one's own embarrassing domestic problems.

Poland will not deviate from its chosen path and will not bow under pressure. We will resolve our affairs in accordance with the most vital interests of the Polish people and the Polish state.

It is high time that both of these states adopt a realistic attitude toward Poland, in the interest of bilateral relations and in the name of peace in Europe.

CSO: 2600/145

ILIE CEAUSESCU'S VIEW ON DEFENSE OF 'HISTORIC TRUTH' HAILED

Bucharest SAPTAMINA in Romanian 19 Nov 82 p 3

[Article by Liviu Borodi: "An Obligation To Defend the Truth"]

[Text] We often read, with interest, articles of great value and importance published in reviews which, addressing themselves to a limited public or a certain speciality (occupation), have a rather limited circulation although they might deserve general attention. We find such articles in VIATA MILITARA, the illustrated review of literature and art published by the Ministry of National Defense, the Higher Political Council.

In the most recent issue (October 1982), Major General Dr. Ilie Ceausescu discusses a very timely issue--objective truth, a basic condition for any historical work--stressing a number of criteria which motivate the research of historians of good faith and stigmatizing the attempts of voices which are as self-seeking and deplorable as they are insistent "to falsify the truth in the history of these parts of the world."

Respect for this truth makes the Romanian historians show special concern for ensuring that their attitudes contribute to understanding and cooperation with all peoples of the world, on the basis of the thesis so full of humanism of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, secretary general of the party, that "the profoundly objective presentation and the just, correct, and high-principled interpretation of historic data and facts are of essential importance in eliminating the sources of lack of confidence and animosity created over the years among peoples'."

The article analyzes thoroughly the way in which, under present conditions when the struggle to divide the world into spheres of influence and domination is being manifested with particular acuteness, history is being used by some people--through falsehoods and distortions--for imperialist purposes, contrary to the interests of the peoples; "frequent attempts are made to present the history of imperialist and colonialist domination, the policy of oppression and plunder of other peoples, promoted for centuries, as progressive manifestations which have supported the development of the oppressed peoples. The dismembering of some states, the arbitrary dividing of some peoples are presented as expressions of historic necessities, and the results of such artificially created situations are theorized and interpreted as a natural process involved in the formation of distinct nations."

Such approaches--which are not only in contempt of the reality of the facts but are also profoundly in conflict with the materialistic-dialectical concept--also appear in the journalism of some countries in regard to the history of the Romanians (the theory of the demographic vacuum"; the assertion about the "immigration" of the Romanian people from the south of the Danube; the alleged formation of "two distinct Roman peoples" in the Carpathian-Danubian-Pontic area; "justifications" of a socioeconomic nature for the well-known territorial ruptures imposed on the Romanian people over the centuries; the so-called "imperialist nature" of the participation of Romania in World War I; the belittling of the efforts made by the Romanian people and of their sacrifices in the struggle against fascism and for the defeat of the Third Reich.)

The author considers, with good reason, that such materials "show a nostalgia for times past or a desire to perpetuate current advantageous situations which have nothing in common with the spirit of ethics and equity which should characterize international relations;" they represent a "flagrant violation of moral and scientific principles" and cannot contribute to "the cause of friendship and active cooperation among peoples."

The article states that, under such circumstances, animated by the most correct and most noble sentiments and aspirations, "historians in our country are, at the same time, justified in defending and obliged to defend the truth about the past of their people from slanderous defamations, regardless of from whom they might come."

CSO: 2700/60

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENTAL PERSONNEL CHANGES--The president of the Socialist Republic of Romania decrees that: Comrade Marin Maroiu is relieved of his position as deputy minister of transportation and telecommunications; Comrade Alexandru Dobre is appointed deputy minister of transportation and telecommunications; Comrade Nicolae Vaidescu is appointed deputy minister of the machine-tool, electrical engineering and electronics industry; Comrade Alexandru Bertalan is relieved of his position as secretary of the executive committee of the Harghita Peoples Council; Comrade Dominic Varro is appointed secretary of the Harghita County Peoples Council; Comrade Alexandru Robu is appointed secretary of the executive committee of the Timis County Peoples Council. [Excerpts] [Bucharest BULETINUL OFICIAL in Romanian Part I No 103 13 Nov 82 p 8]

