


Albania today

POLITICAL AND INFORMATIVE REVIEW / TIRANA

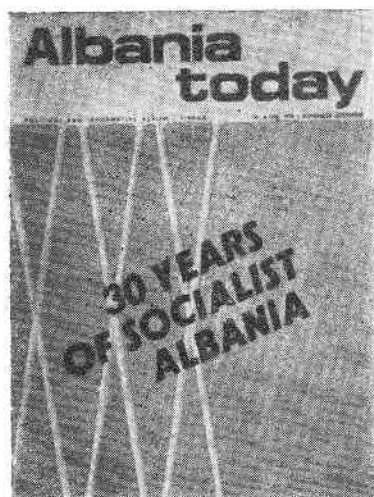
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**30 YEARS
OF SOCIALIST
ALBANIA**

THE HOUSE WHERE THE PARTY WAS FOUNDED IN TIRANA, ON NOVEMBER 8, 1941, HAS BECOME TODAY A GREAT CENTRE OF PILGRIMAGE AND REVOLUTIONARY EDUCATION FOR THE YOUNGER GENERATION. IN THE PHOTO: A GROUP OF CHILDREN VISITING THIS HISTORIC CENTRE. IN THE PHOTO ON THE THIRD PAGE: ANOTHER GROUP OF CHILDREN HAVE GONE TO THE MARTYRS' GRAVEYARD. IN THE BACKGROUND THE IMPOSING MONUMENT TO MOTHER ALBANIA.





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MEHMET SHEHU

TIME WORKS FOR AND THE FUTURE TO SOCIALISM

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in all the fields of socialist
construction show
that even a people few in numbers,
like the Albanian people,
can build socialism successfully,
defend themselves, and bravely cope
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encirclement and
blockade, in the heart
of capitalist and revisionist
Europe, when they are led by a
Marxist-Leninist party, as our Party
of Labour is,
when they struggle for a just
cause, and are determined
to defend their homeland and their
achieved victories to the finish**

*Programme speech of the new Government, delivered by the
Chairman of the Council of Ministers, MEHMET SHEHU, at the
first session of the 8th legislature of the People's Assembly.*

COMRADE DEPUTIES,

ALLOW ME, ABOVE ALL, TO THANK YOU, THE WORTHY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE, FOR THE GREAT TRUST YOU SHOWED BY CHARGING ME AGAIN WITH THE LOFTY RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. JUST LIKE YOU, I TOO AM A SOLDIER OF THE PARTY AND SERVANT OF THE PEOPLE. THEREFORE, THIS TRUST IS PLACED IN OUR GLORIOUS PARTY, WHICH ALWAYS LEADS OUR PEOPLE CORRECTLY ON THE ROAD OF SOCIALISM AND COMMUNISM.

I ASSURE YOU, COMRADE DEPUTIES, THAT UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE PARTY, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS TEACHINGS, THE NEW GOVERNMENT WHICH WILL EMERGE FROM THIS SESSION OF THE PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY, WILL EXERT ALL ITS FORCES TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAMME OF OUR PARTY FOR THE COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION OF SOCIALIST SOCIETY, TO PRESERVE AND CONSOLIDATE THE GAINS OF THE REVOLUTION, AND TO LOYALLY DEFEND THE FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE OF OUR SOCIALIST HOMELAND.

The elections of deputies to the People's Assembly, and their crowning with the brilliant victory of the Democratic Front in the October 6 voting, were a powerful manifestation of the unbreakable unity of our people round the Party and a triumph for its always correct Marxist-Leninist line, and the revolutionary determination and optimism of the Albanian people to march courageously along the road of socialism and communism, so as to strengthen constantly our State of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

The period of the 7th legislature of the People's Assembly, which has just concluded, has been a period of selfless struggle and work for our people and Party to implement the historic decisions of the 6th Congress of the Party, and for the successful realization of the fifth five-year plan, according to the directives of this Congress.

FOR US, THE WORLD BELONGS TO SOCIALISM AND COMMUNISM

During this four-year period we are analyzing, our socialist socio-economic order has been further developed and the economy has advanced at comparatively fast rates and has developed in an all-round and harmonious way, at a time when in capitalist and revisionist Europe, inflation, unemployment, an unrestrained rise of prices and economic crisis, have been rampant. Deep transformations have been effected in the mentality and consciousness of our men and women, the builders of socialism; the Marxist-Leninist ideology and world outlook have been further consolidated; important successes have been achieved in moulding the new socialist man, and the ideological struggle against alien influences and manifestations has been intensified, by consistently developing the class struggle, under the leadership of the Party, against liberalism, bureaucratism, conservatism, backward customs and religious dogma, and continually sweeping away, with the iron Marxist-Leninist broom, of the Party, all stains and manifestations of bourgeois and revisionist ideology.

During this period our country has made big strides on the road of its gradual transformation into an industrial-agricultural country, with a stable, harmoniously and comprehensively developed economy.

Social production during the four-year period 1971-1974 is expected to grow at an average annual rate of about 7.6 per cent. This increase is the result of a better use of the political and socio-economic factors, and of the correct integration of both intensive and extensive methods and courses in our economic development, in which superiority is being gained by such intensive factor of development as increased labour productivity, the improvement of quality and the increase of the culture of production, systematic reduction of production costs, a constant rise in the effectiveness of production, etc.

The socialist industrialization of the country has advanced at rapid rates. Industrial production has grown, and its structure has been improved. Special attention has been paid

to the construction of major industrial projects, such as ferrous metallurgy, the intensive oil processing plant, the big Fierza hydropower station, and other important plants in the engineering, chemical and other industries. In the construction of these, a great, disinterested, internationalist aid has been and is being given to our country by the People's Republic of China.

At the same time, applying the principle of self-reliance, we have continued to set up many new lines, sections and factories so as to fulfil the needs of the people better especially with mass consumer goods.

The plan for total industrial production in the four years of the current five-year plan is fulfilled by about 101 per cent, with a 44 per cent increase over production in 1970, and an average annual rate of increase of 9.5 per cent.

With the rapid development assumed by the main branches of the extracting, fuel and power industries, Albania, although it is small in area and entered the road of industrial development only in the years of the people's power, has been able to fulfill its constantly increasing needs for oil, fuel and electric energy; the food processing and light industry fulfills today about 82 per cent of the needs of the population for mass consumer goods, etc., at a time when in the capitalist and revisionist countries, a great energy crisis has broken out, which jointly with the financial crisis, is shaking their whole economic and social system to its foundations.

These results in the field of socialist industrialization have still more increased the leading role of industry and of the working class in socialist construction and in the whole life of the country; they have strengthened the economic independence of our Homeland and have reinforced its defence capacity, opening, at the same time, great prospects for the future.

The Party and the Government have always devoted special attention to the development and progress of agriculture. During four years of this five-year plan, agriculture has firmly advanced on the road of its intensification and moderniza-

tion. The socialist system of our agriculture as a whole has been strengthened, the agricultural economies are being turned into powerful units of large-scale modern socialist production, and agricultural and livestock products are increasing from year to year.

In 1974, as against 1970, the total volume of agricultural production is envisaged to have grown by 26 per cent, at an average annual rate of 5.9 per cent, which is about 2.5 times higher than the average annual rate of increase of the population. Grain production will be about 31 per cent higher, while the production of wheat will have increased by 76 per cent. This is a great success for our agriculture in the struggle to fulfil the important task laid down by the Party of guaranteeing the people's food supply.

Satisfactory development has been seen during this period in the main livestock products, too, particularly milk and eggs, which have increased by 37 per cent and 59 per cent respectively, while the production of vegetables has increased by 39 per cent, and so on.

To promote the steady development of agriculture, the State has invested large funds during this period, in particular for the development of agriculture in the hilly and mountainous areas. All these measures for the allround development of our socialist agriculture have directly contributed to the further improvement of the income of the cooperativist peasantry, for the continuous flourishing of our socialist countryside.

The Party and the Government have always seen the development and progress of the countryside as an important factor, not only for the harmonious development of the various branches of the people's economy, but also as a decisive political factor, which is directly connected with the reinforcement of the defence of the Homeland, quite unlike what is occurring in the capitalist and revisionist countries where the mass ruin of the peasantry compels them to abandon their land and homes, and sell their labour power on the capitalist and revisionist labour market.

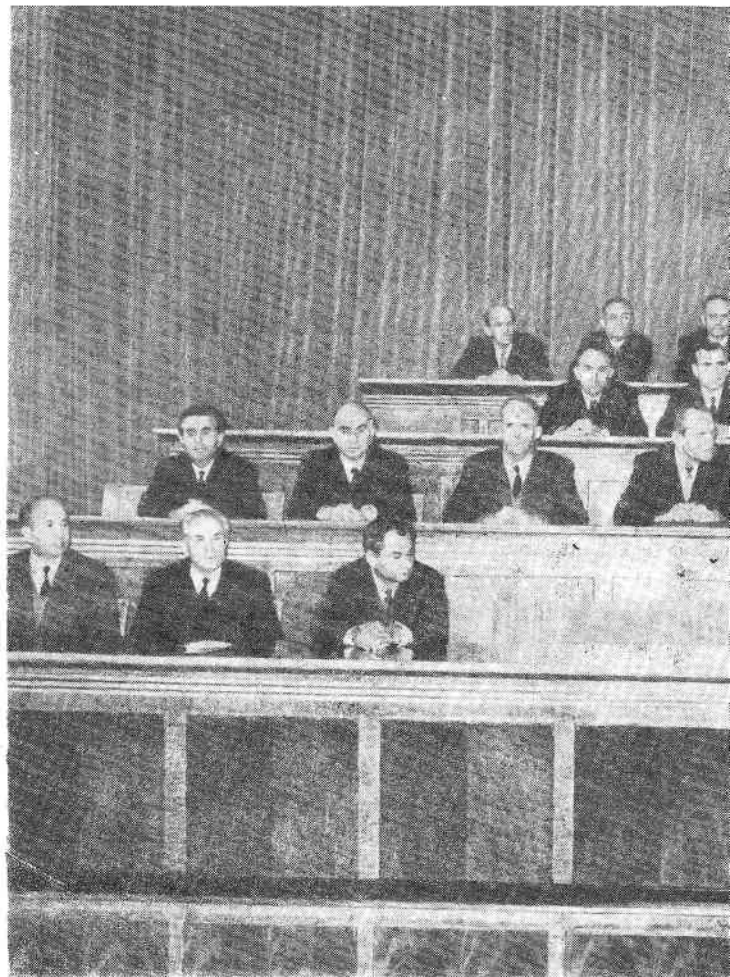
The volume of construction work for these four years of the fifth five-year plan is expected to be realized about 102 per cent, with an increase of 60 per cent in comparison with the volume of construction work during the corresponding period of the last five-year plan. Dozens of new factories and enterprises and hundreds of new lines and sections have been built and put into operation. Besides construction in the productive sphere, a large amount of construction work has been carried out in the socio-cultural sphere too. The construction of housing with State funds, in these four years, is 24 per cent larger than that in the whole five years of the previous five-year plan.

Important successes have likewise been achieved in the development of transport of all kinds, as well as in the field of trade. The export plan for these four years is realized about 101 per cent, or 66 per cent more than in the same period of the last five-year plan.

During the period we are reporting on, our ideological revolution in the field of education and culture has further developed and deepened. The role of our socialist education,

art and culture in the sound education of our youth and people is strengthening with every passing day.

Great expenditures are being made by the State to cope with the needs of the free health service, and of social insurance pensions, which have been extended to the country side, to improve the work and living conditions and cultured relaxation of the working people, as well as to cope with the fulfilment of the educational and social cultural needs of the labouring masses.



The rapid development of social production, the increased participation in work, the growing labour productivity, the stability of retail prices, the increase in the social consumption fund etc., have made it possible to raise further the material wellbeing and cultural level of the masses in town and countryside, at a time when, in the capitalist and revisionist countries, the prices of mass consumer goods and the cost of living rise every day. By 1974, as compared with 1970, national income has increased by 33 per cent, while the real incomes of workers and employees has increased by 9.4 per cent, and the real incomes of the cooperativist peasantry by 13.4 per cent. Retail prices here, as you know, have shown no increase whatever, despite the very high rise in the prices

of many raw and auxiliary materials which we have to import from the capitalist and revisionist countries. This is a great success for the correct economic policy of our Party and State; it also shows the superiority of our socialist order to the capitalist order, which is in decay. But in order to carry out this policy through to the end, tireless work is needed, today more than ever, there is the need for stronger proletarian discipline, a more powerful struggle to increase production, improve quality, increase productivity, reduce production costs,

At the first session of the 8th legislature of the People's Assembly, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mehmet Shehu, presents the programme of the Government.



and strengthen the savings programme.

One important aspect of the Government's activity during the four-year period of the 7th legislature has been the continuous improvement, in a revolutionary way, of the socialist relations of production, with a view to continually preserving and deepening their socialist character, so that they may play an increasingly active role in building socialism, and bar the way to any danger of degeneration into capitalist and revisionist relations. In this connection, measures have been taken, in the first place, to develop socialist ownership steadily in its two forms (state and cooperativist), so as make its preservation, administration and management more effective, as the firm foundation of our socialist socio-economic order. Important po-

litico-ideological, economic, financial, juridical and administrative measures have been taken to strengthen the management and control of socialist property.

Another important field to which the Government has paid particular attention to improving socialist relations of production has been that of distribution. In this respect the socialist principle of distribution according to the work done is being firmly implemented, without allowing great differentiation between high pay and low pay and preserving the most correct proportions in remuneration for work. There has been greater extension of moral incentives, giving them priority over material incentives, in contrast with what is practiced in the revisionist countries, which absolutize the material fac-

tor and pave the way for the operation of the value and profit law, to the detriment of the labouring masses and to the benefit of the oppressing and exploiting classes in those countries, with marked differentiation of their incomes.

Important measures have been taken to strengthen the management of the people's economy, based on the correct principle of democratic centralism. The competence given to the state and economic organs at the grass-roots is being better utilized, strengthening at the same time the demanding of account for their correct and full implementation, as well as strengthening planning and contractual discipline.

A great deal of work has been done to strengthen the savings programme, as a socialist method of managing the economy, and to preserve and protect socialist property. More right concepts have been formed about common property and the savings programme, and more satisfactory results have been achieved.

Important measures have been taken to improve the material and technical supply system, and the economic links between production and consumption, between industry and agriculture, thus ever better fulfilling the needs of production and of the people. We have gone over to the unified procurement system, with differentiated purchase prices for some agricultural products, and have taken a series of measures favouring the agricultural cooperatives in the hilly and mountainous areas for capital investments, agricultural credit, material and technical supply, etc.

In accordance with the teachings of the Party and comrade Enver Hoxha, the Government has taken further measures during this period to strengthen our army, and reinforce the defence capacity of our Homeland. The people's army, and the whole people, armed and militarily organized, are vigilant and in full combat preparedness to defend the Homeland against any possible aggression.

Our Government, during this period, has continued to carry out a revolutionary foreign policy and a principled and resolute struggle against imperialism and revisionism, in support of the liberation struggle of the peoples, the revolution, and the defence of true peace. This struggle has greatly increased socialist Albania's authority in the world and has steadily strengthened its ties and revolutionary solidarity with friendly countries and with all the revolutionary and freedom-loving peoples of the world. In the joint struggle to build socialism, defend and develop the revolution, and expose and destroy the aggressive plans of the US imperialists and the social imperialists, there has been further steeling and deepening of our great, unbreakable friendship with the great Chinese people, on the basis of the firm principles of proletarian internationalism.

The victories achieved in all the fields of socialist construction show that even a people few in numbers, like the Albanian people, can build socialism successfully, defend themselves, and bravely cope with every difficulty caused by encirclement and blockade, in the heart of capitalist and revisionist Europe, when they are led by a Marxist-Leninist party, as our

Party of Labour is, when they struggle for a just cause, and are determined to defend their homeland and their achieved victories to the finish. —

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Comrade deputies,

Allow me to present to you the composition of the new government. Having also the opinion of the Central Committee of the Party, I propose that the composition of the new government be as follows:

First vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers Adil Çarçani,

Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers Spiro Koleka,
Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Chairman
of the State Planning Commission Abdyl Këllezi,

Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers Xhafer Spahiu,
Minister of People's Defence Mehmet Shehu,

Minister of Internal Affairs Kadri Hazbiu,

Minister of Foreign Affairs Nesti Nase,

Minister of Industry and Mining Koço Theodhosi,

Minister of light and food processing industry Myqerem
Fuga,

Minister of Agriculture Piro Dodbiba,

Minister of Education and Culture Thoma Deliana,

Minister of Construction Rahman Hanku,

Minister of Trade Kiço Ngjela,

Minister of Communications Luan Babameto,

Minister of Finance Lefter Goga,

Minister of Public Health Llambi Ziqishti,

Comrade deputies,

The new Government, in its entire activity, both in the field of internal policy and in the field of foreign policy, will be guided by the general Marxist-Leninist line of our Party of Labour and will work with all its energies to carry out the programme of the Party for the complete construction of the socialist society and for the defence of our socialist Homeland.

In the field of internal policy it aims to secure the further reinforcement of the economy and other sectors through the vigorous development of the productive forces, mainly of industrial and agricultural production, and on this basis achieve the further improvement of the wellbeing of the working masses and the increased defence potential of the Homeland.

An immediate task of the Government in this direction will be the organisation of work and the adoption of all measures to secure the successful realisation of the plan targets for 1975, so that, as the last year of the fifth five-year plan, it can become a year of allround mobilisation and general offensive to fulfill in their entirety the tasks of the fifth five-year plan and make a good beginning on the work for mapping out and fulfilling the tasks of the sixth five-year plan.

The Central Committee of the Party and the Government have set down the main lines of the most important objectives to be reached under the sixth five-year plan (1976-1980), but they will be defined, discussed and elaborated by the labouring masses. We are faced with particularly great tasks concerning

the working out of the sixth five-year plan for the economic and cultural development of the country, bearing well in mind the difficult conditions of the capitalist-revisionist encirclement and the continuous deepening of the general crisis of capitalism. The new Government will see to it that the tasks of the sixth five year plan become a matter, in the first place, for our working class and all the working people in our country who, conceiving of them ideologically and politically, will take an active part in implementing them and better utilizing all the reserves and great opportunities provided by our economy and our socialist system.

In setting the tasks of the new five-year plan, we shall be guided by the teachings of the Party to place in command lofty political and ideological interests and those of the economic and cultural development and defence of the Homeland, further deepening the principle of self-reliance, using in full, and in the most rational way the labour force, the material and technical base, the productive capacities of the existing machinery and equipment, and the material and financial resources of the country.

In working out the sixth five-year plan the Government will take care to increase still further the feeling of responsibility in mapping out and implementing the plan by the State and economic organs as well as by the working masses, fighting alien departmental and localist tendencies, the tendencies toward globalism and running after quantity to the detriment of quality and assortment, and tendencies to work out plans for maximum expenditure and minimum effort.

The development and deepening of the socialist industrialization of the country, with the completion of the industrial projects under construction and those to be built during the next five-year plan, particularly in the heavy extracting and processing industry, and, parallel with this, in food processing and light industry, to improve the structure of production and better fulfil the needs of extended socialist reproduction and of the people, will be the object of special attention in the new five-year plan.

Agriculture, which is the basis of the entire people's economy, will proceed more quickly under the next five-year plan, on the road of all-round intensification, organization and management on more scientific bases, extensively using the achievements of advanced science and agrotechnology and the extension and generalisation of advanced experience that has been achieved, to make a greater forward stride in fulfilling the needs of the people for agricultural and livestock products, supplying the food processing and light industry with raw materials, and meeting export needs.

These will be further development of construction and transport, goods turnover in town and countryside, the social and cultural sectors, education, culture, health and municipal services. The achievements of science and technology will be more extensively used in all the branches of the economy and culture. Parallel with this, special care will be devoted to increasing labour productivity, reducing production

costs, and improving financial indices, with a view to increasing the revenue of the State budget.

As always, in realising the great tasks of the next plan the decisive factor will be the internal one—the correct leadership of the Party, the selfless work of the working class, the cooperativist peasantry and the people's intelligentsia, their revolutionary vigour and spirit, creative initiative and socialist emulation, our economic potential and our internal possibilities.

Firmly upholding the principle of self-reliance and placing it at the foundation of the whole practical activity for the construction of socialism, at the same time the Albanian people, in the next five-year plan too, will certainly be given, as always, the disinterested assistance of the People's Republic of China. The Albanian people are for ever grateful to the great Chinese people, the People's Republic of China, the glorious Communist Party of China and the great Marxist-Leninist Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the most respected friend of the Albanian people, for the generous, fraternal and profoundly internationalist aid they have given and continue to give to our country.

In order to successfully carry out the 1975 plan and get properly prepared for the sixth five-year plan, we are faced with a series of important tasks, in individual branches and the people's economy in general, for the successful fulfilment of which the new Government will take in time all the necessary measures.

In industry, measures will be taken to ensure a more rational utilization of the productive capacities, regular rate of production, and improvement of quality, without neglecting quantity. Particularly in the fuel and power industries, attention will be better concentrated especially on the more intensive, coordinated and rational exploitation of various sources of fuel and electric energy, for a more correct employment of them, applying everywhere the best programmes of work and reduction of losses, and establishing everywhere a strict savings programme. In all branches of industry work will go on vigorously to further increase economic effectiveness and ever better fulfil the needs of the people's economy for industrial products.

The Government will take further measures to see that the agricultural workers, and all the specialists and cadres of that sector, during 1975 and in the coming years, will make more determined allround efforts for the intensification and modernization of agriculture, to place agricultural production on more sound scientific bases, to make it as independent as possible of weather conditions, and to secure stability and continuous increases in yields of agricultural crops and livestock productivity, continuing at the same time the work to extend the cultivated area by means of breaking in new land.

In the field of investments, design and construction, work will continue strictly to carry out the decisions and instructions of the Party and the Government to secure as much economic effectiveness as possible, concentrating forces and means better on the most indispensable projects, and putting them in operation as soon as possible, according to the set timelimits; work will continue on strengthening technical and

financial discipline, and strictly abiding by the demands of the approved project and funds so as to increase labour productivity and reduce construction costs by increasing the extent of mechanisation and applying industrial methods in construction.

In the transport sector attention will be concentrated on improved utilization of vehicles and on carrying out the plan tasks for getting goods to the set destinations in due time, according to contracts, in order to better meet the needs of the economy and of the people.

The fulfilment of the ever increasing material and cultural needs of the people will continue to be the object of special attention by the Government. In the trade sector greater care will be devoted to raising commercial practice levels, giving better service for the people, making a more scientific study of the needs of the population and increasing the role and influence of trade in production, particularly in extending range and assortment and improving product quality. In the sectors of municipal services, more determined efforts will be made to improve services to the people in the town and countryside, more rationally using the material and monetary means set aside for this purpose.

In the health sector measures will be taken to improve preventive work, further developing sanitary culture, especially in the countryside, to improve work in the healing institutions and to use with more effectiveness, order and strict discipline the funds and means made available for the health of the people.

In the field of people's education, the process of the further revolutionization of the school will keep deepening, and its educative role, discipline, and the productivity and quality of teaching and educative work will be strengthened. Greater, more concrete activity will be carried out for the development of our pedagogical science and for the qualification of teachers in all categories of schools.

Our socialist art and culture will assume a great development in the coming years, ever better reflecting our socialist reality in its revolutionary development, according to the teachings of the Party and will always be on the offensive against the imperialist-revisionist ideological aggression towards our country, exposing and flaying mercilessly alien manifestations of whatever type in the field of art and culture, or in any other field of our life.

The research work of scientific institutions will increase and further develop, and will be more closely connected with the tasks of production and the needs of the application of modern technology on a broader scale, as well as with the requirements of the technical and scientific revolution.

Such will be, comrade deputies, in its main lines, the programme of the new Government in the economic and cultural field for the period of the 8th legislature. The carrying out in practice of this revolutionary programme for the building of socialism, in the conditions of the savage imperialist-revisionist encirclement, requires from the State and economic organs, from the centre to the grass-roots, from all the working people

of the town and the countryside, more struggle and efforts, more labour and sweat, more sacrifices, more discipline, consciousness, organisation, control, order and thrift.

In view of the fulfilment of the great tasks we are faced with, the Government will take measures to strengthen and improve its work and that of all the State and economic organs of the country, particularly in certain main directions.

Ideological and political work with the working people will be further intensified in order to deeply instil in their consciousness right concepts and stands on the development, administration and better maintenance of socialist property, to fight liberal manifestations and stand in this direction, to bar any possible tendency to damage or abuse of socialist property, as well as to exercise strict systematic control both from above and from below, state and worker control.

In the field of the socialist organization of work, and its remuneration, according to the instruction of the Central Committee of the Party, efforts will be made to put into practice the measures set down in special decisions of the Council of Ministers to perfect everywhere the transition to wages paid according to category and process of the work place, to pass over to the cultural-professional attestation of workers as well as to the qualification of the technico-administrative personnel, executer through attestation, to further extend participation in work with norms, especially with technical norms, as an indispensable condition for saving labour power and increasing its productivity.

Comrade Enver Hoxha, at the meeting with his electors, said among other things: "Today the situation in the world is such that the interests of the country and defence demand sacrifice and economy as the order of the day". To carry out this instruction from comrade Enver Hoxha we shall do allround ideological, political, social, organisational and technical work in order to ever better place the savings programme at the basis of the method and style of work and the organisation, management, planning and administration of the people's economy, to make it second nature to every working person, with a view to saving everywhere, in everything and continually.

We shall struggle with determination in order to successfully face, in the future too, the imperialist-revisionist blockade towards our country, the influence exerted on our economy by the worsening of the international economic situation, and the frantic, constant rise of prices in the capitalist and revisionist countries, aiming to preserve the present level of retail prices, so that the living standards of the people will not fall but are able to rise.

These situations and needs require that we realize, by every means, all the plan targets, in all their quantitative and qualitative indices, and economize as much as possible, continually reducing production and circulation costs and administrative and socio-cultural expenses, and introducing the savings idea in every aspect of our economic, cultural, state, social and family life, fighting the harmful tendency of some people to demand everything from the State. The government will take all the measures needed to strengthen everywhere the discipli-

ne of work, the discipline of the plan, and financial and contractual discipline, to increase responsibility at work for the fulfilment of tasks and to demand account from everyone.

But as the Party teaches us and as comrade Enver Hoxha instructs us, the main task over all other tasks is for us the continuous strengthening of the defence capacity of our Homeland on the basis of the methods of people's war, which make it possible for even a small country, as our country is, to successfully face and defeat in the battle-field any enemy many times greater and more powerful in manpower and war material. Our people are living, working and building socialism in conditions of encirclement and double blockade. The US imperialists and the social imperialists keep us «in their rifle sights». Our duty is to keep them «before the cannon's mouth». The Government will adopt all the necessary measures so that our army will remain, as always, ideologically pure, loyal to the end to the line of the Party and the interests of the people, and prepared to defend the Homeland from any danger and aggression. And this will, without fail, be done, because our army is an army of the people, born from the people; because here the entire people are soldiers of the revolution, and the Party commands the rifle, not vice-versa. Therefore, our defence is unbreakable, therefore there is no pact and treaty of aggressors that can annihilate socialist Albania militarily.

