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POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
No. 1376

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IRRESPONSIBLE ARMS SALES IN EAST, WEST NEED RESTRAINT

Ljubljana ITD in Slovenian 11 Feb 77 p 17

[Text] The M-11 is an excellent murder weapon. This most handy gun fires with assembly line precision without making noise of any kind; no flame can be seen at its muzzle during firing nor is there any smoke. In one second this terrible weapon can fire 32 bullets. The gun consists of two parts each of which is 29 centimeter long and weights a total of 3.5 kilogram. Thus far 14,000 pieces of this weapon have been produced. This gun costs less than 1,000 dinars. "With a M-11 one could shoot 100 people in the next room and nobody would hear a thing," says an American weapons dealer.

The world is flooded with murder weapons like the M-11, the kind of weapons that can be easily carried, are available at low cost and can be operated without difficulty. It is produced in such large quantities and is so poorly controlled that revolutionaries as well as terrorists, those who need it for self-defense as well as persons who are deranged have absolutely no difficulty in getting hold of it.

An Arsenal on the Black Market

The big powers, the Americans and the Soviets, are the primary culprits responsible for this state of affairs. The big powers tolerate a complete lack of control over illegal weapons sales. In both countries new and more efficient weapons are continuously coming off the assembly lines so that the striking power of their soldiers may be as great as possible. This constantly perfected technology does not remain within its country of origin, however, but spreads throughout the world. To what use this terrible and deadly merchandise will be put is, of course, of not the slightest interest to the dealers.

Frequently such weapons wind up on the black market where practically anybody can buy them. American experts estimate that another large quantity of such weapons will appear on those markets in the near future. This is because the Americans have left in Vietnam weapons worth approximately 85 billion dinars (new dinars, of course). It is highly probable that the Vietnamese will soon sell this arsenal on the black market.

Often, however, the purchasers do not have to act surreptitiously or buy on the black market. Almost every bookstore in the West where professional books are sold conspicuously displays on its bookshelves the book "Jane's Infantry Weapons." This is a catalog containing almost everything about the instruments of destruction. One manufacturer of grenades, for example, was giving assurances in his promotional literature that his product provides a "uniform distribution of grenade fragments in all spatial directions." The "Euromissile" firm boasts that its products provide capability to a simple infantryman for destroying enemy tanks within a 2-kilometer radius. "This was the smallest distance measured at the testing." The firm's addresses in France and the German Federal Republic are published in the advertisement as well.

Jane's also offers precise illustrated instructions on how to disassemble and assemble the best known weapons and how to operate them. These instructions go so far as to include even the long-range Strela [Thunderbolt] guided missile.

Rocket in Possession of Terrorists

Strela is a Soviet rocket missile which can, for example, be carried by a terrorist on his back. Without additional equipment this rocket can hit jet aircraft flying higher than 2,200 meters. The Yemen People's Republic, Egypt, the DPRK, and India, among others, are armed with Strelas. The American secret police suspect that Strelas are also in the hands of other Arab states and in Mozambique.

In 1973 the Italian police came upon five Arab terrorists who were installing a Strela rocket in a rented apartment 6 miles from the Rome airport. The sinister weapon was aimed at one of the most frequently used approaches to the airport. From intelligence sources it was found that these Strelas were originally sent from the Soviet Union to Egypt, from whence they came to Libya and eventually to Italy.

Libya also received from the Soviet Union large quantities of RPG-7 rockets weighing less than 5 kilograms capable of destroying a tank. Some of these rockets did not stay in Libya long: they were sent, along with other weapons to Northern Ireland.

One of these shipments was intercepted by the British Navy which at that time learned quite a few details pertaining to the arms shipments to Northern Ireland.

Weapons manufactured in the United States, for example the M-11, are in great demand because of their technical perfection. Such weapons, too, find their way to the terrorists although frequently the way may be rather crooked.

The best known weapons possessed by IRA members are the AR-15 rifle manufactured by Colt Industries Inc of New York and AR-180 manufactured by

Armelite Inc, a private firm in Costa Mesa, California. Both weapons can be purchased without difficulty by practically anyone in the United States because they are considered to be civilian weapons for "hunters." Both weapons are replicas of the M-16, the most highly valued American military rifle designed by Armelite and produced by Colt and its partners under a license. Jane's quotes the price of the M-16 at 1,300 dinars but the AR-15 and AR-180 cost twice as much.

Private Arms Arsenals

The weapons found with members of the IRA were traced by their serial numbers to the American purchasers but this was not enough to bring charges against them. The federal court in Philadelphia recently filed a suit against five men who were charged with shipping more than 100 AR-180 rifles to members of the IRA. The defenders, however, resorted to statistical data and a statistical report. From these it was apparent that the United States exported 2.5 million firearms within the last 5 years.

This number, however, does not include the three-firearms allowance granted without requiring a permit of any kind to any person departing from the United States, nor does it include weapons manufactured overseas under American licenses. Moreover, weapons shipped abroad for the use of the American armed forces that are "lost," destroyed or stolen are likewise not included here.

From an American study published in 1970 it is apparent that there are no less than 85 million pieces of only 12 types of American hand-carried firearms in existence.

The enormous stockpiles maintained by private suppliers of arms also give reason to believe that the manufacturers are producing a great deal more rifles and revolvers than there are soldiers who could use them.

The most important armament broker is Samuel Cummings. His Monaco based firm, Interarms, has representatives in all too numerous countries throughout the world. Samuel Cummings very candidly admits that his warehouses contain more than 500,000 pieces of light arms and over 100 million pieces of ammunition. This would be enough to equip 40 military divisions with basic weapons.

Samuel Cummings says that he pays between 70 to 500 dinars for a machinegun which he then sells for 500 to 1,000 dinars. Experts suspect that it was Cummings who armed both sides in some civil wars, such as that in Costa Rica in the fifties, and the American Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in 1961.

Optimistic Expectations

When weapons are in question the governments in the East are as interested in sales as the private merchants in the West. Soviet weapons surface most frequently through the services of a seemingly independent weapons merchant in Amsterdam.

How unconcernedly governments frequently trust the weapons traders is shown by the following two examples:

In Vienna weapons merchant Alois Weichselhammer borrowed from the federal government 400,000 pieces of ammunition which he had loaded on a train and shipped to the port of Trieste. Destination: Damascus. No border control officer paid the slightest attention to the dangerous cargo.

The military boss of El Salvador placed an order for 10,000 machineguns with weapons brokers. Although this was an official order it involved a bribe amounting to 1.25 million dinars. The American officials got hold of this document but paid no attention to the fact that the army of El Salvador consists of no more than 5,000 men.

