

northstar compass

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY WITH SOVIET PEOPLE - VOL. 9 #2, SEPT. 2000

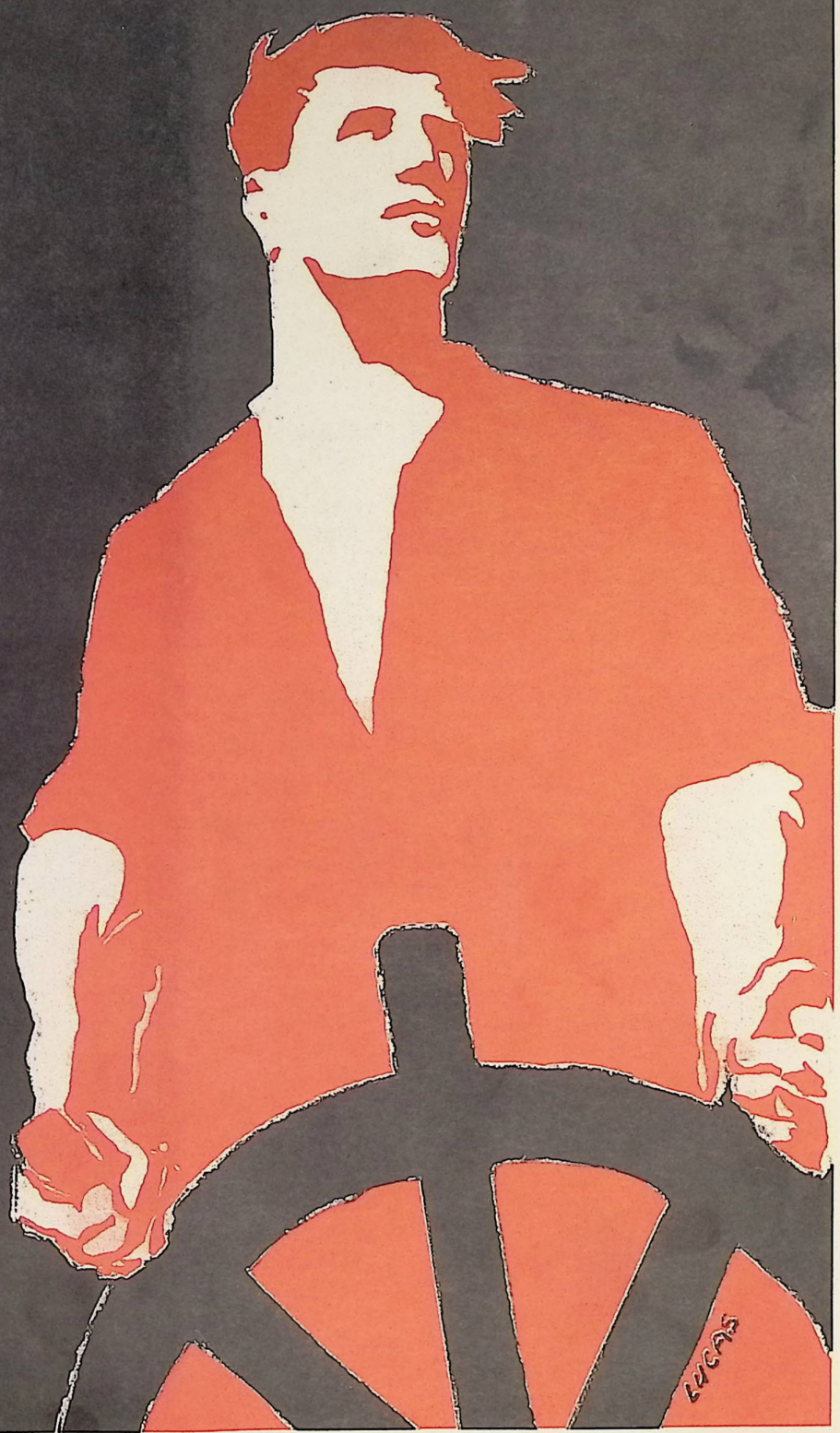
CPSU

COMMUNIST PARTY
OF THE SOVIET UNION

MUST BE AT THE HELM!

*COMMUNISTS
ARE
UNITING!

*SOCIALISM AND
MARXISM-
LENINISM



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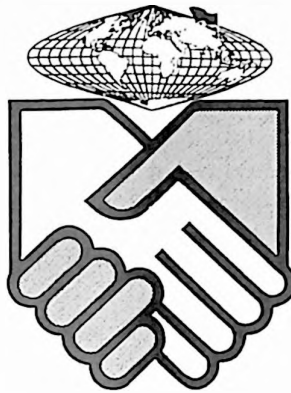
PROFESSOR VILMA PAEZ

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EDITORIAL

Pre - World Congress discussion... International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People



The World Congress in September of 2001 is producing much interest in the countries where NSC is read...from Communist, Workers Parties and Movements. Their proposals and suggestions plus their views on the situation that caused the temporary demise of the USSR are voiced, some in no uncertain terms.

In this regard, our friends and comrades from Azerbaijan have sent us an 82 page document of questions and answers which were answered by Sayad Sayadov, Secretary General of the United Communist Party of Azerbaijan.

Since the document is too lengthy to reproduce in NSC, it shall be (*together with many others*) included in the delegates Congress materials for discussion.

Below we print the thoughts of the Organizing Committee for an International Council as to what our program, is and should be and the terms of reference for the forthcoming World Congress in Toronto in 2001.

We invite comments which are going to be incorporated into the documents of the World Congress.

*Editorial Board of NSC and
Organizing Committee for an
International Council*

We point out that the Azerbaijan friends appear to be under a misconception as to our character and substance in that we are addressed as a "political party" or

entity. We are not and never have been a political party from our earliest days and origins more than Eighty years ago as the "Hands Off Russia" Committee. Since then we have carried a number of names, during World War II and after, but we have always based our activities and development of friendship, peace and solidarity between the Canadian people and the nations and the Soviet people. Since the debacle of the sell-out and downfall of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in the 1985-1991 period, we have sought to rally support and friendship to the Soviet people in order that they will, at their discretion and by their own means restore Socialism to their republics and lands. The establishment of an International Council to carry on and further our purpose of "friendship, peace and solidarity" will be the result of those activities. Northstar Compass has emerged as the journal designed to further those aims.

While we are not a political party, we firmly believe that the restoration of Socialism in the Soviet Union is a desirable end for them and all humanity, based on the political economic science of Marxism-Leninism as it would be applied by the Soviet people. But we are convinced that any and all such processes belong to political parties and their activities

in support and leadership of the working people and their allies. We are profoundly convinced that our role in the promotion of friendship and international solidarity is both important and vital, given the fact that our journal is circulated and read in almost seventy countries and has grown to that stature during the past nine years with only volunteer work and voluntary financial support.

We appreciate that the enclosed document is among several and is a comprehensive evaluation of the causes of the downfall of the USSR.

Additionally, however it introduces certain aspects of the internal inter-Communist parties relationships in the former Republics of the Soviet Union that we suggest we should not act upon, or even comment upon. We further suggest that relationships between these parties is not a legitimate area for our presence as a "Friendship, Solidarity and Peace" body. If there are, as the document states, problems of "Great Power Chauvinism" such will not be resolved within our mandate or activity. We can suggest that they will be resolved properly when there is a mutually held acceptance of the restoration of Socialism, however the Soviet people may decide such should be done and put to effect.

We therefore refer you to page 15 of the last edition of Northstar Compass (Vol.9-#1) together with a newsclipping from the International Herald Tribune of Wednesday, August 9, 2000, to provide information on certain material conditions that apply, and problems confronted by the peoples of the Feraghana Valley. Affected are people of Azerbaijan, Armenia, Dagestan, Karachasy-Cherkass, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Tadjikistan, Kirghystan, Uzbekistan, Russia and in fact all former USSR Republics where

now live Soviet people, but living in separate enclaves under weak "national" governments. *What they hold in common today is the theft by outside interests of their national oil and natural gas resources...among the richest in the world.* The outside interests include the oil and gas monopolies of the USA, Germany, Britain, Russian capitalists plus the financial investors of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the European Bank of Reconstruction, none of whom give a tinkers dam about the people of these lands, in fact they are widening and intensifying further conflicts and wars between the people in the most brazen thievery and military assertion of power in recent history. The cockpit of world war yaws wide in that oil rich area. Division of the people will assure catastrophic results...as it already has in Chechnya.

We, friends of ALL Soviet people are absolutely opposed to this oil and gas fed "fanning of the flames of war"...as day by day they mount higher in this entire region. Surely it is now time for all of these Soviet people to restore Soviet common control of the exploitation of their oil, gas and above all, human resources (even initially under the mandate of the United Nations). Potentially the peace of the world is at stake!

Unfortunately the document forwarded by our Azerbaijan friends deals with the problem only in terms of an Azerbaijan-Armenia-Russia axis, and that is why we do not and cannot suggest endorsement of it at this time. We await your considered opinion and guidance on this matter.

Sincerely, comradely and fraternally:

Michael Lucas, President and Editor of NSC

Ray Stevenson, Associate Editor ■

WHY THIS LA

The world has witnessed and is witnessing many horrific tragedies, some are caused my nature, while others are caused by mankind itself. The latest tragedy is that of the Russian submarine Kursk, sinking to the bottom of the icy Barents Sea with 118 Russian crew members dying an agonizing death.

The world was shocked by the ineptitude, callousness and outright falsification of facts perpetrated against all the relatives of these sailors, against all the Soviet people and the world in general.

It took Putin (*this so-called man of action*) five days to make a public statement to the people on what his hapless Russian admirals themselves were calling "a catastrophe".

While Russia and the world were transfixed by the fate of the 118 men aboard this latest Russian submarine that was recently commissioned, and as demands

mounted by the families and other Russian people to get any foreign help if Russia was not able to rescue the 118 trapped sailors, Putin took four days to ask England and Sweden to assist in the rescue operation. Even at this terrible moment, Putin did not interrupt his Black Sea vacation!

Even foreign bourgeois experts and analysts bemoaned this callousness on the part of Putin, the "golden hair boy" promoted by Yeltsin and Western Imperialism as the "Knight in Shining Armor" who will put things right for Imperialism, World Bank, IMF and NATO.

The Soviet Union which put the first man in space, which made the tremendous advance in modern technology, in space exploration and innovations...has now sunk under capitalism into a quagmire of inefficiency, robbery, rape of all natural resources plus unparalleled cut-backs in upkeep of defenses, including the navy,



TEST TRAGEDY?

air force and the army. Absolutely absent from these robber-Mafia are any quality checks and up-keep of modern technology. Why? The safety of Russian servicemen is not a priority of the present Russian bourgeois rulers. They are too busy siphoning money off to foreign banks and buying up real estate all the way from the Riviera to West Indies.

Is this policy part of the present bourgeois government to dismantle any and all defense potential that Russia now has, or is it part of a plan by U.S. Imperialism to make Russia weak, divided and be the source of only raw materials to feed the hungry imperialist war machine?

The tie-in between the present Russian bourgeois government and the Mafia is excellently analyzed and detailed in the book, that was written by a Zionist oriented writer, called "The Russian Mafia". It was written by Robert I. Friedman and published by Lit-

tle, Brown and Co. USA. According to this documented book, the Mafia is bankrupting the country in league with foreign capitalists and Mafiosi and this is the desperate situation of not only the people, but the armed forces, including all of these unfortunate 118 sailors who died because of the robbery of finances and resources by the present regime. Read this book and find out exactly what the **REAL** composition and orientation of this Mafia is and what the tie-in is to the Putin Russian government.

To add salt to the wounds of all grieving parents, brothers, sisters and relatives of these 118 sailors, Putin, all of a sudden found the **MONEY** and is offering each family about \$7,000! How much is a life worth now in capitalist Mafia-infested Russia?

WHAT'S THE ROLE OF THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH?

According to all reports emanating from Moscow, the leaders of the Church feel that praying for the victims of this callous tragedy shall be enough of consolation for the bereaved families. In all of the rich and very ostentatious churches, heavily subsidized by the present Russian government, and with their vast property holdings, lands and fabulous bank accounts, these servants of God could not give a damn as to the reasons that these 118 Russian sailors perished in an agonizing death. It's the bottom line of profit for these demagogues and they only exist in order to stupefy the people not to rebel against the present tyranny.

A decision was made by the top hierarchy of the Russian Orthodox Church to "Canonize the former Czar Nicholas" and make him a Saint! This is an affront to all sense and reality as it is also sacrilegious to make this butcher-

Czar, who has thousands of people's blood on his hands a saint! Maybe the next proposed Saint to be canonized by the Russian Orthodox Church shall be Herr Hitler?

What infamy? What repugnant attempt in the name of religion?

WHERE IS THE UNITY?

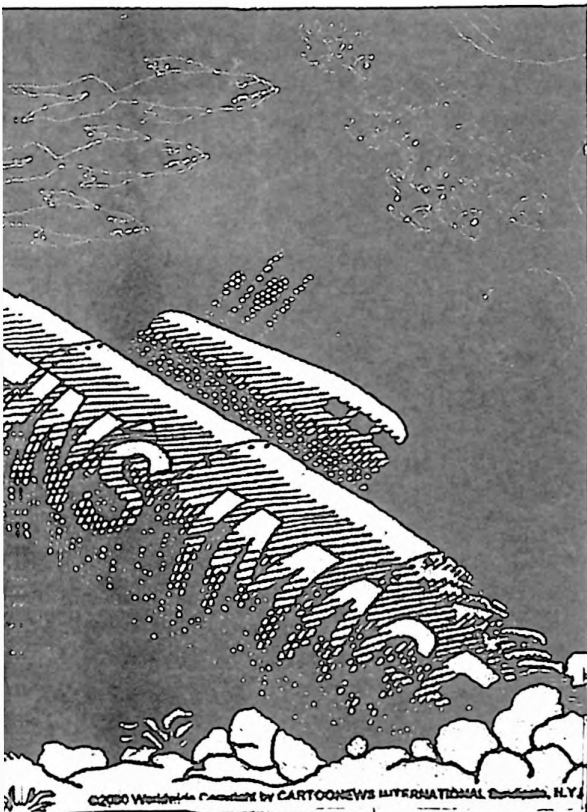
With this horrific tragedy in mind and after reading the book "The Red Mafia" plus the decision of the Russian Orthodox Church to make the late Czar Nicholas a Saint...are these events and facts not enough to unite the communist and workers parties into such a mighty force that the present Russian bourgeois regime will quickly be overthrown? Has not the time come for the leadership of all these Communist and Workers parties to state...**ENOUGH IS ENOUGH?** Time of debating as to who is a better Marxist-Leninist is over! Time for resolute action is now...before it's too late! ■

MINI CONFERENCE

Due to major renovations Society of Carpatho-Russian Canadians Friendship House the planned Mini Conference on September 23-24 is postponed due to delay in renovations. The Mini Conference shall be held on October 28-29, 2000 instead.

All members of Editorial Board of NSC, Organizing Committee and Canadian Friends of Soviet People are required to let the office know by the end of September if you are planning to attend.

Editorial Board of NSC
Organizing Committee
Canadian Council of CFSP



The whole world saw this on TV!

NEEDLE SILENCES WOMAN'S TIRADE AGAINST PUTIN

Just take a look at these photographs that were taken by Reuters/RTV and were published all over the world! This is what the present Putin's regime is capable of and how far it will go in order to silence the outrage of people against his leadership and policies!

A woman was injected from behind with a sedative after she became agitated at the meeting of the sunken Russian Kursk submarine crew, with television recording this fascist-like act. The TV footage revealed a waiting nurse, creeping from behind, after receiving the signal from someone in authority around the Russian deputy prime minister Ilya Klebanov retinue, to silence her after a prolonged outburst by this woman who had lost here husband on the ill-fated Kursk submarine. This shot was administered openly in front of a hall full of grieving relatives and there is no evidence that these present Russian rulers even tried to conceal this unparalleled action. A planned silencer... just as callous and cold-blooded as if they just pulled a trigger of a gun!

Just look at the unconcerned and cold countenance of the so-called "nurse" administering the shot! She would have felt right at home at any of the German concentration camps, as one of the servants of Fascism!

The naval officers were comforting the women and there was no danger at all of this grieving wife to do any harm to the deputy prime minister. International media have suggested strongly that all of the family members of the doomed sailors have been mistreated.

Just ask yourself these questions:

*Does the deputy prime minister or Putin travel with a retinue of nurses and doctors (*besides body guards*) who have needles on the ready to use on people who show their anger at the present Russian regime?

*As Western correspondents allege...why are the relatives and families of these Russian sailors being harassed when they show their anguish and anger?



*Why all of a sudden Mr. Putin has found the money to pay off the relatives and is trying to hush-up this horrendous accident?

*What is the real story behind this Kursk submarine disaster?
Whatever it is, these photographs tell a very gruesome story

of the outright callousness and treachery of the present Mafia-infested regime.

FROM
PEOPLES RADIO
MOSCOW

"CLINTON HAS APOLOGIZED TO PUTIN"

According to Narodnoya Radio Station, Putin had phoned to Clinton the next day after the crash of the Kursk Submarine and

the American president apologized. According to Clinton, the Kursk submarine was destroyed by an American submarine as a result of an accident. This telephone conversation lasted for about 25 minutes. The USA administration has promised "serious financial support" to the Russian government if Putin will "hush up" the question about the real reasons of this disaster.

Moscow knows the real reason for the sinking of this submarine. Washington is giving 30 pieces of silver to Putin.

NOTE:

The above came from Moscow's "People's Radio". Is it true? Now, as we go to press, Russian government stated that it was the "Chechen rebels" that were responsible! What's the truth?

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?