In order to better meet the tasks we are faced with, measures will be taken to increase the effectiveness of managerial work, and to further improve the method and revolutionary style in the work of the State and economic organs; a more determined and consistent fight will be waged against manifestations of liberalism and bureaucratism; the implementation of the mass line, and the rendering of account to the masses will be further deepened, in order to conserve the revolutionary class character of our State apparatuses, to make them simpler, more effective and less expensive.

In all this great and difficult work we shall, as always, have as a compass the correct Marxist-Leninist line of the Party and comrade Enver Hoxha's teachings for the uninterrupted development of the class struggle, and the enhancement of revolutionary vigilance against the fiendish activity and plans of the internal and external enemies, we shall fight on a broad front to expose and eradicate the influences and manifestations of poisonous bourgeois and revisionist ideology, and the remnants of petty-bourgeois, religious and patriarchal ideology; we shall work to instil better in the minds and consciousness of our men and women Marxist-Leninist concepts, world outlook and ideology, to make them ever more conscious of their duties, of the difficulties which arise and the obstacles that must be overcome in the struggle for the complete construction of socialist society, for the consolidation of the achieved victories and for the defence of the socialist Homeland from any eventual aggression.

Comrade deputies,

Our Government, in its whole activity in the international arena, has faithfully upheld its programme approved by the People's Assembly four years ago, and has successfully accom-

plished the tasks set in this programme. Always enlightened by the Marxist-Leninist line of the Party and comrade Enver Hoxha's teachings, our Government has pursued a revolutionary and principled foreign policy. The People's Republic of Albania has always openly and courageously had its say. In unity with the revolutionary peoples and socialist countries, in solidarity with the progressive democratic states, it has fought and continues to fight against US-led imperialism, against social imperialism and the forces of reaction, for the defence of the cause of the freedom and independence of the peoples, of democracy and progress.

During the years of the 7th legislature, alongside the victories achieved in the building of socialism and the defence of the freedom and sovereignty of the country, there has also been constant strengthening of the international position of our People's Republic, and its prestige and authority in the world have grown. We are glad of and take pride in the fact that our country has loyal friends and numerous well-wishers, everywhere and we gratefully value the sympathy nourished for our people and country by the peoples of other countries, the revolutionary forces, and progressive men and women everywhere in the world.

US imperialism and social imperialism, which are the most savage enemies of mankind and progress, feel socialist Albania like a thorn in their flesh, they see with envy its victories and allround achievements and, in all sorts of ways, some times by threats and blackmail and some times by flattery and demagoguery, have striven and continue to strive to divert it from the road of socialism and the revolution. But they have failed and will continually fail with shame. There is nothing that can move Albania from its strong socialist, anti-imperialist and anti-revisionist positions, today or tomorrow.

The ties of friendship, collaboration and militant solidarity of the Albanian people and the People's Republic of Albania with the other freedom-loving and peace-loving peoples and countries are strengthening from day to day. Our country maintains now diplomatic relations with 67 states. Our relations in the field of trade and cultural exchange, and in other fields, are growing and extending steadily. The doors of Albania are open to real friends. They have always been and will always be shut to enemies, the imperialists, revisionists and reactionaries, to spies and propagators of the poison of bourgeois and revisionist degeneration.

Our foreign policy and relations of friendship and close fraternal collaboration with the countries faithfully upholding the road of socialism and revolution are based on the life-giving principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. An excellent example in this direction is the exceptionally fraternal, social, internationalist relations existing between the People's Republic of Albania and the People's Republic of China, which are developing and strengthening daily in all fields. We shall continually and resolutely work so that the great revolutionary and unbreakable Albanian-Chinese friendship, forged and tempered in fierce class battles, for the same ideals and against the same enemies, by our two heroic

parties and our beloved leaders, comrades Enver Hoxha and Mao Tse-tung, will ever more flourish and shine, for the good of our two peoples, socialism, and revolution. Let the enemies of China and Albania cherish no illusions whatever: there is no force, trick, blackmail, intrigue, devilry, demagoguery, conspiracy or enemy in the world that can touch or damage, in the least, this militant, revolutionary, consistent, internationalist friendship between our two peoples, two parties and two socialist countries.

Our Government has worked and will work to strengthen the relations of fraternal friendship and militant solidarity with the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the Republic of South Vietnam. The Albanian people and their Government will always strongly support the just struggle of the Vietnamese people, in the south and north of the country, against US imperialism and its servants and for the complete realization of their lofty national aspirations.

We shall develop and still more strengthen our relations of friendship and close collaboration with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in the common interest of our two peoples. We hail the successes achieved by the fraternal Korean people in the building of socialism and we shall support the just struggle being waged by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea against the aggressive policy and interference of US imperialism in the internal affairs of the Korean people and for the independent reunification of the country.

Our people and Government have backed and will unreservedly back to the end the armed struggle of the heroic Cambodian people against the aggression of US imperialism and the traitorous Lon Nol clique, and will defend the rights of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, which is the sole government in Cambodia entitled to represent the Cambodian people in international relations.

Our Government supports the further development of the relations between the People's Republic of Albania and the Socialist Republic of Rumania, in areas of mutual benefit and in the interests of strengthening the friendship between the Albanian people and the Rumanian people.

The building and development of normal good neighbourly relations between the People's Republic of Albania and neighbouring states remains an unchanged aim of our foreign policy. It is in the interests of our people and of the neighbour countries, the defence of their freedom and independence, and peace and stability in the Balkans and the Adriatic area that, in the most suitable way for each country, and without interference in the internal affairs of each other, these relations are developed still further.

Our Government has always displayed due care for the normal development of state relations between our country and Yugoslavia. We think that there exist possibilities, on the basis of mutual understanding, and acting in a constructive spirit for these relations to develop still more, in a useful manner acceptable to both sides, in those fields in which the peoples of our countries are reciprocally interested. The establishment of diplomatic relations between Albania and Greece was an act which met the interests and aspirations of the two peoples, which put an end to an abnormal situation and paved the way for the development of good relations in a series of fields. Our Government will not spare its efforts to concretize and further develop these relations in those directions which both

sides consider suitable. We shall never allow any evil to come to the fraternal peoples of Yugoslavia and Greece through Albania; and we hope that they too judge as we do and will act in the same way towards us.

Our Government has shown good will for the development of normal good neighbourly relations with Italy too. But, of course, to achieve this the other side too must have the same desire and make sincere efforts. We notice with regret that recently in Italy, where the fascist forces are being intensively activated, events have taken place which do not serve the good neighbourly relations between our two countries. In the conditions, it is for the Italian Government to draw the proper conclusions.

We have striven and shall strive in the future too for the development of relations of friendship with the Turkish people and the Republic of Turkey.

Strong ties of traditional friendship and powerful solidarity in the struggle against imperialism and reaction exist between the Albanian people and the Arab people. On this basis we have developed and will further develop our relations with the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Algerian Democratic and People's Republic, and with other Arab countries.

History had not known before any case in which a state sold its citizens for money. But in October 1974, such a state emerged in Europe – the social imperialist state which reached an agreement with the swindler of the interests of the peoples, Henry Kissinger, to send every year 60,000 citizens of the social imperialist state to the state of Israel, in return for the credits it will receive from US imperialism and the granting of «most favoured nation» status by the United States of America. These 60,000 people do not go to America, as emigrants, but to Israel, to fight against the Arab people whom social imperialism pretends to support. This supply of Israel with manpower by the social imperialists will continue every year. Social imperialism has thus become the greatest supplier of aggressor Israel with manpower for work, science and war. Such is the extent to which the perfidy and treachery of the social imperialist superpower towards the peoples has gone! We denounce with contempt and condemn with hatred this base trade of human beings between the two superpowers against the fraternal Arab people, who will know how to draw the due conclusions.

Our country backs the just struggle of the sovereign freedom-loving and peace-loving countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America to preserve and consolidate national independence and sovereignty, to take into their own hands their national riches and natural resources, to ensure economic independence, and to guarantee their independent development. We have established diplomatic relations with a large number of countries in these areas, and our contacts with them are gradually extending. Our Government will strive, within the possibilities of our country, to concretize and further extend in the future the friendly relations with Pakistan, Tanzania, Guinea, the Congo, Argentina, Peru, Mexico and other countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. We are conducting negotiations to establish relations with some other states too and we are willing to create diplomatic ties with all the progressive countries which respect the known principles and norms governing relations between sovereign countries.

We have developed state relations and have increased trade and cultural exchanges with France, Austria, Switzerland, and the Nordic and Scandinavian countries. In the future too we shall uphold our known friendly stand on the development of relations with these countries, in those fields which give us mutual benefit.

Our country's stand towards the USA, which pursues an aggressive imperialist policy, towards some capitalist countries which have not yet repaired the injuries and injustices done to the Albanian people and towards some states where reactionary fascist and racist regimes rule, has always been clearcut. We have not maintained relations with them. Comrade Enver Hoxha once more gave the proper reply to the Government of the USA, Britain and the Federal German Republic concerning the question of establishing diplomatic relations with Albania. This is our clearcut stand with regard to relations with these countries.

The social imperialists should well remember comrade Enver Hoxha's words in reply to their statements about «the great desire» they allegedly have for relations with the People's Republic of Albania! They, better than anybody else, must know that neither threats nor flattery work with us; and that we neither want nor will want the least contact, let alone diplomatic relations, with these sworn enemies to Albania's freedom and independence, who are the greatest and most dangerous traitors to socialism, history has ever known. We shall fight and expose them to the end.

With the countries where revisionist leaderships are in power, which have submitted to the social imperialists and have been incited by the latter to anti-socialist activity, we have only limited state relations. It is a wellknown fact that this is not our fault. The leaderships of these countries should not hope to receive from our Government a different answer from the one they have received so far. The Albanian people are sorry about the sufferings of these countries under the oppression of the social imperialists, and keep their feelings of friendship for them. But we openly say that the people of a country which allows its territory to be turned into a place d'armes of the social imperialists against the People's Republic of Albania and other countries take a heavy responsibility on themselves.

Comrade deputies,

The session of the People's Assembly convenes at a time when the world is in a period of dynamic developments. The present international situation, particularly the situation in Europe, especially in the Balkan and Mediterranean area, is characterized not by détente, as the US imperialists, the social imperialists and their servants make out, but by a rise in tension. The cause of this explosive situation is to be sought in the permanent rivalry of the two superpowers for hegemony in the world and in their short-term collaboration, to the detriment of the peoples.

But irrespective of the desires and actions of the two superpowers, time works for the revolution, against the two superpowers. The peoples of the entire world, and an increasingly greater number of sovereign countries, are rising with determination to oppose the aggressive policy of the two imperialist superpowers, to destroy colonialism and neocolonialism, to defend their freedom and independence, their natural riches and resources. In this struggle the sovereign

freedom-loving and peace-loving peoples and states draw inspiration from each other, strengthen solidarity with each other. A role of historic importance is played in this struggle and a large contribution is made to it today, by the People's Republic of China, which is the impregnable fortress of socialism and the revolution in the world, the real great and powerful friend of the peoples.

The two imperialist superpowers are intensifying their expansionist policy and activity, they are preparing to throw mankind into a new slaughter, more terrible than the Second World War. They speak of disarmament while they are arming themselves to the teeth. They speak about peace, but are making preparations for war. They speak about relaxation of tension, but undertake aggressions. They speak about the solution of conflicts and delicate problems, but instigate quarrels among the states. They speak about aid, but increase their plunder and exploitation of other peoples and countries.

The People's Republic of Albania has exposed and will forcefully expose the aggressive activity and demagogic slogans the two superpowers and their heralds are spreading. This is our duty, as it is the duty of every people and every state. And we think that this duty must be accomplished right to the end by everyone who sincerely desires to work for the cause of the peoples, of real peace and security.

The Albanian Government has condemned and forcefully condemns the barbarous aggression of US imperialism against the Vietnamese people, the Cambodian people and the other peoples of Indochina, and will support their just struggle through to the end.

In the Middle East the Israeli Zionist aggressors and the two imperialist superpowers are striving, through pressure and blackmail, through plots and tricks, to restore their positions, which received a heavy blow during the heroic war waged by the Arab people in October last year. Under the cloak of searching for a solution to the Middle East problem, the two superpowers are seeking to once more impose the «no war no peace» situation on the Arab countries, and want to accomplish their plot for the liquidation of the cause of the Palestinian people. Peace and stability in the Middle East will be established only when the Israel Zionist occupiers withdraw from all the occupied Arab territories, and when the national aspirations of the Palestinian people who are waging a just struggle to regain their stolen homeland, and return to their territory, are fully realized. Our people and Government are confident that the Arab people, in unity with each other, by their determined struggle, will without fail realize their sacred aspirations. We have been and will always remain with them in this just struggle.

Our Government has most determinedly condemned the two superpowers as mainly responsible for the suffering and miseries that struck the people of Cyprus recently, and for the grave situation, fraught with dangers, they created in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Balkans. It thinks that the Cypriots themselves, without any foreign interference, must find a solution to the difficult and complicated problems that have been created in Cyprus, and that Cyprus must be an independent and sovereign state where the two ethnic communities live in harmony and enjoy equal rights.

Our People's Republic, as a Mediterranean and European state, is profoundly concerned about peace and security on the European continent and in the Mediterranean area.

It always upholds the view that the peoples and countries of the Mediterranean must struggle to compel the aggressive fleets of the two superpowers to withdraw from this sea, must demand the withdrawal of the military and naval bases of the two superpowers and must not allow foreign warships into their ports, on whatever pretext.

Our country has not failed to make its modest contribution to the examination of a series of important problems in the United Nations and in other international organisations and forums in which it has taken part.

«The People's Republic of Albania», comrade Enver Hoxha said in his speech at the meeting with his electors, «has its own opinions, and it carries out its constructive policy openly, in the light of the sun. No question is alien to it, and it allows nobody to shut its mouth... False modesty and the opportunist spirit of a slave are alien to the policy of the Albanian State and of the dictatorship of the proletariat».

Our Government will always pursue, in the future too, this principled and revolutionary policy, the force and correctness of which have been confirmed by life itself. We are convinced that, under the leadership of the Party, we shall always have successes and victories in the practical realization of this principled foreign policy, which serves the interests of our people and our Homeland, and the cause of the freedomloving peoples of the world, socialism, the revolution, and general peace and security.

* * *

This is, comrade deputies, the course the new Government will follow and the tasks it will accomplish in the coming years. We are profoundly convinced that we shall achieve new and still greater successes and victories on the road of the complete construction of the socialist society. A firm guarantee for this is the correct and crystal-clear line of our glorious Party of Labour, the determination and the high revolutionary spirit of our working class and of our entire people, the economic basis we have built, the invincible defence power of our country, as well as the work and sweat of our people and the great experience we have amassed in the organisation and management of the economy and of all other sectors.

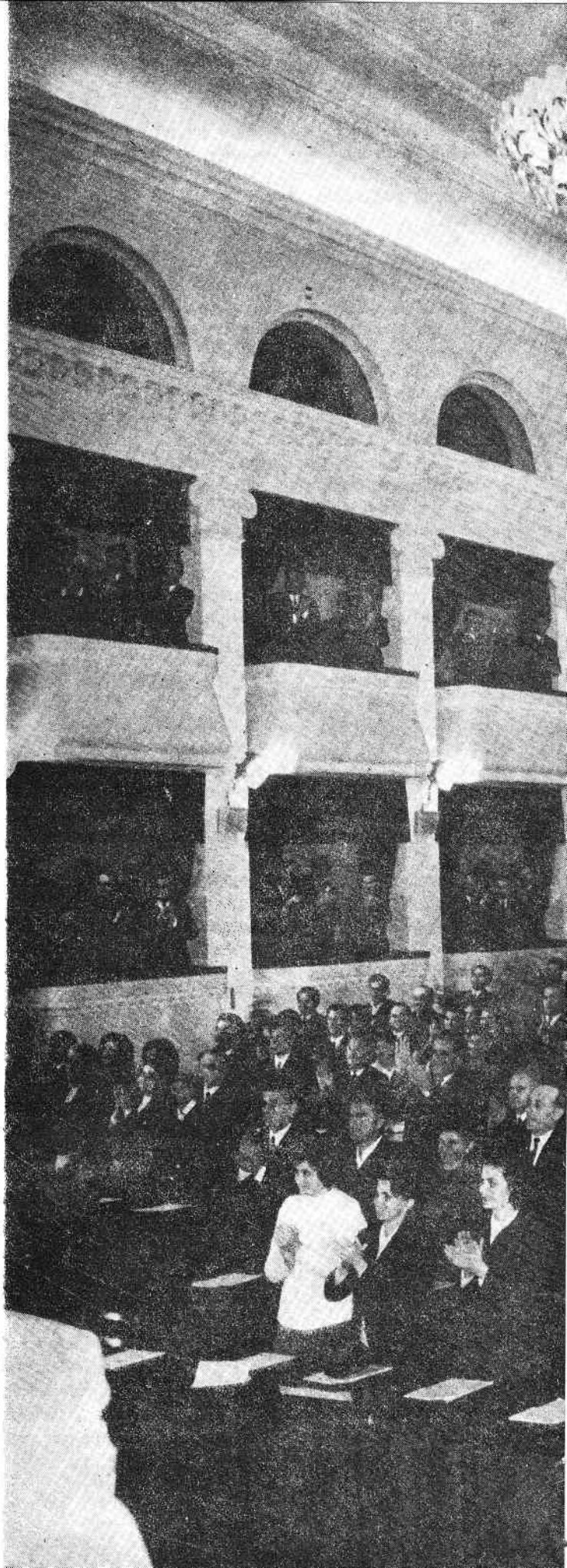
TIME WORKS FOR US. THE FUTURE BELONGS TO SOCIALISM AND COMMUNISM!

LONG LIVE OUR HEROIC AND INDUSTRIOUS PEOPLE!

LONG LIVE OUR GLORIOUS PARTY AND ITS CENTRAL COMMITTEE WITH COMRADE ENVER HOXHA AT THE HEAD!

LONG LIVE THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA!

Deputies approve unanimously the programme of the Government presented by the chairman of the Council of Ministers Mehmet Shehu





GLORIOUS JUBILEE OF THE ALBANIAN PEOPLE

by **HYSNI KAPO**

DEAR COMRADES,
DEAR FRIENDS,

TODAY THE WHOLE ALBANIA IS JUBILATING. OUR ENTIRE PEOPLE, WITH GREAT JOY AND MAJOR SUCCESSES, ARE CELEBRATING THE GLORIOUS JUBILEE, THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF THE HOMELAND, AND OF THE TRIUMPH OF THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTION. THE 29TH OF NOVEMBER 1944 MARKS THE MOST CELEBRATED DATE IN THE ENTIRE CENTURIES-LONG HISTORY OF THE ALBANIAN PEOPLE, A DECISIVE TURNING POINT IN THEIR DESTINY. FOR ALBANIA IT MARKS THE DEADLINE DIVIDING TWO WORLDS, THE OLD WORLD OF OPPRESSION AND EXPLOITATION, OF OBSCURITY AND INJUSTICE, WHICH BELONGS TO THE PAST, AND THE NEW SOCIALIST WORLD, THE WORLD OF FREEDOM, PROGRESS AND HAPPINESS, WHICH SHE ENJOYS TODAY.

The new socialist Albania comes to this distinguished jubilee with magnificent victories, revived and flourishing, proud of the road traversed and full of confidence in the future. She comes with a steel unity of the people round the Party, with comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, she comes to this jubilee as a powerful and unconquerable bastion of socialism, as a free and sovereign country, respected and honoured, with friends and well-wishers throughout the world.

On this joyful day, the Central Committee of the Party, the Presidium of the People's Assembly, the Government and the Democratic Front greet our valiant and revolutionary people, the heroic working class, the cooperativist peasantry, the youth and the women of our country, the intelligentsia and the People's Army, all our armed forces, for the glorious work

Speech held by comrade HYSNI KAPO, Member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the CC of the PLA, at the festive meeting on the 30th anniversary of the liberation of the Homeland and the triumph of the people's revolution, Tirana, November 28th 1974.

they have done and the major victories they have achieved in the construction and defence of the socialist homeland.

For centuries on end, the Albanian people have fought the foreign enemies and have shed their blood in torrents for their existence as a people and as a nation, for the defence of their freedom and independence, of their tongue, and their best customs and traditions. Innumerable are the sacrifices they have made all along their millenary history, but they could never see happy days. It took the birth from the bosom of the people of the Communist Party of Albania, which in the hard days of fascist occupation, under the leadership of the beloved son of our people, comrade Enver Hoxha, sounded the call and aroused the masses of the people to their feet to oust by force of arms the foreigners from Albanian soil and, at the same time, also to overthrow the ruling classes, to make the revolution and to achieve the historic victory of the 29th of November 1944.

The magnificence of this victory does not rest only on the fact that it ensured genuine freedom national independence

for our people, but also because it brought them their genuine social liberation. Albania detached itself definitively from the capitalist and imperialist system. She emerged in the international arena as a completely sovereign state, with her own personality and an entirely independent policy. The victory of the 29th of November 1944 opened a new historic epoch for our country – the epoch of the construction of the new socialist society.

The more years go, the more we move away from the time of the 29th of November 1944, the more remarkable, the more magnificent and titanic stands out the heroic National Liberation War, the more brilliant and immortal appears the deed of the Party, the more brilliantly shine and the higher rise the sacrifices, courage, and valiance of our people.

Our courageous and patriotic people, with their heroic Party at their head, put in all their energies and forces in the National Liberation War, made the greatest sacrifices ever known in their history, gave the war thousands and thousands of their best sons and daughters, gave it their blood, their property, and their belongings, gave it their proud and indomitable spirit. On the National Liberation War they centered their existence, their hopes and aspirations. It was a life-and-death struggle, in which the supreme destiny of the homeland was at stake. As never before, in this war burst out the lofty feelings of patriotism, the ardent love for freedom, the deep hatred against the fascist occupiers and the sworn enemies of

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the Albanian people, against the ruling classes which had oppressed and exploited them to the marrow, and which had become the instruments of the occupier. It is in this war that the unity of our people, and their solidarity with all other nations and people fighting for national freedom and independence, democracy and the progress of mankind was steeled.

The victory of the 29th of November 1944 is closely linked with the name and deed of our heroic Party, with the name of its founder and leader, comrade Enver Hoxha. In the Communist Party the Albanian people for the first time found a genuine leadership able to guide them through difficult and complex situations and to solve the great problems raised by the revolution.

The Party pointed out to the people the sole correct road for the achievement of victory, explained to them its objectives and actually led them into battles. It implanted in the minds of the people its ideology and policy, enhanced their confidence in their own forces, linked them to the powerful world anti-fascist revolutionary movement and led them to the greatest and most glorious victory in their history.

The National Liberation War was a genuine and great people's revolution. Along with national liberation, it solved in a radical manner the question of state power to the advantage of the working masses with the working class at the head. Here lies also the peculiarity and the historical experience of our National Libe-

ration War. It demonstrated, through its original example, that for the realization of these great objectives it is indispensable, first of all, to ensure the unshared leadership of the communist party, the unity of the people on a single front, the creation of a new people's army, the destruction of the old administration and the setting up of the organs of the new people's power. It was a war of the rank and file, a war of the workers, peasants and the ordinary people. This gave it a broad popular character, which was a guarantee for its final victory.

Our people, educated and led by their Communist Party, rose in war against fascism, conscious that they were fighting not only for their own freedom and independence but also for the freedom and the rights of the other enslaved peoples. Our National Liberation War was an integral and inseparable part of the world anti-fascist war.

28,000 martyrs to the war against fascism gave our small people. Their sons and daughters fell in battles fought also beyond the borders of their homeland. They did this in the name of the freedom of their people and homeland, in the name of the liberation of the peoples and of the victory over fascism. We take legitimate pride in the contribution we have made, which, in proportion to the population, ranks among the highest among the countries which fought against fascism.

This is an undisputable historic reality. However, in the world there are traitors

to Marxism-Leninism, there are great-state chauvinists, such as the Soviet social-imperialists and their lackeys, who endeavour to bedim this reality and to attribute the liberation of Albania not to the Albanian people and to their Party, but to someone else. No one has ever negated the decisive role of the Soviet Union and of the Red Army, led by great Stalin, in the destruction of fascism.

But we tell these gentlemen that the victory of 29th of November 1944, the birth of the new Albania was ensured through the heroic war, the sacrifices and the blood of the Albanian people, who, under the leadership of the Communist Party, drove the fascist occupiers out of the borders of the homeland and carried out the people's revolution, without being necessary for the Soviet Army to come to Albania.

As a link of the world proletarian revolution, the National Liberation War weakened the position of international imperialism and capitalism and increased and strengthened the forces of socialism. With their victory the Albanian people aligned themselves side by side with the world revolutionary forces which were fighting for socialism and communism. Albania became a base of the victorious revolution, a support for all those fighting against capitalist and imperialist oppression and exploitation.

The National Liberation War was the continuation and termination of the centuries-old efforts of our people to achieve freedom and justice, and especially of

that great national movement which began with the celebrated men of our National Revival. Their lofty patriotic, democratic and progressive ideals were raised by this movement to a higher degree and were completely realized. Today, by commemorating and honouring the National Liberation War, we commemorate and honour all the liberation wars and efforts of our people, and in a special manner, those of the valiant fighters who as early as the 28th of November 1912 hoisted the national flag in Vlora, proclaimed the independence of Albania and created the first independent national Albanian state, we pay homage to and commemorate all the patriots and valiant fighters, who have given everything, even their lives, for the cause of the freedom and the homeland.

In this glorious jubilee we express our deepest gratitude to our valiant and patriotic people, to our glorious Party, to all the heroic partisan fighters, to all those courageous men and women, who with their rifles in the mountains and their revolutionary activity in the towns, spared nothing for the victory over fascism. We express our deepest gratitude to the thousands upon thousands of heroes who gave their lives for the freedom of Albania in bloody clashes with the barbarous fascists and traitors, with the name of the Party upon their lips.

Their example and deeds, their sacrifices and courage remain for ever indelible in our minds and hearts. They always inspire us to faithfully uphold the lofty ideals for which they made the supreme sacrifice, so as to defend our freedom and independence, the achievements of the revolution, to defend and strengthen our people's power, to constantly promote the cause of socialism and communism in Albania.

Comrades,

The National Liberation War stands and will stand on the groundwork of the new socialist Albania. Here lie the roots of all the achievements we enjoy today, of our consistent revolutionary policy, of our economy, of our proletarian ethics and socialist culture, of the features and habits of our new man. Here lie the roots of the great unity of our people, of the people-party-power steel links, of our staunch stand in the face of the threats and pressure by all enemies, of our determination and courage in the defence of the victo-

ries of the revolution, in surmounting all difficulties, in forging always forward.