Some optimists expect that it will now be possible to dam such weapons sales which make armaments accessible to all comers. Three days after his inauguration Jimmy Carter, the new American president, issued an encouraging executive order whereby all requests for weapons exports must be submitted to him for approval. He will be the only one to decide what kind of rifles, grenades, rockets and aircraft may be sold to foreign customers. With this Carter desires to restrain one of the biggest businesses of the 20th century: the illegal sales of weapons by merchants of death. Will he be successful in this?

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MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON COMMUNICATIONS MEETS

Conference on Communications Problems

Sofia IMPULS in Bulgarian 22 Feb 77 pp 1, 2

[Unattributed conference report: "Enlarged Board Meeting of the Ministry of Communications"]

[Text] On 16 February 1977, in Sofia, an enlarged board meeting of the Ministry of Communications was held on the fulfillment of the 1976 plan and the 1977 tasks in light of the decisions of the 11th BCP Congress and the July Plenum of the BCP Central Committee, the Appeal to the Labor Collectives to Fulfill the 1977 Plan and the Decree on Developing the Mass Socialist Competition.

Participating in the enlarged board meeting were: Comrade Ognyan Doynov, secretary of the BCP Central Committee, Engr Pando Vanchev, minister of communications, Engr Stoyan Markov, first deputy minister, Engr Yonko Chengelov, chairman of the CTUC [Central Trade Union Council], the deputy ministers Engr Ivan Ignatov, Engr Panayot Kurdalanov, Engr Rusen Kondarev, Stoyo Stanoev, the chief secretary of the ministry, the secretaries of the CTUC Ivanka Encheva, Nikola Dakov and the directors of the enterprises and okrug communications administrations, the chairmen of the EKPS [?a trade union council], party secretaries and others. Also taking part were representatives of the ministries having professional involvement with communications, representatives of the city and rayon BCP committees, of the SGNS [Sofia City People's Council], and trade union representatives. Since the report of the minister of communications had been sent out ahead of time to the participants of the enlarged board meeting, the minister, Pando Vanchev, gave a complete and thorough statement which was optimistic, and full of facts concerning the achievements and weaknesses in the communications sector; this statement is being printed separately [see below].

The first to speak was Engr Panayot Kurdalanov, a deputy minister. He agreed fully with the statement of the minister, Pando Vanchev, and with the statements and conclusions made in it, he took up the benefits which the geographic position of our nation creates, in order that it might

become a true transit center between three continents. The reported production results show the strengths and capabilities of the personnel in the sector. Special attention was drawn to the generous and socially beneficial labor of the Soviet specialists who by their work have made a major contribution to solving the production problems. Attention was also paid to the weaknesses committed in construction. The question of quality is the most disconcerting. Quality is the duty to the sector and the people in 1977 and the remaining years of the five-year plan.

Comrade Necho Nechev, director of the Sofia Post Office [SPS], began his self-critical statement by pointing out the weaknesses which had been systematically allowed in the SPS, including: neglected interior and exterior appearance of certain post offices where hygiene was not on the required level. Even in such a postal branch as No 6 located in a very new building on Russian Monument Square, they are still working in the old manner. The method of thinking on a part of the employees must be changed, because the quality of the services which the citizens are receiving to a great degree depends upon the altered manner of thinking.

In order to have closer contact with the citizens and to be more closely and more accurately informed of the needs of the people, the SPS leadership has opened up two reception offices in Sofia. Comrade Nechev informed the enlarged board meeting that the SPS has carefully investigated the letter of Comrade Stanko Todorov, the chairman of the Council of Ministers, concerning the failures of the Sofia communications divisions.

Margarita Nikolova, secretary of the primary party organization under the Okrug Communications Directorate in Plovdiv, took up the social organizational activities of the PPO [Primary Party Organization]. She told of the better quality of services and the able use of brigade labor. Special attention was paid to the socialist competition, and to exemplary work areas, services and offices. The initiative of the Leningrad telephone operators has also been taken up at the Plovdiv PTT [post, telephone and telegraph] offices. The plan for 1977 will be fulfilled, concluded Comrade Nikolova.

Engr Nikola Krekmanski, director for long-range development and scientific services for the communications networks and systems, after pointing out some of the achievements which exist in the sector and the technical policy which is to be carried out, took up in detail certain weaknesses and outlined the main questions which must be solved in the future.

Efrosina Goranova, a telephone operator from the SPS, told of her liking of her profession and the aid which she provides to her junior colleagues.

Nikolay Genchev, director of the Okrug Communications Administration in Vratsa, informed the enlarged board meeting of the achievements of the mailmen in the okrug and of the special concern shown for the skills and everyday life of the workers.

The secretary of the PPO at the Okrug Communications Directorate in Gabrovo, Radka Dencheva, spoke of the skills of the personnel, of the lateness of the daily press, and of the turnover of the mailmen.

Ventsislav Krustev, secretary of the Komsomol group at the SPS, told how the young workers had organized brigades which were struggling for high quality. The Komsomol leadership, he stated, will struggle to improve labor discipline. The youth had assumed a pledge in line with the 60th anniversary of the VOSR [?All-Union Society of Rationalizers].

Engr Yonko Chengelov, chairman of the CTUC of Communications Workers, gave an analytical and thorough address. He took up a number of achievements in the communications system. He spoke of the significance of the counterplans and their prompt and effective fulfillment. He gave special attention to the socialist competition, and to the necessity of continuously improving the quality and level of services. Engr Chengelov also spoke of the young workers and of the concern for their skills. Special attention in the speech was given to ideological indoctrination by the trade union organizations in the sector.

The secretary of the BCP Central Committee, Ognyan Doynov, made a competent and thorough speech which was listened to with attention and accompanied by applause. [The speech is published below.]

In conclusion, Minister Pando Vanchev, again thanked our leader party for the concern shown by it for the development of communications and for the workers of the sectors. Minister Pando Vanchev gave special thanks to Comrade Ognyan Doynov for the special concern which he, as the secretary of the BCP Central Committee, had shown for the development of communications and for the major speech which will be used in future activities by the leadership of the ministry and by the communications workers as a guide for action.

The enlarged board meeting ended successfully. After its closing, Minister Pando Vanchev met separately with the delegates from all okrugs.

We will publish the statements of the participants in the next issue.

Doynov on Communications Problems

Sofia IMPULS in Bulgarian 22 Feb 77 pp 1, 2

[Speech by Ognyan Doynov, secretary of the BCP Central Committee, given before the enlarged board meeting of the Ministry of Communications: "In a Spirit of High Criticism and Self-Criticism"]

[Text] Comrades. Allow me to indicate my pleasure in being given an opportunity to participate in your enlarged board meeting and to meet with the leadership of the ministry, the okrug communications administrations and the leading party and economic personnel.