At the Russian naval base in Vidyayevo near Murmansk, Putin met the families and relatives of the 118 dead sailors. Although there was anger amongst the family members gathered there, we cannot understand the passivity of these relatives, some of whom even shook Putin's hand!

Is it that \$7,000 to each bereaved family (*ten years of wages for each sailor*) that made them forget their sorrow? Where was an organized anti-Putin's regime demonstration to greet him? Where were the Communists?

That is what's wrong with this picture!



NEWS FROM THE SOVIET UNION

FROM SOVIET INFORMATION BUREAU

Organ of the All Union Movement
"FOR SOVIET UNION"

We publish here just a part of the "Manifest" of this peoples movement which is directed by Soviet people and is established all over former Soviet Union.

" We, the citizens of USSR, fully elected delegates from the Republics of Azerbaijan, Byelorussia, Georgia, Moldavia, Russia and Ukraine, gathered here at the Third Conference of Citizens of USSR in Moscow the capital of our dear Motherland the Soviet Union, have adopted this Statement on April 29, 2000 as an appeal to our countrymen and to the world:

1. Soviet people, as a sovereign nation, lives and shall live and no one has the right to take this fundamental right from the people without their consent.

2. The formation of the USSR is here, no one by law has dismembered this entity, as a part of the world society. Not one Union Republic had legally and by law voted to leave the USSR and no one has yet officially disbarred the USSR from the United Nations Organization, one of the founders of the UNO.

4. The Soviet people were forcibly divided without them having any say in this tragedy and they have the right to struggle for unity.

5. The will of the people must always be respected by the state (point 21, paragraph 3, in "The Declaration of Rights of Man") adopted by the United Nations in December of 1948. Soviet people did not give anyone the right to change the Soviet Constitution.

7. The Soviet people in a referendum of March 17, 1991, in accordance with international law did not recognize this sell-out or the dismemberment of USSR by the "Belovezh Agreement " between Yeltsin, Sushkewich and Krawchuk of Russia, Byelorussia and Ukraine. This act of betrayal has no legal grounds and is illegal according to all the laws of the United Nations Organizations or the laws of the USSR.

9. The Soviet people, as a sovereign entity bases itself on the adopted Constitution of USSR in 1977 which was never voted out by the Soviet people.

10. Soviet people have their Soviet citizenship which they did not give up by legal form through a plebiscite.

Dear citizens of the USSR!

There shall never be peace in the world as long as there exists the super imperialist power USA alone, a country acting as a gendarme of the world.

Dear citizens of the World!

Show us your international solidarity in our struggles for the resurrection of the USSR, and to regain all of our legal rights!

Long live our Motherland - the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics!

FROM NEWSPAPER
"EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA"
MOSCOW, RUSSIA

HOME TO **RUSSIA** FROM THEIR **COUNTRY** OF BIRTH

150,000 Russians now have to move back to Russia from Kazakhstan due to terrible discrimination against all of them.

The Stavropol region of Russia is willing to take them in. Most of these Russian people were born in Kazakhstan.

This is the plight of our people in these virgin lands of which we brought into the 20th century with our toil

This is what we came to because of the present nationalistic policies of the government of Kazakhstan! The latest incident of this strife was Ust-Kamenogorsk.

Rustan Stepanishev
Kustanay, Kazakhstan

WHY THE **CPRF** SUFFERED AN ELECTION DEFEAT!

From our point of view the CPRF lost the confidence of the people because:

*No mass media coverage, especially over TV

*Very ineffective work of the CPRF Duma members for the past 8 years, when the left forces had a majority in the Duma. The CPRF should not have voted itself a pay hike up to 4,500 per month plus other privileges, while the skilled worker received only 600 rubles per month. This caused great consternation amongst the working class, veterans and all the people. The CPRF fraction in the Duma should not have voted with the government to privatize all industries and allow foreign ownership of our economy.

*The failure of the leadership of the CPRF to show the people as to what we have lost due to the policies of capitalism headed by Yeltsin.

*The failure of the CPRF leadership to try and organize all left-wing forces into one united communist party.

* The ordinary communists do not know yet what kind of society shall be built by the CPRF - is it socialism, peoples capitalism or something else?! Will the industries be nationalized as they were before, will our raw resources be ours?

*The CPRF policy is to put all of their eggs in the basket of the

Duma--- parliamentary means of governing but, CPRF does not do work amongst the people in the regions. The fact that an influx of young people into the CPRF is not noticed should be of great concern.

Gennady Zyuganov cannot in all seriousness call himself a leader of the CPRF. He is only a theoretic and not very practical. CPRF must become a party of the people.

R.N.Yefimov, B.I.Dunaev

COMMENT

This newspaper, "Economic Gazeta" is non-party publication covering events in Russia from an economic point of view. Very interesting articles on its pages. It certainly cannot be called a communist newspaper. We do hope that they shall be one of the signatories to the CALL for an International Council.

We would like to thank them for publishing an article about our monthly journal, Northstar Compass, written by a member of the NSC - Vladimir Chechentsev.

TELL US IT ISN'T SO!

From newspaper "Molniya" #17,2000

GUEST OF TROTSKYITES

Our English reader Howard Kelsey has sent us a leaflet which tells us about the tour and public appearances as a Deputy to the Russian Duma of Oleg Shein, one of the leaders of the trade union movement "Zashita" which means "Defense" The leaflet writes this: "the only Duma Deputy Marxist, heading the underground section of the international working class movement, which after 10 hard years of struggles finally won over the Stalinists and nationalists."

This is the style of Trotskyites, who are masking themselves under the slogan of "international solidarity with Russian workers". We feel sorry for Oleg Shein, who threw himself into their midst after the "victory over Stalinists".

COMMENT

We certainly hope to hear from Oleg Shein, our NSC reader.

World War II.

Why have then a majority of Ukrainian people categorically thrown out this "Ukrainian Nationalist ideology"? It is because this "ideology" is meant to wreck the development and richness of our development of industry and its culture. This is not happening today. As a matter of course, we are becoming an economic, political and cultural entity of American imperialism. When the country is ruled by a Mafia and so-called nationalistic ideals, this makes a sheer mockery of any "Ukrainian nationalist feelings". When this process is under heavy hands of nationalists, the understanding of nationality (based on raw nationalism) becomes foreign and not understood by the people.

Can anyone argue with these thoughts? If you really do want to argue, then ask about these so-called "Ukrainian nationalistic feelings" the over 1,500,000 unemployed Ukrainians! The present "Ukrainian nationalist leaders" should also ask these "working girls" from Ukraine, the 700-800 thousand strong who are now "working" in countries of Europe as prostitutes. Why? Ukraine is now (according to UNO) the biggest exporter of prostitution in Europe!!! Is this not also a product of "Ukrainian nationalist ideals"? These reactionary so-called "ideals" the Ukrainian people in their majority shall never adopt!

2. Why did not the Ukrainian people adopt the "Ukrainian nationalist ideals" in the past?

The Ukrainian people many times in their long history fought and chased the Ukrainian bourgeoisie and nationalists out of the country. A perfect example was during the Civil War, after the Soviet October 1917 revolution. Of course the present falsifiers tell us that the counterrevolution was drowned in blood and defeated by the mixing in of Russian soldiers (Moskali). Another falsehood! The workers and peasants of Ukraine even at that time saw as to who was who in that strug-

NATIONALIST IDEALS INTO LIFE !

PROFESSOR
VLADIMIR
HERASYMCHUK



1. Why do not all Ukrainian people adopt and strongly believe in the "Nationalist Ideals" of president Kuchma and company?

Very often from the mouths of these "nationalist enlightened" ultra-patriots of Ukraine is the lament that the Ukrainian people have lost their patriotism. They blame, first of all the left political forces for this. This is an absolute covered falsehood! Communists always supported and de-

fend the national feelings and self determination. The historical fact is this... that Ukraine only gained its own statehood in 1917 and that was only due to the Bolsheviks...and in 1922 it came as a member of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. It must be pointed out that Ukraine had more rights and great prestige than it has today under the tutelage of USA. Our land never knew such robbery even though it was occupied by Fascist Germany during

gle and they helped the Bolsheviks to get rid of these nationalists and their foreign interventionists.

If you do not believe this, here's just a statement made by one of the leaders of the Ukrainian bourgeois government at that time of the civil war - Volodomir Vinnichenko, who, among many written statements said the following: *"Bolsheviks worked and helped only the masses, and that is why the Ukrainian people only believed in them; they had courage, dedication and enthusiasm for joint cooperation with their Slavic brothers and sisters to build a better life - socialism. We, on the other hand, did not have the trust and dedication of our people..."*

So.. even right after the October revolution the Ukrainian people threw out this "nationalism" and all of its leaders who served foreign interventionists - such as Grushevsky, Vinnichenko, killer Petlura, Skoropadsky and others.

3. Workers of Ukraine adopted the national idea of Bolsheviks

The Bolsheviks showed all people the possible future of socialism in the economic, cultural and national fields and the necessary ideals of internationalism and cooperation with other peasants and workers.

Ukrainian workers and peasants helped to defeat the counterrevolution and the mass economic reconstruction started not only in the Ukraine, but in all of the Soviet republics. The struggle was hard, with both internal and also external enemies that had to be defeated, while at the same time to go on fulfilling the 5-year plans to bring the country into productivity.

The nationalist propaganda before and now of these present pseudo-democrats was that the Russians purposely instigated the Famine of 1933. Another falsehood is perpetrated! These were

very hard times for all of the Soviet people, not only Ukrainians. Bad weather, sabotage plus all of the counterrevolutionary activities. Everyone suffered, including first of all the dedicated Bolsheviks who fought and died of hunger, so that Ukraine would be rid of these traitorous nationalists. But... unfortunately not one of the present Ukrainian leaders ever mentions these known facts.

Ukraine became one of the most highly developed countries, not only in the Soviet Union, but in Europe.

4. The best example of the ideals of Bolshevism in the life of people became Volyn.

As is known, this territory until 1939 was occupied by capitalist Poland. This was in fact a colony of Poland. In 1924 in this region of Volyn (Western Ukraine) all Ukrainian schools were closed and only Polish was the language of government bodies. In 1937 from 1,732 schools in the Volyn region only 2 were Ukrainian schools plus two private schools. From 2,634 teachers there were only 447 Ukrainians, in this 100% Ukrainian region! Even in 1939 there were over 316,000 people who could not read or write.

In 1939, after only one month after this Volyn region was liberated and joined to Ukraine proper, there were then established 907 schools, all teaching the Ukrainian language.

Newspapers, magazines began to be published and the Soviet government sent in 1,800 highly qualified teachers and professors to this region alone, in order to bring up the knowledge and culture to the standards of the other parts of Ukraine.

Does this compare to the German occupation and their nationalist henchmen that murdered their own people? Why do not the present "patriots" make all of these facts known to the young generation who absolutely do not know the former history of their own country?

These "nationalist ideals" of Kuchma and his entourage were born far across the ocean, which is foreign to the Ukrainian people. We are for an ideal which promotes progress, economic growth, flowering of culture and brotherhood amongst all of the people. This ideal can *ONLY* be guaranteed by Socialism and Communism! ■

ANOTHER YOUNG COMMUNIST ARRESTED

By VIKTOR BOURENKOV

The Russian Federal Security Service aggression against Communists is intensifying. A week after a rally to free political prisoners in Russia fighting for socialism was held in Moscow, another young communist has been arrested. On June 22nd Andrei Sokolov, a member of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Young Communist League (R) was taken into custody. Police claim that they had found a gun on him plus explosives with radio controlling devices

Coming from a divorced family and now seeing how things are, changed Andrei's outlook and he joined the Communist Party of Russian Federation (CPRF), but he soon got disappointed at the

passivity of this party. In 1996 he joined the Revolutionary Young Communist League (Bolsheviks) and became very active in its work amongst the youth and in the working class. For him the teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin was not just something to read in books, but also his real life experience.

Andrei was very worried about the fact that in Yeltsin's Russia and now also in Putin's, the terrible fact that today Russia loses 1,000,000 people each year under the free-market reforms. That is why he became very active and demanded urgent actions.

Andrei felt that Yeltsin's rule was very similar of that of Tsar Nikolai the II. The Yeltsin's gov-

**YOU HAVE AN OPINION
ABOUT NSC? WRITE!**

ernment put up a monument to this Tsar in 1997. It did not last very long and was exploded by an anonymous political organization which claimed responsibility. Andrei was relieved that this monument was no longer there. But the Yeltsin's government had then put up another tombstone to Nikolai in a Moscow cemetery. With no prospect of a job and in order to take revenge on Nikolai and the present Yeltsin, Andrei prepared a small power devise and exploded the tombstone, making certain that there were no people around.

He was first charged with vandalism. On July 22nd Andrei and his comrades were arrested. Andrei admitted to exploding the monument in order to free all of his comrades. The damage was equivalent to \$60 US dollars and he was charged with vandalism.

Andrei was 18 and since this was a minor local police matter, Yeltsin gave the order for the FSS to take over the case. Besides this, he was accused with another two explosions which was claimed by a terrorist organization.

For over a year the Federal

Security Service found no evidence against Andrei. While in jail Andrei did not get depressed, even after beatings and all sorts of injustices committed against him.

There were explosions in 1998-1999 which the FSS accused him of, even though he was in jail at that time. He married and his young wife, a young communist was also arrested, thrown into jail, suffered hardships and pressure to implicate her husband and others, or they threatened to do serious harm to Andrei.

The Federal Security Service did not even allow a lawyer to visit him or others according to the law. There were protests organized by the young Bolsheviks, there was a total of 5 young comrades arrested in Putins' Russia.

This is of course not counting all of the non-communist left activists (*mainly from the radical ecological movement*) whom FSS has also been targeting for their unconditional opposition to Yeltsin-Putin regime.

At a time of deepening crisis of Russian capitalism, the Federal Security Service is intensifying its

aggression against the leaders of the radical left. This means that the FSS sees danger in the communist opposition. The fact that the class struggle has reached the stage when capitalists find it necessary to isolate the opposition from its leaders means that the Soviet socialist revolution is one step closer. The arrests will probably not stop there, but nobody is going to give up.

As Andrei Sokolov said when he was on trial in 1999, his revolutionary convictions remain the same. It is also the case for all true communists in Russia, who are determined to wage an irreconcilable struggle against the present oppressing power. That includes the struggle in defense of the arrested comrades.

*Please send letters of support to -
Russia 111 020
Moscow E-20 p/j 201 - N.G.Raks*

The NSC and Canadian Friends of Soviet People and the Organizing Committee for an International Council had sent letters of support. We urge our readers to do likewise. □

FELIX
GORELIK



COMMUNISTS ARE UNITING

Alarm Bells over Russia are calling for quick unity of all the Communists. With this call Oleg Shenin made an appeal as a recognized and also an authoritative leader. He was a secretary of the CPSU, member of its Politburo and during the Putsch he,

together with most members of the CC came to the defense of the USSR, for which he was sent to prison by Yeltsin (*together with many others, such as Victor Anpilov and Gennady Yanayev, former vice chairman of the Union of Soviet Friendship Societies- Editor*). After his jail sentence and liberation, he (*Shenin*) did not go and serve the new masters, but became the head of the Union of Communist Parties-CPSU.

What made Shenin come out now with this appeal? Today, in Russia alone, there are 26 political parties in existence, who all call themselves "*communist*". The number of all these "*communist*" parties, if compared to 1991 has increased 13 times, but the membership has now decreased from 700,000 members to only 100,000

(*according to a survey and summarization process*). According to the election data, more than two million people call themselves Communist. Looking at the daily worsening economic plight of the people, in the last ten years of "*perestroika*" the population of Russia has dramatically decreased by over 15,000,000 people plus another 15,000,000 children that are not born due to the hardships for the young married couples now- **is this not genocide?** The communist movement is going through a crisis. This is realized in the drop of votes during the parliamentary and presidential elections, and the dwindling communist parties that were existing. It is noticeable because of the diminishing votes for communists in the Russian workers "*Red Zones*", where not too long

Gennady Zyuganov of the CPRF was supported by a great majority of votes. During all of this time, capitalism is sinking longer and much stronger roots. The bourgeois parties are uniting into their own "Union of Right Forces", into "Unity", into "Fatherland of All Russia". The communists on the other hand are experiencing the heavy hand of capitalism and are meeting this hard fist with open hands and not with a closed fist!

What is the reason for the loss of authority of all of the Communist Parties? This is tied to the proliferation of many parties - the electorate is not strong enough to try to see the differences between all of them and this is dividing all of their votes. With the lose of votes and also the prestige of the largest Communist Party in Russia, the CPRF, whose leader is G. Zyuganov. But he is proceeding on an opportunistic course politically and cooperating fully with the former Yeltsin and Putin regime.

Opportunism even before was very strongly criticized by Nina Andreeva of the AUCPB, Avilian, Tiulkin, Anpilov and many others. Now, Oleg Shenin has very critically condemned the CPRF for its social-democratic political positions. In which way is this position of the CPRF very noticeable?

One of the main questions where a party or a leader stands is the question of the attitude to private ownership. Oleg Shenin is basing himself on the fact that over 55-60% of the people are demanding nationalization as it was before 1953 and also to install back the socialist criteria into the country. The consensus in Moscow is that a majority of its citizens are against privatization, they are close to 90% for nationalization and a rebirth of socialism. They are also against the inequality that sees 80% of industries and enterprises belong-

ing to the present capitalists, while 10% belongs to the state while the other 10% belongs to the workers collectives. The fraction of the CPRF in the Duma did not raise even one voice of protest or demand the nationalization of the means of production.