The 30 years that have elapsed since November 1944 are not a less glorious epic than that of the National Liberation War. During this period, our people under the leadership of the Party have brought about such economic and social transformations which constitute deep revolutionary changes, have made such colossal progress that, in other conditions, would have taken centuries to come about. These thirty years represent the genuine rebirth of the Albanian people. Albania emerged once and for good from the centuries-long backwardness and, as to its economic-social order, she is an entire epoch ahead of the self-styled progressive and developed bourgeois countries.

The road traversed by our people over these thirty years has been a path of heroic war and struggle. To come to the present state we have had to overcome innumerable obstacles and difficulties, to cope with and smash numerous and powerful, both internal and external enemies, to tread unbeaten paths for the solution of complicated problems facing our small, poor and backward country, which was just embarking on the road of socialism.

It was necessary to reconstruct the war-ravaged country, to curb the stubborn political and economic resistance of the former exploiting classes, to rout the numerous bands of the reaction, to foil the pressure and provocations of the imperialists and oppose the brutal interference of the revisionists. With the heroic working class at their head, under the leadership of their Party, with unbound confidence in its Marxist-Leninist line, our people persisted in their militant road and carried revolution ahead.

The new socialist Albania is built and raised to her present height through great sacrifices and toil, through the sweat of her glorious people. During this period our people have had to build and watch, to hold the pick and the rifle in their hands, to be workers and soldiers at the same time.

The imperialists, the revisionists and their agents within the country left no stone unturned, they resorted to all sorts of plots and schemes in order to check our triumphant march, to introduce degeneration into our order, to drive it back to capitalism, to turn our people into their slaves, and our country into their colony.

But the steel broom of the revolution, the powerful fist of our Party and people have smashed and liquidated them mercilessly.

It is to the great credit of our Party and people that, under the difficult conditions of the imperialist-revisionist blockade, they have known how to defend and consolidate the victories of the revolution and carry ahead non-stop the cause of the socialist construction.

The Party and the people, with great revolutionary enthusiasm, went down to the gigantic task of the reconstruction of the country and the realization of radical social and economic transformations. In town and countryside, the socialist ownership on the means of production was established everywhere, the multifarious economy was abolished and a single system of socialist economy was set up. The construction of the economic base of socialism within a relatively short period of time is the next great achievement after the establishment of the people's power. This marked the triumph of the socialist revolution in the decisive field of the social life, in the economy.

The working people of the new socialist Albania, under the leadership of our heroic Party, illuminated by and armed with its line and teachings, became the owners of the country's riches and of the produce they turn out in the sweat of their brow. The Party made the people understand that by working and fighting for the all-round development of the country they are working for themselves, for the society, for their own happy future. Our younger generation does not know and will never know of the serious and incurable evils of the capitalist society, exploitation, unemployment, crises, anarchy, which have been eliminated once and for good from the life of our society.

The thirty years that have elapsed have been thirty years of great construction work and creative efforts for the transformation of Albania from a backward agrarian country into a country with a new and powerful industry. Time proved that the line followed by the Party for the industrialization of the country was correct and salutary. Today our country boasts a manysided industry harmoniously developed, equipped with modern machinery, based on the utilization of the country's material and human resources and ever better meeting the growing needs of the society.

The present bears no comparison with the past, because almost everything has been started from scratch. Our economy has undergone not only quantitative but also colossal qualitative transformations. New powerful branches have been set up like the power, metalurgic, chemical, engineering and machine building industry, the paper, glass, sugar, building material, and textile industry, and so on. Today it takes our industry only four days to turn out the entire value of the industrial production of the year 1938, and only 2 days for the power industry. Now it is produced 20 times as much crude oil, 87 times as much chromium ore, and 219 times as much coal as against in 1938.

Our people have had to make no small sacrifices for the setting up and development of industry. But they have been and are being rewarded with each passing day. The great march of Albania towards industrialization has strengthened the political and economic independence of the country, raised the defence potential of the homeland, formed and tempered a new working class which constitutes the backbone of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

A great revolution has been carried out also in the countryside, affecting not only the mode of production but also the entire life of peasantry. Our Party has consistently applied the Leninist teaching that socialism cannot be built without the revolutionary transformation of the countryside. The collectivization of agriculture, which ushered the countryside in to the road of socialism, eliminated backwardness, fragmentation, isolation, old habits and traditions, the mentality of the petty landowner. It established new social and economic relations, implanted a new progressive spirit, reinstated the peasant to his dignity and personality, made him a fighter for innovation and progress.

Only under the people's power tractors and chemical fertilizers appeared in our village, marches were drained and plains improved, new seeds were introduced and scientifically advanced agronomy and cattle-breeding implanted. For the first time thousands of agronomists, zootechnicians, teachers, physicians and cadres of various specialities were sent there for the rapid development of our countryside. Our agriculture is already embarked with determination on the road of its intensive modernization and development; it is fulfilling ever better the needs of the

people and of the industry for foodstuffs and raw materials.

Today, the area under cultivation has increased 2.2 times above that of the pre-liberation period and global agricultural production 3.5 times at a time when the population has increased by 2.2 times. As result of the land improvement schemes carried out during this thirty-year period the newly reclaimed land and that improved occupy 40 per cent of the whole area under cultivation. As against the 10.5 per cent of the land under irrigation in 1938, today 56 per cent of the land is under irrigation. Thousands of tractors and other agricultural machines are now at work on our fields. A small district like that of Kolonja alone has today six times more tractors than the whole of Albania had prior to the war.

The major progress and the deep changes that have been effected in the economic development of the country have created today an entirely new structure of social production and national income. Now industrial production occupies 56 per cent of global social production as against 7 per cent in 1938, while the specific weight of agricultural production during this period has been reduced from 90.5 per cent to 26 per cent.

These data speak clearly that in Albania it is being speedily realized the process of changing it from a thoroughly backward agricultural country into a developed industrial-agrarian one.

Guided by Lenin's teachings, the Party has considered cultural revolution as an integral part of the development and deepening of the socialist revolution, because without knowledge and culture, without many and qualified cadres no socialist society can be built.

The old regimes had left the people in darkness, and people who had been trained in schools could be numbered with one's fingers. There were numerous obstacles, and difficulties seemed unsurmountable. But thanks to the farsighted guidance of the Party and of the great work done by the People's Power, a major revolution has been effected also in this field. A whole network of schools and cultural institutions has been set up which extends to the four corners of the homeland, for all the masses. Higher schools were opened for the first time in Albania from which have graduated thousands of cadres who have rendered and continue to render a major contribution to the socia-

list construction of the country. Education was founded on Marxist-Leninist and popular lines, and a new socialist culture has been set up. As against the 56,000 students in 1938, today we have over 700,000 students, or one in every three persons attends school. The «7 Nëntori» Polytechnicum alone has today as many students as all the secondary schools had in Albania prior to the war.

Today, there has been created a powerful stratum of our people's intelligentsia who have come from the ranks of the working masses, imbued with the spirit of the Party, closely bound to the people, loyal to the cause of socialism. The fact that in Albania today there are such a large number of students and teachers, artists, writers, technicians, engineers and scholars is a living proof of the colossal proportions assumed by our cultural revolution and of the correct line pursued by our Party and our People's Power in this direction.

Under the direct guidance and inspiration of our Party our working masses have launched a major combat to uproot alien reactionary, feudal, patriarchal, religious, bourgeois, petty bourgeois and other alien reactionary ideologies. Many old moral and political norms and concepts have been done away with, many outdated dogmas and traditions have been broken, all the spiritual chains which strangled and stifled the energies of the masses of the people and hampered their advancement have been broken. An outstanding victory of our revolution and a living proof of the emancipation of the whole society is the emancipation of women who enjoy equal rights with their menfolk in all the spheres of social and family life, becoming in this way a major force in production and in all the other sectors of the life and socialist development of the country. Our country is justified in being proud of our man imbued by the Party with proletarian ideology, who stands out for his high moral and political virtues, for his fiery patriotism and sincere internationalism, for his loyalty to the cause of the people and unflinching revolutionary spirit, for his creative and constructive spirit.

The face of Albania and her life have undergone a radical change during these thirty years of liberation. Cities and villages have been renovated from their very foundations. About 70 per cent of the dwelling houses in cities and the coun-

tryside have been built after the liberation of the country. There is no village and house in Albania which is not lit by electricity. Socialist Albania has one of the most democratic and progressive systems of health care for the people. Public health institutions extend to the most remote villages, and medical aid of every kind is given free of charge to every citizen. These recent 6 or 7 years Albania has become the country where the people pay no dues or taxes.

Ours is a new socialist society in which there are no longer exploiting classes. It is a compact society made up of friendly classes and strata which have common aims and fundamental interests. It is characterized by a steel-like unity of the people round the Party and the People's Power, by solidarity and mutual aid among the people, by the common struggle in defense of communist ideals.

It is a pure and sound society immune from the deformities and distortions of bourgeois society, from the qualms and fear that come from insecurity of the present and the fear of the future. Alien to our country are the physical and moral degeneration of the younger generation which are met with in capitalist and revisionist countries, the savage and merciless violence against the unprotected, the many discriminations and crying social inequalities.

Socialism has provided our man with the necessary conditions for a free life, materially and culturally guaranteed. It has given him the sense of personal dignity, of respect for himself and for others, the feeling that he is an equal and useful citizen for his homeland.

Our Party of Labour has continually devoted the greatest concern to the defense of the achievements of the National-Liberation War and of the construction of socialism. The defence potential of our Republic is invincible, because it is guaranteed by all the people in arms, men and women, old and young, because our people and the army are one and inseparable, because it is based on a Marxist-Leninist tactics and strategy, on the concepts and principles of the people's war worked out with wisdom and knowledge by our Party of Labour. Our country boasts a strong army which pursues the glorious traditions of the heroic partisans, an army equipped with all the necessary means, trained and tempered politically and militarily. The steps taken by our Party to

revolutionize the army have aimed and continue to aim at strengthening without a break the leading role of the Party in the army and linking the army with the people so that it may always be a consistent revolutionary people's army, loyal to the end to the cause of the Party and socialism, prepared to make any sacrifice in order to protect the homeland.

We have never based the protection of our country on the combinations of higher diplomacy or on the conjunctures created in the international arena. In the question of defence our fundamental principle is also that of relying on our own resources, on the forces of our brave and invincible people, on their patriotism, on their freedom-loving sentiments and their unconquerable spirit.

The force and invincibility of socialist Albania lie in the monolithic people-party-power unity. It is this unity that has met with and smashed all the attempts of the internal and external enemies to turn us away from the socialist line and to grab the achievements of our revolution. This unity, as it has been proved so many times during these thirty years, makes up that great force which advances our society, which protects the freedom and independence of our homeland, which insures and warrants socialism.

All the successes and achievements attained during these thirty years are the work of our heroic working class, our cooperativist peasantry, our people's intelligentsia, of all our people who build socialism in Albania under the leadership of our Party. They are due to our heroic Party, its correct revolutionary line, its wise and realistic program and its farsighted guidance. They bespeak the force and vitality of the Marxist-Leninist ideas, the superiority of socialism.

Comrades!

The great efforts of our people to defend the achievements attained and to promote the revolution, their struggle in defense of Marxism-Leninism against modern revisionism, this great treason and dangerous enemy of socialism, write one of the most glorious pages into the history of our Party and our people. Right from the start our Party has fought with courage and determination against this opportunist and regressive trend in the communist movement and has consistently upheld Marxist-Leninist ideology, the socialist li-

ne, the freedom and independence of the homeland and the revolutionary cause of the working class and of the peoples of the whole world.

The modern revisionists headed by the Khrushchevites did all they could to turn the Party of Labour of Albania away from its Marxist-Leninist course, to subdue and subjugate it. They used against it all the arsenal of their dirty weapons, intrigues, blackmail, slanders, plots and blockades up to open calls and attempts for counter-revolution in Albania. But all these attempts have been foiled and smashed by the heroic stand of our Party and our people who, for the noble ideals of communism, of the freedom and independence of their homeland preferred to be exterminated rather than submit to the renegades and revisionist traitors.

Through the blockade they undertook against Albania, the Soviet revisionists expected it to mark time and not to survive without their aid. But what has reality shown? Albania not only withstood the revisionist storm, but the war against it made it stronger and more unbreakable. Relying on its own resources and having the internationalist assistance of the People's Republic of China, Albania has attained high rates of development and achieved brilliant results. During these years, there have been set up new branches of industry, powerful thermo-electric and hydro-electric stations, the oil and engineering industries have been developed at a high rate. Today, our industry produces 3.5 times as much as in 1960. The production of the food-stuffs industry alone is much larger than all the industrial production in 1960, while the production of electric power is 8 times and that of engineering nearly 12 times as high. During these years, great progress has also been marked in agriculture, the production of which has been more than doubled. Under construction are also such magnificent projects as the Metallurgical Works in Elbasan, Oil Refinery in Ballsh, the Fierza Hydro-electric Power-plant and others which will make up a sound and sure basis for the further development of all the economy of the country.

The Khrushchevite revisionists tried to isolate us but they themselves became isolated. Are we perhaps isolated because we have no relations with them, as Radio Moscow pities us? Our Party and Government have publicly stated and are repeating it once again that Albania has not

had and will never have relations with the Moscow revisionists. We have waged and will continue to wage an irreconcilable struggle against the revisionist renegades who are in power in the Soviet Union.

In this so difficult as heroic battle, our country, far from being isolated, has won the sympathy and love of all those who oppose oppression, pressures intervention, and great power chauvinism. The high principality, loyalty to the teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin, revolutionary maturity, the sense of responsibility for the future of the revolution and socialism, the high spirit of proletarian internationalism which our Party and people have shown in the struggle against modern revisionism have aroused the admiration of all the revolutionaries and peoples of the world.

Today we all are witnesses of the counter-revolutionary process which took place in the Soviet Union and in the other countries where the revisionists hold sway, of the great degeneration affecting the communist parties following the road of revisionism. The modern revisionists, with the Soviet revisionists at the head, are traitors to Marxism-Leninism, collaborators of the bourgeoisie and imperialism. In the Soviet Union, Leninism has been stamped out, the ideals of the October Revolution have been trampled underfoot, victories of socialism have been wiped out. The Soviet people, just like those of the other countries where the revisionists are ruling, now languish under the oppression and exploitation of the new bourgeoisie, nations and nationalities suffer under great Russian chauvinism.

The Soviet Union has been transformed into a chauvinist and hegemonist power, which vies with US imperialism for the extension of the zones of influence and rule over the world. Like the United States, in order to further its own imperialist and egoistic interests, it is fighting socialism, undermining revolution, sabotaging the liberation war of the peoples, plotting against the nations and states so as to bring them under its yoke.

The revisionist parties of the West have been transformed into parties of the social-democratic type, into servants of the bourgeoisie, into scabs, and defenders champions of the capitalist order.

In spite of the exposure it has been subjected to and the defeats it has suffered, revisionism as an ideological trend and

as an imperialist power is still up and doing. It still constitutes a continuous danger and threat, therefore the struggle against it too, as an inseparable part of the struggle against imperialism, should be uninterrupted, consistent and be carried through to the end.

The Party of Labour of Albania, aware of its national and international duties, side by side with the Communist Party of China, together with all the Marxist-Leninist parties and forces in the world, as it has done so far, in the future too, it will fight against imperialism and its offspring - revisionism - with the same energy and along the same principles, up to its complete undoing and destruction. In this struggle it abides by the teaching of Lenin that «one of the indispensable conditions for the training of the proletariat for its victory is the protracted, determined and ruthless struggle against opportunism, reformism, social-chauvinism and any bourgeois influence of this kind. . . Without this struggle, without the complete preliminary victory over opportunism in the workers' movement, the dictatorship of the proletariat is unconceivable.

The struggle against modern revisionism has been a great school for our Party and people. In this struggle they were politically and ideologically tempered, learnt to tell their friends from their foes, further strengthened their compactness and unity, sharpened their revolutionary vigilance against any hostile activity and alien ideology.

It has been proven that revisionism is not an unavoidable fatality. If a correct, consistent, and principled Marxist-Leninist course is followed, if the class struggle is waged without vacillation and the line of the masses is carried out, if the state power and the entire life of the country are steadily revolutionized, then the dictatorship of the proletariat, the cause of socialism are unbreakable.

The great merit of our Party rests in the fact that, while following the teachings of comrade Enver Hoxha, it has not allowed either any sort of distortion which might have led to the degeneration of the socialist order, as happened in the Soviet Union, or the creation of such situations which might have endangered, however little, the power of the working class. All the counter-revolutionary efforts of the enemies and of the external and internal renegades have been stamped out and smashed.

Our Party drew lessons of great theoretical and practical value from what happened in the Soviet Union and elsewhere.

Above all, the Party and comrade Enver Hoxha, on the basis of the accumulated experience, re-emphasized the Marxist-Leninist thesis that the class struggle continues throughout the period of the transition from capitalism to communism, and that this constitutes one of the principal motor forces which drive the society ahead, strengthen its unity, purify the conscience of people from alien influences, make them always revolutionaries.

Experience has taught us that class struggle should be conducted with determination and consistency both against the declared internal and external enemies and those in the bosom of the people and the Party itself, it should be waged everywhere, in all the walks of life, in all the sectors of the society. Of particular importance for the destiny of socialism is this struggle in the ideological field in which various enemies have concentrated large forces and means and have pinned great hopes on. In his meeting with the electors comrade Enver Hoxha, said, «Rascals, enemies, agents of the foreigners have now and then emerged to impede the construction of socialism, the building of brilliant and steel defenses of our country, but they have been weeded off and disposed of immediately, as soon as they have cropped up the tip of their ears. The class struggle which is being conducted with such success, determination and vigilance by our Party and people exposes and mercilessly eliminates this rotteness from our society».

The internal and external enemies have always spearheaded and continue to spearhead the edge of their struggle against the Party and its leadership, therefore the strengthening of the leading role of the Party in the whole life of the country, its continuous revolutionization is a decisive prerequisite to defend ourselves against aggression and bourgeois degeneration, to carry revolution through to the end. The profound comprehension and the correct implementation in practice of the leading role of the Party which extends everywhere, in all fields - political, ideological, economic, cultural and military, is a question of vital importance and an all-times task.

During these years, under the leadership of the Party, the organs of state power, the organizations of the masses and

all the working people have waged a resolute struggle against bureaucratism and liberalism, those dangerous enemies of proletarian dictatorship which, as the experience of the Soviet Union demonstrates, if not fought against, lead to the degeneration of the socialist order. The struggle against those two evils is one of the most important aspects of the class struggle in the period of socialism. The Party has made a thorough study of this problem and has clearly lined out the ways to prevent all possible perils.

As the 6th Congress also stressed, the Party abides by the Marxist-Leninist theses that the general way for strengthening the dictatorship of the proletariat and the socialist order as a whole is the extension and deepening of socialist democracy, the consistent implementation of the principle of democratic centralism, the exercise of direct control on the part of the masses and, particularly, of the working class as the leading class of the entire society, is the establishment of correct relations between the cadres and the masses so that the cadres remain always servants of the people, live together with the people, render account to the masses and submit to their control. These remain continuous tasks which should be carried out with rigorosity and determination. «The Party», comrade Enver Hoxha said in his speech before the electors, «has educated and continues to educate the masses in such a way as to value and respect the cadres, functionaries or any other person of responsibility to the extent and duration they work and act in compliance with the directives of the Party, with the laws of the state and the norms of socialist morale».

Our Party and state have never permitted and will never permit, on any occasion and under any circumstance, the creation of a privileged stratum, as has happened in the revisionist countries where it has become the basis of the counterrevolution. They have endeavoured and will endeavour that, along with the development of the productive forces, the relations in production be improved in a continuous and revolutionary way so as to ensure not only the impetuous development of the productive forces, but also to make impossible the emergence of alien anti-socialist phenomena.

The Party has attached particular importance to the struggle on the ideological, educational and cultural front. It has taken important measures for the further revolutionization of our school system with the aim that the latter not only should implant knowledge and culture in the minds of people and train capable specialists, but, especially, mould young revo-

lutionaries, devoted to the cause of the Party, the people and socialism, capable of relaying forward the torch of the revolution.

Similarly, in the field of culture, art and literature, our Party, state and our working masses themselves have waged a determined struggle for their development along the correct road so as to impart them a pronounced class character, permeated by the communist ideas, relying strongly on the national foundations and the popular spirit. Our new socialist culture while correctly assessing the progressive, democratic, revolutionary traditions of our country and the other countries, rejects and combats all kind of old and new reactionary and antipopular culture, any influence of the bourgeois and revisionist spiritual produce.

The struggle in these fields is of great decisive and principled importance for, without ensuring the triumph of the socialist revolution in ideology and culture, its achievements in the political and economic field cannot be guaranteed. The struggle against any influence or manifestation of alien ideology, its unconditioned liquidation in all spheres of activity, the education of the younger generation in the spirit of proletarian socialism are urgent tasks, as J.V. Stalin has said, without the carrying out of which the triumph of socialism is impossible. Therefore, as the 4th Plenum of the Central Committee of the Party also recommends us, we should wage the struggle against the bourgeois and revisionist ideological aggression, against the influence of alien leftovers, against any manifestation of liberalism consistently, every day, every month, every year, and in all fields without exception.

Albania is building socialism under the conditions of the imperialist and revisionist encirclement and in continuous enmity with the imperialists, the revisionist and their allies. This encirclement, as the Party has more than once explained, is not merely geographical. It represents in itself a continuous political and economic pressure, an uninterrupted ideological and cultural aggression, a permanent military threat.

Small Albania, surrounded by big and dangerous enemies, has resisted and is building socialism successfully, for she has at her head a Marxist-Leninist revolutionary Party, the Party of Labour of Albania, for she has a strong people's power closely linked with the masses, for she has a sound and unbreakable unity. She has opposed this encirclement successfully, for she has confronted the foreign front of her enemies with the united front of our people, for the Party and the people have

always been highly vigilant at all times and in all aspects, for they have waged a determined and relentless struggle against this encirclement and its all-sided pressure, for they have never wavered in their struggle, for they have always had profound confidence in the correctness of their cause, in the inevitable triumph of socialism.

The practice of socialist construction in Albania, the great problems that have been solved, the process of the revolutionization of the life of the country and the struggle against revisionism constitute a valuable experience, an enrichment of the theory and practice of socialism, a contribution to the general cause of the revolution. It is up to us to study this experience, to sum it up and use it as a lever to further our achievements, to blaze new trails, to promote the cause of the construction of socialism in Albania.

Comrades,

The 30th anniversary of the liberation of the Homeland and of the triumph of the people's revolution finds Albania on an unshakable international position, enjoying high prestige and authority in the world. Never before was Albania's name so respected as it is today, never has the world followed with such sympathy her development and advance.

All these are the result of the victories and successes our country has attained in the construction of socialism, of the consolidation and strengthening of the dictatorship of the proletariat in Albania, are a result of the correct and principled foreign policy pursued by our Party and Government, of the determined and courageous struggle conducted by the Albanian people against imperialism and revisionism, of their solidarity with the revolutionary movements and liberation wars of the peoples.

Socialist Albania follows an open and courageous, a consistent and constructive foreign policy. «The foreign policy of the People's Republic of Albania», comrade Enver Hoxha has said, «defends the interests of our country in the international arena, defends and fights together with the socialist and democratic and progressive countries for freedom, for the progress and genuine democracy in the entire world, for the freedom of manual and mental workers».

The Peoples' Republic of Albania has always upheld a policy of alliance, fraternal collaboration and mutual help with the socialist states on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. A great and sincere friendship links our country, people and Party

with the People's Republic of China, with the fraternal Chinese people, with the glorious Communist Party of China. The Party of Labour of Albania and the Albanian people cherish and hold dear this friendship, for it serves the defense of the freedom and independence of the country, the construction of socialism in Albania, the cause of the revolution and the liberation of the peoples throughout the world. Albania and China fight for the same ideals and against the same enemies. We are linked forever by the ideals of Marxism-Leninism, the common road of socialist construction, the common struggle against imperialism, social-imperialism, revisionism and reaction. The various enemies envy the great Albanian-Chinese friendship and resort to all means to attack and harm it. But they have come up against an insurmountable wall. Our friendship has weathered numerous storms and will live forever, for it is built on steel-like foundations. It has been forged by our two Marxist-Leninist parties, by comrade Enver Hoxha and comrade Mao Tse-tung.

Our People have seen and see continuously, everyday the great fruits of the friendship and collaboration with People's China. They see how, through the generous, fraternal, internationalist aid of the Chinese people, major projects, which strengthen our economy and serve the all-sided development of Albania, have been and are being built in our country. Our Party and people rejoice with all their heart at the majestic successes People's China has scored in the development of the revolution and the construction of socialism, and consider them as their own successes. The Albanian people and their Party of Labour have held in high esteem and hailed the brilliant achievements of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution initiated and led directly by Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the destruction of the counterrevolutionary cliques of Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao, the results attained in the criticism of the reactionary concepts and view-points of Confucius and Lin Piao.

Our Party has publicly declared that its friendship with great socialist China, led by the glorious Communist Party of China and the great Marxist-Leninist, chairman Mao Tse-tung, is a vital question for all the peoples fighting for the ideals of national and social liberation, against imperialism, revisionism and reaction. Today the People's Republic of China represents the powerful and unconquerable bastion of socialism, the ardent and determined supporter of the revolution and of the liberation of the peoples. She is the chief obstacle on the way of the realiza-

tion of the aggressive plots and schemes of the two superpowers, she is an unyielding fighter for the rights and progress of the peoples.

The Albanian people are linked by a fraternal friendship with the peoples of Indochina and Korea. Our Party and Government sympathize with and support unreservedly their struggle against US imperialist aggression and its stooges.

The People's Republic of Albania, just as up to now, will continue to strengthen its friendly relations with the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and with the Republic of South Vietnam and will support with all its forces the struggle of the Vietnamese people in the North and South for the fulfilment of their lofty national aspirations.

The Albanian people support unreservedly the struggle of the Cambodian people against the aggression by the US and the Lon Nol clique, and recognize and support the Royal Government of National Union as the only legitimate government of Cambodia, and its right to represent Cambodia in international relations.

Albania follows with sympathy and supports the struggle the friendly Laotian people are waging for the defense and strengthening of the freedom and independence of their country, against foreign intervention and the intrigues of reaction.

Our Party and people hail the achievements scored by the fraternal Korean people under the leadership of the Party of Labour of Korea with comrade Kim Il Sung at the head in the construction of socialism. Between our two countries there exist relations of close friendship and collaboration which are being strengthened and promoted successfully. Our Party and people support the determined stand and struggle of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the withdrawal of foreign troops from South Korea and the national reunification of the country.