I feel that we can be content with the work of the board. Both in the speech and in the statements made, one can feel significant activity carried out by the large collective working in the system of the Ministry of Communications. The problems have been correctly posed as well as the tasks stemming from them for this year. It is pleasing to note that they are viewed from the standpoint of the decisions of the 11th Party Congress and the July Central Committee Plenum, and that a spirit of high criticism and self-criticism prevails toward the work of each specialist, and every unit in the collective of the ministry.

Both the speech by the Minister of Communications, Comrade Pando Vanchev, and the statements by the comrades were aimed at how we can eliminate the weaknesses, how we can disclose additional reserves and respond to the appeal of the 11th Congress for high efficiency and quality.

Comrades. It is scarcely necessary here, in your presence, to take up in detail the concern and attention which the party is giving to the problems of developing communications in our nation. I would merely like to stress that the 11th Party Congress has posed exceptionally important tasks in this area. This is completely natural and understandable. In addition to the important function of providing uninterrupted communications between the individual production elements and for the system of social administration, your activities and the quality of the services performed by you reach every household and every citizen. For this reason the party views the problems of communications as an important political, economic and social task.

It is a good thing that the new leadership of the ministry correctly sees its place and role in building the communications system of the country and has energetically taken to solving the urgent problems of communications. It is also a good thing that its work has been completely organized in accord with the theses of the Congress and the July party decisions. This has instilled confidence in the Central Committee that the leadership of the ministry and its entire collective will successfully carry out the great tasks which confront this exceptionally important sector of the national economy.

Comrades. Allow me very briefly to draw your attention to certain problems which at the present stage of our socioeconomic development are of particularly important significance.

First of all, I would like to stress that the great tasks which derive from the decisions of the 11th Party Congress necessitate the use of a new approach in solving them. This approach which was scientifically based by Comrade T. Zhivkov is turning more and more into the basic method for managing all activities in the national economy. It was successfully applied in elaborating the basic directions for the development of machine building, electronics, chemistry, power, construction, and transport. Due to it, enormous reserves were discovered and mobilized and these will raise

the efficiency of the economy. Such an approach helps to develop and mobilize the personnel, to activate the labor collectives, and to more fully utilize the scientific and technical achievements and introduce them into practice.

The main thing in the activities of the leadership of the Ministry of Communications and its divisions and all personnel at present is to reorganize their work in the spirit of the new approach, and to assess and solve all problems from the new position.

As is known, the strategic task for the Seventh Five-Year Plan is to achieve high efficiency and high quality. This is a task which must acquire specific measurements in each area and in each activity.

What does raising the quality and efficiency of work in the communications system mean?

It means:

- 1) To modernize and reconstruct the physical plant;
- 2) To raise labor productivity of the operational and scientific-technical personnel;
- 3) To sharply improve the level of services for the population.

There are few sectors in the national economy, comrades, where technical progress can be introduced as rapidly and effectively as in communications. Here there is a broad field for introducing modern achievements in electronics, cybernetic methods and means for controlling the communications network. In other words, there are enormous opportunities for the accelerated electronization of all activities.

It must be stressed that our nation already possesses both the necessary personnel as well as the production capabilities for solving these problems. We have attained significant successes in developing and producing computers, radio relay equipment, and electronic devices for monitoring and controlling various processes. The difficulties are being overcome in using the licenses for producing the Crosspoint exchanges and multiplexing equipment.

At present it is exceptionally important for the specialists of the ministry, all engineers and technicians in your sector, together with the specialists from the Ministry of Electronics and Electrical Engineering to quickly realize these capabilities in practice. Moreover, at present it is essential to create conditions for developing modern quasioletronic telephone exchanges. For this purpose, it is essential to utilize the great possibilities provided to us in international socialist integration and particularly all-round integration with the USSR, and to utilize foreign experience, including the purchasing of specifications and licenses.

The initiative and tenacity of your ministry are of exceptional significance in solving the problems of creating the most progressive technical facilities for the communications system. This requires the finding of effective forms for influencing the producers to provide modern communications equipment based upon computers; to provide production of telephone exchanges, parts, assemblies and production methods which to a maximum degree can be covered by elements and assemblies already developed in Bulgaria and the socialist camp. In other words, you must aid as much as possible in making the communications and computer equipment be based on the same types of capacity, to raise standardization, to increase the series run, and to reduce production costs.

The ministry has equally important problems to solve in the area of radio and television. By the end of the five-year plan, the nation must be completely covered with two radio and TV programs. This means that the ministry must quickly put into operation the modern fully automated radio transmitters which have been developed in Bulgaria for the long, medium, short and ultra-short waves.

On the basis of close integration with the USSR, the production of television relays must be developed, and the question must be solved of creating the facilities for the second and third TV program using equipment from the socialist camp. Important work must be done in improving the operational characteristics and quality indicators of the transmitters which have been built. This is the primary task for the specialists of the ministry and the engineering-technical personnel of the Radio and Television State Enterprise. Here there is broad scope for introducing modern computers and automatic devices for monitoring and controlling the radio equipment.

Great concern must be shown also to postal communications. Here, unfortunately, there has been virtually no technical progress. Mechanization and automation are lacking in the sorting and transporting of letters, newspapers and parcels.

It is imperative, along with the reconstruction and modernization of the printing combines, to also introduce appropriate equipment and an organization of labor which will unit into a single whole the process from the printing of newspapers to their delivery to the citizens.

At the large post offices, it is essential to accelerate the introduction of the modern equipment produced in the socialist countries for the distribution and transporting of the mail.

Comrades. The technical revolution which is occurring presently in communications, and the penetration of technical progress in your sector pose major and complicated tasks for the personnel.

The new problems require a new method of thinking, a new understanding, a new approach in solving them. The acquired experience and the acquired knowledge in the area of classic engineering must be turned into a catalyst for introducing new engineering. In a short period of time the personnel must master new areas of science and technology, and must prepare for their application in life. This will be a difficult process, but there is no other way.

This requires that the leadership of the ministry show serious concern for raising the technical preparation and level of the personnel up to the height of the tasks which have been posed by the 11th Party Congress and the July Central Committee Plenum.

The questions of discipline at present are assuming exceptional urgency. It is a question of raising the requirements and the sense of responsibility for carrying out the assigned tasks on the part of each specialist and worker, and improving labor and production discipline. In order that the equipment works well, it is essential to mobilize the people who operate this equipment, and to clearly outline their tasks.