PEOPLES COUNCILS APPOINTMENTS--The president of the Socialist Republic of Romania decrees that Comrade Dumitru Berinde is delegated to fill the position of deputy chairman of the executive committee of the Bihor County Peoples Council; Comrade Stefania Stanescu is delegated to fill the position of deputy chairman of the executive committee of the Olt County Peoples Council; Comrade Todor Trifan, director general of the General Directorate for Agriculture and the Food Industry in Cluj County, is delegated to fill the position of deputy chairman of the executive committee of the Cluj County Peoples Council; Comrade Ladislau Lado, director general of the General Directorate for Agriculture and the Food Industry in Harghita County, is delegated to fill the position of deputy chairman of the executive committee of the Harghita County Peoples Council. [Excerpts] [Bucharest BULETINUL OFICIAL in Romania Part I No 103 13 Nov 82 p 9]

PERSONNEL CHANGES IN LIGHT INDUSTRY--The president of the Socialist Republic of Romania decrees that Comrade Laurean Tulai is relieved of his position as minister state secretary in the Ministry of Light Industry, receiving other tasks. Comrade Constantin Bostina is appointed deputy minister of light industry. [Excerpts] [Bucharest BULETINUL OFICIAL in Romania Part I No 107, 22 Nov 82 p 3]

APPOINTMENT IN BIHOR--On the basis of Article 97 of Law No 57/1968 on the organization and operation of the peoples councils, the president of the Socialist Republic of Romania decrees that Comrade Laurean Tulai is delegated to fill the position of chairman of the executive committee of the Bihor County Peoples Council. [Excerpts] [Bucharest BULETINUL OFICIAL in Romania Part I No 107, 22 Nov 82 p 3]

APPOINTMENT IN TULCEA--On the basis of Article 97 of Law No 57/1968 on the organization and operation of the peoples councils, the president of the Socialist Republic of Romania decrees that Comrade Barbu Poescu is delegated to fill the position of chairman of the executive committee of the Tulcea People's Council. [Excerpts] [Bucharest BULETINUL OFICIAL in Romanian Part I No 102, 10 Nov 82 p 3]

PEOPLES COUNCILS APPOINTMENTS--On the basis of Article 97 of Law No 57/1968 on the organization and operation of the peoples councils, the President of the Socialist Republic of Romania decrees that: Comrade Ioan Vlad is delegated to fill the position of first deputy chairman of the executive committee of the Vaslui County Peoples Council, Comrade Constantin Petre is delegated to fill the position of deputy chairman of the executive committee of the Prahova County Peoples Council and Comrade Mihai Benea is delegated to fill the position of deputy chairman of the Satu Mare County Peoples Council. [Excerpts] [Bucharest BULETINUL OFICIAL in Romania Part I No 102, 10 Nov 82 p 3]

CSO: 2700/58

WEST GERMAN COMMENT ON SITUATION IN CROATIA

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 26 Nov 82 p 12

[Article by Viktor Meier: "Difficult Times for Croatia--Political Repression, Foreign Debts, Power Struggles"]

[Text] Zagreb, November 1982--For more than a year now, four prominent intellectuals tried for alleged nationalist utterances have been in prison--the writer Vlado Gotovac, the historian and former general Franjo Tudjman; the former economics professor and deputy Marko Veselica and the theology student Paraga. They were sentenced in partly questionable circumstances. In some cases the police had used material taken from foreign correspondents. The prisoners, with one exception, are interned in the Lepoglava Penitentiary. They are being subjected to poor treatment and chicanery. As political prisoners, they all belong to group C, which does not have any privileges. Tudjman, in addition, is seriously ill. In Croatia the imprisonment of these people is increasingly being felt to be absurd, and this extends far into political circles. The general opinion in Zagreb is that if Serbian intellectuals expressed themselves similarly concerning Serbian interests as Gotovac or Tudjman did concerning Croatian interests, they would be getting a literature prize in Belgrade, whereas in Croatia they would be sent to prison.

Indeed it appears that to an increasingly pronounced degree there are "positive" and "negative" peoples in Yugoslavia. On the "negative" side, right after the Croats, there are the Albanians. In the 10 years since Tito's intervention against the Croatian leadership of that time, it has evidently not been possible to find in Zagreb a new political leadership team which might engender respect and again instill in the Croatian Republic or the Croatian people an identity and a natural relationship with their traditions. True, the rotation in May caused some improvements in the climate, with the fierce Serbian Milutin Baltic stepping into the background and the former head of the republic Jakov Blazevic being retired after, in his last year in office, for good measure having instigated serious conflicts with the Catholic Church. The onetime prosecutor in the trial of Stepinac, the Zagreb archbishop during the war and the postwar period, Blazevic is going around today accusing the Polish pope of Italian irreverence, extolling the "revolutionary" Khomeyni and reviling Iraq, the country supplying Yugoslavia with oil. For scores of years, people like Blazevic have been able to exercise a significant influence on important concerns in Yugoslav internal affairs--such as relations with the church.