How can this be remedied and return the means of production to the people? Zyuganov proclaims every time that "Russia has had its fill of revolutions!" This is a promotion of illusions that all can be accomplished for the Russian working class by only parliamentary means. Shenin on the other hand asks: "Why cannot the people have the right to an uprising if the present regime is the type as was practiced by the Dictator Samosa, Pinochet and others?"



OLEG S. SHENIN
Leader of the Union of
Communist Parties-CPSU

Why must the socialist demands be subordinated to the market economy concepts, to state capitalism and international nationalism?" Yes, instead of a class struggle, Zyuganov proposes cooperation, and instead of Marxism-Leninism, Zyuganov proposes "Councils" and "Orthodoxy", a unity of "white and red ideas". No wonder that he never-ever mentions Karl Marx, and only very

rarely mentions V.I. Lenin, but never even thinks of Stalin. He pronounces daily that the CPRF is "inching its way into the government". This will not eliminate the present regime but will tend to strengthen the role of capitalism.

Looking at these tactics of Zyuganov in the Russian Duma, the working class does not and cannot believe such a party! This party does not see ahead, to the success of the dictatorship of the proletariat, but is swirling around the tail end of illusions and cooperation with the present regime.

The possible first step towards the unification of the communist parties was the Agreement between Russia and Byelorussia to form a Federated State of these two republics, and the agreement of the Byelorussian Communists to unify the Communists of Russia and Byelorussia into the CPSU. The First Congress was held on July 15th. Its program states:

"We want to resurrect the state of workers and peasants and also the dictatorship of the proletariat. We want to aim at liquidating the present regimes of all former Soviet Republics and have the government be taken over by the working class. We want this new federation to be based on Socialism."

(Here Gorelik outlines the detailed program of this attempt at unity, which follows a socialist path as was envisaged by Lenin and Stalin...which we limit due to space limitations - Editor)

In the present situation the death of many small nationalities is a fact of life. Every man and woman sees the coming catastrophe for the former Soviet Union, but does not yet see the political strength, capable to organize and lead all the people in the struggle against foreign control and internal enemies that have brought the country into the present chaos.

The enemies were able to besmirch and blacken the communist ideal, ideology and socialism. They liquidated the Soviet state, now Imperialism wants to liquidate the people.

In order to remedy the situation and plan for the rebirth of the Soviet Union, we must build a Unified Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Today, on the former territory of the USSR (15 republics) there exists more than 40 communist parties and organizations. There is a desperate need for only **ONE!**

Is the question of unifying all the communist parties into one party realistic now? Much has to be done to convince the people and the present leaders who have also their own ambitions. There must be a definite central plan

and authority and also a central media organ which will convince the present leaders to disband their numerous parties and unite into one mighty force, capable to lead and quickly dislodge the present capitalist regime.

While in Moscow I heard the following: "A one unified party shall never exist now. There are many leaves on a tree and they fall away in different directions. Look at Islam, they have many Islamic parties!" Well, if this Russian "communist" feels like that, then we must forever support capitalism and our subservience to it!

The unity of the communists is today the most important task of our epoch. The procrastination any further will mean death. This is what Zyuganov has on his mind

and also the other "good" leader of CPRF, Seleznev, whom Putin appointed as Chairman of the Russian Duma. Seleznev, (after his Duma appointment by Putin) has departed from any communist orientation and has now formed a group within Duma to support Putin.

But on May 21 in Moscow there took place an Initiative Conference of Moscow communists called by Victor Anpilov, which also planned a CPSU Congress, based also on Marxism-Leninist platform. We hope that these attempts shall bring unity and not further discord and that this Congress shall support the call by Oleg Shenin!

It is time that different opinions about Stalin be laid to rest!

Communists! Unite!

STRIKES IN UKRAINE

From the Information Center of Lugansk regional organization Coordination Council of Worker's Movement of Ukraine (CCWM).

All strikes by miners and other workers are economic demands for back wages.

*In January/February there were 4 strikes at the coal mines. They were all spontaneous. After a strike at the Partizanskaya Mine, there was created an independent union of miners (NPG) headed by

Alexei Alexeyev Alexeyev. After this, Alexeyev was fired but the CCWM and also the Revolutionary Communist Youth Organization of Ukraine came to his defense with pickets and demonstrations. During this event, there took place a large miners march on the city of Lugansk from the many mines in

Young demonstrators demanding lower prices, under the bullying Youthful demonstrators being beaten by police clubs.



Krasnodarskaya-Yuzhnaya.

*During the cold month of March strikes broke out at 8 mines, organized by the union NPG.

*In April there were 3 spontaneous strikes that took place and a protest march of miners and their wives to Lugansk from the mine Pobeda in the Krasnodon region.

Youth are very active and enlarging their scope of activities



*There were altogether 17 mines struck during the month of May. The best known radical leader in this region is Dmitri Kalitvencev from the coal mine Barakova, Yuri Arkhipchuk from the well known mine Menzhynsky and Vladimir Sapooto from Donbassantazit. All of these miners and mines are fully cooperating with the CCWM and CCWM is helping them very much in their struggles.

Protest marches on the city of Lugansk are continuing.

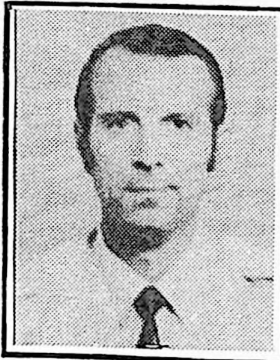
We thank our friends in Lugansk for keeping us informed via e-mail of their struggles. We wish them well and may the day soon come when a united miners union calls for a General Strike!

TREACHERY

**PROFESSOR
VLADIMIR
HERASYMCHUK**



**G.V.
ZAVOGORODNY**



Soviet people today are living through very tragic times under the pressure of Imperialism and the helping hands of the renegades that were in the CPSU-USSR leadership, the once mighty Soviet Union is in shambles. The main tragedy is the aftermath of treachery accomplished by this mutant of humanity - Gorbachev. His name shall enter history as a born traitor. There was more than one Judas who sold Christ as the bible states. Judas is used as a biblical symbol. It's the truth, that taking part in the process of liquidating the USSR was not only Gorbachev. There was existing a whole group of wreckers. They were successful into dulling the minds of Soviet people with fairy

tales of full prosperity. The people forgot about the dangers that did exist and will always exist in all times.

In the process of desensitizing the country, in part, was the push to rehabilitate all those who were sentenced before in USSR for activities against the Soviet state. Many of these enemies, who are still living today, do not hide their anti-state activities, they boast about it. Of course, there were also innocent people who suffered due to these anti-Soviet elements and their wrecking activities. But is it not Trotsky and his company to blame for these activities - as was proven openly to the world by the Soviet courts? Was it not for

anti-state activities that Yagoda was sentenced to death? If he lived to our present day, these present bourgeois elements would certainly rehabilitate him. Is this not the truth? Amongst other things, J.V.Stalin very strongly demanded harsh punishment for those who organized these trials against Soviet innocent people. As a result of Stalin's demands and after examining the goings on in the Soviet NKVD that was filled with Trotskyites and enemies, there were 327,400 people liberated in 1939. But you cannot read about this attempt by the Soviet State to catch all those responsible for criminal activities, all in the pay of foreign powers.

The unwarranted rehabilitation of anti-Soviet elements during the Krushchev and also Gorbachev era, had a different aim in mind. Today all those that were rehabilitated (*without even a cursory attempt to study the court documents*) these elements, who are guilty of sentencing thousands of innocent people are now free. **Is this not a travesty of justice?** This present regime has no use for or attempt to immerse itself into Soviet laws. This present regime is an enemy of the Soviet State! Therefore, the rehabilitation of those that were sentenced by another sovereign state, in the Soviet State, in law is very absurd. We are not rehabilitating our Young Guards who were murdered in jails by fascism, or our agent Abel who was sentenced in the USA. During Soviet times no one tried to show that rehabilitation is needed for Alexander Ulyanov (*brother of V.I.Lenin*) who was fighting against the Russian Czar. Of course, all of these people were struggling against a reactionary regime. In actuality, the present "reformers" have absolutely no contact or business dwelling into Soviet laws. Therefore, this rehabilitation of the citizens of USSR can only be undertaken by an international court of justice. But all the Soviet people shall never allow (*as USA would not allow*) any interference into

the internal matters.

The illegally sentenced people could only be rehabilitated by a Soviet state! By the way, the trial against the hidden band of Trotsky-Bukharite bloc was held open for all the world judiciary to observe and many were present. All of them wrote that the court trial was legal and the sentences were just.

Regarding the traitorousness of Gorbachev, this question is not local but on a global scale. This act was in preparation for over 70 years. This gigantic struggle is not finished yet. It only became very much sharper. Therefore it is we, our children and grandchildren who should know the causes of our tragedy. It is always necessary to know about the dangers of the Judas's amongst us, who in history brought great suffering to their own people and to others.

Looking at all of this, here we just bring to light some excerpts from our history and its traitors. We will look into individual traitors, groups of traitors and even states... they cannot ever be forgiven. People did despise and will always despise traitors.

* In the XVII century Ukraine was in a desperate war against the Polish gentry for its own independence. In this great struggle, Ukraine made a pact with the Crimean Tatars. At the critical moment during this bitter battle, the Tatars sold Ukraine out. As a result of this the army of Bogdan Khmelnytsky suffered defeat near Berezovsk.

* At the top end of the XVII-XVIII century Czarist Russia, into which Ukraine belonged, was at war with Sweden. The Ukrainian Hetman Mazepa, who sold out many times his own comrades, during the Poltava war in 1709, sold the Russian soldiers and switched sides then to join the Swedish King Carl XII. Although Russia won the war, this traitorous act caused enormous losses.

* In the second half of the XVIII century there arose a movement in Ukraine of the Gajdamaki, who fought against the Polish gentry and landowners.

* In 1768 the Czars Russian army took into arrest the leaders of the peasant uprising Gony and Zhelezniak. The Czar gave these two leaders to the Polish magnates, who then shot dead these "rabble rousers".

* In the first half of the XIX century there was an uprising of the peasants in region of Podolie (Ukraine). They were led by Ustim Karmeliuyk, who attacked over 1000 times the landowners. As a result of some internal traitor, he was captured and killed.

* The well known Russian writer Nikolai Gogol in his work "Taras Bulba" wrote, the son of the main hero Taras Andrej during the time of a war with Poland sold out his own father. As a result of this, his father was caught and burned alive at the stake. All of these facts are all written up.

* During the time of the Great Patriotic War 1941-1945 selling out his Motherland was a General Vlasov. He joined the German Fascists and took part in killing his own people.

* During the same Great Patriotic War in the Ukraine, the bandits in the OUN-UPA, Banderites, Melnykites, Fulbashi and others also sold out. On their conscience are hundreds of thousands of innocent victims...Ukrainians, Polish, Jews, Russians and others. But of course, the present bourgeoisie Ukrainian regime is taking steps to rehabilitate these helpers of fascism also!

* Here are just a few examples of the traitors that were hidden inside the Soviet KGB, all enemies of socialism and also in the pay of foreign secret services. As an example, Penkovsky sold to the West the complete map of the atomic and hydrogen rocket silos shield of the USSR. V. Rezun, today in literature using a pseudonym of V.Suvorov, gave to the Western secret services all the names of Soviet agents who were defending the Soviet Union by informing the Soviet government about the plans of US and world imperialism.

* The well known secret intelligence officer R. Abel, working in

the USA, was sold out by his own comrades...that were working in the KGB.

* The climax of traitorousness is the well known agreement in Belovezh, Byelorussia on December 8, 1991 where 6 men gathered, (all former leaders of the CPSU). They were B.Yeltsin, L.Krawchuk, S.Sushkewich, V.Fokin, V.Kebich and G.Burbulis. "We proclaim," they announced, - "in this signed document, - that the Soviet Union, as a subject of international political right and as a geopolitical reality is now ceasing its existence". This was the death sentence of Judas right into the heart of the Motherland...

We went through practically the whole it seems of unrelated episodes in the life of humanity. Not complete as it is, but how much havoc and tragic suffering these episodes brought the people on this planet! Oh, our dear citizens of the planet! Remember - wolves with human forms come often to us under sheep skins. Let us be careful and unforgiving to these enemies!

FROM
"PROLETARSKAYA GAZETA"
LENINGRAD

LEGALIZING OF FASCISM AT WORKPLACES OF RUSSIA

The Russian bourgeoisie is actively coming quickly to impose raw terror against Russian the working class. Even by the Russian official statistics, the labour force of Russia fell by over 2.5 times. Now, the present regime, under the heel of foreign and local bourgeoisie are demanding that the labour force be again lowered by 200%. The IMF tells the Russian regime that this is the only way that the economic crisis in Russia shall be overcome!

The steps being taken are contained in the proposed new

"Labor Code" which sets back the Russian working class another 50-75 years. This proposed law is being fought by the organized workers who see the coming of fascist slavery over them. The present bourgeois regime has in-

stituted their very own so-called "labour unions" (FNPR) who basically are slavishly cooperating with the anti-labour legislation.

The present anti-labour terror does not stop even at murder! On March 13, 1999, Oleg Maksakov



ALEXEI RYBALKO



OLEG
MAKSAMOV

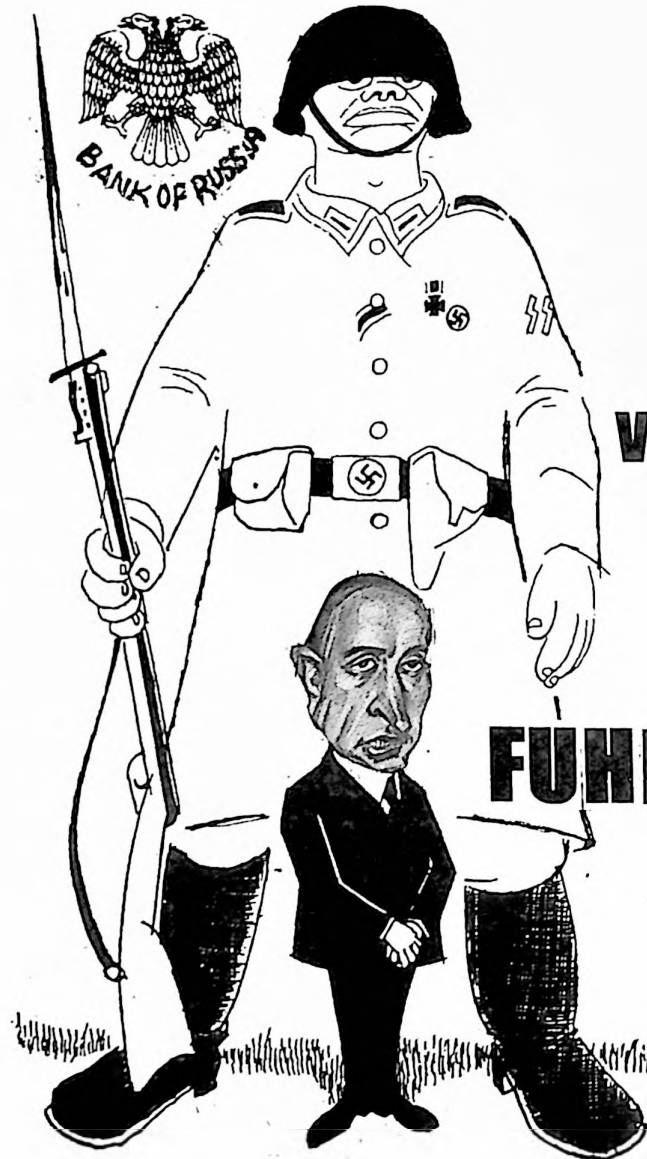
was gunned down by "unknown" bandits since he was a leader of the Russian Workers Trade Union "Zashchita" in the Astrakhan Region of Russia. In Ukraine, another trade union leader, Alexander Vasin at 39 years of age was murdered by bourgeois bandits of Ukrainian Nationalists.

In Bashkoreostan, on April 8 at 6 PM, bandits in police uniforms captured the labour leader, a patriot, broke his arms, blinded him, then tossed him on the road out of the speeding car. Alexei Rybalko, the trade union leader and an elected member of the Russian Duma could not even receive medical treatment from the Doctors, who were forewarned that Alexei Rybalko might seek medical help.

These are just three examples of the fascist terror against organized trade union activists and leaders. These attacks and murders are now prevalent all over the former Soviet Republics. International Imperialism, the IMF and the World Bank demand maximum profits at minimum expense from their bourgeois partners.

COMMENT

Because of the dangerous situation that is gaining ground in former Soviet Union, and seeing that the workers are organizing and giving support to the Russian workers vanguard trade union "Zashchita" in their struggles, the Editorial Board of NSC decided to elect Will Lambert as its Trade Union Secretary, whose main task will be to write about the labour struggles in the Soviet Union and to present on the pages of NSC the ongoing labour struggles in the capitalist countries! We would ask that our readers send all the news about labour struggles directly to Will Lambert at our address!



**IS
VLADIMIR
PUTIN
THE
FUTURE
FUHRER?**

**VICTOR
ANPILOV**



INVITATION TO NSC

Dear comrades!

On November 7 we are going to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of our newspaper "Molniya". From its very first days "Molniya" openly exposed and fought bitterly against Mikhail Gorbachev's "Perestroika". We also warned the Soviet people about accepting the "free market economy" since it will destroy the very first state of the workers and peasants - the USSR. In the period of the restoration of capitalism and the total informational war against the dedicated adherents of Communism, "Molniya" newspaper constantly is fighting against opportunism in all of the communist and workers movements, for the resurrection of the workers state over all of the former territory of the USSR.

Our newspaper organized actions and many protests and thus prevented the plans of Yeltsin to demolish the Lenin Mausoleum on Red Square in Moscow and, we demonstrated against the presence of NATO troops on Russian territory.