Comrades. In order to successfully carry out the great tasks which your ministry must fulfill, it is essential to improve decisively both the activities of the administrative and economic leadership as well as the activities of the party, trade union and Komsomol bodies and organizations. It is essential to be clearly aware that the economic problems will not be solved if they are not most closely linked and if they are not supported by party-political and organizational measures. Each economic task, each assigned job must be viewed as an important political task. For carrying it out, it is essential to mobilize the efforts of the communists and the entire labor collective. Everywhere a situation must be created for the creative expression of each specialist and each worker. It is essential to create an atmosphere of intolerance for idleness and a bureaucratic attitude in carrying out the tasks. Control and exactingness and above all preventive control must be constantly improved. It is essential to improve constantly the style and method of work, to carry out specific work with the worker collectives, to feel their pulse, and to instill a communist attitude toward labor. The task of the Komsomol organization is to unite the collectives and personnel of all generations, and mobilize them to successfully solve the problems confronting the ministry.

Comrades. The creation of a developed socialist society immeasurably raises the significance of the communications system. The role of your sector for creating the material and technical basis of socialism and for realizing the strategic task of the 11th Party Congress is exceptionally great. Without modern means of communications, it is impossible to introduce cybernetic methods and automated control systems, to provide rapid and prompt information concerning the constantly more complex production and social processes, and consequently, to raise efficiency and quality. From this viewpoint, the question of communications is a portion of the question concerning the intensification of the economy.

Working in the system of the Ministry of Communications are good specialists and workers loyal to the cause of the party and the socialist state. Their noble labor is of exceptionally important significance for implementing the socioeconomic policy of the BCP. And we are firmly convinced that they will dedicate their ability, forces and knowledge to carrying out the decisions of the 11th Party Congress and to raising the efficiency and quality of communications in our nation.

Thank you for your attention!

Communications Minister on Sector Problems

Sofia IMPULS in Bulgarian 22 Feb 77 pp 1, 3

[Speech by Pando Vanchev, minister of communications: "For High Quality and Efficiency of Communications"]

[Text] Comrades. Allow me to welcome on your behalf and mine our dear guests headed by Comrade Ognyan Doynov, secretary of the Party Central Committee, and to thank them for the attention which they have accorded us, in taking the time to attend our enlarged plenum where we will report on the work results for 1976 and outline a program for the future development of communications in the nation.

The first stage of the enormous, creative work commenced at the 11th Party Congress and continued at the July Plenum has been concluded by the approval of the Law Governing the Unified Plan for the Socioeconomic Development of Bulgaria During the Seventh Five-Year Plan. Now is a time of a nation-wide upsurge to carry out this plan, the basic task of every worker and each of us.

In recent years we have been able to create the necessary conditions and prerequisites for successfully building up a mature socialist society. At present our duty is always and everywhere to carry out the meaningful motto of the five-year plan "Efficiency and Quality--Quality and Efficiency." This all-encompassing appeal was raised at the 25th CPSU Congress and was posed by the congresses of all the fraternal communist parties in the socialist countries. This is a strategic slogan, and the plan of the Seventh Five-Year Plan provides full opportunities for its practical application. On the basis of efficiency and quality, accelerated development is foreseen in all spheres of our national economy, including communications in the nation.

Our plans have been worked out on the basis of three chief, determining factors: The physical plant, financial means and human resources. These are our socialist plans and consequently these are taut plans. Socialism is not built without tension. We are not speaking about overtight plans, we are speaking about realistic plans. And this emphasizes the decisive role of our leading personnel and our entire labor collective.

Comrades. The accountability report has been handed out to you and I do not intend to take up what has already been stated in it. I would like to draw your attention to just certain aspects of our work, and to briefly recap the policy and strategy which we will follow in order to meet the high demands of the party and government concerning the accelerated development of communications in the country.

The times in which we are living are noteworthy in many regards. For us in communications, this is also characterized by the fact that we have crossed the threshold of our quantitative development and must boldly and confidently make the first steps toward new qualitative changes and toward a decisive turn in our work. Why is such a turn necessary? It is essential because we have the 11th Party Congress and the July Plenum which have provided us with new directions for the accelerated construction of a mature socialist society. Consequently, we also have new obligations to our people.

Several times the first leader of the party and the state, Comrade Todor Zhivkov, has spoken with the leadership of the ministry concerning the problems of communications in the nation. These meetings showed his foresight, his great competence and concern for the correct development of our sector. And the instruction which we received have helped us greatly in elucidating the general policy and strategy for the development of communications in the nation.

On the basis of the great idea of the electronization, automation and intensification of the national economy, we must reorganize and develop the communications system in such a manner that its qualitative characteristics equal those of the most advanced nations. This can be done by the electronization of communications, by automating their operation and by the intensification of their operation. The chief concern of the Ministry of Communications at present is accelerated development, high efficiency and high quality of the communications system and the communications services. We will achieve these high requirements if we focus our attention and efforts on the following basic areas:

In the first place: improving the quality indicators of the equipment. This will be done by reconstruction and modernization, by the introduction of new equipment and the incorporation of automatic control and metering systems. We will widely use the achievements of computers and electronics for improving the reliability and raising the capacity of the communications facilities.

Secondly, improving the quality of communications operations and improving their technical maintenance. In this area we will introduce systems for the automated control and diagnosis of the equipment. In this manner the labor of the operations personnel will be intensified.

Thirdly, a sharp improvement in the quality and level of communications services for the public. This is an exceptionally important task. It is

the social measure of our work and of our contribution to the forming of socialist relationships among people.

From what we have to do, the following basic strategic directions can be formulated:

1. The accelerated comprehensive development of the communications system and the radio and TV networks of the nation.
2. Broadening and extending integration with the USSR and the other socialist countries.
3. Developing our nation as an international telecommunications center.
4. Continuously improving the organization and management of communications in Bulgaria.

Comrades. The theses of the July Plenum in practice are that turning point, that new view, the new vision, and the new ideas in all our thoughts, and in all our actions.

At present, it is vitally important for us to turn our view to what we possess. And to see whether we can use it better!

Let us look at things historically and analytically. Up to now the communications sector has developed quantitatively, by the adding to of the physical plant and personnel. This was historically necessary. However, this created certain objective difficulties which we will soon have to overcome.

This must be emphasized!

The struggle for high quality and efficiency in our work will be won not only by using the physical plant, but also by the creative awareness of our entire collective which is highly enthusiastic.

Communications is a very complicated man-machine system, and we are the ones who must improve its organization and management. The leadership of the ministry knows in what manner the development of communications in our nation must be carried out as well as how communications can be efficiently managed. But each of us is well aware and science shows that the improvement of such a complicated and dynamic system cannot be carried out by mere daring or the waving of a magical wand. This is an evolutionary process, and continuous, purposeful progress. And if we wish to solve the great problems of communications in Bulgaria, we must accelerate this process and shorten the path to the ultimate goal.

