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TRANSLATIONS ON EASTERN EUROPE
POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
No. 1459

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CONTENTS

PAGE

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Honecker Thanks Zhivkov For Hospitality During Bulgarian Visit (NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 15 Sep 77).....	1
Honecker, Stoph Greet Bulgarians on Revolution Anniversary (NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, 9 Sep 77).....	2
Honecker Speech at Sofia Friendship Rally (Erich Honecker; NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, 15 Sep 77).....	4
Honecker Toast at USSR Exhibit at Leipzig Fair (NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, 5 Sep 77).....	10
SED Central Committee Greets GDR-USSR Historians' Commission (NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, 23 Sep 77).....	13

ALBANIA

Petit-Bourgeois Concepts, Liberalism Plague Party Units (Zalo Buba; ZERI I POPULLIT, 14 Jul 77).....	15
Political Importance of New Penal Code Stressed (Eleni Selenica; ZERI I POPULLIT, 8 Jul 77).....	18
Class Struggle in Science, Education Reviewed (Vitore Ballvora; ZERI I POPULLIT, 14 Jul 77).....	23

EAST GERMANY

SED Functionary Addresses Cultural League (Kurt Hager; NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, 23 Sep 77).....	27
Mueckenberger Addresses Antifascist Rally in Berlin (Erich Mueckenberger; East Berlin Domestic Television, 11 Sep 77).....	29

CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
Torrijos, Honecker Exchange Messages on Panama Canal Treaty Signing (NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, 13 Sep 77).....	34
Leaders Greet Vietnam, DPRK Counterparts on National Holiday (NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, 2, 9 Sep 77).....	35
Message to SRV Leaders Message to DPRK Leaders	
Honecker Greets Ethiopian, Libyan Leaders on Their National Day (NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, 12, 1 Sep 77).....	38
Message to Ethiopia's Mengistu Telegram to Al-Qadhdhafi	
Swedish Foreign Minister Received by Honecker, Stoph (NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, 17-18 Sep 77).....	40
Meeting With Honecker Stoph Reception, Other Activities	
Briefs Yemen Arab Republic Lauded	43
POLAND	
Daily Comments on Non-Proliferation Efforts (Ryszard Drecki; TRYBUNA LUDU, 24-25 Sep 77).....	44
Functioning of Local Government Commissions Examined (RADA NARODOWA, GOSPODARKA, ADMINISTRACJA, 30 Jul 77)	46
Wysocki Comments on Belgrade Preparatory Meeting (Adam W. Wysocki; ZYCIE WARSZAWY, 20-21 Aug 77).....	51
National Council of Polish Women Meeting Held (Various sources, various dates).....	55
KRKP Meeting Held in Warsaw 'SLOWO POWSZECHNE' Editorial	
ROMANIA	
Ceausescu Congratulates Yemen's President on Holiday (ROMANIA LIBERA, 26 Sep 77).....	58
Ceausescu Sends Message to IAEA Conference in Vienna (SCINTEIA, 27 Sep 77).....	59
New Pension Regulations Explained (SCINTEIA, 7 Aug 77).....	61

CONTENTS (Continued)

Page

YUGOSLAVIA

Catholic Paper Comments on Soviet, Albanian Anti-Religious Views (GLAS CONCILA, 22 Aug 77).....	66
Problems in Granting Veteran's Status Reviewed (Radislav Cuk; POLITIKA, 22, 23 Jul 77).....	69

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

HONECKER THANKS ZHIVKOV FOR HOSPITALITY DURING BULGARIAN VISIT

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 15 Sep 77 p 1 AU

[Text of telegram sent from special aircraft]

[Text] To Comrade Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council of the Bulgarian People's Republic, Sofia.

14 September 1977.

Dear Comrade Todor Zhivkov!

Upon leaving your hospitable country I again convey to you, the BCP Central Committee and all working people of the Bulgarian People's Republic my deeply felt gratitude for the fraternal reception, cordiality and open-mindedness accorded me and the members of the party and state delegation of the GDR during our stay on the soil of socialist Bulgaria.

I highly assess the results of our friendly talks, and I am convinced that they will contribute to the further deepening of the friendship and all-sided cooperation between our parties and states for the benefit of the two peoples and of socialism and peace.

From the bottom of my heart I wish the fraternal Bulgarian people and its glorious Communist Party best successes on the road to further shaping the developed socialist society, and to you personally, Dear Comrade Todor Zhivkov, I wish much success in your responsible work, the best of health, creative energy and well-being.

[Signed] Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council.

CSO: 2300

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

HONECKER, STOPH GREET BULGARIANS ON REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 9 Sep 77 p 1 AU

[Text] To Comrade Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council of the Bulgarian People's Republic; Comrade Stanko Todorov, chairman of the Council of Ministers; Sofia.

Dear comrades! On behalf of the SED Central Committee, the State Council, the Council of Ministers and the people of the GDR, we convey to you, the BCP Central Committee, the State Council, the Council of Ministers and the entire fraternal Bulgarian people most cordial congratulations and fraternal greetings on the 33d anniversary of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria.

Under the tested leadership of its combat-proven Marxist-Leninist party, the BCP, the workers class and the working people of the Bulgarian People's Republic, in firm alliance with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries, have created in the course of the 33 years of people's power a flourishing socialist state with which the GDR is fraternally linked.

We are filled with pleasure over the successes being achieved by the fraternal Bulgarian people in implementation of the decisions of the 11th BCP Congress on shaping the developed socialist society.

Closely linked with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist states, the Bulgarian People's Republic is actively contributing to securing peace and enjoys respect and recognition among the progressive and peace-loving peoples of the world.

Based on the safe foundation of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, under the leadership of the SED and the BCP, the relations of friendship between our fraternal parties, states and peoples are successfully developing and deepening for the benefit of both peoples, of socialism and peace.

United by our common goals and the unbreakable fraternal alliance with the CPSU and the peoples of the Soviet Union, we are celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

We are looking forward with great pleasure to the official visit of the party and state delegation of the GDR to the Bulgarian People's Republic to be held shortly. We are convinced that the friendly meetings and talks will lend strong impulses to our cooperation and will usher in a new stage in our fraternal relations.

Rest assured, dear Bulgarian comrades, that we will continue to make every effort to comprehensively promote and deepen the fraternal friendship and cooperation between the SED and the BCP, between the GDR and the Bulgarian People's Republic, and between the two fraternal peoples.

We wish you, dear comrades, and all working people of socialist Bulgaria further great successes in building the developed socialist society, and we combine this with our best wishes for good health, creative energy and personal well-being.

[Signed] Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council;

Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers.

CSO: 2300

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

HONECKER SPEECH AT SOFIA FRIENDSHIP RALLY

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 15 Sep 77 p 3-4 AU

[Speech by Erich Honecker, SED Central Committee general secretary and GDR State Council chairman, at Bulgarian-GDR friendship rally in Sofia on 14 September 1977]

[Text] Dear Comrade Todor Zhivkov! Dear Comrade Stanko Todorov! Dear citizens of Sofia! Dear comrades!

We are very pleased at our renewed encounter with socialist Bulgaria and its hospitable capital. One likes to visit good friends. Our parties, states and peoples have been fraternally linked for a long time. Our visit and our talks with Comrade Todor Zhivkov and the other leading representatives of the Bulgarian People's Republic made us feel time and again how this community is growing and strengthening. This is a great source of strength in the struggle for the goals of socialism and peace and for the benefit of our peoples.

Let me thank you, dear Bulgarian comrades, for receiving our party and state delegation so cordially. We thank you, dear Comrade Todor Zhivkov, for the fruitful cooperation in the negotiations and for the words of appreciation you have just expressed regarding our party and our country.

Permit me to convey to all working people of the Bulgarian People's Republic the fraternal greetings of the communists and the entire people of the GDR. We congratulate you most cordially in the 34th year of socialist Bulgaria on the significant results in implementing the decisions of the 11th BCP Congress and wish you new successes for your further advance.

Dear comrades and friends!

A few minutes ago we signed the new treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance between the GDR and the Bulgarian People's Republic. This treaty is a document of truly historical significance. It expands the horizon of both our fraternal relations and our all-sided cooperation; it enables us to utilize even more effectively the potentials of socialism in the two countries. By all this we are considerably promoting the process

of the drawing closer together of our peoples. Up to and reaching into the next millenium this goal will be the determining factor of our cooperation.

The new treaty takes into account the significant changes in the international situation in the last few years. It also contributes to enhancing the strength and unity of the socialist states united in the Warsaw Pact and in CEMA and to increasing their influence on world events. I can assure you that the GDR working people will do everything in their power to fill with life this document of friendship between our two peoples.

It is of deep symbolic significance that we signed our treaty in the year marking the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. We can proudly state that our two parties and peoples are among the active shapers of the new epoch in the life of man which was initiated by the shots from the "Aurora." It is the epoch in which the bell tolls for the capitalist system of exploitation and oppression, the epoch in which the peoples are leading socialism to victory. What our fathers dreamed and for what they fought is becoming reality: the world of freedom, justice and fraternity.

It is precisely on this 60th anniversary of the Red October that it becomes manifest how deeply rooted is our peoples' love for the Soviet Union and for the CPSU. To constantly strengthen the fraternal alliance with the party and the country of Lenin and to rally ever closer around the main force of world socialism--this is in accordance with the teachings of history and the legacy of our unforgettable Comrades Ernst Thaelmann and Georgi Dimitrov. It is an immutable principle of our policy.

The Soviet Union saved mankind from the barbarity of Hitler fascism. It is leading the way in building socialism and communism with truly historical efforts. It is the pioneer of progress in the world, the champion of the social and national liberation of the peoples, the most powerful bastion of peace. Our passionate militant communist greeting goes out to the country of the Red October, to the USSR!

Dear Bulgarian friends! The class alliance of the German and Bulgarian communists reaches far back into the history of the workers movement. It was established by such outstanding revolutionaries as Dimitur Blagoev, Georgi Dimitrov and Vasil Kalarov, Karl Liebknecht, Ernst Thaelmann and Wilhelm Pieck. The joint sacrificial struggle of the best sons of our two peoples against imperialism, fascism and war, for socialism and peace is most closely linked with the name of Georgi Dimitrov. The memory of this great internationalism, who at the trial concerning the Reichstag fire became a superior indicter of fascism, is highly honored by us. Today hundreds of enterprises, labor collectives, schools, streets and squares bear the honorary name of "Georgi Dimitrov." This is a worthy expression of our friendship and our close affinity.

We can note with satisfaction that relations between the GDR and the Bulgarian People's Republic are developing fruitfully and dynamically in all spheres of social life. The agreements on political, economic and scientific-technical cooperation which we concluded during the visit to Berlin

in 1974 of a party and government delegation of the Bulgarian People's Republic headed by Comrade Todor Zhivkov are being successfully fulfilled.

Relations and contacts between our parties, state organs and social organizations, between enterprises and agricultural production cooperatives, between bezirks and towns are becoming constantly more multifarious and closer. Through joint work and exchange of experiences, studies and, last but not least, tourism, the working people of the GDR and the Bulgarian People's Republic are increasingly learning to know and appreciate each other. All this brings our peoples closer together.

In accordance with the comprehensive program of socialist economic integration, the economic and scientific-technical cooperation of our countries is developing successfully and at high speed. It is mainly directed at a further deepening of specialization and cooperation in production, research and development, particularly in the field of machine building, electrical engineering and electronics, and the chemical industry. We place great emphasis on the joint rationalization of production. Eloquent proof of the good progress in these matters are the results of the coordination of the national economic plans in the current 5-year period. Within this period we will exchange goods worth almost 3 billion rubles. At the same time specialization and cooperation products will attain a share of 25-30 percent of the exchange of goods. These are considerably undertakings. We assure you, dear Bulgarian comrades, that the GDR working people regard the fulfillment of these lofty goals as a matter of their workers honor.

Dear friends! The features of the modern capital Sofia reflect the tremendous reconstruction successes of your country. "Sofia is growing but it does not age"--we think these words today fit all of Bulgaria, which is constantly flourishing under socialism and which is advancing toward a communist future. The efforts of the workers, cooperative peasants and intelligentsia are well known and highly respected far beyond the borders of the Bulgarian People's Republic. The present situation of your country demonstrates the diligence, talent and creative power of the Bulgarian working people. It manifests the consistent policy of the BCP headed by the proven Marxist-Leninist and outstanding statesman Comrade Todor Zhivkov.

The working people of the GDR, too, are implementing with great initiative far-reaching goals. In accordance with the decisions of the Ninth SED Congress we are further shaping the developed socialist society and thus creating the fundamental prerequisites for the gradual transition to communism. Our 5-year program is a program of growth, prosperity and stability. We regard the intensification of the national economy and the energetic acceleration of scientific-technical progress as the key issue for improving the life of the working people. The unity of economic and social policy is proving itself as an important driving force.

In the course of socialist competition for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution the working people of our country are performing great feats. Entirely in the spirit of Lenin they are honoring

the Red October by strengthening the socialist social system in the GDR through labor deeds. We regard this simultaneously as a contribution to the prospering of the entire socialist community of states and to increasing its international influence. The constantly growing strength of socialism shows with convincing clarity what tremendous creative potential can be developed by the working people when they are free of exploitation and oppression, of the burden of crisis and fear for their existence.

Dear comrades and friends!

The talks with the leading representatives of the Bulgarian People's Republic proceeded in a cordial and fraternal atmosphere. The full harmony of our parties and states in all questions of domestic and foreign policy was again manifest. We had the opportunity to talk about a wide circle of international questions and our foreign political activities. We were able to note with satisfaction that thanks mainly to the efforts of the fraternal socialist countries rallied round the Soviet Union it has been possible to achieve significant positive changes in Europe in favor of peace and detente. But we do not close our eyes to a number of serious negative phenomena, among which we must count the recent NATO war maneuvers in the direct vicinity of our state border.

The further implementation of peaceful coexistence and the strengthening of international security and cooperation is the most important requirement for advancing peace and progress in the world. This is why we call for resolute efforts to further improve the political climate on the European continent. They must be based primarily on implementation of the principles of the Final Act of Helsinki, on full compliance with the European treaty system. An absolutely essential condition is strict respect for sovereignty and noninterference in the internal affairs of the states and the strengthening of mutual trust.

At the forthcoming Belgrade meeting of representatives of the CSCE participating states with GDR, together with the other fraternal countries, will advocate businesslike and constructive discussions on the basis of the Final Act of Helsinki. Irrespective of all constructionist attempts by the imperialist circles, we continue to endeavor to make our contribution to the stabilization of peace and to security in Europe.

Discontinuation of the arms race and agreement on effective measures for arms limitation and disarmament are of considerable importance for the strengthening of peace. The proposals of the Bucharest session of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee constitute a constructive program for further progress of peace and cooperation serving the interest of the peoples. This includes primarily the contractual renunciation of the first use of nuclear weapons. Like the Bulgarian People's Republic and the other fraternal socialist countries, we support the Soviet Union's efforts to achieve an agreement with the United States on strategic arms limitation in accordance with the principles and stipulations of Vladivostok.

Thereby a tremendous service would be rendered to world peace. But in the present circumstances an enormous invigoration of the worldwide movement for peace and disarmament is necessary.

Dear comrades, the GDR is standing firmly at the side of all peoples struggling for national and social liberation. It resolutely advocates the elimination of international hotbeds of tension. We are for a consistent, comprehensive political solution of the Middle East conflict. This requires the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all areas occupied in 1967 and guarantees of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including the right to set up a state of their own.

We vigorously support all those states and peoples that wage the anti-imperialist struggle for their independence, progressive development and social progress, and against neocolonialism, racism and fascism. We are concerned over the recent development in northeast Africa, which creates a serious situation for revolutionary Ethiopia and at the same time endangers the important achievements of Somalia since the revolution of October 1969.