Our Party has always considered the triumph of the revolution and the construction of socialism in Albania as a component and inseparable part of the world revolutionary process. Therefore our Republic and people have always been at one and have energetically and wholeheartedly supported the struggle of the international working class against capitalist oppression and exploitation as well as the struggle of all the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism. This support and this solidarity have been mutual. Our Party and people have considered and consider the achievements of the world revolutionary and liberation movement as their own successes, as a great help for

the strengthening and advance of socialism in Albania.

Our people wished and always wish well the peoples of all the countries, even those people who have a different social system from ours. We wish to be friends with the peoples, but not with their oppressors and exploiters, with whom we have been and will always be at war. Albania has stood and stands for normal relations, on a footing of equality, respect of sovereignty, mutual benefit and non-interference in internal affairs with the countries which do not assume a hostile attitude towards our country.

Socialist Albania upholds the principle that all the peoples, whether great or small in numbers, should be equal in their international relations, and that there should be no discrimination among them. She opposes any form of dictate, pressure, control and arbitrariness on the part of the great powers, of the monopolization of world affairs in their hands. All nations have a right to hold their opinions and viewpoints on all questions and to express them openly, irrespective of the fact that they may not be to somebody's liking. It is their exclusive right to exercise complete sovereignty in all fields - political, economic, military, etc.

We live in a rapidly changing world, at a time when great social, political and economic transformations are taking place everywhere, and when the revolution and the liberation of nations have become the general aspiration of the peoples.

A powerful influence is exercised throughout the world by the successful construction of socialism in China, Albania, and other countries, which serves as a major source of revolutionary inspiration. This great fact refutes the allegations of the bourgeois and imperialist propagandists that socialism was liquidated with the restoration of capitalism in the Soviet Union and in some other countries. The treason of the Soviet revisionists and of the other revisionists does not bear testimony to the doom of Marxism-Leninism and socialism, but to the fact that any departure from its principles unavoidably leads to catastrophic consequences. Socialism exists and develops as a social system; it exists and develops as a major motive force of the history of our time; it exists and develops as a revolutionary ideology that has won and wins the hearts and minds of millions upon millions of people. It exists in the Marxist-Leninist parties and movements which grow and strengthen with each passing day in struggle against the bourgeoisie and revisionism, for the defense of the interests of the revolution

and the triumph of the ideals of communism.

The working class of the big capitalist countries is becoming increasingly aware of its social position and role in the life of these countries. The scope of its demands is being more and more extended, and its struggle is assuming a pronounced political character. Actually, its allies in the revolutionary struggle have been growing in numbers. The big national and international monopolies oppress and exploit all the broad masses of the town and country, violate and attack national sovereignty, the democratic rights and freedoms. The working class and the working masses oppose with growing strength the efforts of the bourgeoisie and of its revisionist and social-democrat servants to keep them in a state of oppression and submission, to throw them off the track of the struggle to win their rights.

At present the struggle of the working class in the capitalist world is passing through an important moment. The bourgeoisie is striving to shift on to the labouring masses the heavy burden of the deep crisis which has gripped the whole capitalist system. The situation is deeply revolutionary and the working class fights for the defence of its interests. The course this struggle will take in the future greatly depends on the ability of the revolutionary political forces to use to their advantage the created situations, to arouse the working class and the working masses and successfully lead them in the struggle against the bourgeoisie. It is up to the Marxist-Leninist parties to play a role of a great historical importance in this question for they represent and defend the genuine interests of the working class and of the peoples.

The struggle against the old and new colonialism, against the intervention and intrigues of imperialism and social-imperialism is raging hot in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The peoples of these continents are rising in a conscious political activity, they are taking active part in the international life, defending ever more resolutely their own interests and rights, thus becoming a great force in the struggle against imperialism and its policy of oppression, exploitation and aggression.

The developing countries have already started a determined struggle to become the only masters of their national economy and their natural riches, to repulse every intervention and supervision by the imperialists. They are becoming ever more aware of the fact that they have all forces and means to reach these objectives.

The developing countries are emerging ever more united in the struggle for the consolidation of their national sovereignty and equality in international relations, courageously opposing the bloc of the imperialist countries with the United States and the Soviet Union at the head. There is no doubt that in the future, this demarcation line will grow wider and deeper.

The struggle for complete liberation from neocolonialism and imperialist control will be long, with ups-and-downs and sacrifices. But one thing is certain, that this struggle constitutes an irresistible historical process, and victory will certainly belong to the peoples.

The capitalist-revisionist world has taken a continuous declining course of degeneration and decomposition. It is under unceasing fire by the forces of revolution and socialism, of national liberation and of democracy and is being eroded by external and internal crises and contradictions which undermine its foundations.

The political, economic, financial and military sectors are in the grip of a grave crisis. The industrial production of the chief capitalist countries is in a crisis; its output is decreasing and the productive capacities go unexploited. The capitalist monetary system, especially the US dollar, which proved incapable of serving a world in which everyone strives to rob and stifle the other, has reached a crisis. The old system of international trade, set up by the imperialist powers, in their «golden» colonialist days, and which was based in the free import of raw materials and in the expensive selling of industrial goods, has reached a crisis. The military pacts and blocs created by the United States and the Soviet Union to carry out their policy of expansion and to hold their allies in check, are in crisis too. The whole capitalist and revisionist world is involved in a great spiritual crisis, due to the complete lack of ideals, due to its pessimism, confusion and degeneration.

The disputes and conflicts between the ruling classes of the capitalist countries, between the different imperialist political groupings are growing ever deeper and sharper, and have touched the highest peak since the end of the Second World War. There are signs that the present crises will deepen and sharpen still more, as it is beyond doubt that the revolutionary and liberation struggle of the peoples will grow both on a national and international scale.

All these confirm once more that the bourgeois order is totally unable to heal its wounds and solve its contradictions.

The only way out is revolution and socialism.

In the present situation of crises, difficulties and contradictions in which US imperialism, Soviet social-imperialism and their allies find themselves, it is only natural to expect a further intensification of their aggressive policy, intensification of the Soviet-US rivalries and plots, which are the source of the aggravation of the international situation and the greatest permanent danger to peoples freedom, independence, of peace and security in the world.

The US imperialists, and especially the Soviet revisionists, make a great noise about the so-called easing of tension, «détente», map out plans, summon conferences, hold meetings, and talks, etc. Under their slogan about «easing of tension» they strive to lull peoples into sleep, to weaken vigilance and realise quietly their real aggressive imperialist intentions.

The numerous facts reject the pacifist and appeasing demagoguery of the US imperialists and of the Soviet social-imperialists. These great imperialist powers have engaged in a frenzied arms race of monstrous proportions. They are making preparations for a new world war, and they are going to use against the peoples the arms they have stowed through robbing the peoples and sucking their blood. They seek to become the feudal lords of the world and to get hold of new markets, to exploit and enslave the peoples. All the reactionary cliques and the anti-popular governments everywhere are financed and maintained in power by their bosses in Washington and Moscow. They are chiefly responsible for the crises, tensions and conflicts, from which they endeavour to draw profits and extend their political and economic influence.

The US imperialist military presence continues in Indochina; the US imperialists strive to preserve there all their former bases and influence. They spur the Saigon regime to disregard the Paris agreements, and incite it into serious provocations against the Vietnamese people in the South and in the North.

The US imperialists intervention in Cambodia is open and brutal. Through their enormous military and financial means they come to the aid of the bankrupt policy of Lon Nol and do their utmost to impede the victory of the patriotic and democratic forces led by the National United Front with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk at the head.

The United States continue to maintain their occupation troops in South Korea, to back up the savage reaction of the clique of Pak Jung Hee, his policy of provocations towards the People's De-

mocratic Republic of Korea and of sabotaging of the efforts of the Korean people to unite their country.

The Indian Ocean also has been turned today into a new hot-bed of tension, where the continuous presence of the aggressive fleets of the two superpowers constitutes a serious menace to all the peoples on its shores.

The Middle East questions continue to remain unresolved. Through their uninterrupted intrigues and plots, the United States and the Soviet Union make use of the Arab-Israeli conflict aiming at establishing there their influence and draw profits from the strategic position and the enormous riches of this area.

Through their direct and indirect support Israel continues to maintain foreign territories in a state of occupation, and blackmail and threaten the fraternal Arab peoples. The hard lot and the sufferings of the Palestinian people are a consequence not only of the Israeli aggressive policy but also of the expansionist course followed by the two superpowers. Now it has become clear that without the liberation of all the Arab territories occupied by Israel and without the complete and ultimate reestablishment of the national rights of the Palestinian people, peace cannot be restored in Middle East.

In Europe, the US imperialists and the social-imperialists are contending and collaborating with each other to maintain and consolidate their zones of influence, in order to exploit and keep subjugated the European peoples. The so-called European security serves precisely these hegemonistic designs of the United States and the Soviet Union.

Cyprus is the most recent example of the dangerous consequences the Soviet-US rivalry has for the freedom and independence of the peoples, of the interventions, intrigues and plots the two super-powers work out jointly or separately against them.

Latin America is still languishing under the oppression of US imperialism, its brutal intervention and colonial exploitation. As heretofore, the United States seeks to make the law in Latin America, to dictate its will to the peoples and governments. It backs up the ultra-reactionary forces of this continent and is always ready to intervene savagely, as it did in Chile, if it sees its interests threatened, however slightly.

The present tension in the world, the crises and tensions taking place in various regions, the unsolved problems preoccupying the peoples, all bear the brand of the hegemonist and expansionist policy of the United States and the Soviet Union, of the Soviet-US intervention, intrigues and

plots. Therefore at present conflicts and problems can not be solved without a fierce struggle against US imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism, without exposing their aggressive policy, without smashing their dangerous intrigues and plots.

The policy of expansion and aggression pursued by the superpowers, the efforts they make to impose their control and dictate on the international life do not represent a temporary or conjunctural course. Their policy is the part of their imperialist system itself, and it will remain unchanged as long as the system is not completely ruined. Time today runs against imperialism and revisionism, against the two superpowers, it runs in favour of the peoples, the revolution, the triumph of which is inevitable.

The Albanian people, their Party and Government, as heretofore, will forcefully oppose imperialism and social-imperialism, will condemn and expose their hegemonist schemes and aggressive activity, will fight against their pacifist demagoguery and counterrevolutionary manoeuvres. They will never forget, be it for a single moment, that US imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism, as the chief enemies of all the peoples, are at the same time also the most dangerous enemies of our country. Therefore they will as always remain firm their known correct and principled positions, that there can never be reconciliation with imperialism and social-imperialism, that the struggle against them should be waged uninterruptedly and carried on to the end.

Comrades,

The balance-sheet of the victories and achievements our people present themselves with to this jubile, is really remarkable. These victories and achievements constitute a sound basis in order to advance with more rapid steps to climb to higher peaks in our socialist development. Inspired by these victories, our labouring people have mobilized themselves to honourably conclude the plan of the year 1974, and they are getting ready to make a successful start of the battle for the last year of the fifth five-year period. New great tasks lay ahead for us. The 6th five-year plan the Party and the Government are mapping out will be another step ahead in the road of the complete construction of the socialist society.

As heretofore the industrialization of the country will go on at rapid rates and on a higher level, agriculture will be modernized and intensified, building construction and transport will be extended, trade and various services will further be developed. Culture, education and public

health will make further progress, the life of the people will be improved, the socialist relations in production, the whole superstructure of our society will further strengthen and improve towards perfection. The victories of the National Liberation War, of the People's Revolution, the freedom and independence of the Homeland will be consolidated and further strengthened, and their defence intensified.

The situation we are living through and the needs of our development demand from everyone and from all the people to fulfil all political, ideological, economic and military tasks by every means and to the letter. All of us should deeply understand the capitalist-revisionist encirclement, the situations changing in the world, and, as the Party instructs us, we should spare nothing in order to make our country powerful and advanced, with a sound socialist economy and culture, with a high revolutionary ideology and consciousness, with an unbreakable defence, an unconquerable bastion of revolution and of socialism.

The Party of Labour of Albania, its Marxist-Leninist leadership, its maturity and experience, its loyalty to the cause of the people and communism, are a sure guarantee for our present and future achievements and Albania's uninterrupted development. A guarantee are our heroic people themselves who, united as a single body around the Party and its Central Committee, are convinced and determined to march non-stop along the glorious path of socialism, led by the Party of Labour of Albania and its Central Committee with great wisdom and courage.

Let us always hold aloft and carry always onward the banner of our triumphant revolution, further the spirit of the National Liberation War and of the partisan heroism, the impetus of the creative work, the combative and consistent spirit, the revolutionary spirit of irreconcilability with the enemies and their ideologies,

LONG LIVE THE 30th ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF THE HOMELAND AND THE TRIUMPH OF THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTION!

LONG LIVE THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA!

LONG LIVE OUR GLORIOUS PEOPLE!

LONG LIVE OUR HEROIC PARTY, ITS CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND THE BELOVED LEADER OF THE PARTY AND PEOPLE, COMRADE ENVER HOXHA!

GLORY TO MARXISM-LENINISM!

THE PLA-FORGER OF THE HISTORIC VICTORIES OF THE ALBANIAN PEOPLE

THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF ALBANIA WAS FOUNDED BY THE ALBANIAN COMMUNISTS, ON THE BASIS OF THE WORKER AND COMMUNIST MOVEMENT. COMRADE ENVER HOXHA LED THE EFFORTS TO UNITE THE COMMUNIST GROUPS IN PRINCIPLED STRUGGLE AGAINST VARIOUS PSEUDO-MARXIST TRENDS AND CONCEPTS, HE BUILT THE PARTY ON THE BASIS OF LENINIST ORGANISATIONAL PRINCIPLES, AND ARMED IT WITH A CORRECT POLITICAL LINE, BASED ON THE IMMORTAL TEACHINGS OF MARXISM-LENINISM, IN CONFORMITY WITH THE CONCRETE CONDITIONS OF OUR COUNTRY. OUR PARTY, FOUNDED, ORGANIZED AND LED WITH ABILITY AND WISDOM BY THE BELOVED LEADER OF OUR PARTY AND PEOPLE, COMRADE ENVER HOXHA, HAS WORKED OUT AND IMPLEMENTED, IN ALL STAGES AND IN ALL SITUATIONS, A CLEAR, CORRECT MARXIST-LENINIST LINE, IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE, THE HOMETLAND AND SOCIALISM.

The founding of the Communist Party of Albania on November 8, 1941, was an event of vital importance to the Albanian people. From now on they would have for the first time, their own loyal leadership, issued from their ranks and indissolubly linked with them; they would have at their head a military headquarters which would lead them with courage, heroism and farsightedness from one battle to another, with clear objectives and a scientifically elaborated political line, strategy and tactics, illumined by the revolutionary theory of the proletariat.

From the first day of its founding, the Albanian Communist Party, with comrade

PETRO DODE - Secretary of the CC of PLA.

Enver Hoxha at the head, on the basis of a thorough going, creative Marxist-Leninist analysis of the internal and international situation, set out a clear, militant programme which envisaged the uniting of the Albanian people in the Antifascist National Liberation Front, and their throwing themselves into an uncompromising struggle for the liberation of the country from the fascist occupiers and traitors; the organisation of the National Liberation Army, issued from the fold of the people, and the application of the tactics of partisan warfare, for the complete liberation of the country, by the people's own forces; the integration of the struggle for national liberation with the struggle to overthrow completely the old state power of the

occupiers and the reactionary ruling classes, and to set up, beginning in the war years, the new state power of the national liberation council as the state power of the armed people themselves, under the leadership of the working class and its vanguard the Communist Party; the exposure of the traitorous organisations of Balli Kombëtar and Legaliteti, determined struggle against all kinds of attempts to share political power with the bourgeoisie and an unbowed stand towards any attempt by the US British imperialists to interfere in the domestic affairs of our country. These are some of the essential features of the revolutionary line and stand of the CPA, which ensured the great historic victory of November 29, 1944.

After Albania was liberated and the people's power was established new, difficult, complicated problems and tasks, vital to the destiny of the homeland and socialism, faced our Party and people; the anti-imperialist and democratic revolution had to be carried through, capitalist relations had to be overthrown and eliminated, and smallscale production relations which engender capitalism, had to be transformed to socialist relations in the town and countryside, the state of the

Without the Party and its Marxist-Leninist leadership, there could be no question of real freedom and national independence, people's power, and liquidating the exploitation and oppression of the people, nor about constructing socialist society

by PETRO DODE

dictatorship of the proletariat had to be consolidated and perfected, and the steady development of the socialist revolution in all fields, political, ideological, cultural and educational, had to be ensured, radically changing the inner world of men and women. At the same time, the grave wounds of the war had to be healed and we had to overcome the centuries of backwardness inherited from the past, through rapid development of the productive forces on a socialist basis, so as to transform Albania, within the shortest possible time, from a backward agricultural country into a country with developed industry and agriculture. Moreover every measure had to be taken to strengthen the defence of the socialist order and the Homeland against all the attempts by internal and external enemies to overthrow our people's power.

As comrade Enver Hoxha has pointed out, "The difficulties and dangers were great. One could break one's neck at every turning-point, at every fundamental decision setting the strategic direction, as well over the tactical stands for the application of these decisions. But our Party, to its honour and glory, correctly solved both strategic and tactical tasks."

The great socio-economic and political transformations of the early post-liberation years, the consistent line for socialist industrialization, and the collectivization of agriculture, in conformity with the concrete conditions of the country, the application of the great principle of self-reliance in the construction of socialism, the strong reliance on the broad masses of the people, actively involving them in running the country and solving the problems of socialist construction, the correct and unwavering conduct of the class struggle against internal and external enemies in the fold of the people and the Party and in every field of social life, the steady realization, strengthening and improvement of the Party's leadership in all fields and at all levels, not allowing any deviations from the Party directives for socialist construction, or any outside interference to subjugate and divert us from the correct road, — these are some of the most important links in the Marxist-Leninist line of our Party of Labour in this period. It is this correct line which ensured the successful construction of the basis of socialism, and the country's embarking on a new stage—the stage of the complete construction of the socialist society,

During the comparatively short period of three decades, the Albanian people, under the leadership of the Party, have set up a developed, stabilized economy which has been steadily strengthening, in fierce struggle against numerous difficulties and obstacles, (arising not only as a result of the backwardness of the past, but also because of the imperialist-revisionist blockades) and has marched steadily from one success to another, reaping one victory after another. From being the most backward country in Europe, Albania has been transformed into a developed socialist country. Suffice it to say that by 1974, as against 1938, total industrial production had increased 92 times over, agricultural production 3,9 times over the national income 11 times, the volume of construction 119 times, the number of highly trained cadres 63 times over, and so on. All sectors of the economy and culture have developed at rapid rates, this is a characteristic of our steady socio-economic development. The living standards of our people are continually, steadily rising.

A big qualitative leap, of historic importance, has been made by our Republic under the correct leadership of the Party

and comrade Enver Hoxha, from the beginning of the 60's onward. All the hostile plans and blockades of the Soviet revisionists and their followers against our Party and people, as well as all their «predictions», failed shamefully in the face, of iron will of the Albanian people and their glorious Party of Labour. The revisionists hoped for the failure of our economic development, but just as our Party said, it would, quite the opposite happen. Our economy developed rapidly, in a healthy way, full of vitality and stability. In this very period, new major branches of heavy industry were set up to process locally our natural resources, which are of vital importance in strengthening the country's economic independence and increasing the effectiveness of our people's economy. In these years, the chemical industry was set up and grew strong, the engineering industry took giant strides, and the oil and power industries developed at rapid rates. By 1974, as against 1960, national income has increased 2.7 times, total industrial production 3.7 times, and agricultural production 2.3 times, the total production of the chemical industry 23 times, the engineering industry 13,4 times and the electric energy industry 7 times, we have produced 130 times more machinery and equipment, etc. Under this five year plan we are building up a series of very big projects, such as the big metallurgical combine in Elbasan, the intensive oil processing plant in Ballsh, the powerful Fierza hydropower station, etc., which will further strengthen the structure of our economy and will increase its effectiveness, power and stability. In all this, we are given great, internationalist aid by the People's Republic of China, our friendship with which is everlasting, tempered by our parties, and by comrades Enver Hoxha and Mao Tse-tung. This fraternal aid aims at development of our industry which makes the country advance more vigorously from year to year, with its own forces.

Great successes have been achieved also in the development of agriculture, this very important branch of our people's economy. The correct road followed for its development, beginning with the land reform, and later the creation and exten-

sion of agricultural enterprises, land reclamation, water control and irrigation, mechanization of work, production of chemical fertilizers at home, use of selected seeds, improvement of breeds in stock-raising, measures for the rapid development of agriculture in the hilly and mountainous areas, and, above all, the collectivization of agriculture, up to the creation of high type cooperatives, has further strengthened the alliance of the working class and peasantry, has radically changed life in our new countryside and has opened great prospects to agriculture. As a result, our cooperativist countryside is advancing with every passing day, the material and cultural level of the cooperativists' life is steadily rising and the differences between the countryside and the town are narrowing. Today every village is supplied with electric light, something which has been achieved in very few countries of the world.

However, the successes we have achieved in our economy do not make us complacent. As pointed out by comrade Enver Hoxha, in his speech on October 3 this year, in these hard times we must mobilize our forces so as to be prepared for any eventuality, we must greatly strengthen the savings programme, fiercely fight the tendency to expect everything from abroad, utilize all our possibilities and resources so as to produce locally as many commodities as possible which we now import, and, at the same time, increase our export and greatly improve the quality of our goods.

Our revolution in the field of the education, culture, and training of qualified cadres, for all fields of our socialist construction, has been carried out on sound class, ideological and scientific bases and at rapid rates. In 1974 the number of higher and medium trained cadres is 5 times greater than it was in 1960.

All these things have resulted in the new socialist life flourishing in our Homeland and the wellbeing of the people rising steadily. Our country was the first in the world where the people do not pay any kind of tax. It is a significant fact that the grave economic crisis which has swept the present capitalist world, and the unrestrained rise of prices there, which

weigh on the shoulders of the working people, have not influenced, even to the smallest extent, the living standards of our people. This is a clear testimony to the correct policy of the Party and to the force and stability of the socialist economy of the People's Republic of Albania.

Pursuing the correct Marxist-Leninist line of the Party, our country has also built up a powerful defence, equipped with uptodate arms and technique, based on the arming and military training of the entire people and enlightened by the military art of the people's warfare, creatively elaborated by our Party according to our specific conditions; United as one round the Party, our people and their army are prepared at any moment to destroy in the crucible of people's war any aggressor who dares to violate our freedom and achievements.

But the greatest achievement in this period of socialist existence is, doubtless, the creation of the new man, moulded with the ideology and norms of proletarian morality. If our country has been able, within a short historical period to overcome the countless difficulties which arose on our way and the terrible backwardness inherited from the past, if it has been able to withstand, with courage and a staunch revolutionary spirit, all the storms and cope with all the interference and blockades by its enemies, if little Albania, in the hostile imperialist-revisionist encirclement, has achieved those magnificent successes in socialist construction of which we are proud today and if the mass revolutionary movements in our country have become a permanent feature of our social life, -- all these are eloquent proof that in Albania, the Party educates generations of revolutionaries, capable of steadily promoting our revolution and socialist construction.

A special place in the 33 years of revolutionary activity by our Party is held by its struggle for the uninterrupted development and deepening of the socialist revolution at the stage of the complete construction of socialism, to bar the way to the danger of revisionism and degeneration of the socialist order. This is the period of particularly intensive activity and rich experience, enlightened by com-

rade Enver Hoxha's teachings, which constitute a valuable creative contribution to the theory and practice of scientific socialism.

Generalizing the positive experience of the revolution and socialist construction in our country, and drawing lessons from the revisionist tragedy which occurred in the Soviet Union after Stalin's death, the Party of Labour of Albania has worked out, and is putting into practice, a series of directives of major importance to the destinies of socialism.

The Party has pointed out that the entire historical period of transition from capitalism to communism is the period of a fierce, incessant class struggle between the two roads, socialist and capitalist: this is being waged in all fields, economic, political and ideological, both against the internal and external enemies of socialism and in the fold of the people and the Party. As long as the complete and final victory of the socialist road over the capitalist one, on a national and international scale, has not yet been achieved, forgetting the class struggle, or renouncing it, would be lethal to the socialist order. Therefore, comrade Enver Hoxha instructs us «to bear always in mind, and never forget, the great Marxist-Leninist precept that the class struggle, as the motor of history, is a great motive force which promotes the work for the construction of socialism, ensures the freedom and independence of the Homeland, and defends the wellbeing of the people. It is a powerful weapon purging us of evils, it tempers us and makes us revolutionaries, it defends the Party, the State and the entire country from degeneration and the restoration of capitalism... it is the most reliable shield to defeat the ideological aggression of our enemies, to choke attempts to revive alien ideological remnants, and to neutralize the influences of the disorientating bourgeois-revisionist propaganda».

At the present stage, that of the complete construction of socialism, it is particularly necessary, as pointed out at the 5th Party Congress, to further deepen and carry through the socialist revolution in the field of ideology and culture; without its complete victory, the achievements in

the political and economic fields cannot be guaranteed. The 6th Congress of the Party and, after it, the 4th Plenum of the Central Committee, further deepening the process of the further revolutionisation of the entire life of the country, forcefully stressed the fact that this struggle, for the victory of the proletarian ideology over alien ideologies, must be carried out on two fronts: against the conservative remnants and traces of the past and also, in particular, against the dangerous influences of present bourgeois-revisionist ideology, against the bourgeois-revisionist ideological aggression which lashes every day against our shores, seeking to introduce in our men and women, in our social life, indeed also in the very ranks of the Party, the corrupt spirit of liberalism and degeneration.

With the same force as that with which it strives to bar the way to the evils of liberalism and liberal degeneration, our Party, also fights against the danger of bureaucratism and the bureaucratic degeneration of the dictatorship of the proletariat. The measures our Party is taking to ensure correct relations between the Party, the working class and the labouring masses, between centralism and democracy, for the allround development of socialist democracy in operation, the effective participation of the broadest strata of the working people in running the country, direct worker control, the arming of the entire people, and many other factors, constitute an effective means to bar the way to the evil of bureaucratism, the struggle against which remains a permanent duty of the Party, the cadres, the communists and all the working people.

The militant unity of our people round the Party and the people's power has continued to strengthen steadily in the long process of the class struggle and socialist construction, as a great motive force of our socialist construction, and as an insurmountable barrier which has caused all the attempts of the internal and external enemies of socialist Albania to fail with shame. At every stage of our revolution and construction, the Party has known how to find ways for the continuous tempering of this unity, on the basis of tho-

se new problems raised by life, the further deepening of the revolution, and the international situation. The fact that our entire people have always readily responded to the Party's calls, and have mobilized with all their forces to carry out the tasks set before them, the atmosphere of optimism reigning and the outbreak of mass revolutionary movements, far and wide throughout the country, are the clearest testimony to this steel-like unity. But the steady strengthening and tempering of this unity always remains a relevant and vital task.

The struggle to defend the purity of Marxism-Leninism, and remove any deviation within the ranks of the Party, as a decisive condition for the working out of a correct revolutionary line, as well as the struggle against imperialism and the revisionist renegades in the international arena, and the struggle against internal and external enemies, constitutes one single unity, these are two inseparable aspects of that revolutionary process which our Party has led, with a firm determination, since the day it was founded.