Comrades. The party and the state have entrusted with significant production capacity of imported and local equipment. And in the future this

equipment will be expanded. However, how is this wealth used by us, by our specialists and by our personnel? This is a very important and crucial question.

According to a rough estimate, we use our production capacity by scarcely 65-70 percent. In contradiction to the requirements of technical progress, we are solving this problem by a larger number of workers, but note that an improvement in the capacity of our technical facilities requires automation and electronization both of control as well as their maintenance.

We have many good, excellent specialists both in operations as well as at the scientific research institute. We have every confidence in them and count a great deal on them. But, unfortunately, we are still unable to organize well the use of the experience and knowledge of our own personnel.

From the information which was received from the International Contacts Department it turns out that during the 1975-1976 period alone, for one subject "Automated Metering of Telephone Channels," 23 of our good specialists were sent abroad for study. And only four proposals were received from them. But one might ask what has happened to these proposals. We have traced their path and have learned that absolutely nothing has happened. The connection was broken immediately after the proposals were made. And the remaining 19 specialists did not provide anything.

For the problems concerning the development of postal communications, 47 other specialists were sent abroad in 1976. In the information, no proposals were noted, and the problems of postal communications remain unsolved.

You might say can one speak of our correct use of the best specialists? Have we received back from them what we spent on them? And, finally, can we continue such practices in the future? The guilty parties are the ones who went on the official trips, but also to blame are those who sent them and did not ask where they went, what new features they saw and how we can use them under our conditions.

In the last issue of the magazine SUOBSHTENIYA, I read the following: "A group of technicians under the rayon communications office in the town of Kotal, under the leadership of Dimo Georgiev Genov, has designed, installed and put into regular operation our first device for the automatic testing of the A-29 automatic telephone exchanges."

I do not know whether Comrade Dimo Genov and his coworkers traveled abroad to study this question, but why can't their experience be studied and introduced in other places? Our scientific research institute has been working on the same question since 1975. The development is in an advanced stage, but in the opinion of the leader of the coordination program, it still cannot be completed, because the ministry has not provided the necessary funds for capital construction. We congratulate the collective of

Comrade Dimo Georgiev for the achieved results, and wish him new success. However, the question arises whether it was necessary to work in isolation on the same problem, without any coordination between the collectives. Couldn't the specialists from our institute leave their new building and offices and go to Kotel and help them, or learn from our technicians who are working there? Why not follow the example of Soviet specialists, scientific workers and academicians who work for years running in the most remote corners of the USSR?

On the other hand, the ministry could show greater flexibility and provide funds for the installation and putting of such essential equipment into regular operation.

One of the obstacles in our work is the insufficient criticism and self-criticism. Some persons protect themselves against criticism and do not utilize it fully. For example, if it is learned in the ministry that a certain service will be criticized, many people make a great effort to stop such criticism by any means. It would be much more correct if the comrades directed these efforts at eliminating the weaknesses in their work.

I am aware that criticism and self-criticism are not a very pleasant thing. It is difficult to incorporate them in the work style of even the most responsible leaders in our ministry. But I, as the leader of this sector for several months, have not done everything necessary to create an atmosphere of complete criticism and self-criticism in our work. I have not shown intolerance and impatience for the obvious errors of some of our leaders. We have allowed the remnants of a bureaucratic attitude to appear toward certain important technical, production and organizational weaknesses.

In no instance must we follow a path of irresponsible criticism and we must never permit the oversaturating or inflating of criticism. But constructive, objective and comradely criticism is a powerful weapon the essence of our work which we will always encourage. This is one of the major guarantees for our development, and this is the line of the party July Plenum which we will unswervingly follow.

The spirit of the July Plenum decisively permeates our work, but this penetration is retarded by certain undesirable phenomena which we must boldly eliminate.

In order to substantiate what I am saying, I will read to you a small portion of the facts stated by our control bodies during checks in the fourth quarter of 1976, and only such examples where the solution depends completely upon us.

Telephone Communications

"The hour of receiving the order, the category, the rate of the call and the personal number of the operator are not recorded." What is recorded

then? As improbable as it may sound in Kurdzhali the wrong outgoing calls are 100 percent, in Pernik the wrong incoming calls are 95 percent, and in Vratsa, 51 percent.

Again it is stated that "...the additional services for the telephone calls are not charged." And we have an income plan!

"The percentage of long distance telegraph and telephone circuits which are outside the norms is very large."

In Smolyan, 100 percent; in Yambol, 68 percent; in Vidin, 61 percent.

"The signal for the end of the calls is not given in many work areas in Plovdiv, Varna, Gabrovo and elsewhere." This means that someone will lose, either us or the citizens.

"The maintenance of the equipment is being neglected at many places." Some 78 percent of the inspected switchboards in Pernik are below the accepted standards, 60 percent in Sliven, and 68 percent in Vidin.

The condition of the automatic long distance telephone exchanges is also poor. In attempts for a connection, the call was not completed as follows: 97 percent in Pernik, 83 percent in Blagoevgrad, 76 percent in Vidin, 72 percent in Pazardzhik, and so forth.

Here a number of weaknesses could be mentioned, but I will give only a most characteristic instance. In his complaint, the commander of a military unit wrote with bitterness that our services charged to his office number some 14,000 calls. And during this time he was on leave and his office was locked.

In line with frequent similar instances of flagrant mistakes in figuring the telephone charges, the Party Central Committee has paid serious attention to us. In the letter of the manager of the Industry and Transport Department, Comrade Toncho Chakarov, it is stated that these weaknesses of ours form false ideas in the minds of the citizens. Some persons think that in this manner we fulfill the plan for income and pay out great bonuses.

In addition, on 31 January, I received material from the Council of Ministers concerning the poor state of the equipment and shortcomings in the organization of telephone services in Sofia. You will read the resolution of Comrade Stanko Todorov: "To Comrade Vanchev, for study and solution. Time: 25 February 1977. Inform the Bureau of the Council of Ministers of what has been done." The director of the Sofia Telephone-Telegraph Office, Comrade Gadzhev, and other leaders of our enterprises in Sofia whose job it is not to permit such weaknesses, could not explain to me how to answer the Bureau of the Council of Ministers and how we will quickly resolve the problems of communications services in Sofia. This forces us to set up an extraordinary operations staff which is to solve the crucial questions of communications in Sofia.

Comrades, if all of us were at our places and worked as the July Plenum commanded, the chairman of the Council of Ministers and the department of the Party Central Committee would not have to be concerned with these questions. And we would not have to set up special staffs and the serving of the citizens would be on the level of a modern socialist capital.