The GDR people are convinced that a quick solution of the conflict by peaceful means would best serve the interests of the Somali and Ethiopian peoples and indeed of all peoples of the African continent as well as world peace.

Four years after the fascist military putsch and the assassination of Salvador Allende it is necessary to raise our voices even more loudly for the immediate termination of terror and persecution of the democratic forces in Chile, for the immediate release of all imprisoned and abducted patriots in Chile and Uruguay.

Dear comrades and friends, let me thank you once more for the friendly invitation and the cordial climate in which we were able to hold our talks.

I am convinced that the treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance signed today will be a new milestone in the history of our relations.

Long live the people of Georgi Dimitrov, the fraternal Bulgarian people!
Long live the Bulgarian People's Republic!

Long live the BCP, its Central Committee and its first secretary, our friend and comrade Todor Zhivkov!

Long live the indestructible unity of our parties and peoples with the CPSU and the Soviet people!

Long live the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution!

Long live the unbreakable friendship between the SED and the BCP, between the peoples of the socialist GDR and the Bulgarian People's Republic!

Long live peace and socialism!

CSO: 2300

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

HONECKER TOAST AT USSR EXHIBIT AT LEIPZIG FAIR

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 5 Sep 77 p 5 AU

[Report on Erich Honecker visit to USSR exhibit at Leipzig Fair on 4 September 1977]

[Excerpt] On this occasion Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the State Council, took the floor. Erich Honecker said:

"Dear Soviet friends and comrades, I welcome you most cordially to the 1977 Leipzig Fall Fair and thank you for the invitation to visit your pavilion.

"The exhibit of the USSR splendidly expresses the momentous development that has been achieved by the Soviet people under the leadership of their glorious Communist Party in the 60 years since the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution. It impressively reflects the great initiative of the Soviet working people in implementing the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress.

"We have seen a large number of displays of top international quality. This is convincing proof of the creative force of the Soviet people in science, technology and production and all other fields of social life. The exhibit of the Kirgiz SSR is another example of this.

"The displays show what a great development the Kirgiz people have undergone and at the same time point out the development prospects of the Soviet people on the road to communism.

"In the past six decades the Soviet people have accomplished heroic achievements in building socialism and creating the material-technical basis of communism. They have earned the admiration of all progressive and peace-loving people. Behind the Soviet people are six decades of gigantic work, of consistent, sacrificing struggle in the service of the interests of the international workers class and all mankind.

"The victory of the USSR over Hitlerite fascism is forever entered with golden letters in the history of the peoples' entry into the new era of freedom, socialism and communism. This victory was the continuation of the Red October. From it emerged the socialist world system and thus the greatest accomplishment of the international workers class since the October Revolution.

"The achievements of the Soviet Union are a decisive factor for the strengthening of our entire community of socialist states. They are rallying increasingly closely around the Soviet Union as their main force.

"For the GDR, the fraternal alliance with the country of Lenin is a decisive foundation of all previously achieved and all future successes. We are enormously pleased with the high appreciation of this cooperation expressed by Comrade Leonid Brezhnev, CPSU general secretary and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in his telegram on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Society for German-Soviet Friendship. He rightly stressed that on the basis of the principles of proletarian internationalism and the community of goals this friendship has become a powerful driving force for our joint endeavors in building socialism and communism, an important element of stable peace in Europe and throughout the world.

"On the occasion of the friendly meeting I had with Leonid Brezhnev in July in the Crimea we were again able to note substantial progress in the consolidation of the relations between the CPSU and the SED, in the universal cooperation between the USSR and the GDR, and in the friendship of our peoples.

"The public in our country and beyond our borders has noted with great attention that in the Crimea it was agreed to work out a program of specialization and cooperation between the USSR and the GDR for the period 1980-90. This is a program which is linked with the long-term target programs being worked out within the CEMA framework.

"Specialization and cooperation combine the forces of our two countries to the benefit of greater effectiveness. In this way we participate in the great potential of the USSR and at the same time use our own potential to mutual benefit. Such long-term, planned, joint work creates continuity, stability and absolute confidence in the future. This is possible only under socialist conditions and indicates the high level of relations between the USSR and the GDR.

"We regard the development and deepening of socialist economic integration with the USSR and the other fraternal CEMA countries as a basis for the constant further perfecting of our cooperation in science, technology and production as well as in foreign trade. During my tour of the exhibit I have noted that 450 scientific institutions of the USSR cooperate with 380 of the GDR. This is a great step toward the goal to which we aspire, for which we live, for which we struggle: to establish the foundations

for the building of communism, after the Soviet Union, in the GDR as well. This year, too, trade between our countries is developing continuously and according to plan on the basis of the joint agreements and decisions.

"Dear comrades, our party and our people celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution as a joint holiday, as a holiday of labor and of deepening the friendship and affinity with the Soviet Union and the CPSU.

"We regard this as socialist internationalism in action. On the basis of the decision of the Ninth SED Congress, our country's working people devote all their energy to the further universal strengthening of the SED. In the spirit of the 7 October 1975 treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance we are advancing in close affinity to new successes in the struggle for socialism and communism, to the benefit of our peoples and in the interest of peace.

"I beg you to raise your glass with me:

"To the glorious CPSU, its Leninist Central Committee and its general secretary, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, our friend and comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev;

"To the achievements of the Red October and new great successes of the Soviet people in communist construction and in the struggle for the universal strengthening of the peace-loving Soviet Union;

"To the unbreakable fraternal friendship between our Marxist-Leninist parties and the peoples of our countries!"

CSO: 2300

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

SED CENTRAL COMMITTEE GREETES GDR-USSR HISTORIANS' COMMISSION

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 23 Sep 77 p 1 AU

[Text] To the Historians' Commission of the GDR and USSR, Berlin.

Dear comrades and friends: The SED Central Committee conveys to the Historians' Commission of the GDR and USSR most cordial greetings on their 20th anniversary. At its first scientific conference in 1957 the commission dealt with the Great October Socialist Revolution and its effects on the history of the German people. On the occasion of the 60th anniversary it turns again with new research results to the Red October and its influence on the revolutionary world process.

The work of the commission has always been guided by striving for new scientific results and the constant enrichment of the Marxist-Leninist concept of history. In this spirit you have successfully contributed to organizing the cooperation of the historians of both countries and to promoting the development of Marxist-Leninist historical science in the GDR. It has proved itself as a forum of scientific research and publication, of fruitful scientific exchange of views and of the struggle with the bourgeois-imperialist ideology of history.

The work of the commission on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism serves the further drawing closer together of our peoples and is thus in accordance with the spirit of the new treaty on friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance between the GDR and the USSR. The SED Central Committee thanks the Historians' Commission of the GDR and USSR for their scientific contribution to the research and propagating of the joint progressive and humanist traditions of our peoples, the revolutionary traditions of the workers movement of our countries and particularly of the militant alliance of the SED and the CPSU.

We are certain that also in the future the commission will continue in the spirit of the decisions of the Ninth SED Congress and the 25th CPSU Congress to use all its energy for the further working out and propagating of the

Marxist-Leninist concept of history and thus for new successes of socialism. For this we wish the commission members health and creative energy.

With socialist greetings,

The SED Central Committee; E. Honecker, general secretary. Berlin,
23 September 1977.

CSO: 2300

ALBANIA

PETIT-BOURGEOIS CONCEPTS, LIBERALISM PLAGUE PARTY UNITS

Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 14 Jul 77 p 2

[Article by Zalo Buba: "Not Only Taking Note, But Also Acting and Energetically Enforcing"]

[Text] The party insures its leading role through the persistent political, ideological and organizational struggle of the base organizations and all communists to enforce its general line, decisions, directives, principles and norms. Therefore, the successes achieved by our country in all fields, in industry and agriculture, in culture and education, are due to the party's leading role.

But this does not mean that this role is always exercised everywhere without shortcomings. Consequently, some government departments and institutions in Tirana some time ago developed the subject "The Seventh Party Congress on the party's leading role in the whole life of the country as a guarantee for the full construction of the socialist society." The discussions held brought out the fact that there are communists from whom no accounting is demanded for their work. Some others lack the courage to criticize without fear or reservation those who make mistakes. So petit-bourgeois concepts predominate in the minds of those particular communists. For example, in the Ministry of Culture, in that of Commerce, in that of Light and Food Industries, there have been and are cases where the communists are not criticized by name, or are criticized "by list." What does this mean? It means that one is inclined by erroneous and harmful ideas to "round out" things in order not to displease a comrade, to spread responsibility. Not infrequently one hears it said: "It is enough for us to criticize a negative phenomenon. Why do they want names?" Such phenomena occur in the case of individual communist intellectuals who are not well molded ideologically and who think like petit-bourgeois: "If I criticized him today, I would make a mistake tomorrow and he would criticize me tomorrow."

Speaking of the leading role of the party base organization, a comrade in the Ministry of Education and Culture said in his discussion: "We know the situation well. We have also made controls, not one or two, but

several. And we set the right tasks for improving the situation. The bad thing is that we do not enforce them." Here we have to deal with a serious problem. For the basic factor increasing the organizing and directing power of the party is the continual supervision of the execution of tasks. Certainly the tasks are not executed when they are left in oblivion, when they are not controlled. But in no case must we forget that without control, without the demand for an accounting, there is no criticism or self-criticism; there is no effort or struggle to fulfill the tasks. The party has continually directed that measures be taken for control and study in any sector where things have not gone well. However, here it is not a matter of making studies for the sake of study or, what is worse, making some study from the office, as has happened in the Ministry of Education and Culture. They have done so there because the party base organization has not taken hold of the matter and treated it in the breadth and depth ordered by the party; it has not properly involved the thinking of the masses about this study and then come out on the broad road of class and mass judgment, criticism and control. It is important to be as familiar as possible with the situation, to find the reasons why things have not gone well; but it is equally important to find ways to overcome the difficulties. It is like the work of a physician who has the greatest difficulty in finding the accurate diagnosis of a disease, whereafter the cure is an easy matter. He recognizes the situation and determines the right and wrong measures. But apparently the trouble is that now and then the measures, the tasks set, are not made known to the masses, and consequently are not carried out. And to justify themselves, some say: "You see, we are suffering from liberalism!" They use this as a bridge to cross a stream. Those cadres and communists who do not immerse themselves deeply in their work, who do not perform their duties, and who do not study the party's materials as they should, lag behind, bring up the rear, and then find it easier to say: "we are beaten by liberalism." This must absolutely not be allowed to happen. The communist must tell everything to the party, the masses; he must not hide anything: otherwise he "misinforms" and disorients.

The leading role of the base organization is achieved and strengthened by elevating and further strengthening the vanguard role of the communists.

But here and there we find cases where not all the communists are doing their duties well. In some government departments and institutions the problems in the sectors which certain communists direct do not go well. There are some who have gone, for example, several times to the base, and again things have not been put in order. Why? Because when they go to the base, they come quickly like a windy shower that is soon gone. The party's materials and Comrade Enver's works are not studied well and, as a result, they are unable to open up the horizon for the base workers, and they themselves, being unfamiliar with the situation, are unable to give a correct opinion. Concretely, a worker in the Ministry of the Light and Food Industry had gone to the base about the same problem seven times, yet the problem found no solution. Such communists, who are not in a vanguard role,

although they have their respective authority, reduce their role to mere observers and reporters. "I have notified the Ministry," they say, and with that they consider their duty to have been done.

Then the question arises: who is to keep a watch on the problems to see how and when they are solved; who is to elaborate the advanced experience and bring it back to the base; who is to instruct and open horizons so as to how the difficulties are to be overcome and how one may move forward? The situations through which we are passing require that everyone rid himself of the stance of a mere observer. To resolve the tasks set by the party and raised by life, everyone must be a complete observer, performer and active executor. The problem of constantly perfecting the method of work has been and remains one of the most important questions regarding the organizing, directing and guiding activity of the party base organizations. Its improvement and deepening demand a continual fight against concepts and practices which bear the seal of bureaucratism. Referring to practice, one now and then encounters bureaucratic manifestations; there is too much faith in "orders," and concentration on little questions, and not enough on the fundamental ones. Such a method on the part of some cadres in the government departments embodies two evils: first, self-active initiative withers; and second, the role of the masses is minimized. One cannot speak of a revolutionary method and style in work, of a fight against bureaucratism when there are still pronounced tendencies toward frequent and long meetings that distance the cadres from real life. Of course, meetings will be held, but they should be useful, leave an impression, and offer interesting gains. Experience has shown and is showing that when problems are treated as close to the base, as close to the facts, to real life and people as possible, the results are good also. Therefore, the method of work needs to be revolutionized, purged and cleaned up, for in some cases there is rottenness within rottenness that bears the names of liberalism, bureaucratism, indifference, lack of a feeling of responsibility. So the party base organizations are faced with the task of combating these shortcomings, first in every communist, and then in the other workers. This will be the best way to perform the tasks.

10002

CSO: 2100

ALBANIA

POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF NEW PENAL CODE STRESSED

Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 8 Jul 77 p 2

[Article by Eleni Selenica, vice chairman of the Supreme Court: "The Political Importance of the New Penal Code of the Albanian People's Socialist Republic"]

[Text] The first Penal Code of our state of the proletariat dictatorship, as all our legislation, is a weapon in the hands of the working class, and for nearly a quarter of a century, it has been serving the struggle of the party and the state in protecting the revolutionary victories, and in fulfilling the principal obligations of our socialist state.

But our country, under the leadership of the party with Comrade Enver at the head, in the process of the socialist construction, has made important revolutionary changes at the base level as well as at the superstructural level, which have consolidated our social order, which today is successfully developing straight towards the total construction of socialism and later of communism in our country. During this period, especially in the last few years, the party gained an important experience in the area of class struggle, which has developed in a vicious manner in the international arena against imperialist enemies, social-imperialists, revisionists in general and reaction, and against enemies from within. The discovery, the unmasking and the annihilation of the hostile groups in the army, the economy and in the field of art and culture by the party and the deep Marxist-Leninist analysis that the party accorded to the reasons for these dangerous hostile actions, brought to light special and important duties for the protection and further strengthening of the party and the proletariat dictatorship, which make up the decisive weapons in the construction of socialism in the country. The Seventh Party Congress reemphasized the absolute necessity for the strengthening of the proletariat dictatorship at the present stage. The new Penal Code serves to strengthen and to further develop the proletariat dictatorship, to strengthen our social relations and our socialist juridical order. The new Penal Code, keeping in sight the historical decisions of the Seventh Party Congress, and according to the recommendations made by Comrade Enver, was mapped on the basis of the constitution,

which is the principal source of all our legislation and completely responds to the present stage of the total construction of socialism in our country, to the complete socialist development of our society, and to the needs and demands of our nation of the proletariat dictatorship within the frame of savage encirclement by imperialist-revisionists. The new Penal Code is a logical extension of the existing Penal Code, but characteristically on a higher level. As part of our whole revolutionary legislation in content as well as in construction, it is of important political interest. Because the contents of the new Penal Code are class oriented, it is basically different from the Penal Codes in the capitalist and bourgeois-revisionist countries. It relies on the ideology of the working class, whose interests it protects, and is guided by the policies of the Albanian Workers Party. Its political importance is defined by many factors, which in general give the Penal Code the socialist imprint, and make it an important weapon in the hands of the working class for the strengthening of the proletariat dictatorship, and for educating the working masses with the breath of respect for our socialist laws.