Being the newspaper of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, "Molniya" followed the best traditions of proletarian interna-

tionalism, international solidarity and anti-imperialist struggles of the countries of socialism, and against all sorts of exploitation of capitalism anyplace in the world.

October 7-8, 2000 the biggest mass organization in Russia - "Trudovaya Rossia" is organizing the celebration of the 10th Anniversary of "Molniya" in Moscow. We are inviting you to be our guests at this important event. We are willing to host two delegates from your organization from October 3-10 and taking care of their lodgings and also meals. The languages to be used at this Anniversary shall be English and Russian. The cost of transportation to and from Moscow has to be covered by the guests.

Please send us the names and details of your delegates by September 1st.

We are informing you that, after Putin was elected, "Molniya" is not ceasing its struggle against the necessity to unite our forces into the vanguard of Soviet working class, a united Communist Party of Soviet Union which is demanding the back payment of wages owing the workers, and to be in line with wages in the developed countries of the world.

We're asking you, at least once every three months to send materials to "Molniya" of (articles, economic tables, photographs, bargaining procedures of workers on strike or negotiations) economic struggles of the Canadian working class or other countries. We are interested in the average pay of Canadian workers of all different professions: such as-builders, steel workers, truck drivers, metallurgists, taxi drivers, bulldozer operators, dockers and others. Of course, the workers of Russia would appreciate such detailed information. How much is the cost of living, food, medicines? We're asking your activists to help us with gathering of these materials.

On our part, once every three months we are also going to send to NSC materials regarding the situation of the working class in Russia. In order to coordinate all of these activities, we have assigned this to the new Deputy to the Russian Duma, Vasili Shandybina. Here is his e-mail for your information or for readers of NSC that might also want to send information:

"trudros@cityline.ru".

We hope to hear from you quickly regarding your delegation to our 10th Anniversary.

Victor Anpilov
Chairman of "Trudovaya Rossia"
Editor of "Molniya" ■

STATEMENT BY THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE AUCPB REGARDING THE K-141 SUBMARINE DISASTER

The Central Committee of the All Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks sends its heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of the 118 Russian sailors that died on the Kursk submarine in the Barents sea. Untold agony fell upon the families of all these sailors.

No compensation such as offered by Putin (\$7,000 to each family which is the total wages they would receive for 10 years-Editor) will not return to life the dead fathers, husbands or sons.

This tragic catastrophe is the result of the present policy of the bourgeois government which succeeded in a counterrevolutionary coup. We are seeing the results of years of neglect and devastation of the navy and of the Armed Forces that was left behind by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

For close to 10 years of this "democratic" devastation there took place practically a complete disintegration of the Navy which

**GET YOUR FRIENDS
TO SUBSCRIBE TO
NORTHSTAR COMPASS!**

just 10-15 years ago was able to resolve even more serious accidents to a depth of 400 meters and not only 100 meters underneath the sea. Instead of working shipyards where technical innovations and all repairs were constantly in progress, the present regime has built in the Navy barracks little churches and prayer meeting halls for the sailors and families...where they pray that the navy ships will be safe and bring back the sailors!

Because of the drastic cutbacks by the present bourgeois regime, these moneys are used to build so many private villas and they're growing as fast as mushrooms after a rain. These "New Russians" have their villas on French Riviera and all the way to the islands of the West Indies.

These drastic cuts have closed all the dry docks, all service of ships and submarines and most of these ships cannot go unto the seas for lack of fuel. This lack of fuel even the sailors and their families themselves are in need of, since most barracks have no heat because of the lack of fuel, which is exported for huge profits across the border.

The rescue efforts have shown a complete lack of preparedness by the Russian Minister of Defense and also by the command of the Russian Navy, but it also has shown complete dishonesty and absolute lies as to the cause of this tragedy. The facts prove that the main efforts were given not to save the lives of the sailors, but how to save their own cushy seats and privileges from the wrath of the people.

This is the way the situation will proceed if the present regime will be governing and making the lives of our people destitute and only as slave labor. It shall continue until such time when every sailor, soldier, officer, every citizens shall remind themselves in what country they were all born, when they will understand the cause of this present situation. It will continue until people do rise up from their knees and tell the anti-peoples regime - "NO!" ■

WHAT'S NEW IN WESTERN UKRAINE?

VASIL TIUKACHEV



Greetings to you comrades from the temporary occupied Soviet Ukraine. My great thanks for publishing in NSC the article "Not a step backward, not a step to the right!" The newspaper that I've sent you shall show you the latest internal situation inside the Communist Party of Ukraine, before its Congress.

It is a danger that the CPU (of which I am also a member), will finally be mired in opportunistic mud and revisionism and be co-operation with the Ukrainian nationalist Kuchma regime...leaving the ordinary members in a confused state and the CPU will only carry the name of "communist" as a cover. This is the most terrible danger at the present moment.

We, the communists of Lvov and the newspaper "Galitsky Bolshevik" shall remain to the end to defend socialism and the resurrection of the Soviet Union. We shall always struggle against opportunism and if this should become the policy in the Communist Party of Ukraine, we shall all demand that they drop the sacred name of "Communist" and we'll also demand that they do not call themselves "communist"!

We shall have a party sentencing of those nomenclature leaders who sold out the Communist ide-

als and we do support the newspaper "Molniya" of Victor Anpilov who does propose to try these leaders by the party. We fully support Victor Anpilov's call and those of other leaders who call for a united Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

The ongoing struggle with opportunism inside the former USSR and on an international scale is needed, beside the establishment of a Communist International.

Today, the main task of all Communists is to fight against the transnational comprador powers, as V.I.Lenin wrote and did. The answer to capitalist power is the power of the workers and peasants and a proletarian revolution in order to liquidate the financial oligarchs in the world.

The XXI Century - is the century of the Red Tide!

Together we shall be victorious!

On behalf of the Communists of Lvov, Ukraine

Vasil Tiukachev ■

TAMARA KHABAROVA



CONFERENCE OF THE POLITICAL CLUB - BOLSHEVIK PLATFORM-CPSU

The Political Club of the Moscow Center, Bolshevik Platform in the CPSU met on the 130th Anniversary of the birth of V.I.Lenin and the 5th Anniversary of the mass meeting in 1995 when the Soviet people vowed on the October Square to resurrect the Soviet Union.

Opening the Conference was V.S. Lebedev, first vice chairman of the peoples movement, Congress of Citizens of USSR. He explained in detail the struggles that are going on, initiated by the Congress of Soviet Citizens, who are leading this struggle.

The main report was given by the Secretary of the Congress of Soviet Citizens, T.M. Khabarova, who spoke on "Socialism is the base of the contemporary move-



ment on all of the territory of the USSR." Tamara Khabarova in a scientific analysis of the present situation in the Soviet Union outlined all of the problems encountered and the weaknesses in the present communist movements, who often overlook the cardinal fact that there exist Soviet people

and this is the unifying force that can help to solidify the struggle for the resurrection of the Soviet Union and Socialism!

The discussions were very lively, critical, sharp and in many instances very heated by the representatives from many different communist parties and Soviet movements.

From the CPRF, there spoke L.Y. Miroshnichenko who complemented the conference on the very high level of discussion and sighted what V.I. Lenin wrote: "that without a revolutionary theory there cannot be a revolutionary movement". This, he said, is unfortunately true of the leader of the CPRF, G.A. Zyuganov who has no Marxist analytical skills at all.

Another speaker was A.A. Lapin from the CC ACP(B) and its first secretary. The usual approach to problems now is typical of most leaders of the Communist movements in Russia and in other Soviet republics. There seems to be a lack in all of their programs a theoretical or tactical approach to the present dangerous situation. It seems that the "SOVIET PEOPLE" is foreign to the parties who comprised the Russian Com-

munist Union! We wanted to discuss this very problem, since in the near future (2001) there shall be held in Canada a World Congress for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People, where most of the leaders of the Communist parties in the USSR plan to attend. In what qualitative form, only god knows, will these leaders come and will they adhere to the call for unity at the World Congress?

The conference again acknowledged the Marxist-Leninist theoretical truth as was written by J.V. Stalin in his "Economic Problems of Socialism in the USSR". History has shown the absolute truth of this.

It was also pointed out that during the conference of the Political Club in Moscow, there were thousands of Armenians demonstrating for unity between Russia, Byelorussia and Armenia. Over 90% of Armenians voiced their preference to live together in unity with the Russian people. This shows as to what kind of Union the people want.

Unfortunately we had to condense this article due to space limitations.

NEWS DIGEST COMMENT

WHERE IS THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY HEADING?

In news stories emanating from China city of Shenyang, New York Times and newspapers in England and in Germany, correspondent Elisabeth Rosenthal compiled the following:

"For more than 40 years, Zhou Wei was a dedicated Communist-Bolshevik in the Communist Party of China and working in governmental bureau as an official which kept the socialist industry turning. Colleagues said that he was brilliant, a great man who loved and still loves the Communist Party.

But today, he is in a Chinese labor camp, accused by the present CPC leadership of organizing meetings of old-line Communists in the depressed ridden city of Shenyang. He organized communists against corruption and accusing the local party leaders of failing to look after the needs of the farmers, workers and retirees it has pledged to serve.

He struggled against the present local senior officials for over five years and now at 69, he and other Communist heroes of the Chinese Revolution are in a labor

camp. This present widespread popular disillusionment with the present policies of Chinese Communist party leadership and their swing into market economy is today starting to erode the party's credibility.

Here in this economically depressed city and also region, the workers are demanding to be paid their back wages. The old communists protest and daily decry the new leaders who have abandoned the principals of the Chinese Communist Party in 1947, 6 months before Mao Zedong proclaimed the founding of the People's Republic.

Why was Zhou jailed and what was he struggling for?

*The Shenyang officials stopped providing guaranteed retirement-benefits or medical coverage, at a time when the local party officials were building themselves villas and driving foreign cars like the Audi.

*Because Zhou Wei was constantly gathering thousands of petitions to demand that the real communist program be followed.

* He organized dedicated Communists and started to tackle other pressing problems, like protests against the private bank which went bankrupt and thousands of peasants lost their savings. This bank had ties to the top party leadership which was corrupt.

*In 1998 Zhou Wei and other dedicated elder communists were stripped of their party cards because he and others organized a peoples committee to look and expose corruption by party officials and their tie-in to foreign owned factories and enterprises.

*He was sentenced to two years in a labor camp. His wife cried, saying: *"His whole life he served the revolution and now he and others are being persecuted. He and thousands of others want the Chinese Communist Party to go back to all the Communist principals of Marxism and not the burgeoning market economy as is now being implemented."*

* Zhou and other dedicated Communists do not believe in blind obedience, since the control of the Communist party apparatus must come from below - from the people.

Last June, the petition signed by Zhou's friends stated: *"The darkness in Shenyang will one day pass. You comrade Zhou Wei and others, you are all true Communists!"*

COMMENT

Market economy and Socialism are not compatible and it will eventually lead to capitalism and domination by US imperialism! ■

FROM
U.S. FARM NEWS
DENISON, IOWA

The BOOMING Economy?

By BERNARD SANDERS

When US leaders extol the virtues of the "American Way" to foreign leaders in overseas economic gatherings, they should also keep in mind that at least 11 other countries rank ahead of the United States in terms of the pay and benefits their workers receive. In all of those countries, every worker is guaranteed health care, superior parental leave benefits, free or inexpensive college education for their children, and far more vacation time.

The truth of the matter is that in the "booming economy" of this, the richest country on earth, 30 percent of the American workers earn poverty or very near poverty wages because the USA's minimum wage has not kept pace with inflation and we have lost millions of decent paying manufacturing jobs. Low-wage American workers are now the lowest-paid in the industrialized world. In this nation of "family values", more than 20 percent of our children live in poverty.

Moreover, millions of Americans are working much longer hours for lower wages than they were 25 years ago. In 1973, the real (inflation-adjusted) hourly earnings for the production and non-supervisory workers averaged only \$14.09. By 1998, that wage had fallen to \$12.77. Even more alarming is that youth entry-level workers without a college education saw their real wages fall by more than 20 percent between 1979 and 1997. While workers' wages have risen in the last two years, millions are still behind

where they were or their parents were a generation ago.

To maintain their standard of living in the face of the declining wages, people are forced to work extraordinarily hard. Incredibly, the average American worker is now working an entire month longer every year than he/she worked just 20 years ago. According to a recent report from the International Labor Organization, employees in the USA have surpassed the Japanese and now have the dubious distinction of working the longest hours' of any workers in the entire industrialized world. USA workers puts in 234 more hours than the Canadians, 410 more than the Germans, and 567 more than the Norwegians. The number of Americans who work at more than one job increased by 93 percent between 1973 and 1997, and 37 percent of Americans now put in way more than 50 hours a week.

The confusion over the state of the "booming" economy rests with the fact that a small percentage of Americans are doing extremely well. With the explosion of more and more U.S. billionaires in recent years and with the top business executives of the multinational corporations earning 419 times more than their employees, the USA has by far the most unfair distribution of wealth and income of any other major nation.

The richest 1 percent of the U.S. population now owns as much wealth as the bottom 95 percent of all Americans combined!

The time is long overdue (according one US Senator in the Congress) to start returning the tens of millions of dollars in election campaign contributions that are flooding Washington from the rich and also the multinational corporations. Instead, he said, we should start representing all the needs of the middle class and working families of this country.

Among other things this US Senator proposed are:

*Establish a tax on wealth so that billionaires begin paying their fair share in taxes and reform our tax system to make it far more progressive. There is no moral excuse for some people having billions in wealth while children go hungry.

*Raise the U.S. minimum wage to a living wage. At a time of exploding technology advances and increasing productivity, no American worker, working 40 hours per week should live in poverty.

*Renegotiate all of our international trade agreements and address our record-breaking trade deficit. We must demand "fair trade" and not simply "free trade". Our trade policy now should be designed to protect working people and the world's environment, not just only multinational corporations.

*Enact soon a single-payer, state-administered, national health care program guaranteeing health care for all the Americans. Our current system, at 14 percent of our GDP, is the most costly and wasteful in the world and leaves 80,000,000 Americans uninsured or underinsured.

COMMENT

Excellent look by a US Senator into the myth of "American Way of Life" which seems to befuddle millions of people, including those in former socialist countries. The Senator is very candid, but weak in that he doesn't realize that you cannot have what he is proposing without the defeat of exactly this system which produces this inequality! The exploitation by US multinational corporations over the world is producing this immense wealth for the few while a great majority of Americans plus the workers of the other countries where Imperialism is exploiting the cheap working force.

Workers of the World Unite! □

DEPLETED URANIUM COVER-UP!

For years the US Pentagon has attempted to keep discussion of depleted uranium weapons out of the public eye. DU are the radioactive munitions that United States has used in Iraq, Bosnia, Vieques and now most recently in Yugoslavia. During the Gulf War, U.S. and British warplanes fired off more than a million rounds of DU coated bullets. In Kosovo the

Pentagon admits using 31,000.

With thousands of veterans getting sick, particularly Gulf War veterans, as well as increased cancer rates in areas where the DU has been used, there is an increasing global movement to ban its use and to hold Washington accountable for using it in the first place. One of the key figures in this growing movement is Dr. Doug Rokke. He headed up the DU clean-up program for the U.S. Army in Iraq and was fired from the job for speaking out about the health effects of its use. He himself is now sick from his contact with the radioactive weapons - and now he has dedicated his life to getting the truth about DU and fighting for it to be barred.

After repeated warnings by the Pentagon military officials and others to stop his activities of speaking out about the effects of DU, someone shot at him through his bedroom window in his home on April 30th of this year. Just lately, his locked house in Jacksonville, Alabama was ransacked.

**This is confirmed by Patricia Axelrod, a military scientist who specializes in weapons systems analysis. She has studied the use of Depleted Uranium in Iraq and in Yugoslavia. □*

HIDDEN HOLOCAUST, USA

By MICHAEL
PARENTI



The following excellent facts (in a condensed form) are taken from the publication "North Coast Express", USA and sent to us by Ana Lucia Gelabert, Texas, USA.

There is misery and cruelty in the land. U.S. leaders move very determinedly toward their free-market *Final Solution*. The stories abound of hunger, pain, and desperation. Social pathology is as much a part of this society as crime and capitalism. But life is getting now ever more difficult for many.

Here are some grim statistics:

*27,000 Americans commit suicide, some 5,000 attempt it each year.

*26,000 die from fatal accidents at home.

*23,000 Americans are murdered each year.

*85,000 are wounded by firearms; and 38,000 of these die, including 2,600 children.

*13,000,000 are victims of crime, assault and rape, burglary, larceny and arson.

*135,000 children take all sort of guns to school.

*5,500,000 Americans are arrested each year for all offenses (*not including traffic violations*).

*125,000 die prematurely of alcohol abuse; 473,000 die from tobacco-related illnesses.

*6,500,000 Americans use heroin, crack, speed, cocaine on a regular basis.

*1,000 plus die by sniffing household substances found under the kitchen sink.

*31,450,000 Americans use marijuana, while 3,000,000 of whom are heavy users.

*37,000,000, or 1 out of every 6 Americans use emotion-controlling drugs. The users are mostly women and the pushers are the Doctors. The suppliers are the pharmaceutical companies. The profits thus derived are stupendous.

*25,000,000 or 1 out of every 10 Americans, seek help from psychiatric, psychotherapeutic, or medical sources for mental and emotional problems, at a cost of over \$4 billion dollars.

*45,000 are killed each year in auto accidents.

*126,000 children are born with a medical default, mostly due to insufficient pre-natal care, nutritional deficiency, environmental toxicity, or maternal drug addiction.

*2,900,000 children are subjected to serious neglect or abuse, including even physical torture. With growing unemployment, incidents of abuse by jobless parents are increasing dramatically.