Telegraph Communications

There is an inacceptably high percentage of telegraphs which operate with violated indicators: 65 percent in Turgovishte, 40 percent in Tolbukhin, and 27 percent in Kurdzhali.

The condition of the teletypes is alarming: In Tolbukhin, 40 percent have improper indicators, 30 percent in Turgovishte, and 29 percent at the STTS [Sofia Telegraph-Telephone Exchange].

After such figures can we speak of the efficiency of our production capacity and the quality of our work?

Postal Communications

"Violations and weaknesses are continuing in the receiving and delivering of letters, parcels, the distribution of the press and money orders." With every reason we can ask our postal services just what they are doing.

"Not everything possible is being done to fulfill the income plan. At many offices, they permit the sending and delivering of unstamped parcels, storage fees are not collected, and the supply of postal materials is irregular."

Irregular outgoing parcels in Smolyan were 58 percent; 53 percent in Pernik and 42 percent in Vratsa.

What is the situation with pension money orders?

In Vratsa, irregular pension money orders were 42 percent; 33 percent in Burgas, and 28 percent in Sliven.

It is difficult to comment on such facts. By two examples I would like to show you what importance our incorrect telegraph and postal services can have in the life of a person.

A telegram was sent from Moscow to Comrade Chavdar Zhelyazkov of the Council of Ministers informing him of the death of his sister. He received this telegram, but two days late and for this reason he was unable to attend the funeral.

Or the Higher Economic Institute in Varna sent a message to a girl in Burgas that she had been accepted as a student. However the girl did not

receive this pleasant news. At her own initiative, she went to Varna on the last day for enrolling, learned the good news and only the good will of the people in the dean's office helped her enroll as a student. Obviously the comrades will never forget these events in their life, and will always link them to the morale and ethics in our work.

Radio and Television

The times require that in this major area of our activities we employ the most modern means for automating and controlling the work of the equipment. Unfortunately, here as well, because of the old custom of the leaders of the installations, they are continuing to request new personnel. Obviously for them this is easier than seeking out bold technical decisions and introducing modern technical means. Control over the equipment is insufficient and in many instances the requirements of the world and Bulgarian standards are not observed. There are unpermitted interruptions, the depth of modulation is not sufficient or there is transmitting with abnormal power.

There are also things to be desired in the organizing of the work of the personnel which must solve major problems related to the operation and maintenance of this complex and expensive technical equipment.

Communications Construction

The most painful point in our activity is construction. On this question, the ministry is taking decisive measures and in the month of September 1976 held an enlarged board meeting with the leaders of the okrug administrations, construction and specialists from the ministry. The board set up a special organization with an operational staff for the immediate fulfilling of the 1976 construction program. Specific tasks were assigned, and the dates and persons responsible for fulfilling them in the okrugs were stipulated.

It must be pointed out that a large portion of our construction workers and the leaders of the okrug administrations realized the importance of the posed tasks. Successful steps were taken to pool efforts between the construction workers and operations. We also received great help from the okrug party committees and the okrug people's councils.

All of this provided good results, but unfortunately there were still a few leaders who did not understand the precise instructions. The bureaucratic line of behavior was calmly continued, justification was sought, and they were powerless to solve the problems given them. Ultimately, our construction workers were unable to fulfill their plan, and for this year left more than 1 million leva of incomplete projects. We can justify this by the delayed designing and financing. We can justify this by unstable supply. We can accuse the investors, but we forget that we are the persons who must coordinate this construction process. We must understand that our operational services are not construction divisions. They will help in

construction, but this is not their basic activity. If we are unable to resolve the problems of communications construction in Bulgaria, we will be unable to build successfully in other countries.

We have excellent designers, but it seems that some of them do not sufficiently appreciate the appeals of the July Plenum of the BCP Central Committee. Their designs are excessively expensive, for example those in the town of Petrich. The installation is 10 km out of the town, but the plans show an architectural decoration which is completely unnecessary. These are the excessive embellishments of useless technology which will not serve the people.

In front of me is the report on the fulfillment of the income plan for January 1977. It is a pleasure and I would like to share with you that a large portion of our divisions fulfilled the state plan and their counterplan. However, the situation is disconcerting in the okrug communications administrations in Veliko Turnovo, Stara Zagora, Tolbukhin and elsewhere as well as Radio and Television; these did not fulfill their January plans. We all know that there were snowstorms and certain communications were interrupted, but weren't we leaders able to overcome the arising difficulties, including the vicissitudes of nature? What are these collectives and their leaders thinking? Even from the start of the year, did they not begin with the irregular fulfillment of their plans? I believe that these divisions can organize their work in such a manner that they will be the first to report the overfulfillment of their plans for the first quarter.

Let us assume that in the check our control bodies overstated the data by 20, 30 and even 50 percent. Even if this is so, the situation remains alarming.

I would like to ask how we would respond if the medical personnel in a hospital where we were for treatment or a pharmacy which was preparing a medicine committed 100 percent mistakes in its work? Or a taxi driver who was driving you made 97 percent violations of the traffic rules? If people worked in this manner it would cost many human sacrifices. And after being very demanding of others in their work, we must not make mistakes in our work.

The time has come when along with me, each person should reevaluate his work and his contribution to the development of the sector. We must not tolerate an apathetic attitude toward the problems of communications. We are obliged and must obviously undertake rapid and decisive steps to eliminate the weaknesses in all our subsectors. We can say this because we have excellent engineers, technicians, construction workers, installation workers, employees and leaders, an entire army of inspired creators of our labor life.

Comrades. The policy which we outlined at the outset and the weaknesses which we noted oblige us to find the most correct tactics in our work.

The leadership of the ministry knows by what method the difficulties will be overcome and how the problems will be solved. As is known, some of our offices are obsolete and worn out installations, and that our cable network in the cities resembles a dense water network from which thousands of people expect to drink. To put it figuratively, the switching facilities along with our city cable network represent an immovable, worn out system from which we demand the impossible, that is, to serve automatically almost 900,000 subscribers. This state of the telephone network in the nation requires the following:

In the first place, to build gradually an entire network with modern automatic quasioletronic exchanges, because they have incomparably greater capacity, high reliability and good quality.

Secondly, to increase the capacity of the existing communications network by using multiplexing equipment both between the exchanges and between the subscriber and the exchange, as is the case in the USSR.

Our policy in the area of developing switching equipment is: During the Seventh and the beginning of the Eighth Five-Year Plan to develop the production and start the modernization and reconstruction of the telephone network on a qualitatively new technical base, using the same element and technological base on which computer equipment is being developed. This will guarantee significantly shorter times for its production in comparison with the Crosspoint exchanges. By such a solution, three main directions will be realized simultaneously in our strategic plan:

- 1) The electronization of the communications system;
- 2) The achieving of a multiplier effect;
- 3) The communications and computer equipment will be developed on a common element base and with the same administrative capacity;
- 4) The quality indicators of telephone communications in Bulgaria will reach the level of the most advanced nations in the world.