"The Penal Legislation of the Albanian People's Socialist Republic-article two of the Penal Code states that it is guided by the policies of the Albanian Workers Party, that it derives from the Constitution of the Albanian People's Socialist Republic." This is not simply a solemn declaration but a reality. The study, article by article, of the Penal Code clearly shows how faithfully it reflects the general party line. In it have found deep and correct expression the lessons of the party and Comrade Enver on the guiding role of the party in all areas of life. Therefore the party as the spearhead of the working class, as the vanguard, is on special watch against hostile enemy actions. The lessons of the party and of Comrade Enver on the class struggle in our socialist society, on the proletariat dictatorship and its protection from enemies within and outside the country, on the dangers of bureaucratization and liberalism, have found expression in the new Penal Code. The new Penal Code, as well as the Constitution from which it derives, is developed on the basis of Marxist-Leninist ideology, which is the dominant ideology in our country, and on the basis of these principles, the whole order of socialist society is being developed. "The penal legislation of the Albanian People's Socialist Republic-article two of the Penal Code again states that it is based on the Marxist-Leninist philosophy, on the lessons of the party and Comrade Enver Hoxha and on the struggle of criminality against those who are opposed to this philosophy. The new Penal Code has defined criminal action as actions that are dangerous to society; it has dealt with the idea and purpose of punishment by emphasizing that criminal punishment is a form of pressure with a political character, an ideological character of the socialist state in the class struggle, therefore it has a definitely class oriented character, because a person is criminally liable, that is linked in crime, whether he acts or not in a criminal manner when he finds himself in socially dangerous circumstances (guilt by association?).

In treating crimes and violations, causative link(?) and guilt different forms of punishment, association in crime etc. in a Marxist-Leninist way, the new Penal Code is in contraposition to the bourgeois and revisionist theories on crime and punishment and other rules on penal rights, which deprive them of their true class character.

The political importance of the new Penal Code is made clear in the interests which it expresses, the objectives which it protects, and the duties that it fulfills. Article one of the new Penal Code states that "the penal legislation of the Albanian Peoples Socialist Republic expresses the will of the working class and that of the other working masses..." The objects protected by the new Penal Code are broad and very important. Above all, the Penal Code protects against socially dangerous actions. By implementing punishment of the guilty, it protects our socialist nation, the Albanian Workers Party as the only political force, leader of the state and society; it protects the socialist wealth, the rights and interests of the citizens; it protects the whole socialist order. The Penal Code by a series of provisions which aim to secure the normal functioning of our state apparatus, protects the state of the people's proletariat from two principal dangers, bureaucratization and liberalism. The duties of the Penal Code are not confined to the execution of the law by the law enforcement authorities, that is to say, to pass sentence against those who commit actions that are socially dangerous. The Penal Code, by anticipating the criminal liability of the guilty and their punishment, serves as a powerful deterrent, since it influences the reeducation of the criminal and the education of the citizens with the breath of respect for the socialist law.

The party and Comrade Enver have given a deep Marxist-Leninist form to the popular sovereignty by defining constitutionally the premise that no one except the representative organs can exercise the sovereignty of the people or any of its attributes in the name of the Albanian People's Socialist Republic. The violation of these constitutional standards, according to article forty seven of the Penal Code, constitutes the worst crime, the crime of treason against the fatherland, that which is directed against the national independence, the protecting force and the guarantor of the Albanian People's Socialist Republic against outsiders, whose aim is to overthrow the state of the people's dictatorship. Therefore, by answering the demands of the constitution, the new Penal Code has radically broadened and changed the meaning of treason against the fatherland.

The new Penal Code reflects the lessons of the party and of Comrade Enver on the direct control of the worker and the farmer, by placing before criminal courts everyone who obstructs the social activists who, in their duty, are participants in this control. The lessons of the party and Comrade Enver are also reflected in the equal rights of all citizens, in the equal employment rights of men and women, in equality of compensation, in equality of state and social security, in education and in all social and political activities. The violation of these rights is considered a

criminal act. In a series of provisions, particularly those that deal with the concrete action of the courts to determine and pass our sentence against those found to be guilty, is reflected the will of the masses. By request of the workers collective at the center where the culprit works, or by request of the Trade Union Organizations, the court, when the conditions are within the legal requirements, can pass out sentence in the frame of the applicable provision, or sentence on condition of trust in the Trade Unions and the workers collective, making them responsible for the education and rehabilitation of the culprit who was sentenced. This expresses the great educational strength that our working masses possesses and the great trust that the state and the party have in them.

The new Penal Code reflects the party line and the lessons of Comrade Enver on the socialist attribute as the untouchable base of our socialist order, as a source of the people's well-being, as a source of the protective strength of the fatherland, and therefore, it also has been accorded special attention in the new Penal Code.

The military line of the party has also been reflected in the articles of the new Penal Code; the criminal provisions which anticipate military criminal actions serve the struggle for the rigorous implementation of the military line of the party; they serve to strengthen the military discipline of our armed forces in the ranks of our soldierly nation.

Starting from the will that it expresses, from the object that it protects, and by the duties that it fulfills, the new Penal Code, as article one states, is "a strong weapon of the proletariat dictatorship in the class struggle." The endorsement of the new Penal Code sets before the judicial, investigative and the prosecutor's office important duties, which have to do with the familiarity of the workers in these branches, with the ideological and political content of the Penal Code, of the Marxist-Leninist principles on which it is based, with the right concept of the duties and aims that the code has, as a strong weapon of the proletariat dictatorship in the class struggle, as a means which helps in the total construction of socialism and communism and which influences the citizens with respect for socialist law. A well planned task directed by the legal section of the basic party organization to thoroughly understand all the above problems, would create numerous possibilities to penetrate quickly and efficiently all the new juridical problems of the new Penal Code. It would guarantee the exact, rigorous, unrelenting implementation of its dispositions that are always in the interest of the working people. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary that the work of professional juridical preparation be deeply interwoven with the educational, political-ideological work, that the legal sections of the basic party organizations are developing with their workers.

The new Penal Code, like all our legislation, is a powerful aid in the general struggle that the party is carrying on to raise the juridical conscience of the working masses, to create a strong public opinion against

violations of the law, to decrease the crime rate, and to educate the masses with the norms of communist morality. Based on this fact, it is the duty of the state, economic and social organizations, under the guidance of the basic party organizations, to take all necessary steps to acquaint the workers with the political, ideological and juridical contents of this Penal Code. This lays a special responsibility on the workers of the legal organs. It remains a special duty, Comrade Enver emphasized in his report to the Seventh Party Congress of the Albanian Workers Party, for the legal organs to do a more comprehensive work to disseminate the laws among the working masses, so that the people can understand them better and become more conscientious in obeying and protecting the laws. The fulfillment of the political duty, now that we have in hand the new Penal Code, demands cooperation and alignment of effort between the legal organs and the leaders of the mass organizations in every district to define the forms and means of work that will gain most from the familiarization with the contents of the Penal Code, to enforce in work centers, agricultural cooperatives, motor pools and different institutions, the ordinances that are directly applicable to the nature of work and the special duties of the workers. Only a job such as this will give positive results and will mobilize the working masses of our nation in a wide ranging effort to prevent crime and other violations of the law.

6160

CSO: 2100

ALBANIA

CLASS STRUGGLE IN SCIENCE, EDUCATION REVIEWED

Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 14 Jul 77 p 3

[Article by Vitore Ballvora, Dean of the Faculty of History and Philology, University of Tirana: "Problems of the Class Struggle in the Educational, Scientific and Training Process"]

[Text] In his report to the Seventh Party Congress, Comrade Enver stressed, among other things, that "the construction of socialism is a process of a hard class struggle between two roads, the socialist and the capitalist, a struggle waged on all fronts, political and economic, ideological and military." The class struggle, as the chief motive force propelling our socialist revolution in all fields, is being waged intensively and in an all-around manner in the educational, training and scientific process as well. The subjects being developed by our faculty, with their pronounced ideological character, involve very acute problems of the conduct of the class struggle.

The class struggle in our sciences has been and is being waged primarily as a struggle against alien ideological influences, which damage or affect, however little, the Marxist-Leninist core of the sciences. The texts drafted by our authors and our scientific studies, with their sound ideological content, with their pronounced class tendentiousness, with their criticism of a good many bourgeois and revisionist views, distortions and speculations, as well as, with the efforts made to reflect the theoretical thinking of the party on the generalization of the experience of the country's socialist construction, unquestionably constitute an important achievement in the waging of the class struggle against alien bourgeois-revisionist influences. But, as is known, an analysis of those texts has also brought out a number of weaknesses of an ideological, scientific and methodical character. In some texts, the shallowness of the treatment of the problem, the lack of a thorough class analysis, has led to equivocal interpretations, to stands of an objectivistic nature; polemics have either been lacking in a good many cases, or have been superficial, and have been carried on mainly with theses that are now known and exhausted, devoid of new viewpoints and lately propagated by the reactionary bourgeois and revisionist ideologists.

The waging of the class struggle in our sciences is related, among other things, to the great job being done to give them the most thorough national physiognomy. Our faculty is studying sciences such as the history and geography of Albania, Albanian language and literature, which are directly concerned with the study of our national history and culture; other subjects are the history, language, literature and geography of other peoples. In the former, their object itself unquestionably plays a decisive role in determining their national character; however, it would be a superficial conception of the problem if we confined ourselves to this. To further deepen the national character of these sciences, we are working to show, as fully as possible, the outstanding features of the development of our national history and culture.

It is known that in some countries of the world there are centers engaged in Albanian studies. Their publications frequently reflect open or masked anti-Albanian and antisocialist views, with the intention of distorting our national traditions and maligning our socialist reality. It is an important duty for us to intensify and further deepen our fight against their views and falsifications. Thus, in our auditorium we criticize and refute, with well grounded arguments, the alien anti-Albanian and anti-socialist views which deny Illyrian ethnogenesis and the autochthony of the Albanians as well as the decisive role of internal factors and the role of the popular masses in the fight for national liberation, and those views which see the formation of an independent Albanian state not as the result of age-old struggles, but as an outgrowth of the diplomacy of the great European states. We likewise criticize the views of foreign reactionary historiography which seek to justify the expansionist policy of the imperialist powers and the chauvinist circles with regard to Albania, or which underestimate the contribution of the Albanian people to the struggle to defeat fascism.

The age-old struggles of the Albanian people for liberty and independence have always been closely connected with its striving for knowledge, education and culture. The most complete acquaintance of the young generation with that culture and the placing of its study on the most scientific basis constitute one of the principal tasks of our cadres. We have notable achievements in the studies in this field on evidence about our cultural values, on the correct evaluation which has been made of the writers of the past, especially with regard to their efforts to create a progressive democratic literature, while at the same time showing the limited character of their work. On the other hand, efforts are being made to explain the relations of our people with other neighboring peoples during their historic development, and we are combating one-sided attitudes and treating them on the soundest possible dialectic basis. Thus, in analyzing these relationships, it needs to be made evident that they have always been reciprocal, and that in certain periods, the culture of our people has likewise left its traces in the culture of other peoples. Undeniable is the contribution of our literature, as a progressive socialist literature, to the development

of the present-day culture of the peoples. It is a living and unparalleled testimony to the vitality, the ideo-esthetic force of the method of socialist realism, which is forging boldly ahead in the struggle with the effete, decadent, modernistic foreign literatures as a new literature which is blossoming and constantly spawning new talent. It is the task of our cadres to follow up this literature, so rich in talent and diverse works, with important theoretical studies that will best demonstrate its outstanding features, the creative practice of our authors of socialist realism, especially with regard to deepening the socialist content, the proletarian revolutionary partisanship, its relation to popular creativity, and so forth. This would require a high level of serious studies with complex themes. To achieve this the Institute of Linguistics and Literature, the League of Writers and Artists of Albania, the Higher Institute of Arts and the Faculty of History and Philology must collaborate in a more organized manner.

Within the framework of the continual deepening of the national character of our subjects, we are striving to see to it that in those subjects which deal with the study of the history, literature, geography of other countries, such as general history, physical and economic geography of the world, foreign literature and language, and so forth, the criticism shall be deepened concerning reactionary cosmopolitan views, chauvinist and racist tendencies that trumpet the dissolution of the confines of national culture and their "internationalization"; concerning the tendency of bourgeois and revisionist sciences to fetishize the culture of one country to the detriment of other countries; concerning their efforts to spread unscientific views about the alleged spiritual superiority of one big nation over other little nations.

Our specialists have set themselves the task of further deepening their polemic in strong reliance on the teachings of the Marxist-Leninist classics, and particularly on the materials of the Workers' Party of Albania, and, in the fight against bourgeois-revisionist views, of arguing as strongly as possible in the auditorium in favor of the Marxist thesis that true development is not achieved by "the blending of national schools," but, on the contrary, by creating the most favorable conditions for unfolding and cultivating the spiritual and material values of the various nations, whether great or small.

Considerable results have been obtained in realizing the ideological pivot in the pedagogical sciences by the positive efforts made to incarnate in them the theoretical thinking of the Workers' Party of Albania and the colossal contribution of Comrade Enver Hoxha concerning these problems. However, in this respect there is room for deepening the work still more, so as to have as a permanent subject of study, the great radical transformations of our schools, our new pedagogical system, its innovations in content and form, the harmonization of the three components, and to place our revolutionary class views on the education and training of the young generation in open opposition to the old and new bourgeois-revisionist

schools and theories. The revelation of our traditions, the knowledge and study of the history of our schools, and of the life and activity of our ancestors constitute an important task.

Studies on the subject of physical and economic geography must be raised to a higher degree, combining in a dialectic manner the laws of natural development with those of society and undertaking integrated [komplekse] subjects, so as to arrive at valuable theoretical-scientific generalizations on the solution of the problems raised by production and the practice of the construction of socialism in our country, as well as the defense of our socialist fatherland.

Continuing to enforce the plan for the analysis and execution of the decisions of the Seventh Party Congress, our cadres are undertaking studies and organizing theoretical seminars and scientific sessions to treat a good many problems directly related to the development of our sciences, such as "the strengthening of the national character in our subjects," "the deepening of the class analysis of various historical phenomena and events," "the principle of self-reliance in the various stages of historical development," "the wide exhibition of the great cognitive and esthetic values of our folklore and its relationship to cultivated literature," "on the history of the military art of the antifascist National Liberation War of the Albanian people," and so forth.

We have made the strengthening of the ideological content of our scientific teaching a function of the training of the young cadres for life, so that they may march in step with the revolution and be leavened with the teachings of the party and Comrade Enver, with high patriotic and revolutionary class feelings, and ready to serve wherever the fatherland needs them. Our faculty is training teachers who will work principally in the countryside, and therefore all teaching and training is done with a view to instilling in the young a sound and conscientious conviction about the great job which they are to do in the future, as torchbearers carrying the light of education and as ardent and determined propagandists for the party line.

10002

CSO: 2100

EAST GERMANY

SED FUNCTIONARY ADDRESSES CULTURAL LEAGUE

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 23 Sep 77 p 4 AU

[Speech by Kurt Hager, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee at the Ninth Congress of the GDR Culture League in Berlin on 22 September]

[Excerpts] The forces of imperialism hostile to detente wage the ideological class struggle with goals and methods directly opposed to the principles of peaceful coexistence. In this connection it is particularly our cultural policy which has become the target of anticommunist attacks. This is the case because it is so successful and because we have made such good progress in implementing it.

The FRG mass media, the politicians and ideologists of the bourgeois parties and of social democracy are making strenuous efforts to defame our cultural policy. They are spreading all kinds of lies and slander and are striving to make the cultural workers in the GDR insecure, and to create a psychosis of fear and hopelessness. When a few artists who either have for a long time adopted an estranged attitude toward socialism, such as Kunze, or who have lost their orientation, such as Krug left the GDR, the Western mass media have raised a great clamor about the "bloodletting of GDR culture," about the "drying up of the GDR cultural landscape," about a "contradiction between spirit and power," and so on and so forth. These were and are only cheap maneuvers to distract attention from the political and moral crisis phenomena in the FRG, from the cultural misery, from the growth of the Neo-Nazi. Reactionary trends, and the growing pressure against progressive, humanist forces. The forces hostile to detente are chiefly concerned with disrupting the relationship of trust in the GDR between the cultural workers, the party, and the state in the hope that they may thus find a basis for changing and eliminating the socialist system. In this they meet with support from West German intellectuals such as the writer Guenther Grass who, in the spirit of the social democratic ideology, recommends "democratic socialism," a change of socialism, to us. How about better concentrating his strength on curbing and breaking the power of the monopolies in the FRG and seeing to it that socialism effects a break-through in the FRG?