The new leading political team in Zagreb--in the lead, party chief Jure Bilic and former Foreign Minister Josip Vrhovec, who has come back and is now an important member of the party presidium--is already involved in a power struggle over the succession to Bakaric, who is seriously ill and is hardly seen in public any longer. Bakaric represents Croatia both in the presidium of the Yugoslav state and the presidium of the party. While the new people apparently realize that Croatia's communists one day will have to free themselves of their disturbed relationship toward the Croatian-nation phenomenon as well as the police state atmosphere prevailing in the republic, they are not getting very far as yet. It is said that Bilic privately called on Croatian authors to do something for people like Gotovac and Tudjman, saying that as representative of the party he could not do much and suggesting that they should turn to the new government. The new head of the government, Cvetkovic, on the other hand, is said to have refused for 2 months to receive a delegation of the authors for the only reason that this will make it unnecessary for him to take a stand on the delicate question.

Stipe Suvar, former minister education of the republic who had caused a great deal of confusion with his educational reform, managed to get some satisfaction in the new climate. In his present position as the party's chief ideologist, he was at long last after all given a position of professor of sociology at the university. Previously the professors of the university, apparently dominated by an alliance of so-called nationalists and supporters of the leftist "Praxis" group, had rejected him. Sarcastically, the faculty gave as the reason for admitting Suvar the fact that it wanted to follow its old tradition of admitting "dissenters" to their ranks. The party press did not dare make this reasoning public. This affair shows that there are also signs of courage in Croatia. Another positive phenomenon is the journal DANAS, which wants to follow the Belgrade NIN and writes fairly openly about economic problems. It has already been attacked several times by leading official of the republic.

In economic respects the leadership in Zagreb represents the interests of the republic better than in the political field. This time it was not the Slovenes but the Croatians who in the Federal parliament offered the main resistance against some particularly unsatisfactory aspects of the new economic measures, including the 5,000-dinar limit for trips abroad. In the disputes about areas of responsibility which followed the decisions, the Croatian government is even said to have threatened to resign. Croatia furnishes the main contingent of Yugoslav workers abroad. On the other hand, Croatia is also the republic which incurred the most so-called short-term obligations in foreign currency and is now suffering from this. The short-term and medium-term indebtedness, on the one hand, resulted from tourism but, on the other hand, according to party chief Bilic, from the fact that Croatia, being the republic with the most important port for importing oil, the most important refinery and the biggest Yugoslav company for the sale of fuel--INA--always had to advance the needed foreign currency for the importation of oil, while the other republics were in no hurry at all to reimburse it. The Privredna Banka in Zagreb, because of these obligations, had to be saved from collapse with the help of other banks and the central bank.

Croatia is, however, also a republic with particularly massive bad investments, for which the present leadership team tries to deny, but also should bear,

responsibility. The beauxite plant in Obrovad, in the hinterland of Zadar, built at one time at enormous expense and considered by many Croats a special effort in behalf of the Serbian minority living there, will have to be closed down and liquidated. Likewise the construction of the petrochemical works on Krk will probably have to be stopped. Perhaps in order to divert attention from these failures, the leadership engaged in its action of arresting six directors and high-ranking employees of the oil company INA, with a seventh managing to escape abroad. This too turned out to be a failure in that it could not be shown that those arrested had done any wrong. The whole thing is threatening to turn into a scandal for the police and leadership.

The unsatisfactory political conditions in Croatia continue to leave the Catholic Church in its only partly desired role of guardian of national traditions. While the direct polemics of the government have leveled off somewhat compared with last year, the role of the church in Croatian society now appears to have been established more firmly than ever. Its inflexibility, occasionally described as stubbornness by certain observers, evidently, because it is a question of a fundamental long-term confrontation, has paid off. Perhaps, it is hoped, the pope will attend the Eucharistic Congress in Bistrica in 1984.

There are also problems apparent in the church, however. It is said that the so-called Theological Society of the Christian Present, an organization of so-called "progressive" priests, which also runs a publishing house and thus is also organized on a secular basis, in accordance with a decision of the Yugoslav Bishops Conference is to be pushed aside once for all. This decision, which however can be implemented only by the bishops individually and as they see fit themselves, may have been contributed to both by the papal condemnation of the so-called priests of peace of last March and by certain nervous utterances by Sagi-Bunic, the effective head of the "Theological Society." It is being said among the bishops that it can no longer be tolerated that the regime and its press can constantly draw ammunition for attacks against the church hierarchy from utterances by members of the Theologian Society.

8790

CSO: 2300/84

END