*1,000,000 children run away from home yearly. 150,000 children go missing while over 50,000 of them simply vanish.

*Over 900,000 children, some as young as 7 years old, are engaged in child labor, serving as underpaid farm labor, dishwashers, laundry workers, domestics for as long as 10 hours per day.

*2,000,000 to 4,000,000 women are battered; 700,000 are raped, one every 45 seconds.

*5,000,000 workers are injured on the jobs.

*600,000 are killed by toxic environmental pollution or contaminated meat.

*5,100,000 are in jail or on probation or parole, while 2,700,000 are locked up in the county jails. Each

week, 1,600 more go to jail than leave.

*16,000,000 Americans have diabetes.

*10,000,000 suffer from symptomatic asthma.

*40,000,000 Americans are without health insurance.

*1,000,000 children are kept in orphanages, reformatories or even adult prisons.

*Over 1,000,000 Americans have Aids and over 250,000 have died from it.

*7,000,000 to 12,000,000 are unemployed.

*6,000,000 have only temporary jobs.

*80,000,000 Americans live on incomes estimated by the US Department of Labor itself as below "comfortable adequacy". while over 35,000,000 of these live below poverty level.

Is this the kind of "New World Order" that US imperialism wants to hoist upon the world? ■

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

VIA E-MAIL / JERRY MORSE

US-RUSSIA INVESTMENT SYMPOSIUM

On October 5-7, 2000, at the Sheraton Boston Hotel, there will be taking place the 4th Annual USA-Russian Investment Symposium. According to the latest Putin's speech called "Russia at the Turn of Millennium", he stated that: "We, of the Russian Government shall continue working to create an investment climate attractive to foreign investors..."

So, at this expensive (\$2,500 per plate) symposium Putin and his entourage (all wearing the new-look suspenders bought at Macy's). This bit of news came from the London Financial Times which noted that there will be over 500 interested financial investors present.

This 4th Symposium is being

hosted by Harvard University and J.F Kennedy School of Government Studies. Of course Mr. Putin shall have at his side the oligarchs from all Russia, such as Nemtsov, Luzhkov, Berezovsky, Titov and others like Gusinsky. The top functionaries from IMF, WTO, EU Development bank etc. will also be there. The main slogan for this 4th Symposium will be "Stability in a Market Democracy".

Wake up all capitalist investors...here's your chance to steal everything from the former biggest country in the world, offered up by the present stooge of Yeltsin - **PUTIN RASPUTIN!**

In the meantime, some of our Soviet party leaders are still trying to rework Marxism-Leninism in their own image!

WATER, WATER- BUT NOT A DROP TO DRINK ?

Nothing on this earth should help to unite the International

Proletariat faster than the problem now of **FRESH WATER!**

Capitalism has always tried to control the water supplies. They would like to world-wide control hydro, wave and tidal power if they could...and they're trying to do this very quickly.

The selling of water-rights to big capitalist conglomerates as is being done now in many countries of the world, bodes evil for the future of humanity. The idea is to monopolize the water supply and this gift of life will be controlled, taxed and people made to pay for the water they need to drink. Tremendous profits could be thus derived. No one can do without water!

All this in spite that capitalism is the greatest polluter of water in the world, including for the aboriginal peoples of Canada.

Canada, USA, United Kingdom, France and Germany are on this

scheme to quickly monopolize the water supply. Their tankers, ships that ply the oceans and lakes pollute water because the motto is maximum profit with minimum of expense and billions are thus made, world natural species are dying due to lack of safety control of water by the monopolies.

The Russian leadership is considering selling off its fresh water supplies from Lake Baikal in Siberia, the biggest fresh water supply in the world to monopoly capitalism.

In Europe all the criminal plagues of fresh water crooks are growing faster than the algae in putrid swamps. In the Czech Republic they will sell to foreign monopolies all the Czech water and sewage utilities, starting in October of this year. The rush in the countries of Europe for a monopoly of water ownership is real and extremely dangerous.

Fresh water belongs to all the people of this world, not to monopoly capitalism!

Northstar Compass has warned many times before all about this forthcoming menace of owning the fresh water supply that belongs to humanity. This is a basic right that should never be allowed to be privatized in any of the close to 190 countries on this planet!

ITALY-

US policy in Italy has dealt some heavy blows to the numerous progressive movements there. The working class is finding out that the bread is not at all buttered on both sides, when it comes to Western promises with the pie-in-the sky IMF and NATO ballyhoo!

With bombings increasing all across the countries of Europe and some politicians having their heads blown off... these countries cannot depend on NATO or EU to have their country safe from the mounting unrest. Even Cohen of USA, while pretending to carry an

olive branch, had it turn into a fig leaf when trying to explain to the Chinese officials he met in Europe that the bombing of their Embassy in Yugoslavia is just a part of "human rights".

AUSTRIA

Sanctions placed on Austria by the 14 European Union countries is now back-firing. It seems that the present Austrian government is applying quickly the privatization of their economy, even much better than all of the EU countries. The Austrian working class is taking another hard look before joining the EU. Therefore, the EU is assigning "Three Wise Men" to review Austria's sanctions on behalf of USA. The "Wise Men" from Germany, Finland and also Spain have academic qualifications, but does that mean anything will be solved?

They surely know that Austria has privatized everything worth privatizing... much faster than

even former Soviet Union. These "3" will look at human rights, but it will overlook the fact that Austria is home to 75% of refugees that seek asylum, more than all the EU countries combined. They will also look into the question as to whether Austria will accept the *Genetically Modified Foods* that is being foisted on the rest of the EU members. These "modified foods" are being promoted and will be exported by the USA!

When they report back to the EU Parliament and Commissions, we foresee the EU lifting immediately the imposed sanctions.

When the rest of the EU members find out as to what is being planned by the IMF and the World Bank...such as asking Austria to fire 10,000 civil servants so that the world stock markets are kept happy...this will allow the EU oligarchy to increase their own work force!

Many Austrians are now saying openly that it would have been better if EU sent the "Three Wiser Men" such as Marx, Engels and Lenin...then the working class of Austria would have a much better chance, no matter which way the camels run!

PARIS, FRANCE

Of course all airplane crashes are serious. Those on whom the blame is to be placed is also very serious!

It seems that the media is all out for sensationalism with the TV cameras rolling and interviewing technicians, the families, engineers and politicians.

Sensationalism replaces seriousness of the whole tragic event such as took place recently with the French Concorde on July 25, which crashed in a Paris suburb. According to the European media which sometimes is more correct than the American version...there were grave warnings given ten days before the crash that cracks and other abnormal deficiencies

RELIGION AND CHURCHBIANITY

It takes more than the church
and prayer to be a Christian



All religions have been made by
men - Napoleon 1817



It is registered that there are 210
denominations of religions and
only one god and truth



Both read the same Bible, and
pray to the same God; and each
invokes his aid against the other
-Abraham Lincoln, 1865



Men will wrangle for religion,
write for it; die for it, anything
but live for it. -C.C.Colton, 1820



I am for religion against relig-
ions. -Victor Hugo, 1862

were found in the metal by workers who examined this plane. These faults were found by the workers, not by the Directors or the shareholders who sit on their large money bags. These warnings were not heeded and the plane was told to take off. Decisions by the Concorde consortium directors to stop all flights of the Concorde were given only after the people were killed in this crash. Many of these Concords were in service over twenty years and at high speeds metal fatigue becomes a fact.

The ongoing cutbacks, reduced time for mechanical maintenance, overworked crews, extra pushed "fill-in" flights, shortened aircraft safety checks, plus limits on quality control and growing traffic...cause such accidents, because profits come first.

Two points of View from Prague - Czech Republic

From the Belly of the Beast!

A Prague Spring of Communism Owns the Future

By RAY O LIGHT

Since the demise of the former USSR and the Socialist camp, international capital and US imperialism, in particular, have carried out an unending ideological barrage against the people of the USA and throughout the world, alleging that socialism and communism are finished, they have proved to be a failure, etc. etc. The Czech Republic has been hailed by Clinton and US imperialism as a beacon for re-emergent capitalism in the former Soviet bloc. With poet-president Vaclav Havel leading the way, Prague has been portrayed as a center of all liberal and anti-Communist "enlightenment", a conclusive example of the permanent failure of "communism".

In Europe alone more than 100 crashes were by Starfighters and super sonic jets who fall from the sky because of a lack of quality control. The decision made in early 1970's by the Soviets not to use this plane because, according to the Soviet aviation experts, they felt that eventually this plane will become unsafe.

Yes, this is a free market system where profits come before safety. The working class looking after these planes should demand and receive all the time for safety checks.

MOSCOW

With the present Kremlin reforms, nobody can be anybody in any place outside this circle, because this body in the Kremlin is everybody needed to control all bodies for a few Buddies! ■

While the conservative government of the Civic Democratic Party (ODS) was in power during most of the 1990's, then Prime Minister Klaus, the ODS leader, along with President Havel, had promised the Czech people rising living standards. During these years, the Czech Social Democratic Party (CSSD), led by Milos Zeman, had functioned as the "loyal opposition". (In fact, since 1996, Klaus and Zeman have presented their parties as pillars of a two-party system, shades of the US electoral duopoly!)

Moreover, throughout this period "a democratic bloc" of the other parties rejected any form of cooperation with the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia (KSCM) in parliament or in local government. The only exception was forces within the CSSD who expressed willingness to accept the communists into parliamentary system if the KSCM would drop the name "communist", renounce its socialist past, and base its electoral program on "the mixed economy and multiparty democracy". The KSCM refused "to go along with the (capitalist)

program" and maintained a loyal and reliable but stagnant ten per cent of the popular support during the years of right wing government. The capitalist parties figured that this ten percent of retirees, unskilled workers, and Roma ("Gypsies"), would gradually move away or die away from the KSCM.

But by 1998, despite the fact that the jewels of Czech industry had been sold off, privatization and foreign investment could no longer cover up the growing indebtedness of all the now-private enterprises. Klaus, Havel and the conservatives then postponed the promised rise in living standards indefinitely. Ten years of life under capitalism was opening the eyes, hearts and minds of many of the Czech people. Such was the situation leading up to the replacement of the conservatives by a social-democratic government.

Zeman and the CSSD, classic social-democrats, were there to rescue Czech capitalism in crisis - to keep the illusions of the Czech working people that capitalism would ultimately be good for them. Zeman was elected on the strength of four promises: "reverse the decline in productivity, halt the fall of living standards, cut unemployment, and also end white collar crime associated with privatization."

The resulting austerity program of the social democrats was enough to make the previous right-wing government proud. (this is not surprising, as the CSSD runs a minority government which only survives by agreement with Klaus and the ODS). Zeman and the CSSD have threatened to freeze public sector wages and to (at least partially) privatize the state pension plan. They plan to "rescue" the banks by selling them to foreign bankers! Unemployment has risen above ten percent for the first time since the beginning of all these capitalist "reforms".

Zeman and his social democrats, including the current trade union leadership, have been opposed and exposed by the dem-

onstrations of hundreds of laid-off workers demanding their last few months wages. Meanwhile, the communists, excluded from the democratic bloc, are now riding the wave of growing popular anger and great frustration. The KSCM proposal for job creation based on renationalization is solidifying their party position as the workers party.

By last November, after more than a year of social democrats in power, the opinion poll rating of the CSSD had fallen from 26% to 15%, while the support for the communists rose from 12% to 24.5% in the same period (*Le Monde Diplomatique*, April 2000). As Miroslav Grebenichek, the chairman of the KSCM, pointed out just recently, "The brand-new capitalist system is not working. That is to say, it's working very well for the lucky 10,000 at the top of the social pyramid and very badly for the rest of us."

As a result, the ranks of the communist electorate have been swelled by the influx of unskilled and semi-skilled workers over 40 years who are encouraged by the KSCM's fighting talk on unemployment, for privatization, and worker's rights. At the same time, a growing number of youth are attracted to the banner of com-

munistism as well. Prague anarchist youth are now increasingly joining KSCM militants in demonstrations against rent increases and protests of the failure of city public services to all the people of the capital.

Lenin referred to a revolutionary situation as one where the old could no longer rule in the old way, and the new and rising would no longer tolerate this rule. Today, in the Czech Republic, such a revolutionary situation is mounting.

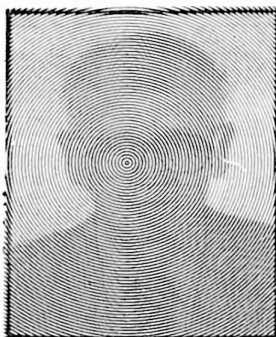
Diehard supporters of capitalism among the coalition ODS and the very "lucky ten thousand" are calling for the break-up of the CAAD-ODS alliance, for quick new elections leading to an open right wing government, and for an all-out capitalistic total economic "reforms". The social democrats of the CSSD seem unwilling and/or unable to free themselves of their fatal embrace with the ODS conservatives in the democratic bloc, especially at this time when it would mean not only relinquishing state power but also allying themselves with the communist party that is now much stronger than they are.

Under difficult circumstances, the KSCM resisted the pressures to abandon its communist name

and its critique of the nouveaux riche Czech capitalists. It has also refused to enroll the petty-bourgeois revisionists and liberal former party members connected with the bourgeois Prague Spring. With a new influx of new proletarians and youth, the KSCM is in a position to proletarianize itself, strengthen itself, remold itself, Bolshevize itself for the greater challenges ahead. The KSCM is in a position to self-critically examine its revisionist past. This Krushchevite past led to the devastation of "peaceful transition" (not to Socialism) but to the oppression and also exploitation of capitalism, the bloody collaboration with NATO, etc. etc.

If the KSCM, the (Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia) is able to revolutionize itself, then in the near future there will be a New Prague Spring that offers a genuinely bright future for all the Czech people, a communist future, under the dictatorship of the proletariat. Such a communist victory will expose the "big lie" that socialism is dead. It will reveal once again that it is monopoly capitalism and also imperialism, today under U.S. imperialist hegemony, whose days are numbered. Socialism and Communism own the future!

**DR./PROFESSOR
MIRKO SVOBODA**



Political Analysis from the Czech Republic

The Czech Republic is governed by a social democratic government, which has negotiated an agreement with the largest opposition party in the present parliament, the right wing Civil-Democratic Party. This political

marriage enables premier Zeman to stay in power. Moreover these two political parties have succeeded in reforming the electoral system in such a way as to limit representation in the parliament of smaller political parties. All other remaining right-wing political parties such as the Christian Democrats (KDU-CSL), and Freedom Union (US), are trying to overcome this danger to their existence by forming a quadruple coalition. However, all these political parties are attempting to isolate the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia (KSCM) by provoking anti-Communist hate campaign periodically. Precisely they all have misgivings about the growing popularity of the KSCM, which, according to the latest

political opinion polls has the support of 20% or maybe more of the electorate. The strength of the anti-Communist struggle is proportionally weakened by all the economic hardships that the Czech Republic is being exposed to. The growing unemployment in this country gives rise to social unrest and it is little wonder that the right wing parties would like nothing better than to have the KSCM outlawed completely. This aspiration however is hard to realize and so they are attempting to have a law passed which would make class jealousy or class struggle illegal and subject to punitive action. For the time being such a proposed law has not been passed. However the chairman of the KSCM, Mr.

Grebenicek has voiced his concern that such a law could lead to some punitive action being taken against individuals and political parties.

In the Czech Republic today, there are approximately one-half million people who are unemployed. The hardships are especially pronounced among women and youth, since post secondary graduates remain without employment for extended periods of time after graduation. The pensioners are also faced with insoluble problems in many cases. Therefore the protests and demonstrations are now growing. The youth in growing numbers are joining politically motivated citizens' associations with left wing tendencies. The Czech police brutally suppress protest rallies conducted by the left leaning anarchists' youth movement. Also, the ecological movements are emphatically demanding that the standards of environmental ambience be maintained at existing levels if not improved. A certain portion of the youth in the Czech Republic has fallen prey to national chauvinism and racism. So much so that in some cases they support outright fascist ideological concepts. Rallies and demonstrations by this portion of the Czech youth are in most cases tolerated by the powers that be.

The KSCM on the other hand has its' own problems. It carries the name Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia, however the statements made by leading representatives of this party do not correspond to this identity. In fact they tend to always create concern whether or not they are trying to make the emerging capitalism socially more palatable. For example - they the KSCM are presently promoting new power-sharing concepts. The KSCM Vice Chairman Mr. Ransdorf is toying with the concept of making the acceptability into the European Union of Bohemia more palatable. Remarkably this mimics the aspirations of the government and the right-wing opposition. What is at stake is some sort of visionary

realization of a social dimension to this integration at the behest of the KSCM.

Defiance in the face of difficulties that the country finds itself in, during the so-called transformation to capitalism does not actually manifest itself in the image of reality of the situation projects. The citizenry afflicted by the negative effects of all these changes is not being revolutionized as might be expected. After all, approximately one half of the electorate still expresses a preference for the right wing political parties and trends. In the Czech Republic, the left movement is not as yet united. After all, there are now two communist parties - the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia (KSCM) and the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (KSC). Also there are various social organizations that could be allies and also supporters of the Communist Parties are not being utilized. The largest trade union organization is under the influence of its' very anti-Communist chairman Falber and his compatriots. Communists in the Czech Republic face many challenges in their efforts to regain the confidence of the Czech people, particularly the working class. This in spite of the fact that the majority of the working class still remembers and also recalls with nostalgia the real socialism of the past. For example, they recall the social guaranties and the relatively good standard of living they enjoyed.