In terms of the development of the telegraph network, we must follow the experience of the USSR in producing and introducing electronic exchanges. These stations have been developed using elements of standard computers, and this makes it possible to successfully realize a multiplier effect here.

The program for the modernization and reconstruction of radio and TV during the 1976-1980 period envisages the integrated development of the radio and TV networks in the nation. The basic portion of this program will be carried out with our own equipment and by this we can save over 10 million leva, one-half of which would be in foreign exchange. Even this year we will put into operation facilities served by modern electronic remote

control equipment. In this manner, by the accelerated development of the physical plant of radio and television, we will create conditions for significantly raising the ideological, cultural and propaganda effectiveness of their activities.

In the area of data transmission in the nation, a multimachine network will be built, and this will raise the usability of the computers incorporated in it. It will provide an opportunity to realize a number of national systems, such as: The system for controlling material resources, financial-credit institutes, the unified system of civil registration, and so forth.

The production of multiplexer and electronic equipment will be started for channel switching, and this will make it possible to connect the terminals directly to the network.

In postal communications, our efforts will be focused completely on improving the organization and technology of the production processes. This will sharply increase efficiency and we will satisfy the growing demands of the public.

We must also create and strengthen the Telekomplekt [Teleinstallation] Engineering Organization. In it we will bring together all activities related to the study, designing, development activities, material-technical supply and construction of communications equipment in the nation and abroad.

The 11th Party Congress ordered us to constantly extend integration with the USSR and the other socialist nations. This is a permanent and unswerving policy in our development and in our work. In this regard, in a short period of time we must create a national telecommunications center. The turning of Bulgaria into an international communications headquarters for three continents will provide us with an opportunity:

- 1) To strengthen and extend the ideological and political influence of the country;
- 2) To aid in shaping an efficient economic structure of our national economy;
- 3) To strengthen the interest of other states in Bulgaria as a political and economic partner;
- 4) To increase our foreign exchange earnings.

However, the integrated fulfillment of the state plan and the counterplan is at the center of our attention. The collectives and their administrative, party, trade union and Komsomol leaderships must organize their work and the socialist competition in such a manner that the plan quotas are fulfilled on time and steadily.

Such a taut program requires the complete labor and creative dedication of our entire large collective. For this reason we will continuously improve the management of the entire sector. The scientific management of society based upon Marxist-Leninist theory is of decisive significance in this regard.

We will also pay great attention to elaborating the general plan for the development of the sector, in decisively altering the ratio of quantitative and qualitative indicators in favor of the qualitative indicators. We will continuously modernize and reconstruct our physical plant, and will improve moral and material incentives.

Within the framework of the December Party Program, we will also develop our social policy. In using our social funds, we will give preference to the leaders in the socialist competition and to the employees with the greatest personal contribution to the development of communications. And in the future we will increase the number of places in children's institutions and we will more rationally organize the recreation of the employees. New dining rooms will be opened, and the existing ones will be reconstructed according to modern requirements. We will develop various forms of amateur artistic activities in the collectives of the sector as a means of communist indoctrination and for an active creative attitude toward aesthetic values.

The correct understanding and deep penetration into the essence of the tasks on behalf of the entire labor collective in the sector are the basic guarantee for their prompt and effective fulfillment. This requires diverse and purposeful efforts by all the leaders in our system. The tasks must be quickly brought to the attention of each member of our collective.

I would like to state again the conviction of the leadership that the situation of comradely criticism, of creativity, optimism and confidence shown here at the enlarged board meeting will be introduced in all our divisions and units, in the okrugs, in the party, trade union and Komsomol organizations, that is, everywhere where the fate of our initiatives is determined.

Comrades. You have heard in an abbreviated form the policy which we will follow and the strategic areas in which we will work. At present the number one problem for us is the overfulfillment of the plan for this year, and we have at hand the opportunities for realizing it. The work confronting us is very great both in scope and significance. I do not conceal from you that the difficulties on our path will be great. In our work there will be both troubles and pleasure, but we must never allow indifference and complacency.

In the difficult moments of our development we will encounter the support of the Party Central Committee.

We are infinitely grateful to the secretary of the BCP Central Committee, Comrade Ognyan Doynov, who with his inherent humbleness and ease and with great competence advised and directed us in correctly solving the most difficult problems and in formulating our policy in the area of communications.

Allow me to assure Comrade Ognyan Doynov, and through him the first secretary of the Party Central Committee and the chairman of the State Council, Comrade Todor Zhivkov, that the labor collective of the Ministry of Communications, with confidence in its forces and by inspired labor, will honorably carry out the tasks which the party and the government has posed for us. This will be our contribution to building a developed socialist society in our fine motherland, Bulgaria.

Thank you for your attention!

10272
CSO: 2200

PROBLEMS IN EDUCATION DISCUSSED

Teacher Shortage

Bonn IWE-TAGESDIENST in German 25 Feb 77 p 1

[Text] The GDR is having problems with teachers. As Prof Dr Werner Lemm of East Berlin's Humboldt University conceded in a "Voice of the GDR" broadcast, there is a "teacher shorage" in the GDR. Although more than 54,000 young teachers and educators completed higher or technical education in the GDR between 1971 and 1975, one cannot, according to Professor Lemm, "by any means say that we have enough teachers." The tasks to be solved in school and social policy have led to "a considerable increase in the need for teachers." Thus hundreds of additional teachers are necessary because a larger proportion of women teachers are making use of the new sociopolitical measures (extended maternity leave, 1 year of paid leave after the birth of the second child, etc.).

In this connection Professor Lemm said that it is necessary, in the interest of the schools, to achieve a general increase in the number of males studying to be teachers. Since more than three-quarters of all those now studying to be teachers are girls, there will be "considerable difficulties in the schools" when they begin to work. Teachers in the schools should encourage boys to enter the teaching profession. Right now, he says, there is a very great shortage of males studying to be teachers.

According to official East Berlin data, more than 70 percent of all pedagogs presently working in the GDR are women. The proportion of women and girls among students of pedagogy is as high as more than 88 percent (in the case of future teachers in the lower grades).

Criticism of Study Conferences

Bonn IWE-TAGESDIENST in German 25 Feb 77 p 2

[Text] The head of the Research Center of the Academy of Pedagogic Sciences of the GDR, Prof Dr Polzin, has criticized the so-called study conferences

which are organized in the schools by the communist children's organizations of the GDR in order to encourage the pupils to study better. These "study conferences," he said, often resemble "court proceedings." The good pupils condemn the bad ones. Or the pupils are required to obligate themselves formally to study even better. All this, declared the professor, leaves many pupils untouched and does not change their attitude toward studying.