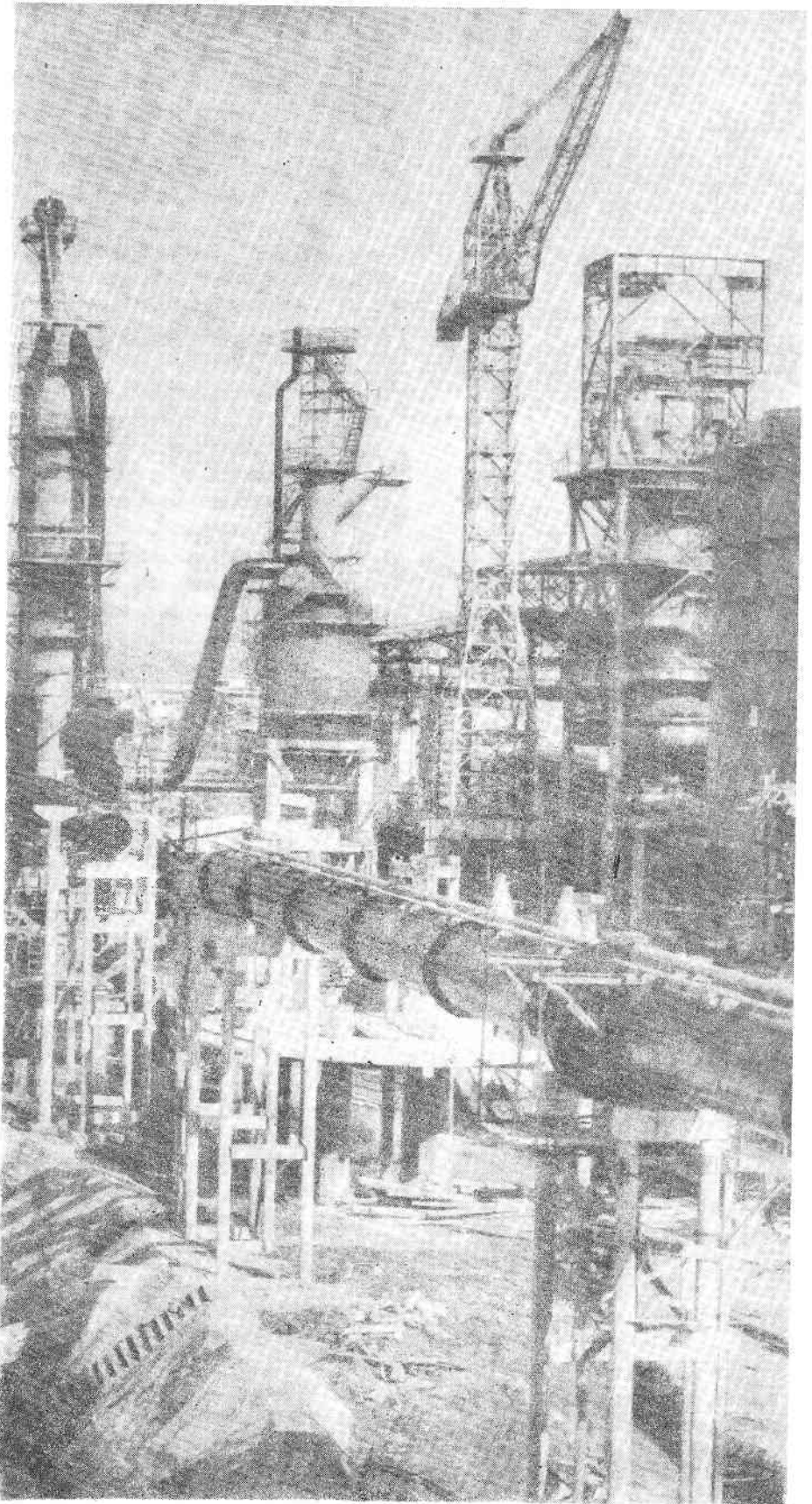
Our Party has considered the struggle against US-led imperialism and Soviet-led modern revisionism to be its permanent and essentially internationalist duty. It sees this struggle as a component, integral part of the struggle for the defence and construction of socialism in Albania, and the triumph of the freedom of the peoples and the revolution, everywhere in the world. By its principled stand and courageous struggle, it has always persistently defended the international Marxist-Leninist communist movement from the attempts of the imperialists and revisionists to annihilate it. In this way, our Party has correctly combined national duties with international ones, and has honourably militated as a detachment of the international Marxist-Leninist communist movement as a shock brigade of this movement, making its contribution to the defence and development of Marxism-Leninism and socialist revolution.

Our Party has always carried out openly its policy of undaunted struggle against US imperialism, Soviet social imperialism, the other imperialists, and all the forces of reaction and counter-revolution in the

world. «The policy of the Party of Labour and of the People's Republic of Albania», comrade Enver Hoxha said in his speech on October 3 this year, «is an open, above board policy; it states its truth openly to all, however harsh and unpalatable it may be to some. Our policy complies with the interests of the peoples, not with those of the cliques and ideologies which oppress the peoples. It seeks friendship with the peoples, not with their oppressors. It is not a pragmatic policy, but a principled proletarian policy. It does not stem from behind-the-scenes secret policy, from mysterious talks, from putting its own and other countries' interests up for auction».

In every situation, precisely because it struggles with determination for the defence of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, precisely because it has a clear mind, a fiery heart and a vigilant eye, our Party has known how to distinguish well between friends and enemies, between revolutionaries and counterrevolutionaries. Therefore, it has always allied itself and our people with numerous friends and comrades in all parts of the world. The communists and the entire Albanian people are proud of having as faithful allies and friends, the People's Republic of China and the Communist Party of China, with the great Marxist-Leninist, Chairman Mao Tse-tung at the head. We are bound to the People's Republic of China and the Communist Party of China by our common ideals and roads in the construction of socialism, we are bound by Marxism-Leninism, by the same duties in the spirit of proletarian internationalism, the consistent struggle for the same ideals and against the two superpowers, in support of the just cause of the revolutionary and freedomloving peoples everywhere in the world.

With socialist Albania stand hundreds upon hundreds of millions of men and women on all the continents, for it is in unity of thought and action with those hundreds of millions of men and women who are struggling for freedom, independence, national dignity, social progress and development. The correct policy, and



the resolute principled stand of our Party, meet with a broad response everywhere in the world. Today our country maintains diplomatic, trade and cultural relations with 67 countries of the world. It is recognized by the entire world, and numerous men and women from all continents come to see at first hand our socialist reality, and embodiment of the unconquerable ideas of Marxism-Leninism.

The forger of all the historic victories achieved by our Homeland, in these 33 years, at home and in the international arena, to achieve which, our people have shed their blood and sweat, exerting all their creative physical and mental energies, and whose fruits they are now enjoying, is the Party of Labour of Albania with comrade Enver Hoxha at the head. Without the Party and its Marxist-Leninist leadership, there could be no question of real freedom and national independence, people's power, and liquidating the exploitation and oppression of the people, nor about constructing socialist society. Therefore, the continuous strengthening and tempering of the Party itself, and its incessant revolutionisation, as the militant headquarters through which the working class carries out its historic leading role in the socialist society, is always the focus of our Party's attention. The documents of our Party, and comrade Enver Hoxha's teachings devoted to this great vital question, particularly the recent orientations of the 4th and 5th Plenums of the Central Committee, constitute a valuable experience and a permanent programme of work for the entire Party.

The metallurgical combine at Elbasan is one of the most important projects being built in Albania. This year work in the construction site of this combine has greatly advanced. In the photo: Partial view of the combine

In these 33 years of its existence and revolutionary activity, our Party has amassed a wealth of experience in this field, too. It teaches us that the primary condition, to have a truly revolutionary party of the working class, is its firm loyalty to Marxism-Leninism, and its creative application in the concrete historical conditions of the country and the international situation. Our Party has most rigorously upheld this vital teaching, it has never allowed itself to take opportunistic stands or barter with principles, and it has always waged a principled, irreconcilable struggle against any kind of deviation from the revolutionary doctrine of Marxism-Leninism within its ranks or in the international communist movement. On this Marxist-Leninist principled basis, it has built a revolutionary, steellike unity of thought and action, most fiercely fighting any anti-party, hostile activity and any tendency to factionalism in its ranks. Unity, iron, conscious proletarian discipline, inner democracy, initiative, and the creative dynamic self-motivation of every Party organisation and of every communist, in defining, implementing and defending the Party line and decisions, plus sound communist criticism and self-criticism, are some of the indispensable norms for the existence of a truly revolutionary party of the working class; our Party carries out permanent, systematic work for the deep ideological understanding and consistent implementation of this.

The Party of Labour of Albania has always triumphed and has reaped great victories in all fields of life because it has established close ties with the broadest masses of the people; it has always powerfully relied on the people, on their strength and creative abilities, has closely rallied them round its correct line, and has consistently implemented the mass line in its whole activity. It has always remained faithful to the vital interests of the people, and has resolutely defended them. This has been and remains a law of the activity of our Party in all links, and at all levels, for every Party organisation, and for every member of it.

One of the indispensable conditions for the Party properly to accomplish its role as a revolutionary detachment of the wor-

king class, alongside pursuing a correct political line, and the implementation of Leninist norms in the inner life of the Party and its mass line, is the continuous improvement of its composition with new revolutionary blood, particularly by strengthening its ranks, and especially the securing forums, with workers and other working people come directly from production. It is important also to understand that, as comrade Enver Hoxha teaches us, "what is of value in the Party is not the quantity but the quality of steel", that being a Party member brings about no profit and privilege whatever, but only brings tasks and demands sacrifices, that the communist is required to be everywhere and always the first, in struggle and work, and the last in claims.

Being built on such sound ideological and organisational foundations, our Party has always been able to carry out with honour the tasks set before it, it has always kept its proletarian features pure and has marched nonstop on the road of its continuous revolutionisation.

The 33-year history of the Party of Labour of Albania clearly speaks of that great truth, about which comrade Enver Hoxha has said. "As it was born, so our Party has continued and will continue its road: as a party of the revolution, as a party of the struggle for freedom, independence, territorial integrity and the sovereignty of our people and Homeland, for socialism and communism, as a Marxist-Leninist party".

In these days of holiday and joy, looking at the glorious road traversed by our people, we take pride in the victories achieved, we take pride in our Homeland, which stands firm as a granite rock, we take pride in our heroic Party and our beloved leader, comrade Enver Hoxha, who are leading us with ability and farsightedness from victory to victory. The powerful unity linking the Party and people makes our Homeland invincible, and is a guarantee of still greater victories in the future. The teachings of the Party, and of comrade Enver Hoxha, will always inspire us to carry out our tasks in the best possible way in every field, in order to make our Homeland still more powerful and more prosperous. -

TAXATION POLICY IN ALBANIA

by **PJETËR KOSTA**

**The nature and class aims
of financial and taxation policy in our country, from
the special war taxes
to the complete abolition of levies
and taxes on the population. Albania becomes
one of the first countries
to abolish the taxation system. Levies
and taxes in capitalist
countries - a burden for the labouring masses**

FOR SEVERAL YEARS NOW THE BUDGET OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA HAS NOT INCLUDED LEVIES AND TAXES ON THE INCOMES OF THE WORKING PEOPLE OF TOWN AND COUNTRYSIDE AND THEIR INCOMES HAVE NOT BEEN SUBJECT TO ANY STOPPAGES. THIS CONSTITUTES A GREAT VICTORY SCORED BY OUR PEOPLE UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE PARTY OF LABOUR OF ALBANIA. IT CONSTITUTES AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF THE CONSISTENT IMPLEMENTATION BY OUR PARTY OF LABOUR OF THE GENERAL COURSE FOR THE COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SOCIALIST SOCIETY IN OUR COUNTRY, AND THE STEADY IMPROVEMENT OF THE LIVELIHOOD OF THE PEOPLE.

The Party of Labour of Albania, guided by the precepts of Marxism-Leninism, in the concrete conditions of the country's socialist construction, has carried out a correct taxation policy in the various stages of our revolution. This taxation policy, as an integral part of financial policy, has served as a powerful weapon in the hands of the state of the dictatorship of the proletariat, to narrow the economic base of the exploiting classes defeated in political field and to limit and do away with tendencies toward capitalist development in both town and countryside. At

the same time, the taxation policy has helped to extend the sphere of socialist relations of production, and to concentrate in the hands of the socialist state part of the national income for the fulfilment of the general needs of society.

After the triumph of the people's revolution in our country, and during the period of constructing the economic basis of socialism, levies and taxes had a class character; they served to strengthen the socialist economy and contributed to the limitation of the overthrown classes. Such a political and economic role, immediately after the liberation of the country and the establishment of the people's power, was played by the «extraordinary tax on

PJETËR KOSTA: Member of the Central Committee of the PLA, vice Minister of Finance.

state sector, merciless struggle against private capital. . .»

In the framework of the taxation policy, a particularly important factor for the concrete conditions of our country was the taxation policy toward the countryside, because the countryside was the main area where small private economies prevailed. As in the entire policy pursued toward the countryside, so in the taxation policy, too, there was implemented the principle of «reliance on the poor peasant, alliance with the middle peasant, struggle against the kulak». For this purpose, the resolution of the 10th Plenum of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania, of May 1951, points out that «the main principles of the Party's policy on taxation. . . aim at helping the poor peasants, and in the first place those who are economically weaker, on the one hand, and on the other at economic limitation of the class of kulaks». The application of this policy resulted in the poor peasant economies being exempted from income tax, or paying a minimum tax which accounted for about 2.2 per cent of annual average income; the middle peasant paid tax which represented about 10-11 per cent of his annual income; while the rich peasants, through progressive taxation, paid 30-35 per cent of the total tax gathered, although they represented only 4 per cent of the total number of individual agricultural economies. This taxation policy, along with the other measures adopted by the Party, led to their economic limitation and political isolation and, later, on, to their disappearance as a class.

It must be pointed out that along with its class character, the taxation system and policy in the countryside have positively influenced the increase of agricultural and livestock production because in our country we have implemented the normative system of incomes for various crops. Besides this, the legal provisions envisaged benefits which served to encourage increased agricultural production.

The gradual transformation, on a voluntary basis of the small individual economies into large collective economies, which was a great revolutionary change, was also served by the correct taxation policy our Party carried out.

As long as small scale production of goods existed as an auxiliary sector for fulfilling the needs of the population, the Party and the Government implemented a cautious taxation policy towards individual craftsmen in town, while towards private craftsmen exploiting day labour, a different stand was adopted, and progressive tariffs were imposed which were much higher than those on individual craftsmen who were not exploiting other people's work. This taxation policy has helped in the gradual collectivisation of craftsmen into handicraft cooperatives.

In addition to the high rate of development in various branches of the socialist economy, the correct taxation policy, through progressive tariffs, which was carried out with regard to private merchants, has contributed to the reduction of their number, to the limitation of private trade and to its eventual elimination.

The taxation policy in our country has been characterized by the gradual lowering of the economic weight and importance of taxes in the total income of the state. Our Party of labour has always been aware that taxes are a temporary historic factor, mainly connected with the existence of private property, the exploiting classes, and their remnants. Under the conditions in which our State bases production on socialist ownership over the means of production, it bases its financial foundation mainly on the accumulation which is created in the socialist sector. Thus, the development and reinforcement of our socialist economy have proceeded at high rates. Today our industry produces 86.3 times more than it produced in 1938, while total agricultural production in 1973 was 3.5 times higher than in 1938. On the basis of this development of the people's economy, the constant reduction in production and distribution costs, and the allround strengthening of the savings programme, state income from the socialist sector has increased from year to year.

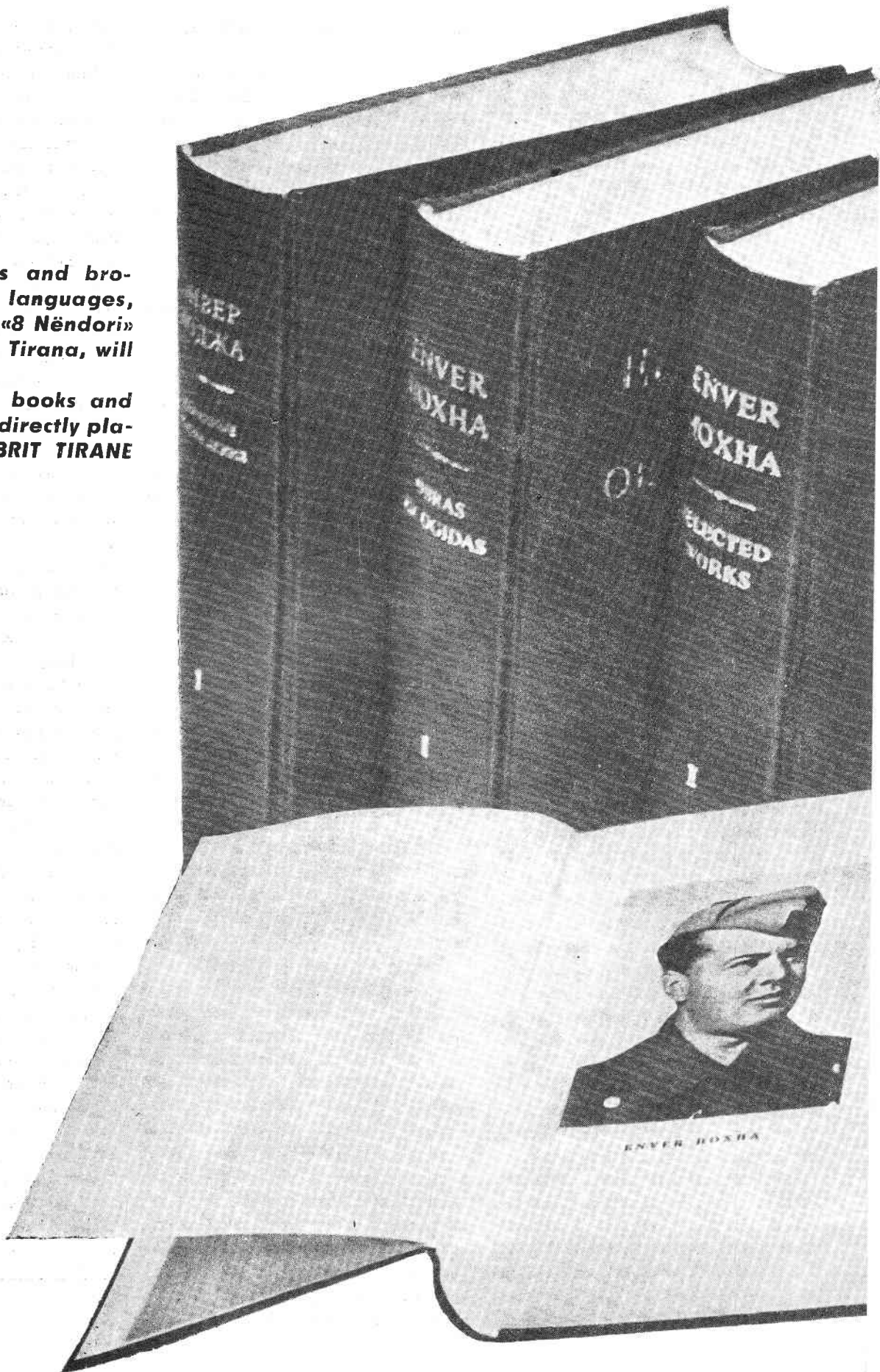
All the above mentioned factors have led to a steady reduction in the specific weight of taxes in the budget, until under the right conditions they could be abolished.


war profits», which constituted one of the most important revolutionary measures in the field of finance at that time. This revolutionary tax fell completely on the rich exploiting strata and hit, above all at, their speculative profits; on the other hand, the extraordinary taxation was the main source of state income at that period.

The extraordinary tax on war profits marks the first step in the elaboration of the new taxation policy of a socialist character in our country. Albania's new taxation system originated precisely from the extraordinary tax on war profits. The principles on which it was built, and the experience which was accumulated as a result of its implementation, formed a basis of great importance for the application of the revolutionary taxation policy, and for the elaboration in general of the new taxation system in our country, carrying out thereby the teachings of comrade Enver Hoxha, who as far back as the 5th Plenum of the Central Committee of the Party, held in February 1946, instructed: «Everything for the strengthening of the

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ENVER HOXHA
SELECTED WORKS

1

ENVER HOXHA - Selected works - I Volume (in English, French, Spanish and Russian)

ENVER HOXHA - Our policy is one of proletarian principles (speech delivered before the electors on October 3, 1974) in English, French, Spanish, Russian, Italian, German and Arabic.

ENVER HOXHA - Speeches (1971-1973) in English and French.

ENVER HOXHA - Speeches (1967-1968) in English and French (Second edition).

ENVER HOXHA - Report to the IV Congress of the Democratic Front - in English and French (second edition).

- On the building of the Party life - in English and French

ed entirely, and this was in fact done in our country, when on November 8, 1969, the Party and Government announced the abolition of the taxation system. Thus, the gradual reduction and, finally, the abolition of taxes on the population is connected with the extension of socialist relations of production and the development of the national productive forces. The specific weight of levies and taxes on the population in the total sum of state income in the 1945-1946 fiscal year was 92 per cent, by 1950 it had fallen to 12.6 per cent, by 1960 it was 2.7 per cent and by 1969 it represented only 0.1 per cent; beginning with the 1970 budget, taxes were no longer planned for or collected.

These figures show that the process of abolishing levies and taxes on the population was not carried out all at once or in an administrative way; they were done away with gradually, parallel with the development of the socialist sector of the economy, the elimination of the economic basis of taxes and the change in the class structure in our country.

A completely different picture is presented by levies and taxes in the capitalist countries, where they have been used to appropriate part of the income of the working people; they constitute the financial basis of the capitalist state, and are a supplementary exploitation of the working people on the part of the ruling class, in addition to exploitation through the appropriation of surplus value by the capitalists. In capitalist countries, the overwhelming part of the budget income consists of direct and indirect levies and taxes, which are constantly growing.

In capitalist states the whole burden of levies and taxes weighs on the labouring masses, and this burden becomes increasingly heavier. The taxation policy in the capitalist state serves as a form of oppression and violence, reducing to a large extent the living standards of the working people. Through levies and taxes, the state gets over 30 per cent of the income of a family in the United States of America and in West Germany, and over 25 per cent in France and Britain.

Since, in capitalist countries, the means of production are private, capitalist property, the bourgeois state, through its taxation policy, cannot fail to help the exploiting classes in power. Thus, for these classes, benefits have been arranged which constantly increase their profits and wealth, while increasingly heavier taxes weigh on the workers and peasants who also have to cope with the constant rise of prices; recently, as a consequence of the further sharpening of the economic and financial crises, and the antagonistic contradictions that continually increase in the framework of the general crisis of capitalism, prices have increased at unprecedented rates. These factors directly contribute to the increase of living costs in those countries, where the labouring masses, are steadily impoverished, swelling the ranks of the unemployed, at a time when the big capitalist companies continue to ensure fabulous profits, thereby increasing their own assets. For these reasons, the working class in those countries wages a fierce class struggle for the improvement of its living conditions.

Under the feudal-bourgeois and anti-popular regime of Zog, levies and taxes in Albania had the same character as in capitalist countries. They were used as a basis for finances and the major source of state income, and they constituted about 83 per cent of the budget, which went to help the exploiting classes.

In the revisionist countries, too, the taxation policy serves to exploit the working class and enrich the revisionist cliques. Everybody now knows about the defeat suffered by the Soviet revisionists in their attempt to implement the programme of the so-called abolition of taxes on the population, so noisily announced by Khrushchev and his successors. The Soviet revisionists did not abolish taxes; on the contrary, they are increasing them from year to year, at the expense of the working people. Now, in 1974, these taxes account for 8.6 per cent of state income, or 16,700,000 rubles, as against 7.3 per cent in 1960.

The complete abolition of taxation here is of great ideological and political importance. By abolishing this system, our

Party and Government have proved, by the experience of Albania, that even in a small country, when led by a Marxist-Leninist party, it is objectively possible to abolish the taxation system; in this way the personal incomes which all the Albanian working people, the cooperativist peasantry included, realize from their work, are not subject to stoppages. This also shows the superiority of our socialist system over the capitalist and revisionist systems.

Muhamet Deliu:
"Our miner comrades" (oil)



FROM THE LIFE OF THE COUNTRY

COMMUNIQUE ON THE CONVENING OF THE 6th PLENUM OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PLA

THE 6TH PLENUM OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PLA, CONVENED ON DECEMBER 16 AND 17, 1974 UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE FIRST SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PLA, COMRADE ENVER HOXHA. THE PLENUM EXAMINED THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TASKS SET BY THE 5TH PLENUM OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ABOUT THE STRENGTHENING OF THE WORK IN THE ARMY.

COMRADE ENVER HOXHA DELIVERED AN IMPORTANT SPEECH AT THE PLENUM.

6TH PLENUM
OF THE CC OF THE PLA

Tirana, December 17, 1974

The first session of the 8th legislature of the People's Assembly of the PR of Albania held its proceedings in Tirana on October 28 and 29. Attending the proceedings of the session were the First Secretary of the CC of the PLA, Enver Hoxha, the President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, Haxhi Lleshi, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mehmet Shehu, and other Party and State leaders.

On behalf of the senior deputies, the session was presided over by deputy Zyllyftar Veleshnja, hero of the people. Then the credentials commission was formed, and after having proceeded with their verification, it announced them to be in order.

The deputies then took the oath and unanimously elected the Assembly's chairmanship, with the deputy from Durrës, Iljaz Reka, as Chairman.

FIRST SESSION OF THE 8th LEGISLATURE OF THE PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

The Assembly then unanimously elected the Assembly's Presidium, composed of 15 members, with Haxhi Lleshi as president, Rita Marko, Myslim Peza and Shefqet Peçi as vice-presidents, and Telo Mezini as secretary.

The President of the Assembly then read out the letter from the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mehmet Shehu, on the resignation of the Government. The request was unanimously approved.

Charged by the Central Committee of

the Party, the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the PLA, Enver Hoxha, proposed that Mehmet Shehu be entrusted with forming the new government. Comrade Enver Hoxha proposal was approved unanimously.

The People's Assembly unanimously approved the new government headed by Mehmet Shehu. It also elected the Supreme Court, with 30 members and 30 assessors of the Supreme Court.

With that, the session ended its proceedings.

The Albanian people celebrated November 29, the glorious jubilee of the 30th anniversary of the liberation of the Homeland and the triumph of the people's revolution, with solemnity, joy and successes.

On this occasion numerous activities were organized throughout the country. A festive meeting was held in the Capital on November 28. It was attended by the First Secretary of the CC of the PLA, Enver Hoxha, the President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, Haxhi Lleshi, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mehmet Shehu, and other Party and State leading personalities.