It can certainly happen that a cultural worker, a writer or an artist cannot cope with one problem or another; that he cannot grasp right away the complicated inter-relations which characterize life in our socialist society or the international situation. This is natural, and the Culture League can contribute a great deal toward clearing up the problems, helping to understand our time and the relations between the individual and society. It can prompt many initiatives for the active cooperation of all cultural workers in implementing the Ninth SED Congress decisions and in continuing the socialist cultural revolution.

As far as those are concerned, however, who in the bourgeois press of the capitalist countries instead of the real, existing socialism--real because it is in line with the actual possibilities--frequently advocate an "improved socialism," a "socialism with a slightly different character," a "human socialism" and whatever all those words are. They should not only study what the "Manifesto of the Communist Party," Chapter Three, has to say about bourgeois, petit bourgeois, and so-called "true" socialism but also the words of Johannes R. Becher: "what is outdated dresses itself up as the new thing in order not to be detected in its hiding places."

No: we have no "dried up cultural landscape," our socialist culture is growing increasingly richer and multifarious, and nobody will ever succeed in destroying the relationship of trust between our party and the cultural and art workers. This relationship of trust grew in the joint struggle of the German communists and socialists with the Anti-Fascist writers and artists against Hitler and Fascism, and in cooperation with such important representatives of humanist culture as Thomans and Heinrich Mann, Bertolt Brecht, Friedrich Wolf and others.

The relationship of trust between the party of the workers class and the artists has deep roots in the history of the revolutionary movement and the fact that writer and artists can influence the life of the people by artistic strength. Party-mindedness and close links with the people contributes to this. This alliance is indestructible because it is in the interests of the workers class and its Marxist-Leninist party, which could not fully perform his historical mission without this. And it is in the interest of the art workers because a higher development of art and culture would be unthinkable without the alliance with the most progressive social force: the workers class and its Marxist-Leninist party.

CSO: 2300

EAST GERMANY

MUECKENBERGER ADDRESSES ANTIFASCIST RALLY IN BERLIN

East Berlin Domestic Television Service in German 0911 GMT 11 Sep 77 DW

[Speech by Erich Mueckenberger, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and member of the Presidium of the Committee of Antifascist Resistance Fighters, at a mass rally on 11 September 1977 in Berlin's Bebel Square in memory of the victims of Fascism--live]

[Text] Dear Berliners, dear comrades of the antifascist resistance fight, comrades and friends: In this traditional square of mass rallies in the capital of the German Democratic Republic, Berlin, we have gathered together to honor, jointly with resistance fighters from various European countries, the numerous victims of fascist arbitrary rule and of the war of annexation of German imperialism. Forever will the heroes of the antifascist resistance fight who gave their lives for freedom, justice and democracy have a worthy place in the history of our people and the peoples of Europe. Forever will their names be mentioned together with those of the heroes of the Soviet Army and the other armies of the anti-Hitler coalition. We convey from this rally our combat greetings to all resistance fighters against fascism and imperialist war in all countries of this globe. [applause]

In accordance with the oath of Buchenwald, Mauthausen, Brandenburg, and Dachau we will in antifascist solidarity continue working actively for the preservation of peace, the continuation of the policy of detente, the policy of success of peaceful coexistence, for freedom and the happiness of peoples. [applause] Dear Berliners, this year's commemoration of the struggle against fascism and imperialist war is under the slogan "In the spirit of Red October we are fulfilling the legacy of antifascist resistance fighters for socialism and peace." [applause] Under the leadership of the united party of the working class, now and forever linked to the country of Lenin, we have in hard class struggles made good use of the chance of liberation, putting an end to the exploitation of man by man, to the absence of rights and freedom of the workers--which still exists in capitalism, to the main obstacles to social progress. In our country the roots of new imperialist wars of aggression have been forever eradicated, the power of workers and peasants has been set up, and the road of development of socialist democracy has been embarked upon.

Today we are jointly building the evolved socialist society, creating the basic requirements for gradual transition to the building of communism. Inspired by the clarity of the main task set, its unity of economic and social policy, our workers have been attaining great achievements in socialist competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of Red October, acting in line with the tested principle "The stronger socialism is, the safer is peace." [applause] Aware of the fact that the German Democratic Republic can develop only in the unswerving alliance with the Soviet Union as a socialist, sovereign, and internationally respected state, we have created a state in which youth are growing into inflexible fighters for the cause of democracy and socialism in a spirit of socialist patriotism and proletarian internationalism, in the spirit of antifascist resistance fighters, in love of their own socialist fatherland and respect for all peoples and races, emulating such model antifascist resistance fighters as Ernst Thaelmann and Rudolf Breitscheid. [applause]

In the socialist German Democratic Republic the legacy of the antifascist resistance fight is in good hands and has been implemented systematically. [applause] With golden letters the Soviet Union and the other socialist states, through their solidarity, have entered their names in the book of history. In these 60 years, the epoch of transition of mankind from capitalism to communism, the reality of socialism has become a source of strength to the whole of mankind, to peace and social progress. [applause] It is thanks to the Soviet Union that peace in Europe has been insured for as long as 32 years now. [applause]

Yet none of us, friends and comrades, ignores the fact that every step forward can only be made in a hard class struggle, that those forces who do not want to put up with the successes of the policy of detente and peaceful coexistence, as before, are conjuring up serious dangers to mankind. Their opposition to peace and detente is combined with an ever intensifying anticommunism and anti-Sovietism. These most reactionary forces of imperialism disagree with the policy of detente. They are therefore stepping up the arms race, trying to bring the world back to the brink of Cold War.

At this rally, too, on behalf of the entire people of the German Democratic Republic, we are raising our voices to accuse those NATO strategists and representatives of the military-industrial complex who for the sake of their billion-dollar profits are ready to conjure up the peril of an atomic inferno on our globe. We declare: Those initiating a new escalation of the arms race through the production of neutron bombs and other mass annihilation weapons are enemies of the life of man, enemies of the happiness of peoples, for it is only in peace that happiness and prosperity can flourish. [applause]

Every honest man is disgusted when the advocates of rearmament hide behind defamation of the Soviet Union and the socialist community of states, idly talking of an alleged military threat to their so-called free world while

hypocritically pointing to freedom, democracy, and human rights. Quite apart from the fact that these are no abstract philosophical categories to us but class-related concepts and contents expressing specific class positions, it has long been proved historically that since the days of Red October it became possible for the first time in the country of Lenin, to proceed from the mere declaration--which is still customary in capitalism today--to the implementation of freedom, democracy, and human rights. [applause]

The appeal of communist and workers parties against the neutron bomb, against the arms mania, shows clearly that when human life, humanism and peace are at stake, it was and is the communists who were and are fighting on the front, because socialism and peace are one. [applause] On the solid basis of the peace program of the 25th CPSU Congress and the Ninth SED Congress, as well as the congresses of the other fraternal parties and the document of the Conference of European Communist and Worker Parties of June 1976, we will, together with all forces acting for peace, intensify our efforts in the struggle for the defense of peace, to restrain the forces of revanchism and neonazism. [applause]

We share the alarm of the comrades of the Federation of International Resistance Fighters, and especially of those in the Federal Republic, at the nationalism spreading in the Federal Republic of Germany, at the falsification of history by the present Hitler wave in the mass media, the production of Hitler films and films of other Nazi bigshots, some of which have even been classified as especially valuable. The Federal Republic is about to turn into a Kappler republic. This has become manifest by the really incredible words of the Lueneburg prosecutor: According to FRG laws, Kappler is a free man.

In the forefront of those expressing their deep disgust and their passionate protest over the escape of mass murderer Kappler, organized by his partisans, from an Italian prison to the Federal Republic are the people of the German Democratic Republic. The escape of Kappler and the close cooperation of neonazi forces in Western Europe are not a trifle but an alarm signal that must be taken seriously. They prove that nationalist, revanchist, and fascist quarters feel strong again, those forces which twice in this century plunged Europe and the world into fatal catastrophes and, for the sake of their profits, totally destroyed half of Europe. These same people, however, are discrediting, pressurizing, and imposing vocational bans on antifascist resistance fighters and victims of fascism and their sons and daughters. Nazi criminals and SS mass murderers are being put in limited custody or are being released: neonazis are being given official responsibilities, are organizing public meetings and are being protected by the state. All this is reason enough to enhance our vigilance, which we are determined to do, in order to contribute, together with all progressive forces, to definitely defeating all machinations of the enemies of peace and socialism, all advocates of revanchism and neonazism. [applause]

Such an attitude is in keeping with our political responsibility. We therefore back the protest of the International Federation of Resistance Fighters addressed to the United Nations. In it all governments are called upon to direct public attention more than heretofore to the dangers of the renaissance of nazism and racial intolerance, to counteract it, to remember the history of nazism and its crimes, and to put an end to the propagation of national socialist ideologies. We also fully agree with the Brussels declaration of European resistance fighters. Yes, dear Berliners, we are proud of the fact that everyone, from whatever country he may come, can convince himself here in the German Democratic Republic: in our worker-peasant state there is no room for neonazism, racism, and warmongering. [applause]

Our state policy is focused on the well-being of the working class, of all citizens of the German Democratic Republic. The fulfillment of our Five-Year Plan as well as peace serve their well-being. The citizens of the German Democratic Republic are looking into the future optimistically, living in social security, and knowing neither unemployment nor crises and inflation. In peaceful competition, closely allied with the socialist community of states, they are aiming at making the all-round superiority of socialism and communism over capitalism more obvious. Friends and comrades, the resistance fighters in the German Democratic Republic are unanimously backing the proposal for the convocation of a world meeting of resistance fighters, war victims, and war veterans for disarmament. And they will also be a good host of the meeting beginning tomorrow of the coordinating committee of the European symposium of war veterans and former resistance fighters for disarmament. We greet all participants in this meeting. [applause]

In this ceremonious hour we are renewing our commitment, our fraternal solidarity with all those fighting for freedom, national sovereignty, democracy and social progress, with all those who therefore are being persecuted and imprisoned. Four years ago today, mankind suddenly, shockingly realized anew that fascism still is a real danger. In Chile its partisans overthrew the legal government, assassinated the president, Comrade Salvador Allende, and set up one of the cruelest dictatorships. We use the Week of International Solidarity with Chile to convey to the courageous Chilean patriots our fraternal greetings, assuring them from this rostrum that we stand by them in firmness and solidarity and will spare no efforts until their just cause has won. [applause]

Our greetings are for all those who, as in Vietnam and Laos after a decade-long hard struggle full of sacrifices, now can start building the most just social system, socialism, in their countries. We tell all of them: Our solidarity continues. [applause]

Friends and comrades, the people of the German Democratic Republic are happy in the 60th year of Red October to be allied with the country of Lenin by inseparable ties, and they also are happy to see that this alliance

was bolstered anew at this year's Crimea meeting of the general secretaries of the SED Central Committee, our Comrade Erich Honecker, and of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev. [applause] On this granite foundation, all-round cooperation between the USSR and the GDR is being built, relations between the CPSU and the SED are strengthening, and our friendship is strengthening and deepening. In this way, dear Berliners, we are actively struggling, jointly with all progressive forces, for the further improvement of the political climate on the European continent; we are struggling jointly for the implementation and strict observance of the principles and provisions of the Final Act of Helsinki as a whole; we are loving, strengthening, and protecting our socialist fatherland; we are implementing the legacy of antifascist resistance fighters, all those immortal victims of the struggle against fascism and imperialist war. In this sense, friends and comrades, let us go on marching jointly forward! [applause]

CSO: 2300

EAST GERMANY

TORRIJOS, HONECKER EXCHANGE MESSAGES ON PANAMA CANAL TREATY SIGNING

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 13 Sep 77 p 2 AU

[ADN report from Berlin: "Panama Expresses Gratitude for Resolute Support"]

[Text] The chief of government of Panama, Brig Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera, on the occasion of the signing of the Panama Canal Treaty, sent a telegram to Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, which says in part: "The government and people of Panama express gratitude for the firm and resolute support accorded by your people and government to the struggle for our just cause."

Erich Honecker affirmed in a reply telegram to Brigadier General Torrijos: "The people of the GDR feel pleasure and satisfaction at what you expressed in your telegram, namely, that with the signing of the treaty the final stage of the elimination of the colonial enclave has begun. Rest assured that the GDR will continue to give solid support to the just struggle of the people of Panama for national independence, for the full exercise of their sovereign rights over the entire territory of Panama, and for attaining complete control over their national natural resources."

CSO: 2300

EAST GERMANY

LEADERS GREET VIETNAM, DPRK COUNTERPARTS ON NATIONAL HOLIDAY

Message to SRV Leaders

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 2 Sep 77 p 1 AU

[Greetings message from Erich Honecker, Stoph, and Sindermann to SRV leaders on the SRV's national holiday]

[Text] To Comrade Le Duan, general secretary of the Vietnam Communist Party [VCP] Central Committee;

To Comrade Ton Duc Than, president of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV];

To Comrade Truong-Chinh, chairman of the Standing Committee of the SRV National Assembly;

To Comrade Pham Van Dong, premier of the SRV, Hanoi:

Esteemed comrades, on the occasion of the SRV's national holiday we convey most cordial congratulations and fraternal greetings to you, the VCP Central Committee, the National Assembly, the SRV Government and the fraternal Vietnamese people on behalf of the SED Central Committee, the State Council, the Council of Ministers, the People's Chamber and the people of the GDR.

As a result of the victorious August revolution of 1945 the Vietnamese people, under the leadership of the glorious VCP and its founder, the unforgotten and highly esteemed Comrade Ho Chi Minh, created the first worker-peasant state in Southeast Asia.

With great readiness to make sacrifices and with heroism the Vietnamese people, relying on the universal internationalist aid and support of the states of the socialist community, have scored outstanding results in the struggle against imperialist aggression and internal reaction as well as in building the foundations of socialism. With the complete liberation

of South Vietnam in April 1975 and the establishment of the SRV in July 1976, a new phase in the history of the Vietnamese people was initiated--the building of socialism in all of Vietnam.

Full of initiative and enthusiasm, the workers class, the peasantry and the intelligentsia of the SRV are achieving outstanding results in implementing the historical decisions of the Fourth VCP Congress. Together with you we sincerely welcome the successes scored by the Vietnamese people in fulfilling their great and complicated tasks.

The SRV occupies a respected position in international life. Together with the states of the socialist community the SRV is making an important contribution to further strengthening socialism, peace and security in the world. The SRV is proving to be an important factor of peace and progress in Asia and throughout the world, especially with its endeavors to develop good-neighborly relations with the countries of Southeast Asia.

To our great satisfaction the traditional fraternal relations and the close comradely cooperation between our parties, states and peoples are developing on the firm foundation of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, on the basis of the unbreakable friendship with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist states.

We assure you, dear Vietnamese comrades, that we will continue to make every effort to further deepen the close cooperation and fraternal solidarity between the GDR and the SRV.

With all our heart we wish the fraternal Vietnamese people further successes in the purposeful continuation of socialist construction, in solving the new magnificent tasks, and we wish you personally the best of health, energy and well-being for your responsible work.

[Signed] Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council;

Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers;

Horst Sindermann, chairman of the GDR People's Chamber.

Message to DPRK Leaders

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 9 Sep 77 p 1 AU

[Text] To Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Korean Workers Party [KWP] Central Committee and president of the DPRK; Comrade Pak Songchol, chairman of the DPRK Administration Council, Pyongyang.