The future knows but one solution and that is socialism. This resolution can not be interrupted and thwarted by World Bank, Globalization, NATO, or the aggressive war-like politics of the USA. This resolution will not be realized in the near future in the Czech Republic. But it's realization is an inseparable component of the laws of evolutionary involvement of society. The guiding compass of which remains Marxism-Leninism and the constant struggle against revisionism and opportunism.

Translated by George Hess.

COMMENT

We just hope that their left-wing political evolution will bring the party to constructive Marxism-Leninism and that the policy of the party shall continue on the glorious road and traditions of the Czechoslovak Communists-Bolsheviks! ■

ANTI-SLAV SLANDER

Recently "left extremism" has become the center of attention of the Czech Ministry of the Interior, plus the Czech Police and the so-called Security and Information Services (BIS). While neo-fascists are allowed to carry on their parades and meetings uninterrupted by the police, anarchist demonstrations on one of Prague's islands was brutally suppressed by the armed-helmeted force of the law and order units, wielding batons and wearing shields. The participants were detained and viciously searched. Even the governments' own Ombudsman, Peter Uhl, whose main concern is the protection of human rights, criticized strongly these measures by the Czech law authorities, along with several other members of parliament.

As the time draws near for the coming conference of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank in Prague in September, the Czech powers are more and more showing signs of judicious anxiety. The Czech police have attended many seminars sponsored by the American colleges. Especially selected groups of Czech police commanders have graduated recently from US technical seminars, which are going on constantly. The experiences and the "fine art of suppression" of the Washington police are to be utilized against thousands of demonstrators who are expected

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to demonstrate in the Czech metropolis against the deliberations of the coming conference.

In the present situation, the so-called "left extremism" is described as the paramount danger. In official government communiqués and in the foreign owned media, Pan Slavism is equated with extremism. The Pan Slavic Congress held in Prague in May of 1998, is now constantly being criticized as a paramount danger of extremism. The Czech police are constantly pointing out that among the older and middle age groups and more recently even amongst the youth, neobolsheviks and nationalist organizations are gaining very great influence. Every day the Czech police are utilizing the fact that, the concept of uniting all of the Slav Nations is gaining more and more acceptance amongst all of the non-Communist citizens of this coun-

try. They point to the danger of these elements coming under the influence of a strong and powerful Russia. Slavism and inter-Slav traditional friendship are compared as very dangerous. Principal argument amongst these governmental agencies is the bogey of Great Pan Slavism (*a theory under which all Slav nations would come under Russian dominance*). It is therefore a natural result of this reactionary, aggressive belligerence, that the International Pan Slavic Committee has lately not been given permission to locate in Prague.

This hostile stance visa-a-vie Slav organizations and their activities cannot ever undermine their struggle for friendship and cooperation among all the Slav nations...who have a very rich historical experience with all efforts meant to divide and subjugate them. ■

up with this kind of thing," said Else Huber, a Green Party activist who organized a town meeting in May to challenge the presence of the U.S. listening post. "There is a lot of discomfort about what the Americans are really doing, but every now and then the Americans, in order to placate the Germans in the town they throw a party to keep the locals happy. The fact that they are still here watching over us after the collapse of the Soviet Union is a crying shame."

Just recently, reflecting the growing mistrust on the issue, the majority of the European Parliament voted to open up an investigation into whether the United States is doing the spying on European businesses.

A committee was appointed to scrutinize the Echelon spy system, which specialists say can intercept billions of telephone calls, mail and faxes every hour in all corners of the globe. The network is operated by the United States in conjunction with Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. It works like a powerful Internet search engine, targeting key words, voices or other data gleaned from, listening posts, such as Bad Aibling.

According to James Woolsey, director of the CIA: "You collect intelligence on bribery by some of our friends abroad who like to win contracts through bribery, then you tell the U.S. government to influence other governments not to award such contracts."

Saudi Arabia was the example when it lost the \$6 billion deal with the Airbus. The contract was awarded to Boeing, Airbus's main rival.

Similarly, the French firm Thomson-CSF lost a major weapons contract to an American rival, Raytheon Co. when the United States provided Brazil with details picked up through eavesdropping. Was this only a coincidence?

Those moves have infuriated the French government which has been urging Germany and Britain to shut the NSA listening posts in Europe, including Bad Aibling and

U.S. BIG EARS IN GERMANY

BAD AIBLING, GERMANY -

Looking like a set of gigantic golf balls, the high-powered listening post operated by the U.S. National Security Agency in this picturesque village 40 miles south of Munich was long regarded as one of the West's most formidable assets during the Cold War.

The Bad Aibling station's vast array of parabolic antennas and also all satellite communications gear which could monitor Soviet troops in such extraordinary detail, as one intelligence agent put it: "we could hear all their teeth chattering in Ukraine."

But now that the Soviet military threat (*supposed -Editor*) is a thing of the past, some Germans are asking why the NSA continues to maintain its large and a most elaborate foreign eavesdropping facility in their back yard. The answer, contends a growing collection of German critics: The "Big Ears" at Bad Aibling are conducting economic espionage against Europe for the USA's corporations.



The United States denies that, saying that it never passes intercepted information to U.S. companies. Yet Europeans note that officials in Washington have acknowledged that U.S. intelligence data about possible bribery figured in Saudi Arabia's decision to cancel a big airline contract with Airbus Industrie of Europe. The order eventually went to Airbus's U.S. competitor, the Boeing Co.

"It's amazing that we still put

also the two sights in England. French Justice Minister Elisabeth Guigou said that Europe must become "particularly vigilant" because such U.S.-run facilities have clearly "been diverted towards economic espionage and the surveillance of competitors."

What irks the German government, however, is Washington's continuing refusal to reduce its Cold War intelligence apparatus. A German cabinet minister said that a recent government study concluded that there are way over 12,000 American CIA intelligence agents still very active in Germany - down from a Cold War peak of over 20,000.

The mayor of Bad Aibling, Felix Schwaller, where Americans work at this NSA facility, protected by barbwire fences and also concrete barriers at the front gate said; "They pay their rent, they spend money here, and besides, they throw good barbecue parties!"

"This is the biggest eavesdropping operation of all time. It has no time limits, has not been ordered by any judge and is not controlled by our own government," said Bernd Krestschmann, a German Green Party politician. "Sometimes people even hear very clearly American voices in the background when they are having a telephone conversation." ■

ISRAEL FLEXING ITS MUSCLES AGAIN!

Reuters Agency in a dispatch from New York, USA reported that

the World Jewish Congress officially announced on July 11, 2000 that, at the request of Israel, it would begin a campaign of new demands that properties of Jews confiscated after the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917 be returned.

The President of the Israel Knesset, Abraham Burg said in a letter that was dated July 11, 2000 to the World Jewish Congress, whose headquarters are in New York, that Russia must now return all Jewish properties such as temples and businesses that were confiscated after the Russian Czar was deposed. The letter also called on the President of the Russian Jewish Congress, Mr. Vladimir Gusinsky (*the multi-millionaire who was arrested last month then released by Russian president Putin - Editor*), to come to Jerusalem to discuss the matter.

Russian authorities have prohibited Mr. Gusinsky, who heads the largest independent television network plus other businesses in Russia to leave Moscow since he was detained for a short time and charged with fraud.

Executive Director of the World Jewish Congress, Alan Steinberg said: "one of the things we are trying to learn is when Russian authorities will allow Gusinsky to travel to Israel." ■

From "as-Safir" daily newspaper in Beirut, Lebanon. With thanks to Eric Mueller, USA.

FROM
FINSBURY COMMUNIST
ENGLAND

POLITICAL COWARDICE

Fifty years ago, there was an active united International Communist Movement under the leadership of Joseph Stalin. The powerful socialist camp confronted the imperialist countries. The national liberation movements, actively supported by the socialist camp, were gaining great victories. Even the communist-led workers in the imperialist countries were awakening and stirring themselves. Things looked good!

No sooner was Stalin dead and entombed in 1953 then all of this revolutionary activity slowed way down or even came to an end.

The international communist movement, with very few exceptions, showed political cowardice or, worse, actual treachery.

Political cowardice is not historically inevitable. It only happens when there is absolutely nothing to stop it happening.

The Labour Party of England and some of the Trade Unions demanded that communists leave the Communist Party in order to become its paid officials, officers or even conference delegates. Many communists did do so and ceased to be Communists. ■

**YOU HAVE AN OPINION
ABOUT NSC? WRITE!**

SOCIALISM AND MARXISM-LENINISM

Marxism-Leninism, the important theoretical weapon of the proletariat in its constant struggle for workers and peasants emancipation, has always aroused ire and wrath in apologists of capitalism. Today, taking advantage of the collapse of socialism in the

USSR and in a number of other socialist countries of Eastern Europe, they, under this pretext, are hurrying to bury the teachings of K. Marx, F. Engels, V.I. Lenin, and are attempting to prove their "non-scientific" and also "utopian" qualities. They are attempting to

convince the toiling masses that it's only a society that is founded on private ownership that is just and lasting, whereas socialism is only "a dream" a "utopia" a "blind alley". Indoctrination of bourgeois anti-scientific rantings, and also of piety, is being promoted in

Russia as well as in other countries.

Could the collapse of socialism in the USSR be an indication of the falseness of all the Marxist-Leninist theory? **No, no, no!!!** The genuineness of this great theory was demonstrated on more than one occasion. In the first place, there was the proletarian revolution firstly in Russia, China and also in a number of other countries, and they comprised 1/3 of the world's population. Hitler could attest to the fact that socialism is not just "utopia", having suffered complete defeat at the hands of the Soviet people. The USSR emerged after World War II as the second strongest country in the world and, as recognized by the USA, impossible to defeat militarily. Socialist construction is now proceeding in countries such as China, Vietnam, Cuba, North Korea and achieving great success.

Then why was the counter-revolutionary coup successful in the USSR? It wasn't because of an "error" in the Marxist-Leninist teachings but because of the failure of those at the head of the CPSU. Scientific theory is produced not on a speculative hypothesis but by scientific analysis and crystallization of all the facts. K.Marx, F. Engels and V.I.Lenin had only the short-lived Paris Commune as an example; later on Lenin had the first years of Soviet power. That is why they were able to make ingenious prognosis, introduce the most common plans as a basis for the construction of socialism. A significant input into the construction of socialism was made by J.V.Stalin, but he was not able to develop the theory to the outmost, due to the long time needed for struggling and defeating fascism, then the reconstruction of the whole Soviet devastated country and the loss of over 27,000,000 of its people. Immediate necessity put these projects into the top priority.

After Stalin's death in 1953 the Soviet socialist scientists became apologists and instead of a scientifically analyzing and crystal-

lizing facts, they substituted them with mythology. This, in turn led to many pronouncements in several publications that "socialism had achieved complete victory" and is now going on the road to the "building of communism", a "social-political and idealist unity of all of Soviet society," and of the building of "advanced socialism" and so on. (*Krushchev made all these pronouncements - Editor*). In the works of Soviet philosophers, dialectical and historical materials were used only in criticisms of capitalism. Instead of trying and exposing the real contradictions inherent in the new society, they idealized the new society, instead of dialectics, they used metaphysics. And that is how the return from science to utopia came about! It is precisely because of this that the party and the society were blinded - they did not expect a blow which followed, not from without but from within.

TOWARDS THE DIALECTICS OF FORMER SOCIALISM

Marxism-Leninism were not affected by the destruction of the USSR as were all the idealistic, metaphysical interpretations when applied to the former society of the USSR. Why was the victory of this counterrevolution possible... it was initiated from "above", from the side of the CPSU leadership that was supported by a significant part of the partgosnomeclatura and by a significant part of the Soviet intelligencia and the lower strata of the working class? An answer to all of these necessary questions is possible only from a Marxist-Leninist approach. But this means approaching the question from a position of Marxist-Leninist methodology. Further, it means to concretely and historically explain the conditions under which socialist construction took place, what phases the society went through, what contradictions were the driving force of development.

Firstly, let us note that the formation of a new economic so-

cial order usually takes several centuries. V.I.Lenin stated that a new world order could be successful only by increasing the productivity of labour. By surpassing the capitalist countries is the only way we could speak about of victories of socialism. However, we were still quite a way from solving this problem.

In reality "socialism" has not been fully developed in the USSR. We were on the threshold of the development of a socialist society. In the competition between two opposite systems there were factors that produced deciding influences in which the USSR found itself in. In the first place we had to begin from the lower levels of the really backward Tsarit Russia, at a time when our adversaries for way over a hundred years occupied top places in the economic development. In the second place, the world imperialists forced wars against us (*Civil War, Intervention and World War Two*) plus the Cold War arms race. The USSR was compelled to spend huge sums on armaments in order to be able to match the military capacity of the USA and its NATO allies, which meant that we had to lag behind in some aspects of the economy.

To be able to understand how it was possible, using the capitalist clever mirage in order to attract our working class, it is necessary to analyze the conditions of our working class and of their living standards.

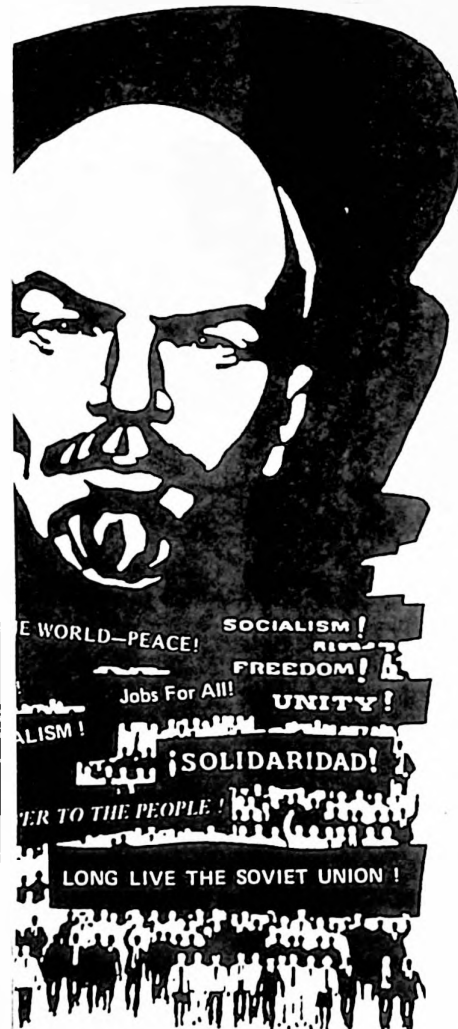
According to Marx and Engels, in order to exist it is necessary to produce material satisfaction. But before utilizing this blessedness it is necessary to have it distributed. Definite relations arise with regards to its production and distribution. The struggle concerning the distribution of social production is the core of all politics and ideologies! Those who control the means of production also appropriate the lions share of the hap-

piness that is associated with it. The liquidation of private ownership and the introduction of social ownership was a very gigantic step towards the establishment of social equality. Exploitation of man by man became impossible and a **basis emerged for the harmonization of social and personal interests**. In the Soviet press this was glorified as something permanent and indissoluble. However, from a dialectical, but not from a metaphysical standpoint, all unities appear as unities of opposites! The words "**social**" and "**personal**" compliment and also contradict one another! Let's look at their interrelations.

Between them there were mutual relationships on one side. By increasing social wealth, the Soviet state thus created a basis for the fast growth of social welfare of every Soviet citizen! Sincere Soviet toilers were interested in the growth of production, in the strengthening of the state - both of which are the basis for the liquidation of unemployment, for free housing, free education and also health services. In the USSR every citizen was under the protection of the state, assured of tomorrow. These were very major achievements. The harmony of the personal and social interests were the basis for the mass production heroism, the victory in the Great Patriotic War and the rapid reconstruction of destroyed properties. However, these great Soviet achievements became also a matter of course, and, as all the air that we breathe, in time these achievements began to lose their values!

However, social and personal interests are not identical. In any given situation they could also contradict one another. But apart from all social interests, the state had to direct very large sums of money for the important development of industrial production, for

the strengthening of USSR's defenses, also for the development of all public housing, education, health, for social needs, while at the same time being forced to curtail somehow the daily growing needs of all the private citizens. However, the state looked after only a part of the private needs (*at this first stage of socialism*). Within the scope of its income every family looked after comfortable habitation, furniture, domestic conditions of life, holidays, better nutrition, etc. Many had envisioned very unrealistically that each family shall have immediately an automobile, their own cottages etc. However, because of all the inadequacies in Soviet industrial development, (even though the industry growth was phenomenal and production was increasing), the government at this early state of socialism



was not able to satisfy all parts of the daily needs of the population. Wages, according to production, safeguarded the residual material inadequacies. Here then are the concealed sources of contradictions which became more acute with the continued struggles forced on the USSR by imperialism. As an individual strove to increase his personal income, the state had to impose limitations! Solution to this was only possible by increasing production of goods by the working force.

However there was an abandonment detected in this connection (*after death of Stalin in 1953-Editor*) which played a fatal role. How can the failure of the USSR to overtake in economic production the more developed capitalist nations be explained? Objective reasons could be found here. Installation of advanced methods of work required huge funding. But, there was also a shortage of funds. We (the USSR) were facing gigantic problems with the necessary development of the natural resources in the wilderness of Siberia and the North, with the need of strengthening our defenses to which our best scientists were assigned. Scientists and building personnel were preoccupied with the development of new systems of defense in order to prevent the repetition of 1941 (*when imperialism helped to arms Nazi Germany and goaded them to attack the Soviet Union - Editor*) plus the American threat of a nuclear war. Thus needed input of finances into agriculture and light industry were deprived on these funds. Heavy industry had to take precedence and thus light industry suffered. Imperialism was of course cognizant of this weakness and readily speeded up its "Cold War" in order to weaken the socialist system. Also, there was interaction of new methods into industry and production, but not on the scale which was needed.