The meeting was opened with a short speech by the member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the PLA and Chairman of the Council of Ministers Mehmet Shehu:

Thirty years ago, on November 29, 1944, the Albanian people, led by our glorious Party with its founder, comrade Enver Hoxha, at the head, — comrade Mehmet Shehu said among other things, — scored the greatest victory in their history — the complete liberation of the Homeland and the establishing of the people's power. This historic victory laid

ALBANIAN PEOPLE CELEBRATE WITH JOY THE 30th ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION

the foundations of new Albania, made it sovereign and independent, made the people master of their own destiny, embarked our country on the road of social justice, all-round revolutionary and steady development, on the road of socialism.

The thirty years that have elapsed from the day of the triumph of the people's revolution, are another heroic epic, not less glorious than the epic of the National Liberation War. They have been years of struggle and intensive and selfless work to defend independence, secure the gains of the revolution and build socialism. During these thirty years, the class struggle did not cease for a single moment, it has always developed in the interests of the working class and the labouring masses, under the leadership of our heroic Party. During these thirty years our people have continually been

in fierce struggle against numerous and perfidious enemies, internal and external. The Albanian people, with their Party at the head, led by comrade Enver Hoxha, have inscribed glorious pages in their history by the uncompromising struggle they have waged, and continue to wage with courage, against the imperialists, the modern revisionists and their agents. These thirty years have marked for us only victories over the enemies and no defeat whatever. And so it will be in the future, too.

We come to this great jubilee being in a situation of economic and military encirclement by US imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism and their followers. But the blockade and encirclement make us stronger. Our challenge is the challenge of Marxism-Leninism, of socialism, to imperialism and revisionism. In this fierce struggle our enemies have not

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been and will never be able to bend and conquer us, and socialist Albania's march will never stop, because we are on a correct road, we have everything we need for final victory and the time works for us.

Our people come to this historic jubilee with great successes and victories in all fields, with a steel-like unity, firmly united around the Party and the people's power, they come with a new vigour and revolutionary optimism to march always onward and only onward, to reach new peaks of socialism, in accordance with the will of the martyrs who laid down their lives for this road, as desired by the hearts of our people, as desired by our friends and in opposition to the desires and plans of our enemies.

All our successes and victories, in the National Liberation War and in the construction of socialism, are closely connected with the name and the farsighted Marxist-Leninist leadership of the Party, with its correct, revolutionary and consistent line, they are closely connected with the name and teachings of its founder and leader, the loyal and very much beloved son and leader of the Albanian people, comrade Enver Hoxha!

The speech on the occasion was delivered by the member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the CC of the Party, **Hysni Kapo**. A military parade and a grandiose manifestation of the working people of the capital took place in the «Dëshmorët e Kombit» Boulevard in the morning of November 29. This parade and this jubilee march past of the people of the capital and the armed forces, were a brilliant manifestation of the unbreakable unity of the people round the Party, its Central Committee with comrade Enver Hoxha at the head. They once more showed with majesty and particular beauty our 30-year heights and victories, our triumphant march, the strength and vitality of our socialist order, the brightness and correctness of the life-giving ideas of the Party and Marxism-Leninism. They showed our revolutionary preparedness and vigilance, our readiness to work, learn and defend our impregnable fortress.

In the evening, the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania, the Presidium of the People's Assembly and the

Council of Ministers of the PR of Albania gave a banquet in the Palace of Brigades, which was attended by heroes of the people and socialist labour, vanguard working people, outstanding cooperativists, veterans of the National Liberation War, service men, parents and relatives of the martyrs' families, representatives of mass organisations, workers in art, culture and science, etc., as well as the foreign delegations that have come to our country on the occasion of the festival. Comrade Haxhi Lleshi greeted those present at the banquet.

A series of economic works, artistic, cultural and other institutions were previously inaugurated in Tirana and other cities of our country.

The «Albania Today» exhibition was inaugurated in Tirana. It sums up the magnificent victories achieved by our freedom-loving, industrious and valiant people during the thirty years of construction under the bright leadership of the Party and the Central Committee with comrade Enver Hoxha at the head. The exhibition expresses the firm determination of our people to march always onward on the bright and always triumphant road, on which they are led by the Party, preserving always alive the militant motto of the Party: «The pick in one hand and the rifle in the other», consistently implementing the revolutionary principle of self-reliance and facing with heroism and an exemplary revolutionary spirit the intrigues, pressure and threats, plots and blackmail of the US imperialists and their running dogs, of the Soviet social imperialists and their satellites, of all the internal and external enemies of the PR of Albania.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by the President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, Haxhi Lleshi, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mehmet Shehu, other Party and State leaders, as well as the foreign delegations that attended the festivities of the 30th anniversary of the liberation.

The new building of the Art Gallery was inaugurated in the capital on November 27, in which the national exhibition of figurative arts was opened with the best works of painters and sculptors in display.

During the celebrations of the glorious jubilee the Albanian people had in their midst delegations from many countries of the world: the delegation of the Party and Government of the People's Republic of China, led by the member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Yao Wen Yuan; the delegation of the Party and Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, headed by the member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Vietnam, deputy Prime Minister Tran Huu Duc; the delegation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam, led by the Minister of Justice of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam, Truong Nhu Tang; the delegation of the Party and Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, led by the alternate member of the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Korea and acting Chairman of the Administrative Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Zeng Zun Gi; the delegation of the Royal Government of the National Union of Cambodia, led by the member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front of Cambo-

dia, Thioun Mum; the delegation of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Rumania, led by the deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Trade and International Economic Collaboration, Ion Patan; the delegation of the Government of the Algerian Democratic and People's Republic, led by the War Veterans Minister, Mahmud Genej; the delegation of the Government of the United States of Mexico, led by the Minister of Communications, Eugenio Mendez Docurro; the delegations of the Communist Party of Brazil, the Communist Party of Italy (Marxist-Leninist); the Communist Party of Poland; the Marxist-Leninist Communists of France; the Communist Party of New Zealand; the Bolivian Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist); the Communist Party of Germany (Marxist-Leninist); the Communist Party of Australia (Marxist-Leninist); the Communist Party of Indonesia; Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Ecuador; the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist); the Communist Party of Spain (Marxist-Leninist); «Vanguardia Comunista» of Argentina; the Communist Party of Japan (left); the Revolutionary Communist Party of Chile; the Communist Party of Sweden; the Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) of Belgium; the Communist Party of Co-

lombia (Marxist-Leninist); the Communist Party of the Working People (Marxist-Leninist) of Norway; the Revolutionary Communist Party of Uruguay; the Marxist-Leninist Party of Austria; the Communist Party of Switzerland (Marxist-Leninist); the Marxist-Leninist Party of Holland; delegations of the Italy-Albania, France-Albania, Sweden-Albania, Belgium-Albania, Austria-Albania, Britain-Albania, Egypt-Albania Friendship Association; the Palestinian Trade Union delegation, the trade union delegations from Azania and the Congo; the women delegation of the Republic of Guinea; the delegation of the Pan-African Youth Movement; the youth delegation from Tanzania; other respected guests from Sweden, Austria and Italy; the representatives of our patriotic brothers from the Albanian colonies in the United States of America, Argentina, Turkey, Syria, France, Australia and Bulgaria, as well as many foreign guests and our compatriots abroad who came to Albania to celebrate this jubilee.

During their stay in our country the foreign delegations were received by the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the PLA, Enver Hoxha, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mehmet Shehu, and other personalities.

The member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Albania, Mehmet Shehu, held talks in the seat of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania in the afternoon, on November 30, with the delegation of the Party and Government of the People's Republic of China, with Yao Wen Yuan, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, as leader, and U Guej Hsien, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, as deputy leader.

Taking part in the talks from the Chinese side were the members of the delegation Keng Piao, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and head of the International

ALBANIAN-CHINESE TALKS

Liaison Department of the CPC Central Committee Liu Jen Hua, alternate member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to the People's Republic of Albania, Y Jan; vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China; Jan Chuen Jun, deputy head of section in the Foreign Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China; Si Jao Ming and Liu Hua, deputy directors in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

From the Albanian side taking part in the talks were the members of the Po-

litical Bureau and secretaries of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania Haki Toska, Hysni Kapo and Ramiz Alia; the member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania and first vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Albania, Adil Çarçani; the member of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania Foto Çami, and the director of the Foreign Department of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania Agim Popa.

Both sides talked about the further strengthening of the friendship and collaboration between the Party of Labour of

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Albania and the Communist Party of China, the People's Republic of Albania and the People's Republic of China, as well as about problems of international situation.

The talks were held in an exceptionally cordial and fraternal atmosphere and were characterized by a complete unity of views

about all the questions discussed. This was an eloquent expression of the great friendship and unbreakable unity between the two parties, the two countries and the two peoples of China and Albania, forged by comrade Mao Tse-tung and comrade Enver Hoxha.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STUDIES ABOUT THE ANTIFASCIST NATIONAL LIBERATION WAR

The National Conference of Studies on the Antifascist National Liberation War of the Albanian people was successfully held from November 8th to 11th in Tirana.

This conference was organised, in the framework of the 30th anniversary of the liberation of the Homeland and the triumph of the people's revolution, by the Academy of Sciences of the PRA, the Institute of Marxist-Leninist Studies under the Central Committee of the PLA, and the University of Tirana.

The conference was attended by cadres from the Central Committee of the PLA and the regional Party Committees, scientific workers from various institutions, cadres from central departments, lecturers and teachers from higher and secondary schools, vanguard workers from production centres in the Capital, collaborators of scientific circles, museum workers and other invited guests.

Present at the conference were the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the PLA Enver Hoxha, the President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly Haxhi Lleshi, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers Mehmet Shehu, and other Party and State leaders.

The Conference was presided over by the President of the Academy of Sciences of the PRA, professor Aleks Buda. The directress of the Institute of Marxist-Leninist Studies, under the Central Committee of the PLA, Nexhmie Hoxha, delivered the paper on the theme: «The Anti-

fascist National Liberation War – a great popular revolution led by the Communist Party of Albania». Papers were also delivered on the following themes: «The uniting of the people round the C.P.A. on the National Liberation Front», «The armed uprising of the Albanian people in the Antifascist National Liberation War», «The problem of power in the National Liberation War of the Albanian people», «The National Liberation Movement of the Albanian people and the World Antifascist War», and «Problems of new culture during the Antifascist National Liberation War of the Albanian people».

96 reports were presented in these five sections, and many discussions were held.

The plenary sittings and sections of the conference were attended by more than 1,000 students of social sciences, veterans of the National Liberation War, and cadres of Party and State, the army, and the central and district educational and cultural institutions of the Republic.

The conference proceedings, which were followed with a great interest not only by the participants but also by all the working people of our country, were held at a high scientific level, particularly at a high Marxist-Leninist ideological level.

This scientific level was ensured by the careful, persistent work carried out by all the men and women comrades, in preparing their reports and papers, firmly based on the Party documents and comrade Enver Hoxha's works.

One hundred and thirteen people, cadres who had taken part in the Antifascist National Liberation War, and students from the centre and districts, had worked on composing the 6 papers and 96 reports delivered at the Conference.

Each composer of the reports and papers worked primarily by himself or herself but nevertheless, the Conference materials without exception expressed collective creative thought.

It is the first time that a scientific conference on a national scale has been organized on such a wide range of problems connected with the Antifascist National Liberation War.

The organising of this conference at the present time is connected with the level of achievements in the field of publications, and the systematisation of all the archives, documents and studies, about the National Liberation Struggle.

The Conference contributed to a more extensive and profound scientific illumination of the Antifascist National Liberation Struggle as a great popular revolution, led by the Communist Party. It discussed the process of the transformation of the struggle for national liberation into a popular revolution, with an anti-imperialist democratic content, but which, as pointed out in the first report, "sowed and reared in its fold the seed of the socialist revolution, and led to the complete victory of national independence and the establishment of the people's power, the dictatorship of the proletariat, detaching Albania from the world capitalist system and engaging it on the road of socialist development".

The Conference also illuminated further individual aspects of the popular revolution.

It dealt with the creation and strengthening of the steel-like unity of the people round the Party in the National Liberation Front, the leading role of the working class in the Front and in the liberation war; the great place of, and the decisive role played by the peasantry in the struggle, in close alliance with the working class and under the leadership of this class; and the broad social basis of the uniting of the antifascist patriotic forces of the country round the CPA, which was crowned by the common ideal

and interests for the liberation of the Homeland, for national independence and the democratization of the country, not only among the working class and labouring peasantry, but also the petty-bourgeoisie and the medium bourgeoisie of the town, the patriotic intellectuals, and antifascist and democratic elements from other strata.

Discussing the armed uprising, as one of the main parts of the people's revolution, and as the principal means to reach the strategic aim of the antifascist war, the Conference treated in particular the process of its gradual growth into a popular general uprising, and the creation of the National Liberation Army as a regular people's army of the new Albanian State. It pointed out the originality of the partisan warfare used by our National Liberation Army, and our insurgent people, solving by this struggle not only tactical and operational tasks, but also great strategical tasks, such as the complete liberation of the country by its own forces, the victory of national independence, and the establishing of the new people's democratic power, the armed defence of this power, and the further development of the revolution on the road of socialism. All the difficult problems of the people's armed struggle were solved on the basis of the principle of self-reliance, and it became possible for a people few in numbers, as our people were, to win against a mightier enemy.

Concerning the other main aspect of the Antifascist National Liberation War, the people's democratic state power of the councils, which was born in this struggle, the Conference discussed in particular the close connection of the struggle for national liberation with the struggle for state power, the determined stand of the Party and the National Liberation Front against any duality and compromise on this radical question, the originality of the solution of the question of state power, to the benefit of the revolutionary democratic forces, and the creation of the new Albanian state of people's democracy without waiting for the end of the war, a state which began to perform the functions of the dictatorship of the proletariat immediately after the complete liberation of the country.

The Conference illuminated further the linking of the Antifascist National Liberation War of the Albanian people with the world antifascist war, discussing its two aspects: the contribution made by our people, in proportion with their forces, to the destruction of fascism on an international scale; and the assistance and backing our struggle enjoyed in the antifascist war. Individual papers discussed the close connection of our liberation struggle with the Patriotic War of the Soviet Union, with J.V. Stalin at the head, and with the struggle of the enslaved peoples, especially the neighbouring Yugoslav and Greek peoples. At the same time the Conference pointed out the determined stand of the Party and the National Liberation Front in the relations with the external allies of our National Liberation War, a stand which was based on the common war against fascism and on such revolutionary principles as differentiation of allies, non-interference in the internal affairs of the struggle and the revolution in Albania, and the fact that freedom is not donated or imported from abroad, but won through struggle and sacrifices, it is established by the revolutionary internal forces.

The Conference scientifically illuminated further a wide range of problems of the new culture which was created during the Antifascist National Liberation War, treating these problems as organically connected with solving the great programmatic tasks of the people's revolution. The conclusion reached was that the Albanian culture, literature and art of socialist realism were born in the Antifascist War against the fascist and reactionary culture, literature and art.

The National Conference of Studies on the Antifascist National Liberation War makes an important contribution and a further deepening, to the study of the history of this struggle and the generalisation of the experience of the people's revolution, it was an important event for Albanian historiography for all our sociopolitical sciences, and for Albanian revolutionary creative thought.

From the international viewpoint, making as complete as possible a study and generalisation of the experience of our Antifascist National Liberation War contributes to the enriching of the Marxist-

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Leninist theory on the revolution, the popular armed struggle, the role of the broad popular masses as authors of the revolution, the leading role of the working class in the revolution under all circumstances of the social development of a country in the present epoch and the necessity for the leadership of the working

class party in the revolution, so that this revolution will not stop half way, and will not be destroyed either by the armed intervention of internal and external enemies, or by peaceful methods.

Beginning with its next issue, «Albania Today», will publish the main documents from the Conference.

THIRD NATIONAL GAMES

In the framework of the 30th anniversary of the liberation of the Homeland and the triumph of the people's revolution, the finals of the third national games took place in Tirana. The physical culturists and sportsmen of our country came to this great political and sports undertaking with a rich balance-sheet of successes. The historic decisions of the 6th Congress of the Party, and comrade Enver Hoxha's programmatic speeches, became a source of inspiration and mobilization for all the cadres, physical culturists and sportsmen, for our entire sporting youth, and gave a new impetus to the development of physical culture and sports, particularly in giving them a mass character, which constitutes the distinctive feature of our physical culture and sports movement. During the various stages of the games, activities for which began as far back as September last year, over 300,000 working people of different ages and professions were involved through the physical culture clubs in work and production centres schools, institutions and military units.

As a result of the increase in the numbers participating in mass activities, the quality of sports has improved. In all sporting circles and clubs, there has been a marked increase in the number of teams for the different kinds of sport, especially for children and youngsters, among whose ranks many fine players have been discovered; these represented their circles and clubs in the finals of the games. Out of 700 players in the national finals, events, 443 had not even taken part in the previous national games. By further improving the methods of training during the preparatory period for the finals, it became possible to better 155 national records, 51 in swimming, 48 in

weight lifting, 43 in field and track athletics and 13 in shooting. Our sportsmen and women improved these results still more during the final events and matches. Another 19 national records were broken. Some of these results are of international standard.

Very good results were achieved during these final events by some athletes in field and track events too. Perceptible progress has also been made in developing hand ball games, particularly in women's basketball and volleyball.

All this indicates the very good conditions the Party and the Government have created for the development of physical education and sports. The finals of the 3rd national games justified this great care, and gave still greater impetus to the development of this important sector.

During the finals of the national games, a great physical culture and sports display was organized. Over 11,500 children and adolescents from the schools of the Capital executed varied, attractive exercises, which reflected the care displayed by the Party and the Government for the education of our youth; they showed the people the work being done in the schools to implement the three components - study, work and physical-military training, as well as to raise the level of physical culture and sports.

This brilliant physical culture and sports display with its deep ideological content and great beauty, deeply impressed the spectators, and was a fine gift to the Homeland and people, on the eve of the festival of the 30th anniversary of liberation. At the same time, it was another expression of the steel-like unity of our sporting youth round the Party, with comrade Enver Hoxha at the head.

THE GREAT SOCIALIST REVOLUTION AND THE RENEGATES TO IT

**Great October ideas inspire for revolutionary battles in the struggle
against the revisionist traitors**

Editorial from «ZERI I POPULLIT»

THE ALBANIAN PEOPLE, ALL THE REVOLUTIONARY AND PROGRESSIVE FORCES EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD COMMEMORATE TODAY ONE OF THE MOST MEMORABLE EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF MANKIND, THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRIUMPH OF THE GREAT OCTOBER SOCIALIST REVOLUTION WHICH OVERTHREW THE EXPLOITING CAPITALIST SYSTEM IN RUSSIA, MARKED THE DAWN OF A NEW EPOCH, THE EPOCH OF PROLETARIAN REVOLUTIONS ON A WORLD SCALE AND THE TRANSITION FROM CAPITALISM TO SOCIALISM, IT OPENED THE EPOCH OF THE REVOLUTIONS OF COLONIAL COUNTRIES, DEALT A LETHAL BLOW TO THE ENTIRE WORLD CAPITALIST SYSTEM AND, AT THE SAME TIME, TO ALL THE TRAITORS TO THE WORKING CLASS, OPPORTUNISTS AND REVISIONISTS, TURNED SOCIALISM FROM A SCIENTIFIC THEORY INTO A LIVING REALITY.

But Lenin's and Stalin's Soviet Union, which 57 years ago emerged from the October Revolution as the first socialist country in the world, has been turned today, because of the treachery of the Khrushchevian revisionists, from a fortress of the revolution and socialism into a capitalist and social imperialist country. This is the greatest treachery mankind, the world proletariat, communism have ever known.

The October Revolution, based on Lenin's instruction that the «fundamental question of any revolution is the question of political power», toppled the power of the czars and landlords and established the dictatorship of the proletariat. But the revisionist renegades and putschists overthrew the dictatorship of the proletariat and restored the dictatorship of the

bourgeoisie. Today the state power in the Soviet Union is in the hands of the new Kremlin czars with Brezhnev at the head. Now the new revisionist bourgeoisie makes the law there and has established a police, fascist and terroristic regime for the working class and other working masses, which tramples on the most elementary human and democratic rights.

The October Revolution created the new economic social socialist order. But the Khrushchev renegade clique of Brezhnev and company upset the socialist economic relations and re-established the exploitation of man by man. Important features of the Soviet capitalist economy are the failure in economy and agriculture, the deficits in the balance of payments, the opening of doors to foreign imperialist monopolies.

The October Revolution liberated the oppressed peoples of Czarist Russia, it liquidated their inequality and created the united family of the Soviet socialist Republics. But the new great Russian bourgeoisie with the Brezhnev clique at the head, is implementing the same policy towards the non-Russian nationalities as that of the czars. The peoples of the Republic of the Baltic, Central Asia and others are denied their national rights. A systematic plan is being implemented for their russification through establishing Russian colons, through changing national language and culture and replacing them with Russian ones, etc.

In the field of foreign policy, the Soviet Union led by Stalin, consistently followed the revolutionary policy announced by Lenin in the early days of the triumph of the October Revolution. But today a typically imperialist policy is being pursued. Expansion and aggression are the principal motives of this policy. The new Kremlin czars are demagogically, savagely and violently implementing, colonial policy towards the pseudo socialist countries they call «brothers». Through the Warsaw Treaty, the Comecon and other agreements they have

occupied those countries, they have turned them into their military bases and guberns, implementing towards them the Brezhnevian theory on «limited sovereignty». Thus, they have occupied Czechoslovakia, they have created places d'armes in other revisionist countries, they are plundering them.

An important object of the expansionist, hegemonistic policy and of the predatory aims of the Soviet revisionists are also the developing countries. Moscow is trying to penetrate in the regions of the Middle East, South Asia, Africa and Latin America. All the activity of the Kremlin chieftains in this direction has been directed in plundering the resources of raw materials and fuels of the developing countries, in exploiting their geographic positions for further political, economic, military expansion. The Soviet revisionists, through their counterrevolutionary actions and theories, have become fire extinguishers of the national liberation struggles and progressive movements, dishing out to the world proletariat and freedom-loving peoples the road of «peaceful transition» to socialism, which is an opportunistic theory, in flagrant opposition to Lenin's and great October teachings. The tragic events in Chile were a new testimony to the danger of such opportunistic and counterrevolutionary theories of Soviet-led modern revisionists.

The Soviet social imperialists are acting on the international arena as the US imperialists do. They consider as a common question and have as their objective the strangling of the revolution and socialism, the smashing and liquidation of the national liberation struggles of the peoples, the division of the spheres of influence and the establishment of their hegemony in the world. For this reason, the two superpowers, vying and collaborating with each other, are everywhere following an aggressive policy to reach their counterrevolutionary objectives. «US imperialism and Russian imperialism, — comrade Enver Hoxha said at his speech before the electors, — are leading the world to another world war, more terrible than the two previous world wars.

These two superpowers are responsible for the present great crises, they are vying with each other for world hegemony, they are fighting to occupy markets, that is, to oppress and enslave peoples. It is precisely the two superpowers that arm anti-popular cliques and governments to use them as watchdogs and their peoples as cannon fodder for the inevitable shambles they are preparing, if they are given a free hand». This is the real foreign policy of the renegades to the great October. But in order to hide this truth, their propaganda does not stop prattling pacifist slogans in order to deceive the peoples. And they base these tactics of frauds on a chain of pseudo-revolutionary doctrines and theories, completely in opposition to the October Leninist aims. They speak a lot about «peaceful coexistence», about «detente», they organize meetings for «security, cooperation», etc., but all this is a lie and efforts to lull the vigilance of the peoples and to prepare them to accept the arbitrariness of the superpowers and the fate decided by them. Facts tellingly show that the two imperialist superpowers, the USA and the Soviet Union, at a time when they speak about disarmament, are arming themselves to the teeth. They speak about peace and are making war preparations. They are speaking about detente, but are undertaking aggressions. At a time when they are speaking about solution of conflicts and delicate problems, they instigate quarrels among the states. Cyprus, the Middle East, etc., are fresh examples. The Kremlin chieftains have thrown in lurch the October banner and Lenin's teachings, who said that, «the Government rejects secret diplomacy and expresses, in its part, the firm determination to hold all the talks openly before the people». Returning to the diplomacy of the czars, they have made of the Kremlin a centre of backstages and plots, hatched up together with the chieftains of US imperialism against the revolution and the peoples.

But the revisionists' treachery to the October ideas, cannot conquer the revolution. Irrespective of the desire and actions of the imperialist superpowers, time works for the revolution. The balance of

power in the world today is in favour of the revolution and socialism. The great October ideas live and triumph, they inspire the revolutionaries and the progressive forces throughout the world in battles. The glorious Communist Party of China, the Party of Labour of Albania and the other Marxist-Leninist parties defend and put in practice the October ideas. The revolutionary parties and groups of the working class in the capitalist countries, drawing inspiration from the ideas of the October Revolution, have thrown themselves into class struggle, organize concrete actions, are closing their ranks and are ever more affirming themselves as vanguard of the proletariat. The peoples of the world are ever better realizing that only through a resolute struggle against the two superpowers they can win their freedom and independence. The revolution, the struggle for political and economic independence constitute a non-stop historical process. Only through revolution the imperialists and social imperialists will meet their death. And «this is not a revolution, comrade Enver Hoxha stresses, of yesmen and slaves, of people bending their backs and wallowing in the mud, but a powerful strike, the continuation of the great October Revolution, it is the great Chinese proletarian cultural revolution, it is the liberation struggle of the peoples».

The Albanian people are always loyal to the great October ideas, to Lenin's and Stalin's teachings. This year, they are celebrating this date at a time when they are meeting the great jubilee of the 30th anniversary of liberation with brilliant successes in all fields. Our people, under the leadership of the Party of Labour, with its founder and leader at the head, comrade Enver Hoxha, side by side with the great socialist China of Mao Tse-tung and all the progressive and revolutionary forces in the world, are determined to always march onward triumphantly on the road of socialism and communism opened by great October, to determinedly continue the struggle against the hegemonistic policy and aggressive plans of US imperialism and Soviet social imperialism.



Kristina Hoshi:
*«Young shoots
in socialist Albania»*
(sculpture).

«A grave economic and financial crisis has swept all the capitalist countries. Inflation is rampant everywhere and has reached threatening proportions ... The so-called consumer society, as loudly advertised and praised by the bourgeoisie as the «society of the future», is merely a rotten society in decadence, which is increasingly revealing the old permanent evils of capitalism which it strove to conceal».