Esteemed comrades! On the occasion of the 29th anniversary of the founding of the DPRK, on behalf of the SED Central Committee, the State Council, the Council of Ministers, and the people of the GDR, as well as in our own name, we convey to you, the KWP Central Committee, the Administration Council and the people of the DPRK most cordial greetings and congratulations.

Within a historically brief period the working people of your country, under the leadership of the KWP and based on the fraternal aid of the Soviet Union and the other states of the socialist community, have created a socialist industrial state with a developed agriculture. Following the fulfillment ahead of schedule of the Six-Year Plan for the development of the national economy adopted by the Fifth KWP Congress, the working people of your country are now successfully tackling the resolution of new great tasks in establishing the socialist society.

We must cordially congratulate you and all Korean working people on the important achievements of the DPRK in strengthening socialism.

The GDR, guided by the principles of proletarian internationalism and jointly with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist states, supports the just demands of the Korean people for the complete withdrawal of all foreign troops from the Korean Peninsula.

We are firmly convinced that the friendly relations between our parties, states and peoples, based on the foundation of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, will continue to develop and deepen in the interest of socialism and peace.

We wish you, esteemed comrades, and the people of the DPRK new great successes in socialist construction and in the struggle for the legitimate interests of the Korean people.

[Signed] Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council;

Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers.

CSO: 2300

EAST GERMANY

HONECKER GREETS ETHIOPIAN, LIBYAN LEADERS ON THEIR NATIONAL DAY

Message to Ethiopia's Mengistu

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 12 Sep 77 p 2 AU

[GDR message, signed by Erich Honecker, to Ethiopia's provisional government chairman, Mengistu Haile Mariam]

[Text] To the chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Socialist Ethiopia, Comrade Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, Addis Ababa.

Highly esteemed Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam:

On the occasion of the third anniversary of the Ethiopian people's victory over feudalism, I convey to you, to the Provisional Military Administrative Council and all Ethiopian people, the most cordial congratulations of the SED Central Committee, the State Council, the government and the people of the GDR.

The far-reaching political and socioeconomic transformations that are being implemented by Ethiopia's revolutionary forces to the benefit of the working people, against the embittered resistance of the counterrevolution and the reaction, are being followed in the GDR with genuine sympathy and great respect.

The GDR continues to stand in solidarity at the side of revolutionary Ethiopia, whose people are waging a courageous struggle for a new life in freedom, with equal rights and without exploitation, and who are resolutely defending the achievements of the revolution.

We wish the Ethiopian people, their revolutionary leadership and you, esteemed Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, new successes in implementing the ideals of the Ethiopian revolution.

With socialist greetings,

[Signed] E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, Berlin, 12 September 1977.

Telegram to Al-Qadhdhafi

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 1 Sep 77 p 1 AU

[GDR state telegram, signed by Erich Honecker, to Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi on Libyan Revolution Anniversary]

[Text] To His Excellency Col Mu'ammarr Al-Qadhdhafi, secretary general of the General People's Congress of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah, Tripoli.

On the occasion of the eighth anniversary of the revolution of 1 September, I convey to you, Your Excellency, to the General People's Congress and the people of the Libyan Arab socialist people's state cordial congratulations on behalf of the SED Central Committee, the State Council and the GDR people, as well as in my own name.

With the revolution of 1 September the Libyan people made a substantial contribution to the anti-imperialist struggle and successfully embarked on the road of progressive political, economic and social changes.

I should like to express my conviction that the friendly relations and co-operation between our peoples and states in the struggle for peace and social progress, against imperialism, neocolonialism and racism will continue to develop and strengthen.

I wish the friendly Libyan people new successes in building their country, and you, Your Excellency, good health and personal well-being.

[Signed] Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council.

On the same occasion Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, has sent congratulations to Abd al'Ati al-Ubaydi, chairman of the General People's Committee of the Libyan General People's Congress.

CSO: 2300

EAST GERMANY

SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVED BY HONECKER, STOPH

Meeting With Honecker

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 17-18 Sep 77 p 1 AU

[ADN report from Berlin: "Erich Honecker Received Sweden's Foreign Minister"]

[Text] Erich Honecker, chairman of the GDR State Council, on Friday [16 September] received Karin Soder, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Sweden, who is currently on an official visit to the GDR.

During the talk it was noted with satisfaction that relations between the GDR and Sweden are steadily developing to the benefit of the two peoples and European peace. The partners in the talk expressed readiness to expand bilateral cooperation in the future to their mutual benefit.

Erich Honecker informed Karin Soder about GDR foreign policy, which is aimed at securing a durable peace and the stabilization of detente. He stressed in this connection the contribution of the GDR to implementation of the Final Act of Helsinki as a whole.

The State Council chairman explained the successes of the GDR working people in strengthening the economic power of their country as a prerequisite for the further increase of the material and cultural living standard of the people.

Oskar Fischer, foreign minister; Heinz Eichler, secretary of the State Council; and Dr Wolfgang Kiesewetter, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the GDR to Sweden, participated in the talk, which proceeded in an open and friendly atmosphere. Eric Virgin, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Sweden to the GDR, also was present.

Stoph Reception, Other Activities

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 17-18 Sep 77 p 2 AU

[Report on Swedish Foreign Minister Karin Soder's activities in Berlin on 16 September]

[Text] Berlin (ND)--On Friday Willi Stoph, Chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, received for a talk Mrs Karin Soder, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Sweden, who is paying an official visit to the GDR at the invitation of Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer.

The two interlocutors agreed in assessing Foreign Minister Soder's visit as an important contribution to the further development of good-neighborly relations between the GDR and Sweden on the foundation of the Final Act of Helsinki. Willi Stoph stressed that the cooperation between the two states in various fields, especially economic fields, has smoothly developed in line with the concluded agreements, and that favorable possibilities exist for its expansion to their mutual benefit. The Swedish foreign minister advocated further development of the mutually advantageous relations in various fields, including trade.

The talk--which passed in an open-minded, friendly climate--was attended on the GDR side by Oskar Fischer, minister of foreign affairs; Ewald Moldt, deputy minister of foreign affairs; and Dr Wolfgang Kiesewetter, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the GDR to Sweden. For Sweden, Eric Virgin, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Sweden to the GDR, attended the talk.

On Friday morning Karin Soder visited the 23d Higher School in the Prenzlauer Berg District of Berlin City. Being a pedagog herself, she informed herself with great interest about the teaching of music, mathematics, chemistry and sports, and later inspected a kindergarten and a nursery.

On Friday afternoon the Swedish foreign minister visited the Postdam Bezirk City. Mrs Soder inspected the historical memorial Cecilienhof, where 32 years ago the Potsdam Agreement was signed. Her program included a tour of the Sans Souci Castle and the New Palace.

At a Berlin press conference Mrs Soder stressed that she would return with very positive impression from her first visit to a socialist country. The discussions with GDR representatives on questions of disarmament, the preparation of the Belgrade meeting, the situation in southern Africa and in the Middle East, as well as on Swedish--GDR cooperation in the framework of the United Nations were very useful, she said.

Concerning the forthcoming Belgrade meeting, Karin Soder said Sweden did not want any confrontation but was interested in a constructive and positive climate. She said that she was most deeply convinced that the GDR Government is interested in good relations with its neighbors, including

Sweden. The joint striving for peace and good-neighborliness is a sound foundation for the further development of relations between the two countries, she declared. Turning to bilateral relations between Sweden and the GDR, Karin Soder declared that she envisaged possibilities for further cooperation, especially in the fields of economy, trade and technology.

In the evening the Swedish foreign minister attended a performance of Andrey Petrov's ballet "The Creation of the World" at the German State Opera.

CSO: 2300

EAST GERMANY

BRIEFS

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC LAUDED--Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council conveyed cordial congratulations on the 15th anniversary of the founding of the Yemen Arab Republic to Lt Col Ibrahim Muhammad al-Hamadi, chairman of the Command Council of the Yemen Arab Republic. It says in the state telegram: "I combine with this my best wishes for the further successful development of the Yemen Arab Republic for the benefit of its people." On the same occasion Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, sent a congratulatory telegram to 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al Ghani, premier of the Yemen Arab Republic: [Text] [East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 26 Sep 77 p 2 AU]

CSO: 2300

POLAND

DAILY COMMENTS ON NON-PROLIFERATION EFFORTS

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 24-25 Sep 77 p 2

[Article by Ryszard Drecki]

[Text] The communique released after the last meeting of the group called the "Club of London" was exceptionally laconic; it was only several dozen words long. Nevertheless, it testified that this informal international body is continuing its task, which is lacking in publicity (the principle of confidentiality of debates and decisions is in force here), but is extremely important.

The "Club of London" was created two years ago and now has as its members 15 highly developed countries, among whom are four nuclear powers (the USSR, the USA, Great Britain, and France) and Poland. The basic subject of the work of these "fifteen" are problems and decisions involving nuclear exports--materials, equipment, and technology. To be precise, it is a matter of regulating the conditions of this export to countries not having nuclear weapons in such a way as to create guarantees that the importing states will exploit the equipment, materials, or know-how sold to them only for peaceful purposes.

The necessity for undertaking efforts aimed in this direction arose from a number of considerations. First, at the current level of technology, countries which have acquired, basically for peaceful purposes, a body of material means and know-how in the nuclear area can without any great difficulty transform this base in a manner creating the conditions for nuclear weapons production.

Second, it has emerged that there are countries which, while very willingly importing nuclear technology, leave considerable doubts--to put it mildly--about how they plan to use it (e.g. Israel, the Republic of South Africa).

Simultaneously, practice has proven that these states also find suppliers, especially among certain West European countries. Some of these transactions even stirred apprehensions whether the exporters (though currently not possessing nuclear weapons) did not desire to produce them in a roundabout way--by a system of cooperation on the territory of the importing state.

In these circumstances, it became obvious that the international organization charged with monitoring compliance with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty signed back in the sixties, namely the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] in Vienna, was ceasing to suffice. Accurate delineation on the conditions for export and import of nuclear weapons, which the "Club of London" is working on, should, therefore, somewhat supplement and strengthen the basis of action of the IAEA. This compels us to see the "fifteen" as one of the major instruments acting against an increase in the number of states having atomic weapons.

The communique after the last meeting in London indicated that the countries participating in the Club will inform the Director General of the IAEA about the documents to which they have agreed to date and will present separately their views on the subject of creating a nuclear export policy suited to current requirements. In this announcement we can discern a signal that at the last meeting there was some progress in improving the principles of nuclear export through closer cooperation with the IAEA and through more effective ways of counteracting attempts to violate the unimpeachable principles of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The participation of Poland in the group of the "fifteen" can be for us a source of undoubted satisfaction, as proof of the recognition of the role played by our country in the attempt to strengthen international peace. Poland participates in the efforts of the London forum in a very active manner, acting on the supposition that the matters examined there touch upon subjects vital to our national security and the security of all the socialist countries, and vital for the preservation of the peace of Europe and the world.

CSO: 2600

POLAND

FUNCTIONING OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONS EXAMINED

Warsaw RADA NARODOWA, GOSPODARKA, ADMINISTRACJA in Polish No 16, 30 Jul 77
pp 4-5

[Article signed "A.K.": "The Council of State Evaluation of the People's Councils Commissions Activities"]

[Text] On 7 July of this year the Council of State conducted an evaluation of the experience and of the effects of activities of the people's councils commissions. The Council of State concluded that the new two echelon structure of people's councils assures favorable conditions for the commissions to perform the functions entrusted to them and that those tasks are discharged very effectively. The Council of State indicated at the same time the basic goals which should be served by further efforts of the commissions and, in this context, the basic thrust of the commissions social impact.

The matter of the people's councils commissions activities, presented for the first time to the Council of State, was submitted as a document summarizing the entirety of commissions' initiatives, experiences and achievements and also of the still existing difficulties and needs. The intent was to present as fully as possible the role actually performed by them and their participation in the fulfilment of political, organizational and legal tasks of people's councils at the voivodship, city and town levels.

This approach and these objectives were also approved by the Commission for People's Councils which, prior to the session of the Council of State, chose this matter to be the subject of its own analysis. The product of that analysis, that is the observations, the remarks and the position of the Commission, enriched the contents of information and the conclusions drawn from research and analytical material.

A series of substantive and organizational actions were undertaken which assured the achievement of as complete as possible presentation of the functioning of the commission system at both levels of the people's councils:

-- the information on the subject prepared by the voivodship people's councils offices in the Gdansk, Elblag, Katowice, Krosno, Lomza, Olsztyn, Opole and Poznan voivodships was used; this information depicted the scope, direction, form and effects of commissions' efforts at the voivodship and the basic people's council levels in each of these voivodships; the offices of other voivodship level people's councils also cooperated by providing supplementary information.

-- the Secretariat of the Council of State, in order to broaden the coverage of the material, performed a problem oriented analysis of the social activities of people's councils and their subordinate bodies from the national point of view; this effort permitted to obtain rich comparative material informing about the scope, frequency and effects of work and initiatives undertaken in the field;

-- the results of research on the activities of councilmen, presidiums and commissions conducted in a few dozen towns and cities at the initiative of the Organizational Section of the Central Committee of PZPR were helpful and provided many specific examples of commissions' work;

-- the voivodship people's councils presidiums in Jelenia Gora and Zamosc submitted directly their own evaluations of the problem at the session of the Commission for People's Councils of the Council of State; the analysis performed by the Commission was enriched by additional observations and proposals of the following chairmen who participated in the deliberations: chairman of the Grajewo, Lomza voivodship, city and township people's council, chairman of the Glogowek, Opole voivodship, city and township People's Council, chairman of the Economic Development and Spatial Planning Commission of the Jelenia Gora Voivodship People's Council and chairman of the Agricultural Production Commission of the Zamosc Voivodship People's Council.

The sum of these actions served to depict more fully the matter submitted to the Council of State and to develop conclusions regarding the future activities of the people's councils commissions.

Against the background of the evaluation conducted by the Council of State, there are two general problems which attracted attention and which were the main topic and purpose of the Council deliberations.

First, to obtain an answer, documented by definite results of research and analysis, to the following question of interest to the Council of State: to what extent and to what degree the reformed two level structure of the people's councils assured efficiency and effectiveness of the functioning of the commission system and which factors determine and condition the extent and effectiveness of their functioning?

Second, to define and to indicate the basic direction of further efforts by the commissions which would help activate their work and serve to fully realize the socio-economic tasks of the people's councils and that would satisfy the needs of the population.

On the basis of the review of experience to date and of the achievements of the commissions at both levels of people's councils, the Council of State concluded that they perform their functions and tasks of auxiliary organs of people's councils better and more effectively than before the reform. The character and the type of the matters dealt with by the commissions testifies to their growing role and the extent of their impact. These matters, as a rule, are of great significance to the socio-economic development in the field, and their results serve ever more effectively to solve local production and organizational problems.

It is a positive phenomenon that the audits initiated by the commissions are becoming more extensive and comprehensive and, at the same time, more effective. It is also noteworthy that this process is accompanied by the improved inquisitiveness of audits and, generally, correct selection of their objectives and subjects. One's optimism is especially encouraged by the observed trend of more frequent audit initiatives by commissions at the basic level of people's councils. In 1976 they conducted almost 52,000 audits and this year plans indicate that this function will be strengthened. It is important that these actions be directed toward the tasks which are most important for the development and management of townships and cities; mostly these are the matters dealing with the solution of everyday problems of agriculture, commerce, supply and services. It is estimated that these fields constitute over 50 percent of all actions undertaken by the commissions of the basic level councils.

The Council of State evaluated positively the growing degree of social supervision by the commissions of the government-citizen relationship aspect of the field work of the executive branch officials and of their handling of complaints, suggestions and requests by the populace. The Council of State indicated that there is a well justified social need to intensify commissions' initiatives in this field and, at the same time, emphasized the necessity to increase the frequency and the inquisitiveness of commissions' audits of the administration.