The weakness also was that the apparatus became top heavy and the production norms were instituted from above and not from below. Lenin and Stalin wrote extensively about this real danger. There were some weaknesses in the industrial relationships and management. However, all these were just growing pains which were very treatable. But we were pressed for time!

Let's try and formulate the growing contradictions that were present during the process of Soviet socialist construction. The well known contradictions are: "*contradiction in the social character of production as opposed to private capitalist method of appropriation*" were discarded then as they applied to the liquidation of all private ownership. However something very new had emerged: contradictions between social and personal interests which are connected by the degree of development of productive forces and the degree of satisfaction of personal interests, and between the need for speeding up the scientific technical process and the imperfection of the productive forces which retarded the process to a considerable degree.

With perfection and with the development of the means of production, all of these contradictions could have been resolved soon, with proper Soviet leadership, but all these contradictions grew into conflict with the activities of the growing anti-socialist forces who, under the idea of "*perestroika*" were preparing a Western supported counterrevolutionary revolt. Where did these restorers of savage capitalism come from, when, according to Nikita Krushchev, the basis for all struggles "*had disappeared*" long time ago? Why did the grave diggers of socialism emerge from the upper echelons of the CPSU party nomeclatura? Where did the hun-

dreds of thousands of big and also the small hidden capitalists come from...these former carriers of the Communist Party Membership Cards?

FATAL INFLAMMATION

The Soviet society was not yet homogeneous. Many people respected the interests of society and also subordinated their own to them, toiling honestly in collectives and state farms, in factories, industries and educational institutions, they were the conscientious builders of socialism. Life determines consciousness! People saw the various sides of social life differently. In many the individual nature of consumption determined their consciousness.

The psychology of petty ownership was widespread (*after 1953*) regardless of the system of communist upbringing. As is known, a person is bionic. Nature has endowed us with several instincts but they are later influenced by the family, the environment and our family upbringing. Simultaneously with all their benevolence which enables them to be collectivists, there exists the greediness, the predatory power-hungry nature. It is precisely from individuals with these physiological qualities that all of the exploiting classes of slave owners, feudalists and all capitalists were recruited. Under the Soviet society, such specimens were unable to become private owners. However, they found many other means to achieve all of their ambitions after Krushchev came to power. One part was carried out by the criminal world. Another part was carried out by the shady side of the economy. The more literate strove to "*assume power*" so as to benefit by its privileges. They all had a common ambition: to place all of their personal interests before their social interests.

It was precisely here that the fatal cells leading to the restoration of the capitalist exploiting society were concealed!

Just as in any society, the Soviet society needed leadership in industrial production, as well as in the general social life. But not every person is capable of fulfilling this role. Special psychological qualities are required. Apart from brains and memory there is also a need to be able to lead the people - a trait that requires determination, love of the job, and also ability. However, together with the above qualifications, a socialist society makes other demands and also an evidence of communist convictions. *How does one determine the presence of such qualifications?*

During the years of revolution, during the civil war, the collectivization, and the Great Patriotic War, people were judged by life itself. To be a communist meant that you were prepared to die for the cause of socialism. In such conditions the greedy careerists preferred to wait it out rather than take any risks. However, with the strengthening of the Soviet society, the more active and educated part of the populace surged into the ruling party, because party membership was the main condition for advancement. After 1953 there was NO control of membership.

In the sixties the quantitative changes in the composition of the CPSU grew into unhealthy qualitative changes. The young Kom-somol leadership began to play a leading role, after most of them joining the Young Communist League and the Communist Party right after the Great Patriotic War when most of the dedicated Bolsheviks perished defending the USSR and the world. These people grew up in very warm surroundings, quickly completed free schooling in the high schools and

then into universities. They possessed qualifications to deliver speeches while very capably concealing their mercenary souls.

Together with Gorbachev assuming power, a change of power took place in the regional committees as well as in the Politburo. The same cleansing of old Bolsheviks from all the leading positions was undertaken by Mikhail Gorbachev's mentor, Krushchev! Gradually the party (CPSU) became transformed from a revolutionary facade to the open bureaucratic caste entity. Democratic centralism was replaced by bureaucratic centralism. In such circumstances the party contacts with the people weakened. The privileges of the party functionaries (after the death of Stalin in 1953 -Editor) aroused animosity amongst the Soviet people. The great differences between words of those who uttered them and of their deeds became apparent. These "functionaries" got themselves comfortable living quarters and the people called them "the nests of nobility", and there were rumors of "special services" that the upper echelon of the party enjoyed.

It is precisely during this time of the growth of the new generation of "nomenclatura" that had replaced the heroic generation who laid the basis for socialism in the USSR, that all of these grave diggers of real socialism appeared, namely Gorbachev, Yakovlev, Yeltsin, Krawchuk, Shevernadze, Aliyev, Nazabayev and many others. They followed in the footsteps of Krushchev.

Before, party discipline and the socialist system kept them in handcuffs and hobbles, but they hoped to take advantage of the peoples' discontent at this situation, in order to carry out and overthrow the system and then secure social ownership for themselves and finally change the so-

cial order. Their interests were supported by many of the so-called "creative intellegencia", by all of the illusions of Western wealthy "sponsors", and by desire to have freedom from any party control. During this period of "perestroika", under the guise of so-called "glasnost", a whole galaxy of pen-pushers emerged, laying the foundation for a counterrevolutionary overturn. Scum and scum of all nature began to fill the newspapers, TV screens and radio, extolling the virtues of "market economy", degrading all of our Soviet heroic and sometimes tragic history. Once again they brought out their so-called trump cards - the Soviet "Gulag",



the "Starvation" and magnified them hundreds of times in both the internal and external capitalist media. At the same time, these enemies started a withdrawal of food from circulation in order to rile up the people. Simultaneously disappearing from all of the store shelves were commodities (which were in great abundance, held in storage facilities) like cigarettes, soap, tooth paste, laundry powder etc., all daily necessary items for any household!

Then the Mikhail Gorbachev "reformers" created co-operatives of speculators, election of their own kind of directors...thus weak-

ening the economy and sharply aggravating all these contradictions to the outmost. Right to the very last day before "perestroika" was foisted on the people, sincere communists were not able to believe at all that the counterrevolutionary overthrow could be headed by the General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union...and also by the great majority of the CPSU Politburo. Greedy with egotism, having captured the leadership of the party "elite", this then manifested itself in unheard of growth of nationalism, all promoted by the so-called "internationalists"!

By re-kindling nationalism in the Soviet Union, this "elite", riding this crest, started to rise to a complete seizure of social ownership. During the late 1980's and early 1990's, they were successful in involving into their counterrevolutionary activities all of the bourgeois nationalists as well as some workers who had accepted this constant "market economy" mirage.

CATASTROPHE

The temporary collapse of socialism in the USSR and in other former socialist countries is yet another witness to the inadmissibility of any deviation from the Marxist-Leninist methodology.

The complete betrayal of socialism by the Gorbachev clique led to the present catastrophe. The USSR was dismembered under the slogan of "democracy", "human rights" and "free market economy". This led to bloody pogroms, national wars, an emergence of way over six million refugees, the impoverishment of 90% of the population, while 10% became enriched and a decrease in millions of population in Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and in many other republics...this simply meant genocide, mass unemploy-

ment and the loss of the working class of all their social achievements. Soviet workers, having been "taken" in by the all of the "democratic" sweet-talk, today are doomed to a social and political lawlessness. Such a catastrophe is simply another confirmation of the genius of the Marxist-Leninist theory. Now, Capitalism is trooping over all of the expanses, knee-deep in blood; this had been characterized by K.Marx and F.Engels in all of their writings about the first accumulation of capital in the manufacturing stages. The views of Marx and Engels and that of Lenin were fully justified as they applied to the bourgeois "democracy", as a special stage of the dictatorship of capital.

Today the tools of mass information, together with all of the "overseas voices" are daily and nightly trying to "cleanse the brains", attempting, together with the church, to reconcile workers with lawlessness, to safeguard the installation and ongoing mirage. But are they able to influence all of the students-youth, who had never lived when our country was the USSR? Responding to a question that I posed in the "Donetsky Kryazh", a non-communist newspaper: "...In your opinion what personalities influenced the development of history in the world second millennium?" Evgeny Raketsku, one of the readers of the newspaper responded: "V.I.Lenin. Here is personality who had exerted great influence in the historical process. He was able to personify into life and attainable vision about building a society of social justice. It was precisely thanks to him that on one sixth of the earth's surface there emerged a great power, the Soviet Union, where there were no lords and servants, no wealth and impoverished, where every citizen had a

roof over his or her head, and was able to work freely, plus access to medical, schooling and vacations...

But let's accept that the modes of life were not as comfortable as they are in the USA, Switzerland or England, but we also must remember that our conditions were formed in just several decades, during which time there were two world wars, plus civil war and the reconstruction after the devastation on the Second World War. Today, with loud "sics", everything that was ever accomplished by the USSR is being trampled upon and sacrificed. At the end of this process stand the former ideologists - the "true communists" - who, in just ten years, became Super Rich!

But, V.I.Lenin as a personality, also as the great USSR, will be remembered for a very long time, and possibly forever!"

The first steps in the establishment of socialism proved the genius of K. Marx, F.Engels and V.I.Lenin. The Soviet workers of the USSR demonstrated that it was possible to build a state of workers and peasants and to govern the state in the interests of the workers without capitalists.

The collapse of the USSR has provided very serious lessons for all those who are continuing the building of socialism and also for those who are struggling to restore the socialist order. It is important to strengthen communications between the vanguard communist party and the masses in order to prevent careerists from assuming leadership, because to them personal gain is their only goal! It is always necessary to cleanse the party (as was done in earlier times, before 1953) of careerists, to restore the power of all the Soviets on an industrial-territorial basis, to continuously work to perfect the industrial relations which could lead to the

hastening of all of the scientific-technical processes, to increase production of goods for peoples' consumption. It is impossible in life to avoid complete contradictions. But if they are discovered in time, it is possible to find ways to prevent victories of the anti-socialist forces.

Life has shown that within a newly forming socialist society, imperceptible class struggle is taking place between the socialist forces and those who want to re-establish the complete sovereignty of capital. Consequently it is necessary to be vigilant, to defend the powers of the workers and peasants from counterrevolutionary revolts.

Now, many communist parties have emerged on the territory of the USSR. To restore the power of the workers and peasants, a new socialist revolution is imperative. This question cannot be solved by any parliamentary elections or by an election of a new president. It is necessary to bring completely to an end the opportunistic parliamentary illusions and, learning from Lenin, to begin the process of enlightenment and unity of the broad masses.

**THE SUN OF SOCIALISM WILL
RISE AGAIN OVER THE PLANET!**

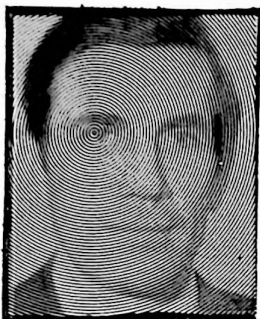
COMMENT

This extremely important article was sent to us from Russia and during the process of renovation of our Friendship House where the offices of NSC are located, the authors name was lost. We appeal to him to let us know so that in the next issue of NSC we can give him the credit that he certainly deserves.

Also, we thank our reader Alex Sturgeolf for his excellent translation from Russian.

LETTERS

V.N.
CHECHENSEV



Dear comrades!

Just to let you know that NSC is improving and this gives me more incentive to also work better and, to receive any criticisms regarding my articles.

In the last few issues of NSC I was very interested in two articles, especially the one by comrade Beneyto from Spain, called "What Russia are we talking about?"

This is in regard to my article in NSC on Chechnya. My article is close to that of comrade Beneyto, but I cannot agree with all of his conclusions that because of "non critical tactics in the communist movement inside the Soviet Union and internationally there was no criticism allowed". I wholly agree with the NSC comment after the article by comrade F.B. Beneyto.

I feel that comrade Beneyto did not have all the information necessary to make a correct analysis or a judgment. I came into the CPSU in 1965 and all those times I was never censured or even expelled from the party because of my critical views and approaches to criticism and self-criticism. I can truly state (and I have facts to prove my assertion!), that inside the USSR and inside the CPSU there were great opportunities to debate and argue about policies and tactics. But it's another matter, since the time of Krushchev's reforms in the economic spheres, there took place

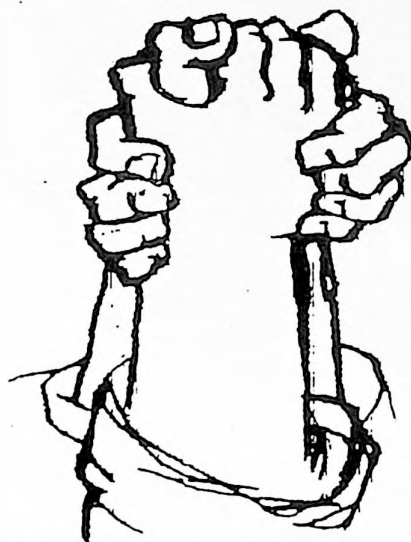
such changes that it was impossible for the working class ideologically to win this struggle against the then very powerful revisionist and opportunistic tendencies inside the top echelons of the CPSU. I would suggest to the Editorial Board of NSC to publish the program of the Russian Communist Workers Party where there is given a detailed and concrete Marxist analysis of the USSR and the restoration of capitalism.

Enclosed is a copy of a newspaper "Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta" which contains my article about the history of NSC and the Organizing Committee for an International Council. ■

GREETINGS FROM CHILE

Dear comrades of the Organizing Committee for an International Council and Editorial Board of Northstar Compass!

Friendly greetings from the Revolutionary People's Movement of Chile.



M.P.R.

On December 19, 1998 many comrades from progressive organizations and progressive parties gathered in Chile and formed the Chilean Revolutionary People's Movement, a new and much

SOVIET TREASURES

Audio cassette of Soviet revolutionary songs that are now practically banned from being played.

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needed step in building a Chilean vanguard party. Our forthcoming Congress is coming soon where our party program will be discussed and adopted.

We are letting you know that we support the Call for an International Council and shall do everything in our power here to make certain that it is a success.

Our people received generous internationalist help from the Soviet Union and from the other former socialist countries during the fascist dictatorship of Pinochet. That's the reason why, as a political organization founded on Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin ideas, we consider it our revolutionary duty to give a helping hand to our Soviet comrades or to all other ex-socialist countries who need now urgent solidarity.

Onward towards the World Congress!

With international greetings
Revolutionary People's Movement
of Chile

We appreciate you comrades in adopting the Call for an International Council. We welcome you aboard and, we hope to see your delegate(s) in Toronto in September of 2001. ■

FROM
DABROWA
POLAND

Dear comrades:
Sincere communist and proletarian greetings from Poland and the

League of Polish Communists named "Proletarian". We're sending you the Main Reports of our V Party Congress in Polish.

Your Northstar Compass is extremely interesting in the information that it always contains about the former Soviet Union and its communist parties.

We know about your forthcoming World Congress for an International Council in 2001 and, although we'll have a tough time in getting the necessary finances, we have one year yet to do so. Please keep on sending NSC to us.

Yours as ever
Zbigniew Wiktor
Chairman of the League of Polish Communists "Proletariat".

We welcome you comrades to our ever-growing list of signatories for an International Council.

FROM EDITOR OF
THE SUN
NEWSPAPER, MOSCOW, RUSSIA

This newspaper is published in Russian and Arabic, and its Editor is A.V. Krivobokov. Below we publish his letter to NSC.

Dear comrades of NSC and the Organizing Committee for an International Council:

Having received your address from a reader of NSC in Novocherkassk, Russia, I'm appealing to you comrades to start an exchange program with us. Our newspaper is called "The Sun" and "Ash-Shams" in Arabic and it is dedicated to anti-imperialism, anti-capitalism and the resurrection of the USSR which was a great friend of all the Arab people, helping us in our struggles against foreign domination.

I heard much praise towards Northstar Compass, but never had the opportunity to look at its pages. Please send us a couple of issues since we have comrades who can read English and I do know that your Editor also trans-

lates from Russian. Could you send us NSC (*all copies from the last 3 years*) ?

Comradely yours

Alexander Krivobokov

We'll start sending you NSC but the cost of all the previous 36 issues at the moment is not possible. Maybe bit by bit we shall try to honour your request.

FROM
DONETSK
UKRAINE

Dear comrades!

Unfortunately our correspondence elapsed due to the lack of nominal finances on our part to send letters...that is how bad things are. But we in Donetsk remember our receiving of NSC and reading and also re-reading them again and again. Now we are informed all the time by Vladimir Herasymchuk, who always keeps us abreast of the tremendous work that you comrades are doing.

Am enclosing the Donetsk newspaper called "Donetsky Kriazh" which published an article about comrade Michael Lucas and his hero uncle General Lukach who commanded the International Brigades in Spain during the Civil War.

There's another article which I hope that NSC shall soon publish, called "Generals and their Rubbish Careers" which in detail explains some of the causes of our misfortunes.

Greetings our dear comrades!

T.V. Yakubovska

FROM
HAMDEN, CT.
USA

Enclosed is my NSC renewal payment. I don't suppose you will want to print this letter but, I should like to tell you that your continual boosting of Stalin is wrong-headed and even silly. Almost everyone who ever spent

much of his life in the old communist movement regards Stalin as the greatest misfortune for the Soviet people and the cause of socialism throughout the whole world. Even in Russia, if one followed the last election returns there, it is obvious that the Stalinist parties that you support received small votes and neither Victor Anpilov or Nina Andreeva were elected to the Duma. It is likely that the Russian people will decide on some form of socialism in the future, but it won't be to resurrect the Stalin nightmare!

Sid Resnick

As we come closer to the World Congress in 2001 to establish an International Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Soviet People, we shall encounter such letters. We're asking comments on this letter from our readers, especially the two Soviet comrades that are mentioned by Mr. Resnick.