ENVER HOXHA

THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRISIS IN THE CAPITALIST WORLD

by KIÇO KAPETANI

The present crisis, as a new graver manifestation of the general crisis of capitalism. Its characteristics, and political and social consequences. Inflation, falling production rates, the increase in unemployment and living costs - some of the particularities of this crisis

THE CAPITALIST WORLD CONTINUES TO BE TIGHTLY GRIPPED BY THE GRAVE, DEEP ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRISIS, OCCURRING IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE GENERAL CRISIS OF CAPITALISM. THE PRESENT CRISIS HAS SERIOUSLY SHAKEN THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM IN GENERAL AND THE INDUSTRIALIZED CAPITALIST COUNTRIES IN PARTICULAR, IN THE FIRST PLACE, THE EPICENTRE OF WORLD IMPERIALISM, THE USA. THESE UPHEAVALS BEGIN WITH PRODUCTION AND THEN EXTEND TO THE SPHERES OF DISTRIBUTION, EXCHANGE AND CONSUMPTION, TRADE, FINANCES, THE CURRENCY MARKET, THE STOCK EXCHANGE, ETC.

These upheavals do not affect merely the economic and financial sphere of the world capitalist system, they also have an allround political, ideological, economic, social and military character, for they are the largest and gravest disturbances since the end of the second world war. As many bourgeois economic experts point out the capitalist world is rapidly moving towards an economic crisis similar to that of the 30's. Sounding the alarm, the American magazine «Business Week» admitted some time ago that «the states of the capitalist world are now, more than ever, faced with their most serious challenge since the 30's», while the British review «The Economist» goes even further, saying that «economic breakdown is highly likely. This is not merely a danger of world depression; it has already begun».

The present crisis is not merely an ordinary deepening of the general crisis of capitalism. It is distinguished by the simultaneous outbreak of many large, acute conflicts. The upheavals of this crisis have made the political superstructure of capitalism so unstable that governments are falling one after another, giving the crisis a deep, allround, political, economic and social character. The changes of personnel in the bourgeois governments are both unsuccessful efforts to justify failures, attributing them to individuals and their mistaken policies, and attempts, to create the impression that the situation is improving. In this framework, they work out programmes, plan measures and make a lot of noise; they also make promises to overcome the difficulties, calling especially for further belt tightening on the part of the labouring masses, and for privations and sacrifices by them.

In september 1971, in a very important speech, comrade Enver Hoxha, touching on these problems, said among other things: «Today the greatest crisis ever seen since the second world war has broken out in world capitalism, and particu-

larly in US imperialism... This is a general economic, political, ideological and military crisis of all the capitalist states, their structures and their superstructures, it is a crisis of their regimes and alliances. And this great crisis has just begun; the catastrophe will come later».

The three years that have since elapsed have tellingly confirmed this prediction. Comrade Enver Hoxha depicted, in a clear-cut, well-substantiated way, the actual situation of the crisis that has gripped the capitalist world, and the whole process of its deepening and aggravation. In his speech of October 3 this year, at the meeting with his electors in zone Nr. 209, in the city of Tirana, he said among other things: «Look at what is happening in the world today! A grave economic and financial crisis has gripped all the capitalist countries. Inflation is rampant everywhere and has reached threatening proportions. The reserves of the big banks have begun to be exhausted, debts have grown immeasurably, and foreign exchange speculations have increased enormously. Unemployment, too, has begun to increase and prices are rising incessantly. The cost of living has increased and the situation of the working masses is continually worsening».

The present capitalist reality is a sad and gloomy one. The economic prognosis for the capitalist world forebodes an outbreak of great storms. This reality of the grave and irresistible crisis which has gripped all the structures and superstructures of the capitalist world has increasingly exposed the theories about so-called thriving capitalism, «popular», «democratic», «humanitarian», capitalism, the «consumer society» etc. Capitalism in fact has not changed its nature. It has neither been «renovated» nor «democratized», nor has it become «popular». It remains capitalism, and as such only the proletarian revolution will wipe it out. «The so-called consumer society, so loudly advertised and

praised by the bourgeoisie as the «society of the future», comrade Enver Hoxha said in his October 3 speech, «is merely a rotten society in decadence, which is increasingly revealing the old, permanent evils of capitalism which it strove to conceal».

Some of the main features of the present crisis

The acute symptoms of the crisis the capitalist world is now undergoing are neither new nor accidental, neither partial nor temporary. These symptoms do not arise simply from the energy crisis, as the imperialist monopoly and state circles are seeking to make out. This is in essence an allround crisis, which does not originate from oil or the oil embargo, but started long before, towards the middle of the 60'. From the beginning of the 70's in particular, the general disintegration of the capitalist monetary system began when the currencies of all the capitalist countries found themselves caught in the system of unstable rates of exchange. The foreign currency upheavals and speculations kept increasing from year to year, and they have reached now their climax. Crisis engendered crisis. The monetary and foreign exchange crisis cultivated and encouraged speculation with rates of exchange, then this crisis gave rise to the crisis of the banking system. Since last year there has also been the energy crisis.

Before the outbreak of the energy crisis, the capitalist states, the USA included, had been affected by the chronic diseases of inflation, unemployment, and the steady rise of prices. These phenomena have now become still more acute, and are at present deepening and becoming worse:

The present economic and financial crisis of capitalism has particular features which are expressed in some principal aspects:

First, it has gripped both the big centres and the outlying areas of capitalism, like a virus that has penetrated into every cell of capitalist socio-economic life. This crisis, growing in the «hot house» of the general crisis of capitalism, had its beginning in the summer of last year. It is remarkable for its breadth and depth,

and its destructive consequences throughout the entire capitalist world. All the structural and conjunctural factors of that world are operating with exceptional force, bringing about fierce political, economic and social conflicts, on a national and international scale.

Second, capitalist reproduction as a whole is sinking into this swamp. Now it is not a question of just one crisis, but a whole complex of crises. Alongside the crisis in industrial and agricultural production, there are the energy, currency, raw materials and other crises. Hardly two years have elapsed since the last crisis of overproduction, which swept the industrialized capitalist countries, but they are now again heading towards the abyss of depression. These countries are now facing the danger of losing even the results of the short breathing space in the years 1972-1973, which saw a temporary rise in industrial production.

One characteristic at the present moment is that the depression processes going on in the capitalist world are interwoven, and operate in a common, with the processes of inflation, the «energy hunger», the currency upheavals, the marked fall in share prices, the collapse of banks and capitalist firms and other phenomena of this kind. All this is worsening the situation still more, and is making this crisis resemble the 1929-1933 crisis increasingly closely.

Third, The capitalist economy is at present characterized by its irregular development, and the beginning of a decline in the rates of development. These rates are slowing down, by any standards. The most optimistic prognosis for the year 1974, according to those studying the market, predicted that the capitalist economy would mark time. Stagnation and economic decline has swept the USA, Italy, Japan, Britain, Spain, West Germany and the other capitalist countries.

Fourth, crises today frequently appear as monetary crises, inflation, and price rises, i.e. they break out mostly in the sphere of circulation, although they emanate from capitalist production. From the sphere of circulation, they have extended to the sphere of production, interweaving

with one another in the process of capitalist reproduction, and inflicting on it new deformations and disproportions. This is connected with the dominating position of financial capital, the growth in the dominating position of banks and bank capital, the strengthening of the dominating position of the imperialist financial oligarchy, the great increase in the export of capital, with all its consequences, the extension of the relations of capitalist credit, the increase in «aid», the financing of wars and aggressions in various countries of the world, capitalist speculations in the imperialist international markets, etc.

Fifth, Another feature of the current crisis is its immediate spread from one capitalist country to another, from one branch of the economy to another, from the sphere of production to that of circulation and viceversa – all this is due to the interconnections, interdependence and interstate relations in the world capitalist system.

Sixth, A great negative influence is exerted by the US economic system on the current convulsive development in general and on individual countries due to its dominating position in the world capitalist system, and its role as an international gendarme against the freedom and independence of the peoples and as «creditor» of vassal countries.

Seventh, the present crisis, particularly the speculation with raising prices, has affected the Soviet social imperialists too; in order to cope with their troubles, they are striving to exploit the difficulties of other countries, especially of the COMECON member countries, so as to subjugate and exploit them economically and politically. The speculations of the Moscow chieftains in the international markets concerning oil and gas, their seizure of rare metal resources, such as uranium and titanium, in satellite countries, the purchase of raw materials at low prices from the undeveloped countries, and the sale to these countries of Soviet industrial products at prices higher than those on the international market – all this is common knowledge.

The COMECON member countries are entirely dependent on the Soviet metropo-

lis for raw materials, fuels, principal materials, machinery, equipment, etc. Thus, for instance, in what Czechoslovakia imports 90% of oil, iron ore and nonferrous metals, 80% of grains, over 60% of cotton, over 50% of sulphur various phosphates etc., is of Soviet origin. Not only the economic but also the political consequences originating from conditions of such dependence are evident.

According to the published data, from the year 1980, the East European countries will need about 150 million tons of Soviet oil annually, which will be supplied by Moscow in exchange for capital investment by these countries in the exploitation of the Siberian oilfields. This means that these countries must decrease their internal investment funds placing them at the disposal of the Soviet social imperialists, otherwise they will have to experience an "oil famine".

The Soviet social imperialists get supplies of very important products such as non-ferrous metals, long-fiber cotton, natural rubber, vegetable oils, cotton textiles, rice, etc. in a speculative way. According to some statistics, from 1960 to 1971, the Soviet Union has taken from the underdeveloped countries 1.7 billion dollars worth of rubber and 1.6 billion dollars worth of cotton, bought at low prices; whereas from 1973 to 1980, the Middle East countries will repay their debts and trade obligations to the Soviet Union by supplying oil at a price 20 per cent lower than the price on the international market. At the same time, today the Soviets sell oil at high prices to their satellite countries.

By such methods, the Soviet revisionist imperialists are vying with the US imperialists for "cheap" markets in which to invest their capital, sell their goods, and grab raw materials at low prices. Engaged in such competition, the two superpowers proceed with the economic division of the world between them.

The fall in production rates

Falling production rates are a characteristic of almost all the industrialized capitalist countries. In the USA, in the second

quarter of this year, production fell by 8,8 per cent, the greatest fall in the last 7 to 8 years. "The country's economic situation has worsened in recent years. It is worse than was thought", an American review wrote some time ago, "and all the conditions exist for a further fall in the rates of economic development".

In the British economy, there have for years been long stagnation periods, alternating in these last 3 to 4 years with perceptible falls in rates of increase in production. The share of British industrial production, in the industrial production of the capitalist world, has now fallen below 6,5%, as against 9,3% at the beginning of the 60's, equal to a decline of over 30%.

At the end of the first six months of this year, many branches of the economy of the Federal German Republic including the steel, chemical, automobile and other industries, showed a decline of 2.1% in production, in comparison with the corresponding period last year.

The fall in production rates has been accompanied with the chronic under-utilization of productive capacities, a characteristic of the capitalist mode of production. According to admission in the bourgeois press itself, the productive capacities in the industrial branches that produce the means of production, in the USA, Britain, the FGR and elsewhere, have in these last 2 or 3 years been utilized at three quarters of their capacity. An American senator stated recently, in a television interview: "We are now living through great decline. We are not undergoing simply a feverish crisis, but we are condemned to paralysis. Its features are seen among other things, in the decline of production rates".

After the 60's, particularly beginning from the second half of the decade, there is evidently a tendency for the economic and financial position of the USA in the world capitalist market to weaken and a certain "rise" for its rivals in this market. Thus, while in 1955 the USA realized 52 per cent of the industrial production of the capitalist world, in 1960 it realized 47 per cent of this production and in 1972 a little over 43 per cent. This fall in the

share of the USA in capitalist industrial production has meant a relative growth in specific fields in the other capitalist countries, as a result of the objective law of the unequal economic and political development of capitalism. As V. I. Lenin said, in the epoch of imperialism, the development of the capitalist countries "not only becomes in general more unequal, but the inequality appears particularly in the rottenness of the countries that are richer in capital". Experience has fully confirmed the correctness of these conclusions.

Marked growth of inflation

Inflation is one of the gravest evils of capitalism, and one of the main aspects of its economic and financial crisis. As a result of inflation, all the channels of monetary circulation are over-supplied with large quantities of currency, originating from chronic budget deficits, consequently, in the first place, from large war expenditure. The excessive money supply causes rise in prices, which constitutes another direction of the present crisis of capitalism.

In the 1971-1973 period, the total amount of the money in circulation, in the industrialized capitalist countries, grew 2,5 times as fast as the annual average of the gross national product and the needs of domestic circulation.

In comparison with the 1966-1970 period, the rates of the increase in inflation, in 1973, were as follows: in the USA about 50 per cent (in the USA, in these last 5 years alone, the money supply has increased by over 40 per cent, at a time when internal retail turnover has increased by only 5-6 per cent), in France about 60 per cent, in Canada 47 per cent, in Japan 25 per cent, in Italy 28 per cent, in Britain about 4 times higher, etc. "It is impossible for the USA", the US treasury Secretary, Simon, declared some time ago, "to hinder or lower the rate of inflation".

Inflation has become a function of the process of capitalist reproduction. We find its roots, in the first place, in the rule of the monopolies. The giant corporations and trusts, seizing dominating positions

in the capitalist market, dictate high monopoly prices always on the rise. Their interference in the process of price setting on the capitalist market has now become a general policy. This predatory policy finds its clearest expression in the great rise in the prices of oil products.

Inflation also originates from the militarization of the economy and from the aggressive, warmongering policy of imperialism. The direct war expenditures of the capitalist states in 1973 surpassed 115 billion dollars, of which about 83 billion was spent by the USA. In 1966 the USA accounted for 45,2 per cent of the military forces and 69,4 per cent of the military expenditures of the industrialized capitalist countries, but by 1973 its share was 49,5 per cent of the armed forces and over 75 per cent of direct war expenditures. The imperialist military expenditures have thus reached colossal sums. In 1973 the aggressive NATO bloc spent 16 billion dollars more than in 1970. This year the US senate has approved the expenditure of about 86 billion dollars for war purposes, the greatest such amount ever approved in that country's 198-year existence. These budget expenditures, and the deficits stemming from them, create only a parasitic consumption, which the capitalist market can cover only by increasing the devaluated money in circulation, resulting in an immeasurable increase in inflation.¹⁾

The great increase in inflation, and the deformation of the capitalist reproduction cycle, as a direct consequence of the militarisation of the economy, and further imperialist economic and military expansion, have brought about increased unemployment and the further impoverishment of the broad labouring masses in these countries, first of all in the industrialized capitalist countries.

Irresistible rise in prices

Alongside the great inflation, in all the capitalist countries, in the first place in the industrialized countries, one notices an unprecedented rise in domestic prices, particularly in retail prices, and in prices

on the international capitalist market. According to reports in the bourgeois press itself, price rises have irresistably flooded the entire capitalist system, without exception, surpassing even the limits forecast by bourgeois economists and business circles.

The skyrocketing of prices has greatly affected the centre of international imperialism – the USA. Analyzing this problem in the Financial Commission of the House of Representatives of the US Congress, Treasury Secretary William Simon said that the USA is now experiencing the highest price rises it has ever seen, and that such increases have taken such deep root in the country's economy, that the process of mitigating them will be a long and difficult one.

The rise of prices in the capitalist world is not matter of comparing prices over a relatively long period of time (3,5 or more years), but it is a monthly, daily and rapid phenomenon. Now it is no longer a question of prices increasing from one period to another at the rate of 2,3,5 or even 7 per cent, but of an increase of several hundred percent.

Price rises are no longer at levels which «do not arouse concern for the internal and external capitalist economic situation, but are resulting in the capitalist economy profoundly feeling this rise, with serious, direct consequences for the working class and the broad labouring masses. As such, they bring the aggravation of the social conflicts and antagonistic contradictions of the capitalist society, particularly of the fundamental contradiction between the social character of production and the private capitalist character of appropriation.

For the September 1972 – September 1973 period, the retail prices of industrial products increased by 13% in the USA, 13,5% in Japan, 19,4% in Canada, 28% in Italy, etc., and raw materials prices increased on average in these four countries by 30%-47%, but from September 1973 to September 1974 these increases were twice as great.

In the first six months of this year, the level of prices for mass consumer goods was in the USA 4 times higher than in 1972. From June to July, the

prices of mass consumer goods there had increased on average by 14, rents had increased by 11.6%, medical services cost about 10% more, etc. In Italy, the retail price of macaroni, which is the staple food of the Italian people, had increased by over 30% in August this year, in comparison with the same period last year. In Japan the price of rice, which is the staple food there has recently increased by 32%.

There has been a considerable rise in the prices of sugar, meat, edible fats, farm products, fuels, vital services, such as transport and medical services, pharmaceutical products, clothing and footwear, etc. There is no commodity in capitalist markets which is not subject to the continuous rise of prices.

A quite marked, unrestrained rise has been noted in the prices of imports and exports in the capitalist markets. In this market, prices move freely, and exchange rates are implemented which are under continuous pressure from the currency and financial crisis.

A high rise has been registered in the prices of processed goods, such as steel, machinery, instruments, motorvehicles, electrical equipment, petrochemical products, etc. As well, a high increase has been registered in the prices of food and non-food articles processed by industry, such as sugar, edible fats, and hides, as well as some other products of agricultural origin, such as cotton, grain, coffee, etc. Thus the price of steel has increased 3.4 times over in a year, steel tubing over 3 times, pig iron 2.3 times, sheet iron 2.2 times, zinc products 5.4 times, soldering electrodes 2.4 times, nylon fibres 2 times, hides more than 4.4 times, sugar 3.4 times, edible fats over 2 times, coffee 1.7 times, wheat 1.7 times, etc.

The price rise in the capitalist international markets is extremely rapid. The monopoly circles have continually striven to make the maximum profits from this situation, speculating with prices at the expense of the labouring masses and their partners.

We know how the oil dynasties of the USA and the monopolies attached to them, have sought to exploit the energy crisis in

the interests of their business, markedly raising the prices of oil by-products and arousing panic in the capitalist world market for oil. They are trying to extend this in other directions and spheres of exchange, by dictating high monopoly prices which do not correspond at all to the social cost of production. They do this in order to ensure profits, but also to compete with their rivals.

The number of unemployed increases, along with the cost of living

In many capitalist countries the number of unemployed is increasing and is reaching levels which have not been seen for years.

In the USA, the unemployed account for 6.5% of the country's active population. In the poverty areas (where 29 million people live) the unemployed represent 7% of the active population. Among the blacks the unemployed account for 10.8% of the active black population, and among the young people in these areas, they account for 18.8%.

In Britain there are now over 900,000 unemployed, moving towards 1 million. The recent election victory for the Labourites will not improve this grave situation. The Federal German Republic, which was considered by bourgeois circles to be a country without unemployment, has at present over 900,000 unemployed. During the first fortnight of September alone, more than 50,000 emigrant workers lost their jobs. In Italy, which has become the greatest exporter of labour in the capitalist world, there is at present an army of about 1 million jobless workers.

As a result of the rise in inflation, unemployment, and, in particular, the prices of mass consumer goods and services, the cost of living has risen constantly. In 1973, as compared with 1950 the cost of living in the industrialized capitalist countries had increased 3.5 times, while over the last 10 years it increased in Britain by 73%, in Spain by 104%, in Italy by 57%, in Canada by 46%, in the

USA by 45%, in France by 70%, in the FRG by 43%, and in Japan by 80%.

* * *

Our socialist economy does not know such phenomena, which are the accompaniments of capitalism. It develops in a planned way, at stable, rapid rates, harmoniously, and it directly serves the vital interests of the labouring masses, promoting a steady rise in their living standards. Comrade Enver Hoxha said in his October 3 speech, "Here these things will never occur".

It is a fact that in the conditions when prices in the capitalist world are increasing so rapidly, in Albania they have marked no increase whatever. We have stable prices, planned by the socialist state, for both home produced mass consumer goods and those articles we are compelled to buy on the international market, at prices which have risen. This price increase is coped with by the socialist state so as not to burden our consumers.

However, in order to cope with the influence reaching our economy through the foreign trade relations maintained with capitalist and revisionist countries, particularly concerning import prices and the ensurance of the planned goods, the Party and the Government have set the labouring masses the task of increasing their efforts to fulfill and overfulfill the planned targets in all areas, increase exports, decrease imports and further strengthen the savings programme. Correctly understanding these tasks, the working masses have raised still higher the level of their militant mobilization and enthusiasm at work, in all the sectors and branches of the people's economy. —

1) The recent anti-inflationist measures proposed to the Congress by president Ford were received with distrust and scepticism by the people, they affect the working masses and the middle strata, without impairing the interests of big monopoly capital.

KIÇO KAPETANI — Journalist, specialist in economic problems.

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TRIUMPHANT MARCH OF GREAT PEOPLE'S CHINA ON THE ROAD OF THE REVOLUTION AND SOCIALISM

«ZËRI I POPULLIT» - organ of the CC of the PLA

The Chinese people celebrated the glorious jubilee, the 25th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, in the atmosphere of a great revolutionary enthusiasm, with a brilliant balance-sheet of achievements in all the fields of socialist construction and with unflinching confidence to always march forward triumphantly. During an historically short period, within a quarter of a century alone, the courageous, industrious and talented Chinese people, under the wise and farsighted leadership of their glorious Communist Party, with the great Marxist-Leninist, comrade Mao Tse-tung, at the head, strongly upholding the principle of «preservation of independence, holding the initiative and self-reliance», were able to transform their country from an oppressed, poor and backward country into a powerful and developed socialist state. Risen to new heights, People's China is now a country with a modern industry, advanced agriculture, with a science and technology of a high world level, with a defence capacity able to smash every aggression or coalition of aggressors that would dare touch it in the least.

Today, at a time when the capitalist-revisionist world is in the grip of a deep-going and all-round crisis, People's China knows no crises, high prices, unemployment and other serious evils inflicted on the working masses in the countries where capital and the new revisionist bourgeoisie rule. The steady development and strengthening of the socialist economy in the PR of China, the creation of an all-round independent industrial system of the new branches of industry, the increase of farm products, testify to the superiority of the socialist order. China is a country without inflation and foreign debts, a country where the market is full of commodities, currency is stable and the purchasing power of the people is increasing continually.

The strengthening of the all-round positions of socialism in People's China, the unprecedented progress in the life of the Chinese people, are the result of the correct line of the glorious Communist Party of China, of Chairman Mao Tse-tung's Marxist-Leninist teachings, of the struggle and great creative work of the revolutionary multimillion Chinese masses. To reach these heights, the Chinese

people had to strive heroically, to clash in fierce class struggles with ferocious and perfidious enemies in the country and in the international arena. The great proletarian cultural revolution, initiated and led by Chairman Mao Tse-tung personally, created an unprecedented revolutionary situation. The triumph of this revolution which constitutes a valuable contribution to the treasure of Marxism-Leninism for the continuation of the revolution in the conditions of the dictatorship of the proletariat, led to the defence and consolidation of the socialist gains, to the liquidation of the bourgeois-revisionist treacherous Liu Shao Chi gang, the successful exposure and smashing of the counterrevolutionary plot of the traitor, careerist and agent of the Soviet revisionists, Lin Piao. The hopes of US imperialism and Soviet social imperialism to seize the Chinese fortress from within, their plans and attempts to encircle and isolate it, were smashed to smithereens, they failed with shame. The powerful revolutionary movement in People's China, the successful implementation of Mao Tse-tung's Marxist-Leninist teachings, bar the way to the dan-

ger of the birth of revisionism and the restoration of capitalism so that China preserve pure and never change its red colour.

The whole of China, the multimillion masses of workers, commune members, soldiers and revolutionary cadres have mobilized themselves to successfully carry into effect the historic decisions of the 10th Congress of the Communist Party of China; they are taking part in the mass movement to develop steadily the struggle against Confucius' and Lin Piao's reactionary ideas. This movement gave a new powerful impetus to the incessant development of the revolution, promotion of production and preparations in case of war.

The brilliant victories of the Chinese people in the socialist revolution and socialist construction, the internationalist foreign policy of the People's Republic of China in the interests of the freedom and independence of the peoples, of the great cause of the revolution and socialism, of real peace and security in Asia and the world, have increased as never before the international authority and prestige of great People's China.

«All the peoples of the world, — comrade Enver Hoxha said in his October 3 speech, — have pinned their hopes for liberation, independence and well-being on their own forces and on Mao's China. They are not mistaken and their conviction is not based on propaganda, but on a great reality which is shin-

ing like the sunlight, on the building of socialism in China which is being realized correctly, according to the doctrine of Marx and Lenin and according to Mao Tse tung's teachings, relies on the determined political stands of the People's Republic of China in the international arena, on the concrete moral, political and economic aid it renders to the world peoples».

The freedom-loving peoples of the world see in People's China the most powerful and unbent fighter for their freedom and independence, the great and real friend, the insurmountable barricade for the hegemonistic and aggressive plans of the two most savage enemies of mankind, two imperialist superpowers, the USA and the Soviet Union. At a time when these two superpowers, in fierce and constant rivalry with each other and in conjunctural collaboration between them to carry into effect their crazy plans for world domination, are preparing a new, more terrible war than all others, the peoples of the world multiply their forces in their struggle for freedom, national independence and social progress, for real international security.

Mao Tse-tung's great China stands determinedly on the side of the peoples. People's China has become the most powerful, sincere and loyal defender of the sovereign peoples and countries against the plots, intrigues

and hegemonism of US imperialism and Soviet social imperialism. A clear testimony to this is the all-round support it is rendering to the working people and progressive forces in the struggle against capitalist oppression and exploitation, the just struggle of the Indochinese, Korean, Arab, African and Latin American peoples against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism and their tools. The aid China renders to the freedom-loving peoples is an internationalist and fraternal aid, completely differing from the so-called «aid» the Moscow social imperialists are rendering to other countries and which aims at plundering them and their economic and political enslavement. The base anti-China calumnies and inventions of the imperialist-revisionist enemies cannot deceive the peoples, they are smashed in face of the reality that is shining like the sunlight and cannot darken in the least the great role of People's China, as a fortress of the revolution and socialism in Asia and all the world, as staunch fighter for the defence and triumph of Marxism-Leninism, for the freedom of the peoples, peace and real international security. Socialism, the revolution, the liberation of the peoples march forward because the People's Republic of China unswervingly marches at the head of this glorious road.

The impetuous and triumphant march of the Chinese peo-

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ple, their colossal victories that have further strengthened the big military and economic potential of the People's Republic of China, the steady increase of its international prestige, gladden our people immeasurably, who wish wholeheartedly that they increase and multiply to the benefit of the fraternal Chinese people and the revolution in the world. «The People's Republic of China, our people, our Party of Labour, – comrade Enver Hoxha said in his speech before his electorate on October 3, – are loyal friends, dear friends and comrades, invincible allies with the People's Republic of China, with the fraternal Chinese people and with the glorious Communist Party of China of Mao Tse-tung's. We are bound by common ideals, we are bound forever by Marxism-Leninism, common roads in the construction of socialism, the struggle against our common enemies, the same tasks in the spirit of proletarian internationalism». Precisely on these granite-like bases relies the un-

breakable revolutionary friendship between our two peoples, parties and governments, a friendship forged by our two heroic parties and the beloved leaders comrade Enver Hoxha and comrade Mao Tse-tung.