The increased legislative initiatives of the commissions, accompanying the audit activities, were received with approval. Last year, the People's Councils commissions produced 83,727 resolutions out of which over 6,000 were produced by the commissions at the voivodship level and almost 78,000 by the Gromada People's Councils commissions of townships and cities, the city section people's councils and the municipal people's councils. To the predominant degree, the resolutions addressed important matters of local character and not infrequently contained proposals for correct solutions or actions. This is confirmed by the fact that over 90 percent of problems and tasks brought up by the resolutions were accepted for action.

While pointing out the direction of future activization of the People's councils commissions, the Council of State emphasized the important role of legislative initiatives since they constitute the tool of strengthening the field activities leading to more efficient solution of local affairs and satisfaction of needs and to freeing of reserves. In view of these

directives of the Council of State, it is indispensable to improve the timeliness and the effectiveness of implementation of commissions' resolutions.

Of great importance for increasing the scope and effectiveness of the commissions' activities is the growing practice of common planning and implementation of tasks by a few commissions and the mutual contacts in various forms, which are growing stronger, between the voivodship and the basic councils commissions for the purpose of solving problems. For many councils, inter alia in the Katowice, Kielce, Olsztyn and Zamosc voivodships, such mode of operation is a permanent practice which brings measurable social and economic benefits.

The Council of State also emphasized the essential importance for and impact on social effectiveness of commissions; initiatives, of the cooperation with other social links in the field: labor unions, social organization, organs of local self-government of workers, inhabitants of towns and cities, cooperatives and also with the units of state audit. Development of more universal principles of permanent and planned cooperation among those organs will have a beneficial influence of further progress in this field and will broaden the social impact.

The especially positive phenomenon cited by the Council of State evaluation is the ever greater use of commissions' efforts and achievements in the actions of people's councils. This is reflected both in the field of determining the direction of socio-economic development of voivodships, cities and townships, mainly in the process of development of multi-year and annual growth plans, and in the field of implementation of planned tasks where the commissions routinely supervise the implementation of councils' resolutions and decisions. This way the natural ties and the cohesive functioning of the representative system are routinely assured and at the same time this encourages the enrichment and strengthening of the functions of councils and commissions.

Among the factors influencing further improvement of the functioning of people's councils commissions, the important one will be to develop a system for providing help to the commissions by councils' service units, by organs of the executive authorities, by appropriate labor organizations and by the personal initiatives of the commissions collectives. There is a need in this area for the more effective action of responsible field units, for the greater discipline and reliability in the implementation of many tasks and for the improvement in work organization of many commissions.

Under these circumstances, the role performed by the council presidia in coordinating commissions' work acquires special importance. In light of the current practice, the activity and the direction of commissions' work and also the effectiveness of their work are directly related to the degree of interest the presidia take in their problems. This is reflected in the overall participation of councilmen in activities with the voters and in the degree of implementation of planned tasks. The Council of State

emphasized in their evaluation the importance of the extent and permanence of help given to the commissions by the presidia.

While we are giving only the advance notice of the main points of the evaluation conducted by the Council of State and of the general sense of their conclusions which serve to shape further activities of the commissions, we desire to point out that the results of the session will be broadly distributed and made available to people's councils of both levels through a separate publications of the Office of the Council of State.

8801

CSO: 2600

WYSOCKI COMMENTS ON BELGRADE PREPARATORY MEETING

Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish No 196, 20-21 Aug 77 p 6

[Article by Adam W. Wysocki, deputy editor-in-chief]

[Text] Mischievous journalists say that this meeting would have lasted goodness knows how long, were it not that a certain enterprising person rose and said: "Gentlemen, it is time to get it finished for the contract concluded with the team of translators is coming to its end...."

Without interpreters, the further debates of the representatives of the ministers of foreign affairs from the 35 states of Europe, from the United States, and from Canada would certainly be useless. Not so much because of the ignorance of foreign languages among the groups of experts assembled there, but because of disputes, sometimes lasting many days, relative to the most correct interpretation of each of the agreed words in the text that was the subject of the debates of the delegations.

Even from the official press communiques we could gather how long it took to discuss even such, it would seem, insignificant differences in words as "but," "however," or "albeit," and their corresponding meaning in all the languages binding on the participants of the meeting. The finding of such single-valued, common tenor in all formulations discussed by the experts has been in this case indeed of an essential importance.

As is well known, many days and weeks had elapsed before the text was finally ready and has satisfied (more or less) all the participants. It took an enormous amount of exchange of opinions, plenary meetings, and--perhaps actually more important--lobbying, various consultations, and conventicles, as they are being called in official and semiofficial diplomatic language.

Differences of opinions resulted--let us say it at once--not only from semantics which was often simply a pretext to conceal or to reveal, depending on the necessity, the essential differences between the partners who sat down together at Belgrade, in order to clear the ground fully on the merits of the case for the fundamental and therefore political meeting.

Thus, after almost 2 months' preliminary discussions, we know at present, more or less accurately, that the basic Belgrade 77 Meeting should end around 22 December 1977, just before the Christmas holidays, and that it should comprise 19 plenary sessions and 78 meetings in 5 working committees, each of which will have to deal with a well-defined group of matters and problems connected with European security, economic cooperation, humanitarian problems, situation in the area of the Mediterranean Sea, and with the expected consequences of the Belgrade encounters.

The fact that the phase of discussions and procedural arguings have ended in principle permits us to hope that the attention of the participants of the fall-winter encounters will be able to concentrate exactly on this most factual subject matter. The organizers, however, are rather cautious and chose, as is well known, to establish an additional "emergency" term that would permit, if needed, the continuation of discussions from 15 January 1978 through 15 February 1978.

Touchstone of State of Mind and Attitudes

Undoubtedly right are those observers who consider the recently concluded preliminary meeting as a kind of a test before the forthcoming next phase of the encounter that is being conventionally defined as Belgrade 77. As a matter of fact, it has been, for the public at large, a very essential test of intentions, state of mind, as well as of very concrete attitudes of all the participants and signatories of the Conference on European Security and Cooperation.

Helsinki, which became an outward symbol of the consolidation of detente processes and peace trends on our Continent have exerted a definite influence both in Europe and in the world. On one side they raised some hopes among human societies, whereas on the other side, among a definite group of politicians, they aroused ever stronger apprehensions about potential effects which may ensue and which are being already brought about by the "Great Chart of Peace" signed at Helsinki. This explains such a decisive ideological counteroffensive which we witnessed on the part of the conservative circles of all shades. This also caused the attempt to block the process of rapprochement and understanding among nations through a pharisaical campaign around human rights, rights, which can be respected and developed only in the atmosphere of a decrease and not an increase of political, economic and social tensions. This is an old truth, and it is also well known by those who--to use a Biblical simile--so willingly see "the speck in one's brother's eye without taking notice even of the log in their own eye."

To professional defenders of individual human rights, as a painful ricochet, rebounding upon them are questions asked by their own societies of the Western World such as the guarantees of basic human rights to work, to education, to one's own apartment, and the feeling of personal security, not

to speak about the real freedom of world outlook and conscience, which, for example, in the fatherland of classical parliamentary freedoms, Great Britain, in the case of Catholics and Protestants, is every day and bloodily violated, like in the Middle Ages.

The people in, for example, such a country as Federal Republic of Germany, have begun to scrutinize very attentively who are those most fervent "defenders of human rights," and came to the conclusion that such persons as Franz Josef Strauss or Herbert Hupka, even though they shout loudest, are not quite proper persons as advocates of human rights.

Likewise the new American administration, which has embarked with such vehemence upon probably the greatest campaign about these rights since the Cold War has clearly lost its impetus in the presence of an increasing criticism of its own society which has been waiting for many years for the solution of over-swollen problems in America itself.

To say things in plain words, the whole campaign, has been planned and prepared elaborately by consummate specialists of psychological and ideological diversion, and was calculated simply speaking to damage reputation or at least to cause serious embarrassment to adversaries, that is to us, socialist countries. On the other hand, the point was to divert attention of one's own public opinion from what is going on within one's bailiwick, by exaggerating and magnifying individual examples or some negative phenomena, unavoidable in any system, occurring in the East. The method of repeating steadily "you see how bad it is in other places" is generally effective but it won't last.

The Common Sense Prevails

Thus, even before the partners from the East and West, North and South, sat down to the table at Belgrade and began to shuffle their cards, it was already known that the card of those "human rights" given so much publicity by the above-mentioned Western advisers, is not at all the "trump card" that can decide upon the success of the Western partners. Political circles which sent their representatives to Belgrade were well aware of the fact that the East likewise has considerable "trumping" power, and that the confrontation about these problems is too dangerous to be worth taking risks. At least in the present situation in Europe and in the world.

We may, as it is being done by some important commentators of the West, look at this problem from a somewhat different viewpoint, and say that the agreement reached at Belgrade is a joint success of forces of realism and common sense over forces that stake upon confusion and discord. Both statements are certainly justified and are being confirmed by the observed events and facts.

This event and fact consist in that despite the previously mentioned differences and disparities, similarly as at Helsinki, it has been possible

at Belgrade as well, at least in this initial preparatory phase, to achieve that common denominator which continues to be so difficult to attain in the present world. The achievement of this common denominator was made possible by the common good will which, in the final account, fortunately prevailed. Good will is associated with both the sense of realism and the common sense, and with what is unavoidable in such cases: preparedness to compromise. Without mutual concessions, without paying greater attention to what bring states and nations closer together, and not to what separates them, the agreement could not be arrived at.

The Belgrade Consensus

The cards have been dealt. The bidding continues. The stake in this game, watched carefully by the whole world, is too big to resort to irresponsible bluffing instead of using arguments and realistic appraisals. Despite appearances, the world and the people still remember well the outcome of Hitler's policy based on the bluff and deluding the world into the belief of "the threat from the East."

The world remembers results of this policy not only for the Third Reich of Hitler but for the whole humanity as well and its dozens of millions of victims. It is no wonder that under these conditions the people are keeping such a watchful eye on politicians and governments, and say: "Gentlemen, if not peaceful coexistence, then what? May be a neutron bomb?"

Hence comes my own, and fortunately not only my own, moderate optimism, both after Belgrade and before Belgrade. Moderate, for it is difficult not to be aware of the fact that the opponents of peaceful coexistence and peaceful cooperation, despite their successive defeats, have not laid down their arms and do not intend in the least to concede their defeat. They have under their sleeves many cards which they will wish to throw on the table at an opportune moment. Keeping a watchful eye on their hands is still indicated. The thing is to thwart their plans timely and effectively.

The optimism which I would like to emphasize on the occasion of these post-Belgrade considerations results from the fact that it has been proved once more that not the gamblers, not even most of the experts with political cards in their sleeves, are the ones who, at present, have a decisive voice. If everything would proceed in accordance with their thoughts, there would be no Helsinki in the first place; secondly, there would be no agreement on the agenda of the next round of European peace-and-detente talks, which reach beyond the range of our Continent.

Many played-away, plain political cards under the Belgrade conference table, that seemed to be able, irrespective of realities, to play some important role. The only real trump recognized by the world and Europe is the agreement and cooperation of states and nations and not mutual threats, sterile disputes and dangerous balancing on the brink of confrontation.

1015

CSO: 2600

POLAND

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF POLISH WOMEN MEETING HELD

KRKP Meeting Held in Warsaw

Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 20 Sep 77 p 2

[Text] PAP--Women constitute nearly one-half of everyone employed in the socialized economy. There are 3.5 million women working in private farming and nearly a million run their farms alone. This reflects the fundamental changes in the social and professional status of women in our country.

The growing role of women in the life of the country is accompanied by the process of raising the level of their knowledge and qualifications. Today, over 55 percent of the workers with intermediate vocational education, nearly 70 percent with liberal education, and over 30 percent with a basic vocational education are women.

Awareness of the linkage which exists between the social-professional advancement and the growing responsibility of women for the fate of the country is an important task of the women's movement. For example, the basic direction of ideo-educational efforts of the League of Women (LK) is the popularization of the decisions of the Seventh PZPR Congress among the members.

The activity of the Rural Women's Circles (KGW) also plays an essential role in the shaping of the civic attitudes of women.

Women's civic training matters were the topic of the deliberations of the National Council of Polish Women (KRKP) which was held on 19 September in Warsaw, chaired by the Chairman of the KRKP, Eugenia Kempara.

During the deliberations, among others, a document was approved expressing solidarity of the Polish women with the heroic struggle of the Chilean nation against the fascist junta.

SLOWO POWSZECHNE Editorial

Warsaw SLOWO POWSZECHNE in Polish 24-25 Sep 77 p 1

[Editorial by (j.s.): "Issues Which Are Always Current"]

[Text] Last Monday, on 19 September 1977, a meeting was held in Warsaw of the National Council of Polish Women (KRKP). We did not participate in it and know about its content only from the PAP report which appeared in the press.

From that [report] it is evident that the deliberations were devoted to the shaping of the civic attitudes of the Polish women. Much was said also about the growing involvement of women in professional work and social activity, about the growth of their qualifications and aspirations, and about their continuously increasing contribution to the all-around development of our country.

That is all true. It is so obvious that perhaps there is no need to justify or to recall it. We also know that patriotic and civic involvement, social activeness, proper attitude toward public issues, professional work, and raising children--is certainly not lacking among the Polish women. It has always been like that and it is so today. They carry away these traits from the home, and the Church, in the case of believers, instills these traits in them, the school strengthens them, and the organizations to which they belong, the plants, and the professional circles develop them.

The fundamental difference between today and the past, which the majority of us yet remember well, is based on the fact that only People's Poland gave the woman the opportunity to tangibly incorporate herself in the stream of all issues vital to the nation and made possible the acquisition of knowledge and qualifications, development and advancement.

The problem lies elsewhere. Namely, on this that the woman entering the new areas of activity, cannot abandon those which always were and always will be her domain: the home, the family, and raising children. It is precisely this--that need to combine so many varied functions which makes the life of women, especially of those who, working professionally, carry many obligations in addition, resulting from the fact that, simply, they are women--which continues to make for difficulties.

Despite the fact that the State is doing much to make it easier for them and the fact that that effort, especially over the past several years, brought concrete and measurable results, which no reasonable person will deny.

On the other hand, however, the list of problems which require solution continues to be a substantial one. Inasmuch as there can be no reservations with regard to the civic attitudes of the Polish women, there are also

indispensable further actions which would facilitate conditions for them so that, with usefulness for Poland and for us all, they could give their civic attitudes daily expression by involving themselves in the affairs of their circles, settlements, localities, and regions.

Unfortunately, this is often difficult.

Industry, trade, and services are constantly not fulfilling the numerous commitments and promises. Supplying of the market with articles which make it easier for the women to bring up children and manage the home leaves much to be desired. Quite a number of accusations can be levied against the designers and builders of the new housing settlements whose tenants wait rather long for nurseries, kindergartens, schools, clinics, trade and service facilities. The past year has once again shown that parents spending holidays with small children in plant centers or those of the FWP [Workers' Vacation Fund], rather than on their own and at their own expense, constitutes a first-class problem.

The fate of the rural woman is a separate problem. Despite the fact that we are constantly getting more Rural Women's Circles (KGW), which are working well, the life of these women is considerably more difficult than of those in town, which, taking into consideration that 3.5 million of them are working in private farming, of whom nearly one million run the farms alone--best demonstrates the scale of the problem.

Before the National Council of Polish Women a broad field of activity is opened in these very areas. Not denying its achievements, we wish, therefore, that it [the KRKP] would occupy itself first with them, for they should always be at the center of public attention. Not only as it occurs on 8 March [International Women's Day].

CSO: 2600

ROMANIA

CEAUSESCU CONGRATULATES YEMEN'S PRESIDENT ON HOLIDAY

Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 26 Sep 77 p 5 AU

[Text] To his excellency Lt Col Ibrahim Muhammad al-Hamadi, president of the Command Council of the Yemen Arab Republic, Sana.