FROM
KOFORUSUA
GHANA, WEST AFRICA

Dear friends:

I would like to have a pen pal from the readers of Northstar Compass. I hope that you will accept my request.

Your friend
Dickson Kwaku Ntiri

We hope that some NSC readers or their friends shall become pen pals with this student at this address: P.O.Box 2412, Koforusua, E/R, Ghana, West Africa

FROM
PHOENIX, AZ.
USA

Dear comrades:

Many times I have seen written in NSC passages bemoaning the lack of unity of the left in the Soviet Union. I have also seen criti-

cisms of all the numerous splinter groups and passages urging our Soviet comrades to unite.

It would be more constructive if NSC would take measures to address the causes of the fragmentation of all the left movements, rather than simply complain of it. We must know what the line is of each Soviet leftist party and organization. We must know the position of each of these parties with regard to unity with other parties...with which parties it is willing to unite, with which it is not, and what reasons thereof.

We should not presume to tell the Soviet people which party to support.. It would be absurd to try to run the new Soviet revolution from Toronto. By making it clear who stands for what, however, we will have made it easier for the Soviet people to make an informed decision.

I have seen extensive, informative and wonderful coverage in NSC of events and struggles in Russia, Ukraine and Byelorussia. I have seen a few reports from Georgia, Belarus and the Baltic republics. Conspicuously lacking, however, are reports the Central Asian republics of the Soviet Union. I am not aware of the cause of this absence, and I doubt that NSC is now consciously practicing Great Russian chauvinism, pan-Slavism or even anti-Islamic chauvinism. It would be very bad, however, if we continued to give appearance of such backward ideologies. It would truly be unconscionable to neglect our Central Asian comrades. I hope to see much more coverage of Central Asia in future.

I would like to take issue with our Spanish comrades over their line on Chechniya. It is incorrect to call present Russia an imperialist power. In Tsarist times Russia could be said to be a minor imperialist power, holding other nationalities and exploiting them.

This is not true today. Modern Russia was transformed from a socialist power to a third world country, which it is today. The collapse of living standards and economic output in the Russian republic during the past ten years clearly shows that the new flow of surplus value is away from Russian and towards the Western imperialist powers. Imperialist powers have a net flow of surplus value into the country, not out of it. The Russian republic is a victim of imperialism, not a perpetrator of it. The rebellion in Chechniya is not a bona fide national liberation struggle, but a comprador movement financed and run by the CIA and other imperialist agencies. It is similar in this respect to the Taliban and other Mujahadeen in Afghanistan, the anti-Iraq Kurdish movement, the KLA, and the Contras. The purpose of this rebellion is to secure imperialist control of the Caspian oil fields and to further fragment Soviet republics and prevent renewed Soviet unity. True national liberation for Chechniya, and all other Soviet nationalities, lies in working all together against the common imperialist enemies, not in attacking Dagestan, Russia and other third world areas. National liberation under the support and control of the imperialist powers is national liberation in name only.

Comradely yours
Kevin Walsh

REPLY FROM NSC

Dear comrade:

Thank you for your letter that makes very good points which we will take into consideration when editing future issues.

You correctly pointed out that we should have used your words: "bemoaned the lack of unity of the left in the Soviet Union". Allow me to point out that a split on the left cannot be compared

to similar splints on the right, as we are all accustomed seeing in our bourgeois society. Our role at NSC is not to be the arbiter between the various factions in the rest of the Soviet Union, or proving which faction now is more correct than the other. We are here to assist in finding commonalities on which the left can unite in its' common cause of restoring Marxism-Leninism in the former USSR.

You mention in your letter that you hope that NSC is not promoting or supporting "Great Russian chauvinism, Pan Slavism or anti-Islamic chauvinism". I am now the chairman of the Canadian Slav Committee and a member of the NSC Editorial Board as the Sustaining Fund Director. This Canadian Slav Committee is a sub-committee of the Canadian Friends of Soviet People and as such allow me to explain what this Pan-Slavism is really all about. Perhaps the best way to explain this point is to quote the remarks of Ing. Bretislav Chvala, who is the chairman of the International Slav Committee, to its gathering in Prague, held on November 13, 1999. Here is the pertinent quote: "The Slav nations must be treated with justice relevant to their standing within Europe and the world. We seek superiority over no one, but we will allow ours or any other Slav nation to be oppressed!" stated Chvala of the Czech Slav Committee.

In so far as articles from the Asian republics are concerned, we do not receive any newspapers or periodicals from them. When we do, we shall of course publish facts about these former Soviet Republics.

Once again we thank you for your keen interest.

George Hess
Member of the Editorial Board ■

FROM
KOMMUNISTISKA PARTIET
SWEDEN

Dear comrades:

We would like to inform readers of Northstar Compass that our party, KPLM(r) is celebrating its 30th Anniversary this year.

It might be said that 30 years is not such a long period. But for a revolutionary party, struggling in a country, dominated by monopoly capitalism and imperialism, and with a very strong bourgeois Social-Democracy acting as Trojan horse in the working class, it is not a small feat to be able to say that the Party has not only survived but is established as a potent political force among radical workers and also other progressive forces in the country.

From the beginning of its existence, our party adopted the line of its independence and self-reliance. We believe that it is the duty of the Communist Party to first and foremost to concretely analyze the class conditions in its own country, of course with all due respect and regards to Communist parties and revolutionary movements, working in all countries, under various conditions, but with the same Socialist goal.

It is our firm belief that international relations and contacts between Communist and Revolutionary workers' parties and organizations must be built on recognition of a common Marxist-Leninist position, but it must also be on mutual respect and acceptance of each party's ability to analyze and form its politics under the prevailing conditions existing in each country.

We are proud that our Party has developed as it has. Today KPLM(r) is, in all practical sense, the only Communist Party in Sweden. The former revisionist party is, as you know, ashamed of its Communist past, and denies any links with its own history.

KPLM(r) Central Committee
Teddy-John Frank
International Secretary

CHUCKLE CORNER

BUSH'S CHOICE FOR V.P.

By BERNARD LIVINGSTON

Is Bush's choice for V.P.
Dick Cheney or Lon Chaney,
The Hunchback of Notre Dame?
Don' ask me... So far's I can see,
They're one and the same
No matter the difference in name.

Though Dick displays no hunch,
And if, like the real hunchback,
He doesn't terrify people
From a perch in a church steeple,
He does admire the criminal policies of Ron.
And I've a hunch that if you go
back and note
His Congressional vote,
He's just as frightening as Lon.

Abortion? Never! says Dick. Not even for rape or incest.
Gun control? Of course not.
Charlton Heston knows best.
Huge Army? You betcha! That's how we won the West.
Free Mandela? Uh-huh. Whites would soon be dispossessed.
ERA for women? God forbid!
Let'em stick to cancer of the breast.
And on-and-on with votes that Jesse Helms would savor with zest.

Dick Cheney's a wolf in sheep's clothes.
Even so, if he came near while you were on a cliff you'd jump.
For no sheep's clothes that even Calvin Klein could compose
Would effectively conceal that he really has a frightening hump. ■

**WORLD
CONGRESS**
SEPT. 21-22-23, 2001
TORONTO, CANADA
Plan to attend!

ITEMS FROM ABROAD

4TH INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON PROBLEMS OF THE REVOLUTION IN LATIN AMERICA A SUCCESS!

By RAPHAEL MARTINEZ

The 4th International Seminar was held from July 17-21, 2000 in Quito, Ecuador and was called by the PCMLE and MPD. Greetings were read from many revolutionary organizations from the continent and also Europe. A Declaration was adopted as printed below. There were 17 parties and movements whose delegates participated in the conference.

"We are fighting for the Revolution and Socialism! Urged on by our commitment to carry forward the victory of the social revolution, we have come together to discuss our views regarding the Character of the Revolution. The debate has been open and frank and reflective, carried out in a spirit of comradeship and brotherhood; we have shared opinions and criteria which we should continue debating. We found the need to put forth joint initiatives of solidarity.

Indeed, socialism has suffered a defeat, but one that is historically temporary. The struggle for the revolution and socialism takes into account the need to fight revisionism and opportunism in all spheres.

In the world today there are a billion hungry people, two billion eight hundred million people who are all unemployed or underemployed; on the other hand the three richest people in the world have assets greater than the total Net Internal Product of the forty-

eight countries of Africa!

Until a few years ago, the political conditions, the brutal anti-Communist assault that we the workers, peoples and revolutionaries faced, put us in a defensive position that even led some to raise the discussion of whether the social revolution was viable or not, while still others deserted the revolutionary struggle. Today, all over the world the groups are different; the revival of the popular forces and their new vanguard detachments leads us to discuss the characteristics of the revolution and the content of its program.

We the revolutionaries have the obligation to organize and make the revolution in our respective countries; to defeat imperialism and its local allies in our countries. It is clear that revolutionary struggles transcend all of the national borders, since this strikes and weakens the chain of imperialist domination. This includes the need to deepen the actions of solidarity: if we have to organize internationalist brigades, actions of struggle and contribute with our solidarity in all spheres to the victory of the revolution in one country, we must do it, this is our commitment, just as with all of our effort for the construction of a new society.

The political campaigns by some movements and parties that seek to show everyone that the working class no longer has historic conditions to lead the revolution and that there are now new social actors who should place themselves at the head of the revolutionary process. Only the working class can carry the revolution through to the end.

It is the responsibility of all the Communist and Workers Parties (*the genuine, dedicated Communist Parties - Editor*) to elaborate the program of the revolution in each country, starting from the conditions in each of them, which

places before all of us the necessity of deepening our Marxist-Leninist theory.

We give our solidarity to all the peoples of this world who are fighting for their emancipation.

Paraphrasing the Communist Manifesto, we say that again the specter of Communism is haunting

the world and imperialism and the bourgeoisie are now trembling. We revolutionaries are taking into our hands the challenges that history has imposed on us and we will win!

Abridged for space reasons.

NEWS FROM U.S. FRIENDS OF NORTHSTAR COMPASS

WHY SOCIALISM WAS DEFEATED IN THE USSR

By ED ROTHBERG

In order to understand the economics of why Socialism was defeated in the USSR and why it is alive and doing extremely well in China today, we must go back to Marx and his analysis of capitalism. Marx spent a lot of time in analyzing the commodities; their definition, their value and their function under capitalism. First of all, commodities as distinguished from "goods" (produced under feudalism and slavery) were produced for the purpose of exchange or sale. In his analysis of the capitalist system, Marx discovered and developed what has become known as "*The Law of Value*". He showed that the law operating from behind the scenes was the regulator of the capitalist economic system. He showed that, if supply and demand were equal, commodities would exchange at their value. However, this seldom happens since supply and demand usually result in commodities selling at above or below value. Then this fluctuation in the prices of commodities is the manner in which the system was regulated. For example, if too

many shoes were produced, their prices go down and those who produced them would be in trouble, being unable to sell them. On the other hand, if too few were produced, the price would go up and the producers of those shoes would rush in to produce more shoes etc. *In this general manner, value, acting behind the scenes was the regulator of production under the capitalist system.*

My contention is that *-while this was true of capitalism, it is also true in the socialist system, since Socialism is also a commodity producing system and is subject to the law of value.* When this law was violated, the system was in trouble. That is what happened in the USSR. This is true, aside from other factors, such as imperialist attacks, betrayal by some leaders, etc. I believe that this was the basic flaw in the USSR, and if it hadn't happened as it did under Gorbachev, it would have happened sooner or later.

Prices of commodities were set by the government in accordance with their wishes and what they wanted to accomplish. The government now only set prices, but times and amount of production, and quotas. Unfortunately that is not how a commodity producing economic system works. This resulted in overproduction of some fields and also underproduction in others, in a very severely unbalanced economy. While the original enthusiasm of the masses was there after the successful revolution and it led to some suc-

successful progress and development, it came to an end and the violation of the law of value took its toll, production slumped and Socialism in the USSR was defeated.

But let us look as to what is happening in China today, but first: From a Marxist point of view, both socialism and capitalism are both commodity producing economies, where things are produced for exchange. Where and when exchange takes place, is known as the market. *It is neither capitalist or socialist. It is the ownership of the means of production which determines if a society is capitalist or if its socialist.* Now about China:

At the outset of their revolution, China adopted the Soviet approach to the building of socialism in which a strong central government controlled most of the functions of society. It included the setting of prices of commodities, decisions on the times, types and amounts of production, quotas, etc. *Despite the fact at that time China had public ownership of the means of production, all the people remained impoverished and China remained backward and very underdeveloped. Something was wrong. Something was missing.* In 1978 the Chinese leaders took a closer look at capitalism, recognizing not only its contradictions and limitations, but also its progressive and revolutionary role in history. They noted that capitalism in a relatively short period of time had created enough wealth to feed, clothe and house every person on earth. *Could a socialist society adopt similar forces without the contradictions and limitations of capitalism?*

To answer this question, they had to go to Marx's explanation of the role and nature of commodities in all the commodity producing economies. Marx showed that

the *LAW OF VALUE* which is always acting behind the scenes, was the *REGULATOR* of production commodity economies. Thus, the arbitrary setting of prices of commodities and the strict government control of production, as *in China and in the USSR at that time, were in contradiction with Marx's law of value and held back the development of the productive forces under socialism.*

In 1978, with the launching of the reforms, China stopped setting the priced of commodities and the strict control of production and allowed competition between buyers and sellers to set prices in the marketplace. They also found that this type of competition between capitalists was a driving force which led to the rapid development of the productive forces under capitalism. On closer scrutiny, they found that it wasn't capitalism per-se, but it was the free market economic system which developed under capitalism, which rapidly developed the productive forces. Freedom to compete in the market place with greater compensation for their efforts drove development. *Why couldn't a free socialist market economy do the same for socialism?* In 1978 China decided that public ownership of the means of production plus a socialist market economy in a backward underdeveloped economy was the key to the successful building of socialism, particularly in a backward underdeveloped economy. The results of that decision have been and continue to amaze the world.

Now let us stop talking theory and look at what has happened in China during the past twenty years of the Reforms and what is happening today. Since the Reforms, China has come from a poor, backward and underdeveloped country to one of the worlds leading giants. China's economic

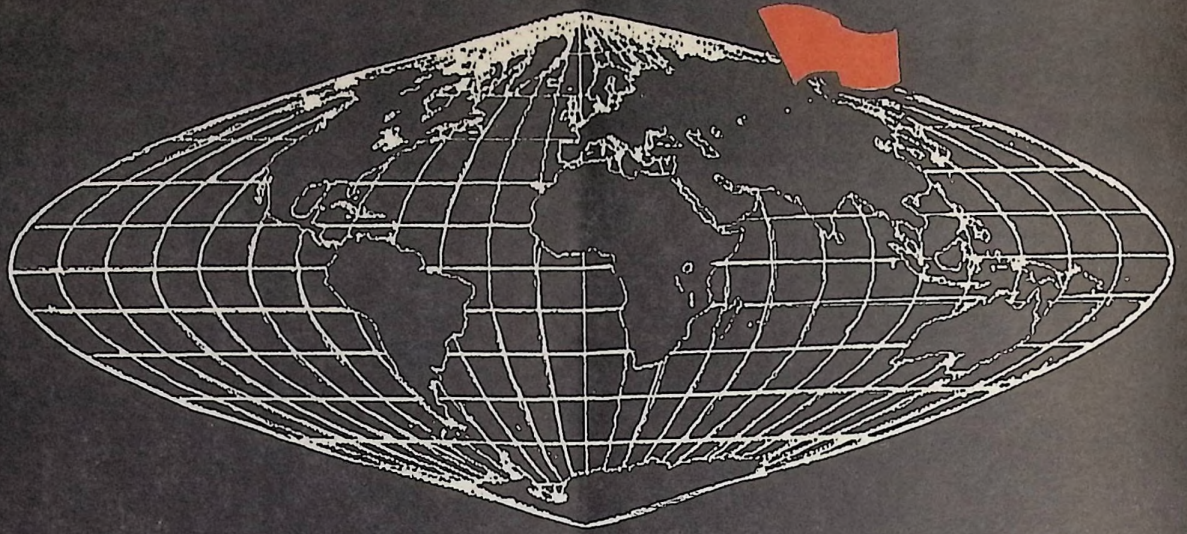
growth rate ranks first in the world at 9.8%. Her total economic volume comes to seventh in the world next to the USA, Japan, Germany, France, Britain and Italy. The people's livelihood has improved remarkably. They came from a type of livelihood with ample food and clothing to that of a fairly comfortable life. At this point it is realistic for them to have an extra-large TV set, an air-conditioner, a telephone and a computer. These four items plus a redecorated house are household hardware which many of the young people long for and they are within reach. The old so-called "gray look" of the people is gone, replaced by colorful fashions because of China's clothes making industries. People who used to live in the "residential compounds", sharing one toilet and one water tap, with more than one generation crowded in one small room now have moved to modern apartments. Now it is an ordinary thing for the individual to travel to other parts of China or abroad, at their own expense.

These are just a few samples of how the people's lives have been changed and improved during a brief twenty years of the Reform. It dramatically illustrates what miracles socialism, coupled with technology can accomplish.

COMMENT

I find this article interesting, but I have serious reservations on the very rosy picture painted by the author, according to all materials about China that is available both in the progressive and bourgeois press, and in view of the fact that China has now joined the World Trade Organization. Nevertheless we should support any country that US imperialism has in mind to undermine for the total destruction of any semblance of socialism.

Dr. Angelo D'Angelo
NSC Advisory Board



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September 21-22-23, 2001, Toronto, Canada

**DELEGATES COMING FROM FOUR CORNERS
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historical
event?*