The exceptionally fraternal, social, internationalist relations between the People's Republic of Albania and the People's Republic of China, that are developing and strengthening with each passing day in all fields, are a brilliant example in the relations between fraternal socialist countries. The acting force of this friendship, the generous unsparring and disinterested aid People's China is rendering to our country in the building of socialism, immeasurably inspire the Albanian people who are grateful for ever to the great Chinese people, to the glorious Communist Party of China and Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the most beloved friend of our people. Such magnificent works as the ferrous metallurgy combine, the intensive oil processing plant, the big Fierza hydropo-

wer station and other important units of our engineering, chemical and other industries are being built up with the great fraternal aid of the PR of China. Precisely because the great Albania-China friendship is powerfully based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, because the two peoples, the two parties and the two governments of our countries are successfully building socialism and stand determined on the forefront of the struggle for the cause of the freedom of the peoples, the revolution and socialism against the same enemies, the US imperialists, the Soviet social imperialists and international reaction envy this friendship, slander it and they give vent to their spleen against it. But there is no intrigue, trickery, plot and enemy in the world to touch it in the least. The unbrea- kable revolutionary Albania-China friendship will shine and flourish ever more, to the benefit of our two peoples, the revolution, socialism and communism.

IRRESISTIBLE EXPLOSION OF ECONOMIC CRISIS IN THE CAPITALIST WORLD

«ZËRI I POPULLIT»

Hardly two years have elapsed since the western world last found itself in a crisis of overproduction and again it is slipping into the abyss of depression. It is facing the risk of los-

ing even those results of the short breathing space in the years 1972-1973, when a temporary rise in industrial production was recorded. The most optimistic prognosis for 1974,

according to observers of the market situation, shows that the capitalist economy will be in stagnation. Meanwhile, the facts speak for themselves. In the USA, where during recent years

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the situation has been more favourable than in the countries of Western Europe, since the beginning of this year, industrial production has marked a decline of 1.5 per cent and continues to fall. A situation of stagnation and economic decline is observable in Italy, Japan, Britain, Spain, West Germany and other capitalist countries. This situation of depression which has arisen, and is deepening, is throwing progressively larger contingents of workers out of work in all the capitalist countries. In West Germany, which is considered to be virtually free of unemployment, the number of unemployed has surpassed half a million. In Italy, which has become the greatest exporter of labour power, there is now an army of about 1 million unemployed. Unemployment is growing rapidly in the USA too. As against 4.5 per cent of the labour force in the past year, it has now reached 5.2 per cent and is predicted to reach 7 per cent, equal to about 2 million jobless.

What is characteristic at the present moment is that these depressive processes which have gripped the world of capital are interwoven, and operate in common, with the processes of inflation, the energy «famine», currency upheavals, the marked decline in share prices, the failure of banks and capitalist businesses and other phenomena of this nature, which make the situation even worse and are giving the crisis features which

increasingly resemble those in the years 1929-1933.

In the general economic crisis the capitalist world is now living through the phenomenon of inflation (the flooding of circulation channels with devalued currency, which brings about a redistribution of national income in favour of the exploiting classes, and to the detriment of the labouring masses) has become its «scourge». Inflation is not, of course, a new phenomenon. The new feature of recent years, particularly this year, is the fact that it has operated with unprecedented force, although bourgeois governments have always declared that avoiding inflation is one of the most important aims, if not the major aim, of their economic policies. The fact however remains that the deflationist measures carried out in recent years, by the governments of various capitalist countries, have been unable to stop inflation. They have resulted only in slowing the rates of development in production. As far as inflation is concerned, during 1973, it was not slowed down, but on the contrary marked a great increase. In the second half of last year in general, for the developed capitalist countries, the inflation index reached its highest post war level and averaged about 10 per cent. This course continues nonstop.

Inflation has become a function of the process of capitalist reproduction. We find its roots in the first place in the

rule of monopolies. The giant corporations and concerns, occupying dominating positions in the world capitalist market, dictate high monopoly prices which are always rising. Their interference in the process of fixing prices in the markets of all the capitalist countries has now been raised to a general policy. More clearly, this predatory policy of the big international monopolies finds its demonstration in the great increase in prices of oil products. The prices of oil products, for example, have increased 3-4 times, synthetic rubber 2 times, petrol 40-50 per cent, etc. The oil embargo and the other fully legitimate measures adopted by the oil producing countries in raising the price of oil, which the imperialist states, by means of their neocolonialist, discriminating policy, had artificially kept low for decades, no doubt threw into relief the consequences of the energy crisis, which is the offspring of the nature of the capitalist system itself. These measures, likewise, exerted their influence on the rise in the prices of goods produced by the industrial branches engaged in oil processing. The apologists of monopoly capitalism, with cunning intent, seek to shift the blame for the situation on the markets of capitalist countries, where price rises continue to soar, onto the Arab countries. For instance there are the pressures and threats from the president of the USA, Gerald Ford, and from Kissinger, against the-

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se countries. However, the essential reason behind this situation, and the great proportions assumed by inflation in capitalist countries, is not the legitimate stands of the developing countries, but the unrestrained greed of the monopolies to make the maximum profits. In our time, this has become an unrestrained epidemic, which has led to fierce, criminal speculative actions at the expense of the working masses. The capitalist corporations and concerns are extending this practice to all other goods, in particular to food articles, and in general to mass consumer goods, especially wheat, sugar, rice, cotton, etc., prices of which have increased many times over.

Militarism is another decisive factor incessantly feeding inflation. Military expenditures have reached colossal sums. The NATO bloc in 1973 spent 16 billion dollars more than in 1970. The USA envisages spending this year, 85,8 billion dollars, on direct military purposes, the largest budget ever seen in its 198-year history. These expendi-

tures and the budget deficits stemming from them, create only a parasitic consumption, which can be covered by the capitalist market only by increasing the devalued currency, and thus immeasurably increasing inflation.

All the centres of financial capital in capitalist world are panic-stricken. An atmosphere of distrust prevails everywhere, in Frankfurt, London, Zurich and other currency exchange centres. The prices of shares on the London stock exchange fell by 70 per cent in 1973, as against 1970. In all the capitals of Western Europe, bank operations have perceptibly decreased. As admitted by the newspaper «Sunday Times», «if we compare the decline in shares prices in these last two years with what occurred in 1929, those events seem a «joyfull walk». Depression in the monetary market is taking on broad proportions, it is merely a link in the chain reaction of the general economic crisis, which has erupted fiercely throughout the entire capitalist world.

The present crisis is not simply an ordinary deepening of the general crisis of capitalism, which is distinguished by the simultaneous, rapid outbreak of many large, acute conflicts which are increasingly hitting all the sectors of the economic and social structure of the capitalist world. It is precisely these extraordinary economic and social upheavals that have made its political superstructure so unstable; governments are falling one after another, giving the crisis a deep, all-round political, economic and social character. This reality of the heavy and unrestrained crisis that has engulfed the whole structure and superstructure of the «free» world, has definitely destroyed the myth about the «new capitalism», so noisily trumpeted by the imperialist-revisionist apologists. Capitalism has not changed its nature, it has neither «grown young» nor has become «popular». It remains capitalism, and as such it will be removed from the stage of history only by proletarian revolution.

**BY THEIR DETERMINED STRUGGLE,
THE WORKING PEOPLE OF THE CAPITALIST COUNTRIES
REFUTE THE PREACHINGS
OF THE REVISIONIST AND TRADE UNION SCABS**

«ZËRI I POPULLIT»

Reports coming in steadily from New York, London, Brussels, Turin, Madrid, Bonn, etc.,

tell of an extension in the class movement of the proletariat, which does not know periods of

«tranquillity» and «class peace». The working masses cannot obediently allow the bourgeoisie to

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shift on to them the burden of the crisis stemming from its rotten system, therefore they have chosen the road of strikes, demonstrations, and barricades, the road of determined struggle through to the end.

At this moment, which favours the extension of the working class struggle, the obedient servants of the monopoly bourgeoisie, the revisionist and reformist traitors, are using all the means in their power to extinguish this struggle, and not to let it escape from the framework of some purely economic claims, which do not endanger the fundamental interests or domination of the bourgeoisie. They do not move a finger to counter the anti-worker attacks of capital, but on the contrary, they come to its assistance showing it ways of overcoming the crisis with the minimum losses. The trade union leaders call on the working class to make more sacrifices and tighten their belts still more. The secretary of the British Trade Unions Congress, Murray, threatened the striking workers, and described them as responsible for the increase in the country's economic difficulties. He told the British working class to moderate its demands for higher pay and avoid what are according to him, «unnecessary» strikes, i.e. strikes held without the approval of the Trade Unions. Demanding still greater sacrifices from the workers, Murray pointed out that they should agree that this year there cannot be an improvement

in their living standards. This stand is another testimony to the treachery of the British trade-union leaders; in this situation, which favours the struggle of the British proletariat, they are playing, the role of a fire brigade.

Through the revisionist and tradeunion scab chieftains, and by means of machinations and other deceptive actions, the bourgeoisie, in collaboration with the traitorous leaders of the trade unions, aim to camouflage the essence of their anti-worker policy. This framework includes the intensive dialogue which the US president Ford held recently with the traitorous tradeunionists in the USA, a dialogue which has so far taken concrete form in two direct meetings between the White House chief, and the group of tradeunionist bosses already known for the services they have rendered to Ford's predecessors. «We need your advice, we need your opinions», Ford told the trade union leaders at his recent meeting with them. Such expressions from the White House chief, addressed to those who have betrayed the interests of the American working class, and who strive to deceive it, show better than anything else the relations existing between the representatives of the monopoly bourgeoisie in power, and their servants, who have usurped the leadership of the trade unions in that country. In every tricky situation for American capital, and particularly in recent years,

when the intensification of its general crisis has placed it in a difficult position, the trade union leaders have openly come out in defence of the interests of the bourgeoisie.

The same attitude is adopted by the traitorous trade union leaders of other countries. They have now gone so far that, in one way or another, in one form or another, they want to persuade the working class and the other oppressed and exploited labouring masses to give up their strike struggle. One quite significant case is the appeal by one of the Italian revisionist leaders, Amendola, who has declared: «Strikes can be abused, and I think, it is reasonable that in some sectors strikes should be held only, as a last resort. We need more self-discipline, more political consciousness. I can say that some strikes do not seem just to me».

Surely these facts, and others like them, clearly show the treacherous role of the trade union and revisionist chieftains. It is precisely because they play such a role that the workers go on strike without taking any heed of their slogans and their words. The latest strikes by the proletariat, and those which will be prepared in the future, without the approval of the trade union chieftains in France, Italy, Britain, etc., show that many of the workers can no longer be deceived by the false slogans and empty promises of the bourgeoisie, nor by the noisy statements

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of the revisionists, who by announcing in their programmes, as an important aim, collaboration, not only with the social

democrat parties, but also with the parties of the bourgeoisie in power, show that they have openly gone over to defending

the interests of the bourgeoisie, and have nothing in common with the real interests of the workers.

A COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY MEETING IN THE SERVICE OF SOCIAL IMPERIALISM

«ZËRI I POPULLIT»

In his speech to his electors in Tirana comrade Enver Hoxha declared: «Following the traitorous Khrushchevite line, the revisionist Communist Party of the Soviet Union is now organizing a meeting of the revisionist parties of Europe, with the aim of imposing on them its own views, holding them in check and showing that allegedly it is not isolated, that it is the «centre of world communism». The other parties which will attend this meeting are bound to prove that they are on the road of treason; they will become accomplices of the malevolent, counterrevolutionary activity of the Soviet revisionist leaders. The Party of Labour of Albania severely condemns such a plotters' meeting, however this meeting will be a success in so far as the peoples and the communists of the world will have occasion to see once again the real features of these parties which are meeting to plot».

The expansionist and hegemonic policy pursued by the Soviet leaders, and the increasing application of an aggressive neocolonialism, are meeting with

greater resistance from the peoples of the world. The Soviet Union today is emerging, to the working masses of various countries, in its true colours, as an imperialist superpower which, in competition and rivalry with US imperialism, is seeking to rule over the whole world. Parallel with anti-americanism, there is a steadily rising wave of feeling against Soviet social imperialism.

Sensing the way they are being isolated, which, in the long run, will become even more serious, the Soviet revisionists need partisans and supporters to applaud and acclaim them. Speculation on what they call the «common line of the world communist movement», approved and coordinated by all the sister parties and fraternal countries, has now become one of the main foundations of demagogic propaganda and deceptive tactics, in order to conceal their treachery and to impose it on others.

These counterrevolutionary tactics and manoeuvres of the Soviet revisionists must be resolutely rejected and severely condemned by all the genuine

revolutionaries, patriots and democrats. The Soviet Union has long ago been transformed into a centre of counterrevolution and antisocialism, into a great imperialist power, which carries out a chauvinistic and expansionist policy with regard to all countries and peoples, which undermines the national liberation movements and practices neocolonialism.

Therefore, those parties which approve and share these tactics of Moscow show that they bow before the aggressive policy of the Soviet Union, help it in implementing the imperialist strategy of enslaving the peoples and dominating the world, and become its partners and tools in the struggle against communism and the revolution.

The meeting being organized by the Soviet revisionists, just like all those organized since they seized power in the Soviet Union, aims to mobilize the revisionist counterrevolutionary front in the struggle against China and Albania. As at other times, resorting to the old, hackneyed arguments produced by

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the mills of their anti-China propaganda, the Soviet revisionists will strive to «outlaw China», and to condemn it on false pretexts which they themselves invent.

That this is one of the main objectives of the new revisionist meeting can be seen in the increasing attacks on China and Albania in the propaganda of the Soviet Union and its satellites and in the particularly anti-China direction Soviet diplomacy has assumed at present. No meeting takes place without Brezhnev furiously rushing against China, without attacks on its revolutionary stands and its internationalist policy. The atmosphere of preparations for the present meeting and the way it is being organized, closely resemble those of the 1969 Moscow meeting, which, you recall, was characterized by the attacks of Brezhnev and his satellites against China.

But there is no doubt that, just as at that time, so at present too the Soviet revisionists and those following them will not attain their reactionary aims. They have not been and will ne-

ver be able to divert in the least our two parties and our two countries from the road of the revolution and socialism, or to slacken their determined struggle to expose and destroy modern revisionism.

These attacks do not mean that the international authority and prestige of the PR of China and of the PR of Albania are weakened, on the contrary, they grow still more, just as the confidence and love of the world revolutionaries for them grows and increases.

The Soviet revisionists will gain nothing by their anti-China meetings. Their efforts to «condemn» China and Albania, which remain loyal to Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, will rebound against the authors themselves, and cause their further exposure and isolation. As for the other revisionist parties, if they unite and blindly follow Moscow's anti-China and anti-Albania line, they will certainly meet a reaction from their members and peoples. Deep engagement on this road along which the Soviets are pushing them will

mean real destruction for them.

With the meeting or without it, the revisionists, and in the first place the Soviet ones, cannot attain their treacherous objective. They will never be able to conquer and destroy Marxism-Leninism and the parties defending and leading it forward, they cannot prevent the outbreak of the revolutions and liberation struggles, they cannot hinder the triumphant march of socialism.

The present revisionists will suffer the fate of all renegades and traitors. The working class and the peoples will not allow themselves to be trampled and oppressed by the US imperialists or the Soviet social imperialists, just as they will never allow themselves to be hindered and deceived by their agents and tools. Like the previous ones, the new meeting of the revisionist parties will be another occasion serving still more to expose them as incorrigible opportunists, anti-Marxists and enemies of communism. With this meeting, they will take another step on the road to their complete destruction and bankruptcy.

SOVIET SOCIAL IMPERIALISM AGAIN STABS THE ARAB PEOPLE IN THE BACK

«BASHKIMI»

The Brezhnev clique has assured Washington that it will allow more Soviet Jews to emigrate to Israel. Washington, for its part, has assured Moscow that

it will confer on the Soviet Union «most favoured nation» status in trade. In accordance with the agreement, about 60,000 Soviet Jews will go to

Israel this year; they will be followed by 130,000 others. This US-Soviet bargaining is another act of treachery by Soviet social imperialism against the

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Arab cause: it is another blow at the interests and dignity of the Arab people, particularly of the Palestinian people.

The problem of Jewish emigration to Israel is not new. It is a product of the hegemonistic policy and bargainings of the two superpowers. Both US and Russian imperialism are interested in securing as many key positions as possible in the Middle East, at the expense of the freedom and independence of the Arab people. Israel has been used by the US imperialists as a tool for aggression against the Arab people, to compel them to submit. Russian imperialism, for its part, has used Israel's existence as a bugbear, with the aim of compelling the Arab people to submit and ask for aid from Moscow, allegedly to defend themselves against Israel. Through these tricks, the two superpowers, while vying with each other, have always united in order to undermine the just struggle of the Arab people, and they have sabotaged it at the decisive moments (as was the case in October last year). They continue to coordinate their activities in this direction.

In this collaboration and rivalry, Soviet social imperialism has become increasingly more dangerous, because it seeks to conceal its treachery with slogans of «friendship», «peaceful policy», and «support». But the facts ever more clearly show what is hidden behind the «friendship» of Soviet social imperialism. The Brezhnev clique long ago stabbed the Arab people in the back. Who left the Arabs in the lurch, and indeed sabotaged them, in the days when the Egyptian, Syrian, Palestinian and other fighters had defeated the Zionist aggression? Who promised them more aid but gave them only a little, after long delay and only on humiliating and enslaving conditions? Soviet social imperialism.

By this bandit-like stand, Soviet social imperialism, for the sake of its alliance with US imperialism, has in fact carried out the policy the Zionists are waging to strengthen their ranks. When the Russian Jews began to emigrate to Israel a few years ago, Golda Meir joyfully stated: «We ask for nothing better. Let them all come at once. We will not tell them: Wait un-

til we are prepared to receive you. Israel is meaningless without mass emigration. All our sacrifices would have been in vain».

The open aid which Soviet social imperialism is giving to strengthen the Israeli aggressors is a heavy blow to the Arab people. In particular, it is directed against the Palestinian people. In the final account, what are the Palestinian people fighting for? They are fighting for their rights, for their territories. The Jews being sent by Brezhnev and company are increasingly settling precisely in these territories. Is this the expression of «friendship» and «support» about which the Moscow clique is shouting so loudly? This is further unprecedented perfidy towards the Palestinian people. The Moscow clique is thus openly helping to bar the way to the Palestinian people for the realisation of their legitimate rights.

The new Soviet-US agreement once more tears the mask «friends» from the Soviet social imperialists, and shows that they are criminals who would kill you at night and weep for you in the daytime. —

THE MEDITERRANEAN — AN ARENA FOR THE FEVERISH RACE BETWEEN THE TWO SUPERPOWERS TO EXPAND

«ZËRI I POPULLIT»

Recently intense activity by the Soviet and US war fleets has been noticed in the Mediter-

ranean basin. The news agencies report that Soviet warships are passing almost every day

through the Bosphorus, heading for the Mediterranean.

The chieftains of the two im-

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perialist superpowers, in order to justify their military presence, constantly increasing, in the Mediterranean, refer to the «balance of power», or to the threat from each other. While the Moscow revisionists declare that they do this for the «security of the region», and to «support» the Arab people, the US imperialists claim that the US military presence, especially the 6th fleet in the Mediterranean, is being strengthened «to defend NATO's south-eastern flank». But these declarations cannot conceal the real hegemonistic aims of the two superpowers, which are running a feverish race to expand, and win zones of influence in the Mediterranean area, the Middle East and the Balkans. The fact that about 100 Soviet and US warships are today concentrated in the Mediterranean, more than in any other ocean or sea, clearly bears witness to these aims of Moscow and Washington.

The stand of the People's Republic of Albania towards the expansionist aims of the two superpowers in the Mediterranean area has always been clear-cut. The P.R. of Albania is resolutely opposed to the presence, on whatever pretext, of the warships of the United States and the Soviet Union, as well as to the existence of foreign military bases. This correct stand, in the interests of true security in this region of the world, was once more confirmed in the speech delivered by comrade Enver Hoxha at the meeting

with his electorate, when he said: «No pretext whatever can justify the fleets of the two superpowers being allowed not only to have permanent bases, but also to anchor and to be repaired and supplied. This is very dangerous both to the country giving these concessions, and to its neighbours. We cannot agree with such actions. We have already stated our stand towards the presence of the aggressive US and Soviet fleets in the Mediterranean, and we remain loyal and consistent to this policy».

The increase in the naval power of Soviet social imperialism and US imperialism in the Mediterranean is occurring at a time when the situation in the Middle East, as a result of Israel's aggressive activity and the anti-Arab plots of the two superpowers, remains tense and threatens to erupt again. The two superpowers, in rivalry with each other to secure as many zones of influence as possible, are concocting all sorts of intrigues to disrupt the Arab people, to sabotage the struggle of these people for the realization of their national aspirations, and to impose on the «solutions» worked out in the chancelleries of the Kremlin and the White House, in conformity with neocolonialist aims. One of the means used to realize these anti-Arab plans, along with promises, flattery, pressure and blackmail, is the familiar imperialist gunboat policy.

The increasing activity by US and Soviet warships is occurring

for a set purpose in the Eastern Mediterranean, around Cyprus, where the two superpowers, in the summer of this year, created a new hotbed of tension with dangerous consequences for peace and security in this area. The US imperialists organized and instigated the bloody events in Cyprus and threw the population of that island into fratricidal war, with a view to turning Cyprus, with its important strategic position, into a base for the aggressive NATO bloc so as to use it as a lever for expansion and aggression in the Mediterranean, the Middle East and other regions. For their part, the Soviet social imperialists, in conformity with their known hegemonistic aims, did not fail to make all out efforts to fish in troubled waters, and profit by the situation which had arisen in Cyprus. Behind their hypocritical proposals «for a solution of the Cyprus question» are the Kremlin's aim to set foot on Cyprus, and to establish bases for their warships, so as to create greater possibilities for them to penetrate deeply in the Mediterranean, the Adriatic and other regions. In the framework of the rivalry of the two superpowers to seize as many strategic positions as possible in this area, they demonstrate the force of their naval fleets in order to challenge each other intimidate the Mediterranean peoples and force them to their knees. Precisely for these purposes, the US imperialists, following Greece's withdrawal

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from the NATO military structure, are striving to preserve and strengthen their military power in the Mediterranean, they are looking for new ports and bases for their ships, jets and missiles, and they are extending the existing ones. «According to US military experts», the newspaper «Nuova Unità» wrote recently, «the problem of transferring the main bases of the US 6th Fleet to Italy, has been raised. On the basis of the plans mapped out by admiral Zunwalt, the reinforcement of the US military bases in Italy, at Augusta, Naples, Gaeta, Brindisi, Taranto and La Spezia, has ben envisaged».

In the framework of a premeditated plan, parallel with the increase of naval power in the Mediterranean basin, the Soviet social imperialists are brandishing arms in the vicinity of the Balkans, so as to threaten and cow the peoples of this peninsula. They have turned Bulgaria in a place d'armes against the other Balkan countries and, at the same time, for the same dark and aggressive purposes, they demonstrate their strength and carry out military exercises from time to time near the borders of the Balkan countries. They did this recently in Hungary, where, as the Viennese newspaper «Die Presse» reports, the contingent of Soviet troops already stationed on Hungarian territory was swelled with 60,000 more troops.

The expansionist aims of the two superpowers, in the Medi-

terranean, Balkan and Adriatic areas, are becoming increasingly clearer. In these conditions it is understandable that the visits which Soviet and US warships pay from time to time to the ports of certain countries, irrespective of their «friendly» or «good will» labels conceal dark aims.

The peoples of the Mediterranean and Balkan areas, from the very course of events, are more clearly realizing the dangers which threaten their freedom and independence, as a result of the presence of the war fleets and military bases of the two superpowers in this region. They do not allow themselves to be deceived by the demagogical declarations of Washington and Moscow about «peace and stability», or about «guaranteeing security». This entire pacifist smokescreen is designed to hoodwink the peoples, to weaken their vigilance, and to catch them off guard. Precisely such a cunning aim is served by Brezhnev's deceptive proposal made in his speech in Berlin, for the «withdrawal of the warships and nuclear submarines from the Mediterranean». The hypocrisy of this «proposal» is best exposed by the increase in the number of Soviet warships passing through the Bosphorus towards the Mediterranean.

In the face of the tense, dangerous situation created by the two imperialist superpowers in the Mediterranean region, as well as in other areas of the world, the interests of the peoples and sovereign countries,

which cherish freedom, independence, true international peace and security demand that they should rise with still greater determination against the hegemonic policy and aggressive plans of the two superpowers, the United States of America and the Soviet Union. Today it has become still more urgent and indispensable for the Mediterranean peoples and countries to act courageously and energetically so as to expel the US and Soviet fleets from the Mediterranean.

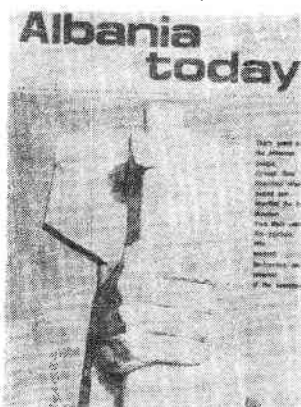
The Albanian people and their Party and Government have fought and continue to fight with all their forces against the aggressive plans and conspiracies of the two superpowers, always making a genuine contribution to preserving real peace and security in the Balkans, the Mediterranean and the world. While resolutely defending its freedom and national independence, and inspired by the aim of real security in the Mediterranean and the Balkans, Socialist Albania will never allow the existence of foreign military bases on its territory. Only through a determined struggle by all the Mediterranean peoples and countries, for the withdrawal of the fleets of the two imperialist superpowers from the Mediterranean, the annihilation of imperialist-revisionist plots, and the removal of foreign military bases, will it be possible to achieve real security and the preservation of peace in this region of the world.

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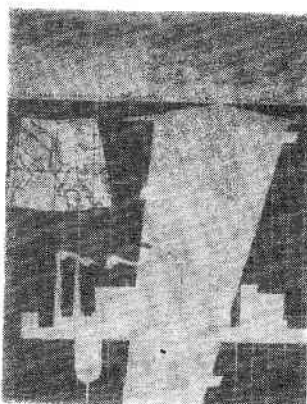
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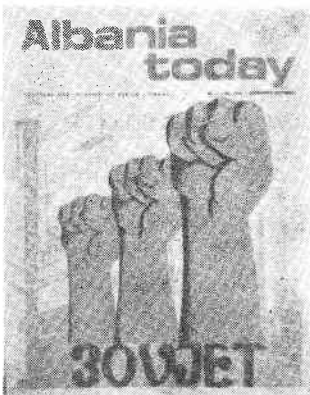
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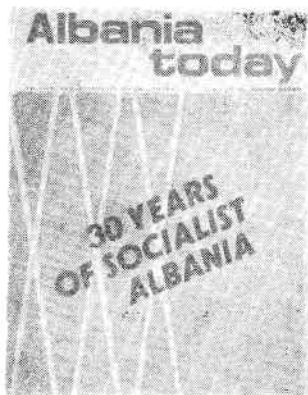
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