The Pioneer organization obviously conducts altogether too many assemblies, conferences, etc., while play, for example, is neglected. The functionary journal of the GDR children's organization, PIONIERLEITER (Pioneer Leader) has warned that the "Young Pioneers" will only feel comfortable in their groups if studying, work, and play have a reasonable relationship to one another and if the needs of the children for relaxation and enjoyment are not underestimated. Some functionaries however only resort to play when there is "nothing proper to be done," i.e., no assembly, no work duty, no solidarity action. This practice, according to the journal, cannot be supported. Boys and girls need play for their healthy, harmonic development.

8994

CSO: 2300

ROMANIA

BRIEFS

ISTIQLAL DELEGATION IN BUCHAREST--Bucharest AGERPRES 24 Mar 77--On 23 March, a delegation of the Istiqlal Party of Morocco headed by (Abdenelam Benabdeljeil), member of the executive committee of the party, arrived in Bucharest to pay a visit to Romania at the invitation of the National Council of the Socialist Unity Front. [Text] [Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0920 GMT 24 Mar 77 AU]

CSO: 2020

ACTIVITIES, REQUIREMENTS OF PTUJ AEROCLUB DESCRIBED

Maribor VECER in Slovenian 1 Feb 77 p 11

[Article by J. Slodnjak]

[Text] The annual general meeting of the Ptuj Aeroclub noted the numerous achievements of its members as well as the difficulties with which they must cope. Alojz Gojcic was reelected president of the governing board.

The Ptuj Aeroclub is one of those defense-recreational links in the opstina from which have come, in recent years, a number of men to make its name known at numerous contests at home and abroad. Its school of aeronautics consists of model-building, parachute, soaring and powered-aircraft sections. Let us enumerate a few of the most salient accomplishments achieved last year.

The Model-Building Section: No less than seven contestants qualified for the republic contest. In the rubber-powered and soaring category the Ptuj Aeroclub members won the first three places. Model builders Velunsek and Pecek also became republic champions. This was followed by success at the federal contest where the Ptuj team won the federal championship in the soaring category. In individual competition in this category first place went to Oto Velunsek who as a member of the Yugoslav team had also won fourth place at the European contest and was in addition to his other achievements selected as the first model builder of Yugoslavia. At the international competition for the Cup of the Republics held at Zagreb in October 1976 the Ptuj team ranked first in the general rating. We could continue quoting the achievements as well as the difficulties of the small group of model-building enthusiasts who last year after many years of waiting for a modest but badly needed workshop finally attained their goal.

The Power Section: Last year 26 power pilots were active in flying. They successfully took part at numerous contests and participated with their aircraft at the civil defense drills in 15 local communities of the Ptuj opstina. Ptuj Aeroclub member Karel Krepf and his copilot Janez Petrovic

won first place at the federal competition for the Fizir Cup, pilot Danilo Hojnik won second place at the Yugoslav aerorally for the Marshall Tito Cup and third place at the federal aerobatic contest at Zagreb. The power pilot's contest, "Following the Steps of the First Partisan Pilots," also brought a solid achievement to the Ptuj Aeroclub with Karel Krepfl and Milan Kralj winning second and third places. On the republic list of contestants for the last year Danilo Hojnik ranks first and Karel Krepfl second. On the federal scale the same two contenders ranked sixth and seventh respectively.

The Soaring Section consists of 40 glider pilots. Following achievements at last year's contests, the section ranked sixth on the federal scale. Members of the section won eight A, four B, and three C pins as well as five silver C badges. The reason for the somewhat poorer placement of this section's members at the contests must undoubtedly be sought in the obsolescence of their aircraft. At the republic contest of glider pilots in Slovenj Gradec, Alojz Cus and Stanislav Petrovic won 13th and 14th place respectively.

The Parachute Section consists of 25 parachutists. Among the more prominent achievements in the last year mention is deserved of the first place won by Janez Petrovic in night jumps on the target at the contest for the Littoral Cup, the third place won by Zdenka Glazarjeva in the competition for women at the federal contest, the second place of the Ptuj team (composed of Vidovic, Vindis, Petrovic) at the Ptuj cup contest in jumping on target in water in Podlehnik, the third place won by the team at the republic contest, and so on.

Upon evaluating the favorable results achieved by the Ptuj Aeroclub members last year, the general meeting also adopted numerous new goals which the members will strive to achieve in this and future years. It is probably quite superfluous to note that their work, which is actively involved in the area of our defense preparations, is plagued by monetary problems. The club is trying to solve these by manufacturing locks under contract and performing other services.

The club reelected President of the Governing Board Alojz Gojcic, who with his coworkers directed the club's activities during his previous term of office.

12070
CSO: 2800

IMPROVEMENT IN GORNJA RADGONA BASIC LC ORGANS NEEDED

Maribor VECER in Slovenian 10 Feb 77 p 7

[Text] Members of the opstina LC conference felt that the evaluation of the Communists' activities in the Radgona opstina has been very critical. Accordingly, action must be taken to bring about a change of the situation.

According to data obtained from a survey on the activities of the basic LC organizations, the effectiveness of the league is a cause for concern. There are few organizations of which it could be said that their performance in 1976 was satisfactory. Their role in the environments where they exist and work is not one of leadership at the front line of progressive movements.

Prompt reaction of the basic organizations to the immediate social, economic and ideopolitical problems often depends entirely upon the organizations' secretaries, their resolve, activity and courage, while initiative on the part of the members is rare.

Because of this the basic organizations frequently had to "fight fires" as various problems arose. Moreover, the regular monthly reporting to the opstina LC organization on the problems in their districts could not get off the ground last year.

Deficiencies were also noted in the acceptance of new members. Too many basic organizations accepted no new members, nor was the principle holding that there is no place within the organization for inactive members properly observed. The door to the organization will, accordingly, have to be opened more widely to those who are coming in as well as to those who will have to leave. The Communists will have to mount a special campaign directed at the private farmers, of whom very few indeed are joining the LC.

We are in a period between the LC congresses and this is the time to apply the obtained results in a campaign directed at the removal of deficiencies in the most acute situations. Experience gleaned 2 years ago in Radenska shows that it is worthwhile to look into the situation wherever it appears that the Communists for such or other reasons are not carrying out their

assignments. It is necessary to start a similar campaign everywhere so that self-management, decision making, retention of experts, and other matters of vital interest to organizations of associated labor are no longer bypassing the basic LC organizations.

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END