I take pleasure in conveying to you warm congratulations and best wishes for personal health and happiness, and for prosperity and peace to the friendly Yemenite people on the occasion of the national anniversary of the Yemen Arab Republic.

I express my conviction that the good relations existing between the Socialist Republic of Romania and the Yemen Arab Republic will continuously develop to the benefit of both countries and peoples, and of the cause of international peace and cooperation.

[Signed] Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

CSO: 2700

ROMANIA

CEAUSESCU SENDS MESSAGE TO IAEA CONFERENCE IN VIENNA

Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 27 Sep 77 p 1 AU

[Text of message sent by President Nicolae Ceausescu to the IAEA Conference in Vienna]

[Text] It gives me special pleasure to extend warm greetings and best wishes to the participants in the IAEA Conference on its 20th anniversary. International life is characterized by deep revolutionary social and national changes, by the ever more forceful assertion of the peoples' desire to stop the old policy of inequality, domination and oppression and to develop freely and independently in a climate of peace and broad cooperation that will insure the general and free access of all peoples to the achievements of modern civilization.

In the epoch of the modern scientific-technical revolution where science has directly become an important force of production, which brings about a tremendous increase in the society's material wealth, it is an imperative requirement to place the achievements of science and technology at the basis of the socioeconomic development of all nations so as to eliminate underdevelopment and to establish a better and more just world. It is particularly necessary to insure the free access of all peoples to utilizing nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, especially as energy sources.

At the same time, we cannot help being concerned over the fact that important resources and achievements attained by scientific research in the field of nuclear energy are being utilized for producing and perfecting mass destruction means and for accelerating the arms race, a fact that implies great danger for peace and for mankind's very existence. This is why Romania firmly speaks out for stopping the arms race and especially for nuclear disarmament so as to utilize the excellent achievements of the human genius for progress and human civilization. The IAEA has a great responsibility and it must act to stop the nuclear arms race, to eliminate the monopoly held by certain states in producing and utilizing nuclear energy, and to favor the free access of the peoples to utilizing nuclear energy for peaceful purposes with a view to achieving the more rapid progress of all countries, especially of less developed countries, and with a view to generally improving the level of well-being and civilization for all mankind.

In firmly devoting its creative strength and energy to building the comprehensively developed socialist society, Romania pays primary attention to modern science and technology, including nuclear physics and energy, to insure more rapid progress on the road to its socioeconomic prosperity. At the same time, within the framework of our general policy of developing relations with all states throughout the world, regardless of social system, we participate actively in the international exchange of material and cultural values and make our contribution to achieving a climate of broad cooperation in all fields of activity, including the field of scientific research. In the spirit of this policy, Romania is determined to continue to make its complete contribution to developing IAEA activities and to continuously strengthening its role in promoting an ever larger interstate cooperation on the basis of the principles of fully equal rights, respect for national independence and sovereignty so as to achieve the peaceful utilization of nuclear energy.

In extending the most sincere wishes for success to the IAEA General Conference, I want to express the conviction that this conference will open up new prospects for more intensively developing the peaceful application of nuclear energy and for strengthening international collaboration and cooperation in this important field to the benefit of all peoples and the cause of progress and peace throughout the world.

[Signed] Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

CSO: 2700

NEW PENSION REGULATIONS EXPLAINED

Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 7 Aug 77 pp 1, 3

[Text] It is well known that the Law Regarding State Social Security Pensions and Welfare becomes effective on 1 July of this year, and that the Decree of the Council of State Regarding Pension Increases begins to be applied on 1 August of this year.

In connection with this important legislation, a number of citizens have requested clarifications and explanations, and have raised questions about the interpretation of some provisions and regulations.

In what follows we present explanations intended to offer a more thorough and accurate understanding for all those who are interested in the meaning and content of some of the provisions of the law and decree mentioned above.

In the Matter of Some Provisions of the Pension Law

The fundamental principle of the Pension Law is to guarantee the right to a pension for every citizen who has a certain work seniority and a certain age, or who has partially or totally lost his ability to work as a result of accident or illness, independently of sex or nationality, and in proportion to the quantity, quality, and social importance of the work performed for the general development of our socialist society.

At the basis of the law are the principles of socialist ethics and justice, and the achievement of a rational ratio between incomes derived from wages and pension incomes, according to the current level of development of our national economy, and to the resources presently available in our socialist society.

One characteristic which demonstrates the superiority of the law, is the fact that its guiding principle is not to set a ceiling on pensions, but rather to determine the pension by calculating a certain percentage of

wages received. It is known that other countries use pension systems based on fixed amounts, setting ceilings at levels which cannot be exceeded. In Romania, pensions are differentiated according to each person's contribution to economic and social life during his period of active work, and to the wages which he has received, allowing the pensioner to calculate his pension on the basis of his choice of a 5-year period from his last 10 years of activity -- during which as a rule, people have the richest experience and the highest professional competence, and during which they reap the fruits of the work performed for entire professional life.

A particularly eloquent expression of the humanism of the Pension Law, and of the attention devoted to solving the various problems in workers' lives, are the provisions concerning welfare. This section regulates the free medical care received by workers during periods when they cannot work, paid medical leaves, travel and stay at spas for treatment or rest, leaves and compensations for working women during maternity periods and for the care of sick children, allowances for purchasing invalid supplies, and aid in case of death. The law also provides for assistance and care in institutions for persons without means of existence and without legal supporters, for the right of pensioners and their families to enter health institutions with free assistance, as well as for other similar benefits.

According to current legal regulations, those entitled to pension for work performed and age limit are all citizens with a work seniority of at least 30 years for men, and 25 years for women, who have reached the age of 62 and 57, respectively. The law also allows workers with the necessary seniority to request retirement two years early, at the age of 60 for men, and 55 for women. But at the same time, responding to the wishes expressed by many workers, the law makes it possible for persons who wish to continue to remain active after reaching retirement age, to remain employed for a period of no more than three years -- namely until the age of 65 for men, and 60 for women -- either in their respective units, or in another unit or job.

The new law devotes particular attention to the pensions of those who work in decisive domains of material production and whose activities are conducted under difficult conditions, that is, those who fall within the work groups I and II; these workers receive additional benefits both with regard to the determination of work seniority and retirement age, and to the basis for pension calculations. Thus, in establishing the pensions of those who have effectively worked at least 20 years in work group I, and at least 25 years in work group II production jobs, the calculations allow one year and six months for group I, and one year and three months for group II, for each year worked within those groups. On this basis, those who have worked in work groups I or II may, upon demand, retire when they reach the age of 52 for men, and 50 for women in group I, and 57 for men, and 52 for women in group II. In addition, the workers described above can retire, upon demand, at the age of 50 for both men and women in group I, and at the age of 55 for men, and 50 for women in group II. In cases in which these persons do not retire, but continue their activities in other

jobs, they maintain their right to pension with the benefits conferred by the work group from which they originate, and the period of time during which they continue to work is considered as work seniority in the group in which they worked previously.

Persons who have the work seniority stipulated by law, and who have effectively worked at least 15 years in jobs within work group I, or at least 20 years in jobs within work group II, are entitled upon demand, to have their retirement age reduced from the age of 60 for men, and 55 for women, in proportion to the number of years worked within these groups, to the age of 52 for men, and 50 for women in the case of group I, and to the age of 57 for men, and 52 for women in the case of group II. Under these circumstances however, the basis for pension calculation is the one stipulated for work group III, to which is added an increase proportional to the number of years spent working in groups I and II.

These provisions assure workers with the possibility of early retirement if they so desire, or of continuing their activities either at the same job, or in easier domains or sectors, until they reach the maximum age stipulated by law.

The Pension Law provides that those who continue to work after achieving 30 years of seniority for men, and 25 years for women, independently of the groups to which they belong, will receive an annual pension increase of 1 percent of their wages for activities conducted during the first five years thereafter, and of 0.5 percent for all subsequent years.

In keeping with the spirit of socialist humanism, the Pension Law exhibits the greatest concern toward workers whose working ability is reduced at any given time as a result of accidents, occupational diseases, or poor health for any reason. For these people, and independently of the work category to which they belong, the law stipulates the possibility of employment in easier jobs suited to their abilities, as well as the obligation of socialist units to create the necessary conditions for this purpose. In such cases, workers and foremen in work groups I and II, with a minimum seniority of 10 years in their respective groups, will be employed at jobs which will provide wages of at least 70 percent of the wages received in their previous employment. The remuneration percentage increases to 75 percent for seniorities greater than 15 years. The law also states that if the new job does not provide this level of remuneration, the difference to the stipulated 70 and 75 percent will be covered from the state social security fund as part of the wages.

Experience has shown that disability retirements of grade I and II are generally the result of serious illnesses and incapacitations which make it impossible for workers to perform their jobs. According to the law, those who have grade III disabilities and have lost half their working capabilities, can work half of the normal working hours, and socialist units have the obligation to provide suitable working conditions for them.

For their work, these persons will receive wages, which together with their disability pension will provide them with incomes of up to 70 percent for work group III, 75 percent for work group II, and 80 percent for work group I, of the wages they were receiving at the time the disability grade was established, updated with the raises made in these wages.

The law provides that disability pensions, particularly those of grade III, be reviewed periodically for an objective determination of the possibility that the disabled person can return to normal activities. The law's concept is that the disability retirement period should be devoted to a recovery of working abilities, so that the persons involved can fully regain their socioeconomic activities, and thereby their full wages. That is why health agencies have the obligation to provide all necessary care and support during disability retirement periods, so that the persons involved may recover as rapidly as possible and return to their normal professional and social lives and activities. This is an eloquent expression of the humanism of the Pension Law, of the concern for man which is at the center of our party and state's policy, and of the attention of our entire society.

Persons receiving disability pensions who on the effective date of the law received both pensions and wages, will retain this right until 31 December of this year as long as they remain employed. The law stipulates the obligation of socialist units to provide jobs suitable for the abilities of these persons after this time, in accordance with the new enacted regulations.

The law similarly provides for the continued right to pension and wages until 31 December, for persons receiving pensions as a result of age limits, as long as these persons remain in the work force. Moreover, persons receiving old age pensions can be used by socialist units for temporary activities or for the performance of some jobs, and thereby obtain both pension and work earnings. The sums gathered from the above-mentioned activities, together with the pension, can equal the remuneration received at the time of pensioning, updated with the raises awarded subsequently.

In the Matter of Pension Raises

As part of the general program established by the party and state leadership for improving the standard of living of the population and further increasing the incomes of workers, state social security pensions were raised together with wages.

It is known that starting with the need to improve the standard of living of those who work directly in production, and who produce the material goods which assure the uninterrupted and multilateral progress of our socialist society, a large portion of the means available to the state were allocated to wage increases, which during the current five-year plan will be raised by 30 percent -- this being 10 percent more than established in the Decisions of the 11th Congress.

The percentage by which pensions were increased is somewhat smaller than that of wages, but nonetheless amounts to an average of 21-22 percent -- also higher than the provisions of the 11th Congress -- which is applied in a differential manner, beginning with 8 percent for the higher pensions and reaching 40 percent for the lower ones. This reflects the concern of the party and government for raising the incomes of pensioners, and of those who receive smaller pensions in particular, who in their time contributed significantly to the growth of the national wealth and to the progress of our society, and who receive pensions matching the former possibilities of our national economy.

Even at stage I, this raise will benefit not only present pensioners, but also those who have retired or will retire after 1 August of this year. This will avoid a mismatch between the pensions of those who retired under the old system and of those who will benefit from the new one, and maintain a proper ratio between all categories of pensioners.

Both the provisions of the law which regulates the pension system, and the Decree for Pension Raises, reflect the constant concern of the party and state to improve the material and cultural living conditions of all citizens, and to raise the standard of living and civilization of our people at the same rate as the progress of the national economy, and as the country advances on the road of building a multilaterally developed socialist society.

It is obvious to everyone that the well-being of the population can be assured only by continually increasing the national wealth, and by successfully fulfilling the party's policy of developing the production force and of expanding and modernizing the national economy through the best utilization of our entire material and human potential. That is why it goes without saying that in order to fulfill the provisions of these important state documents under the best conditions, all workers must conduct a sustained activity to achieve and surpass the objectives of the current five-year plan, and to materialize the historical Decisions of the 11th Congress. There is no doubt that our workers will act energetically and perseveringly to improve and increase the efficiency of the production of material goods, and the ever-brighter economic and social flowering of the nation -- the foundation of our people's prosperity.

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YUGOSLAVIA

CATHOLIC PAPER COMMENTS ON SOVIET, ALBANIAN ANTI-RELIGIOUS VIEWS

Zagreb GLAS CONCILA in Serbo-Croatian 22 Aug 77 p 2

[Article: "The Fatima Message in Vladimir Kuroyedov's Version"]

[Text] It would be naive to believe that the new measures of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, reported by Vladimir Kuroyedov in his brochure (see article on pages 1 and 6 of this issue of GLAS CONCILA), represent a solution for all or even the principal problems of the faithful and the religious communities in the countries of the socialist bloc. Yet it would also be blind not to notice, or to refuse to acknowledge, that this is occurring. The Albanian communists took the matter very seriously and are noisily accusing the authorities in the Soviet Union of reconciliation with the representatives of the church, so that together they can manipulate the masses more easily. [This is] the old familiar thesis on the danger of red Constantinism. The Albanian communists, however, are misapplying [the thesis]. They are missing an important nuance. What is currently taking place in the Soviet Union is not an agreement between the party and the church summits. This already occurred and was nicely settled a long while ago. The clergy in the Soviet Union have long been paid and provided for socially; the bishops are secure and prominent, particularly if they ensure that the clergy is loyal. This is an old phase of development, something which in other socialist countries has not been carried out and which rightly concerns, as a possible succeeding phase, the faithful in these countries. What is currently taking place in the Soviet Union, however, is something different. At a minimum it is [a matter] of talks concerning the actual chances for religious liberties of citizen-believers, bypassing and disregarding the clergy as a mediating group. Had the clericalization of "red Constantinism" been successful (if it could have been successful at all), the necessity to seek anew the solutions which are precisely the issue of current talks would never have arisen. The new measures and the most recent interest of the highest Soviet authorities in questions concerning religious liberties surely do not raise unresolved problems with the clergy, with the official Church. We have no data on this, on the contrary, a number of [other] data speaks of the opposite. Individual clergymen who have thus far attempted, in the name of their own interpretation of the Gospel,

to raise their voices in favor of human rights and liberties, for the most part have been successfully silenced by superior bishops themselves. This means that faith, as a phenomenon in society and as a task for those who are socially responsible in society, has flourished among laymen, among citizen-believers who are not clergymen and whose religious position is not guaranteed and established by previous written or unwritten agreements. It is impossible to lead those faithful laymen; it is impossible to channel their energy by means of an abedient hierarchy. Therefore new solutions are being sought. And it is not most essential to know to what extent these proclaimed solutions are already being carried out in the daily practice of Soviet society. It is significant that these views are once more proclaimed, emphatically and in a clarified manner. This, however, did not occur without a reason. Nor is [the exertion of] foreign political pressure, attempts of political games with religious liberties or lack of them, a sufficient reason. After all, this news of Soviet government, i.e. the practice of implementing the law, is heard from the USSR at a time when others have nonetheless accepted, at least out of political sensibility, that intervention in behalf of human rights must also somehow stop at the border of autonomous states.

There is no doubt that a number of signs testify to the fact that it is precisely in Russia and her republics that this unforeseen awakening of religious evangelical consciousness is occurring in old churches and new ones, in named and unnamed religious communities. Faith does not destroy a state, as it did not destroy the Roman Empire, but rather with quiet and patient suffering, in which it cleanses itself, it transforms from within. Thus, sixty years after the October Revolution and as many more since the Fatima message, we are in a position, in a new and much more realistic sense, to interpret the widely known message of the Lady from Fatima: "Russia shall be converted!" Ultimately, this message from Fatima can no longer serve either as a slogan or inspiration or justification of political and militaristic anticommunism. The Lady does not harness faith in anyone's cart, she announces its revival for the revival of the world.

It is not in the least curious that the Albanian communists are so seriously agitated by the new accents of Soviet policy on religious associations. They view this from a society which is just now attempting to step out from the mentality of tribal division and enclosure within tribal borders, where, in fact, it was impossible to spread the entire Gospel (since, for example, the law of blood feud was more binding in the people's consciousness than the law of Christian love!). The religions, incorporated in such a society as far as it could accept them, have, to a large extent, become impotent in promoting the development of humaneness, particularly at the level of the entire national and state community. Someday, however, when the process of removing old obstacles to the unity of the nation, language, and social relations achieves certain results, in Albania, too, man will stand before God and the people, with their incessant questions. Neither in Albania--nor in any other country--will it be possible to resolve questions

of God and people by means of Constantinian alliances with the silenced hierarchy. The alliance between secular and spiritual authorities, even if there are attempts to use it against man, is merely a passing phase of development. Therefore, the news about the Soviet experience--even if it represents only well grounded forebodings with possibilities for a variety of interpretations--should represent good news even for the Albanian communists. Yet, who is permitted to begrudge anyone for being totally submerged in current experience? Did not the believers need more than half a century to realize the possibility for a different interpretation of the famous Fatima message about Russia? Are there not a number of Christians today who cannot accept this interpretation, holding the view that the certainly good actions of the Spirit in the people of Soviet society still needs to be strengthened by more "secure" actions of other, outside forces? And how long did it take Peter to understand the words of Jesus: "Return the sword to thy sheath!?" And how then can be conceptualize evangelical faith outside the framework of concrete social and political development?

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YUGOSLAVIA

PROBLEMS IN GRANTING VETERAN'S STATUS REVIEWED

Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 22, 23 Jul 77

[Article by Radislav Cuk: "Those Without Strong Evidence Cannot Acquire Veteran's Status"]

[22 Jul 77, p 10]

[Text] The claims received for authenticating veterans' length of service, of which there are at least 50,000, are undoubtedly proof that the League of Associations of Veterans of the National Liberation War made a move in the right direction when, several months ago, it initiated an action for granting veteran's status to all who had a basis [for it]. However, the desire of the SUBNOR [League of Associations of Veterans of the National Liberation War] to remove this question from the agenda as soon as possible is, of course, also justified because more than three decades have elapsed since the end of the war and there are still thousands of "open cases"!

The process of authenticating veterans' length of service is by no means easy, since many witnesses, whom some would call upon, are no longer alive. Thus, there are a number of reasons why the Federal League of Association of Veterans of the National Liberation War [LAVNLW] should appeal to its communal boards to make an extraordinary effort, more expeditiously than thus far, in considering the claims received, so that at the Congress of the LAVNLW scheduled for next year, as well as the 11th Congress of the SKJ [The League of Communists of Yugoslavia], they will present a report that the work concerning the authentication of participation in the National Liberation War [NLW] has been placed ad acta. Indeed, the legal right for each individual to pursue the question of his participation in the NLW in future remains valid.

Are communal boards in a position to perform the job within the anticipated period, when in individual communes there are more than 500 claims, and in the majority of them between 100-500? Are communes also capable of independently resolving matters, not altogether infrequent, such as contrived activities used as evidence, which unfortunately are being described and signed by veterans, including prominent ones!

Here are some previous experiences from various regions.

Altered Procedures

In the first wave of submitting claims in the commune of Titograd as many as 1,650 applications arrived--reports our correspondent Bosko Pusonjic. It was clear that among the justified claims there were unjustified ones as well. In such a situation, which was unexpected, what did the communal board of the LAVNLW do? All claims were returned to the claimants, but along with detailed instructions as to who has the right to submit claims, what kind of evidence should be submitted, which documents, and an explanation of the way in which this should be done. Subsequently, meetings were held in the territorial communities, where special attention was drawn to the fact that it is not a matter of "social welfare" but rather of social recognition. A warning was also expressed to the effect that all frauds, if any, will certainly be exposed. There was no neglect--it should be emphasized--to warn that previous omissions in this respect do not give anyone the right for comparisons.

The practical results of such an action, of course, became evident shortly. Seven times fewer claims arrived than initially. Only 237 claims were received.

All claims, emphasizes our correspondent, must pass through four "filters": technical services, territorial committees, communal commissions, and the presidency.

A thorough analysis of the previous work and experience in this area was performed beforehand and the weaknesses were clearly recognized. The commissions were composed of holders of war medals, people who are socially active and respected, and who were well acquainted with those who submitted claims. Thus, the approach was in the right direction: to help those who have a basis [for a claim] to prove that they are veterans. According to what has been achieved thus far in the commune of Titograd, there will in all probability not be a single mistake.

Of the 237 claims received, 87 have thus far been settled. The president and vice president of the communal board of the LAVNLW in Titograd, Aca Nikolic and Vuk Radovanovic, emphasize that all the claims settled thus far are completely clean. This is also a response to the question why none of the claims were rejected thus far. However, everyone was not granted what he requested, but only that which was proved to be his right. Thus far no attempt at perjury, favoritism, or bribery has been observed.

Assigned to the Command Post at Nine Years of Age!

From Valjevo our correspondent Jovan Stojic reports that there are cases of false statements being made easily. Statements--the readers already

know--are given by veterans whose participation in the NLW has been proved, and it is a matter primarily of those who have had prominent roles in the war. In Valjevo 24 claims have thus far been rejected as ungrounded. There are not so many claims in any case: somewhat over 100. About one half remain to be settled. The anticipated help from the sociopolitical organizations, as our correspondent learned in the communal board of the LAVNLW, completely failed [to materialize]. The problems, as can be seen, are very serious. It is necessary to work fast and settle claims which are occasionally incomplete: Witnesses usually offer poor statements, some [do so] in merely three or four lines. The claimants expect, of course, that their claims will be settled favorably, and perhaps rightly so. Yet, with the aforementioned evidence, this is impossible.

One of the people from Valjevo who wishes to be granted veteran's status indicates that, according to his assignment in 1944, he worked in the command post. In the claim he also included a testimonial. However, he did not indicate his age at the time. By subsequent authentication, it was established that he was only nine years old [at that time]. He wanted to prove, with the help of witnesses, that he did work at the command post when he was only nine. While resolving this case in the communal board of the LAVNLW, they lost a substantial amount of time. Yet, it is evident from the rejected claims that they were exposed to similar difficulties a number of times, including, of course, cases which were settled favorably.

No Dilemma: Rosa Was Granted Veteran's Status as of 1941

Claims are still arriving, yet the members of the LAVNLW in Valjevo are not weary, but energetic in finishing the work.

[This is so] not only because the number of the above mentioned claims is smaller than the warranted ones, including some which were issued affidavits granting veterans' status since 1949. Such an affidavit was received by Rosa Kuzmanovic, housewife from Zabar. Witnesses confirmed, and the commission established, that during the entire war she accommodated partisans by hiding them and feeding them. During the four difficult years of the war her house served as a link between the Regional and Provincial Committee of the KPJ [Communist Party of Yugoslavia]. The claim of Zivota Markovic, a farmer from the mountain village of Bobova at Medvednik, was settled in a similar fashion, as were those of Zora Kraljevic, Radmila Matunovic, Milan Babic from Smederevo...

[23 Jul 77 p 11]

[Article by Radislav Cuk: "A Large Number of Justified Requests"]

[Text] Today we report some observations made by the communal boards of the SUBNORs [League of Associations of Veterans of the National Liberation War], which could be described as typical of a particular region, but, at the same time, as cases which are, more or less, present everywhere. We shall also include a considerable amount of data. Our aim in doing this

is to clearly illuminate the tremendous burden which has fallen upon the communal boards, to whom the help primarily, of course, from socio-political organizations would be highly valuable. The figures we shall include are clearly demonstrative of the regions in which "suffocation" has occurred, while revealing a number of other matters as well. At the Federal Board of the League of Associations of Veterans of the National Liberation War [LAVNLW] we obtained data on the situation until the end of March inclusively--a more current review does not exist, yet very few changes have occurred in the interim. Some claims have certainly been settled, yet new ones have also arrived...

Fewest Claims in Montenegro

In Croatia approximately 12,000 claims have been submitted, in Bosnia and Hercegovina over 10,000 in Serbia (proper) approximately 6,000 in Macedonia over 5,500. The Kosovo follows with over 2,500 claims, Vojvodina about 1,800, Slovenia about 1,600. The number of claims is smallest in Montenegro--somewhat over 1,100.

In the indicated time period, the communal boards--and we mentioned that one can assume that the situation is the same at present--did not succeed in performing even one quarter of the work. Thus, in Bosnia and Hercegovina, for example, 91 percent of the claims remain to be settled (over 9,000 applications), in Croatia 89.9 percent, the situation in the other republics being equally unsatisfactory with the exception, perhaps, of Serbia where 67.7 percent of the claims are still in the process of settlement. At the board of the Socialist Republic of Serbia, they say that they feel as if the work had just begun, which is, practically, true.

Otherwise, the number of rejected claims is thus far smallest in the Kosovo--only 0.6 percent, largest in Serbia 9.3 percent, Macedonia follows with 8.7 percent, and Vojvodina with 7.2 percent. Along with this data, it should be noted that the Association of Pension-Invalids' Security in the Kosovo has issued the largest number of affidavits, 16.2 percent.

Why Do Some Veterans Exert Pressure

The claims for authenticating participation in the National Liberation War [NLW] in some communes have "overwhelmed" the boards of the SUBNORS. Whether they are justified, or there are some which stand no chance of being settled favorably (since it is not the same to help and to participate in the NLW actively and continuously)--still remains to be seen. In Trgoviste, a small commune in southern Serbia, 395 applications arrived, in Lebane, as many as 433, in Prokuplje, 360, in Zitoradja, 265. In the southern Moravian region of Serbia, 1,703 applications were submitted as of 31 March. Two months later the number of applications had already exceeded 2,000, so that in the indicated communes the number of claims had also increased.

The number of those who, with the help of witnesses, wish to prove their participation in the NLW prior to 9 September 1943, is not small. The communal boards in this region have already issued close to 100 affidavits granting participation prior to the indicated date. (In Crna Trava and Medvedja, 18 respectively, in Leskovac, 19, Trgoviste, 24, and Bojnik, 25).

There are cases, as our correspondent Vojislav Dobrijrvc reports, in the southern Moravian region, of witnesses giving statements concerning time periods during which they had not been present on the scene. Some also exert pressure that such statements be accepted. In Leskovac 52 claims were returned to claimants on the grounds of incompleteness or requesting additional information. From a conversation with General-Major of the JNA [Yugoslav National Army] Jovan Manasijevic, president, and Milutin Ristic, secretary of the Intercommunal LAVNLW of the southern Moravian region, our correspondent reports that some veterans who had given statements shall be summoned by their respective communal boards in order to draw their attention to the fact that they should abide by the legal provisions and instructions. In addition to the southern Moravian region, in Serbia proper, the region of Nis is also characterized by a large number of claims (over 1,200 applications). In the remaining [regions, the number is] much smaller: Belgrade about 500, in the Podrinja-Kolubara and Sumadija-Pomoravlje [regions] it is somewhat higher, in the Kraljevo [region] about 800, in the Pudinavlje less than 500, while in the Timok and Titovo Uzice [regions] even less than 300.

In Knic: Almost All Claims Rejected

There is an interesting piece of information from the commune of Knic: out of 49 claims, 37 were rejected, only four affidavits were issued, while eight are still in the process of consideration (according to the report up to 31 March inclusively). An almost identical situation occurred in Kragujevac as well: out of somewhat over 100 claims, 57 were rejected.

The communal board of the LAVNLW from Aleksinac demonstrated a high level of efficiency, since by 31 March almost all claims, about 80 of them, were settled (19 were rejected).

We shall acquaint you with the review of claims submitted, according to communes, in other republics and the autonomous provinces of Vojvodina and the Kosovo up to 31 March inclusively.

The communal board of the LAVNLW in Prijedor received 930 claims until the indicated time period, which is--the largest number in the country. In this republic, as well as in the entire country, the ranking list is as follows: Bosanski Novi with 886 and Bosanska Gradiska with 848 claims. In Bosnia and Hercegovina there are additional communes which received over 500 claims for the authentication of participation in the NLW.

In Croatia the number of claims is largest in the commune of Ogulin--448, Velika Gorica follows with 478, Titova Korenica 401, Sinj 342, etc.

In Macedonia Bitola occupies first place with 700 claims, Kumanovo follows with 531, Strumica 519, and Demir Hisar 471.

In Slovenia the number of claims received was highest in Nova Gorica, 173, while in Montenegro, it was in Bijelo Polje, 165.

In Vojvodina the communes in Srem are leading: Sid with 190, Pecinci with 172, Sremska Mitrovica 161, and Ruma 140.

In the Kosovo the number of requests is considerably higher than in other communes in this province: in Urosevac--551, Pec follows with 356, and Djakovica with 218.

From Request to Affidavit--Only One Month!

Nevertheless, it appears that--along with definite help, of course--the communal boards will succeed in their extraordinary effort, for which they were asked by the Federal and Republic Boards of the LAVNLW, to perform this enormous job and responsible task--in due time and without mistakes.

Our correspondent from Skopje, Metodi Jonovski, for example, reports after a conversation with the leaders of the veterans' organization in this city, that a certain number of citizens have already been issued affidavits by the Association for Pension-Invalids' Security. The same is also reported by our correspondents from other places.

In Bar, reports our correspondent Bozidar Milosevic, one waits no longer than a month from [the time of] submitting claims until the issuance of affidavits! Such efficiency is indeed rare, yet it demonstrates that, by means of good organizations, claims will not be kept in drawers for months, which otherwise is not an altogether infrequent case.

Yesterday we reported, for example, that the communal board of the LAVNLW in Valjevo had issued some people affidavits for participation in the NLW since 1941 which is, of course, demonstrative of the complete justifiability of the action taken by the League of Veterans.... Such evidence arrives from Bor as well: the housewives Masica Curanovic and Rosa Nikolic were granted veterans' status since 13 July 1941. They were participants in the uprising in Montenegro and combatants in the "Jovan Tomasevic" battalion. Thus, these matters are being proved at present, one would say belatedly, yet it could not be done earlier since applications were not being submitted. There is no doubt that there are more such cases.

Existing Danger: Lest the Criteria Become "Diluted"

From Sarajevo, our correspondent Neven Kazazovic reports that the communal boards are highly concerned that no affidavits be "shaky." The selection is strict, as is also required by the regulations and instructions, therefore the estimates are that out of some hundred claims, affidavits will, most probably, be issued to less than [about] 30.

While giving instances of justified claims for authenticating participation in the NLW, which are prevalent, our correspondent from Mostar Drago Maric reports, after a conversation with the secretary of the communal board of the LAVNLW, Ljubo Gordic, that those who believed that the years erase the details of history, are mistaken.... There are individuals who have contrived boards for national liberation in order to indicate their participation in them, yet naming partisans' quarters which were unknown during the war.

There are contrivances. There are also veterans who confirm the latter by their signatures. There is doubt, however, that anyone, in any part of the country, will succeed in deceiving the communal boards in this fashion. The problems, as concluded recently by the Federal Board of the LAVNLW, lie elsewhere: in individual communes, including some regions, the established criteria are being "diluted." Thus, there have been cases--as established in some places--of affidavits being received by some [people] who had supported the NLW, yet had not actively participated in it. The former and the latter, however, are not identical.

8989

CSO: 2800

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