

Address to the Soviet People

THE Great October Socialist Revolution is the most outstanding event of the 20th century, and has ushered in a new era in the life of mankind, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union says in an address to the Soviet people in connection with the approaching 70th anniversary of the Revolution. The text of the address was published last Saturday.

After noting that the October Revolution is a matter of the highest national pride of the Soviet people, the address points out it was Vladimir Ilyich Lenin who stood at the head of the Party that roused the working class and all working people in Russia to perform that revolutionary exploit.

The USSR has become the first country in the world to have built socialism. It is thanks to socialism that the Soviet people are spared the problems and troubles that still mar the lives of people in many other countries.

"We do not have exploitation of man by man. We do not have unemployment, we do not have national oppression and we do not have poverty and illiteracy. The working people enjoy social protection and have confidence in the future," the address emphasises.

This is what the October Revolution was made for, and what socialism is for, it adds.

The October Revolution is continuing in the Soviet people's work today. An essentially revolutionary drive for change is unfolding across the land. Its aim is to expedite the progress of socialist society. Today the Soviet people are working to advance the national economy to the world's highest level in efficiency and scientific and technological progress. The path to it is paved by the October Revolution and socialism.

The Revolution set the stage for solving the nationalities issue in the country. The Soviet system of government has over the years affirmed in practice the equality of various ethnic groups and their fraternal co-operation. The economies and cultures of all constituent republics have made advances.

But the effort to upgrade relations among ethnic groups, just like any other real work, involves the need to overcome whatever new problems arise. They are being tackled and will continue to be tackled. The country's progress is and will continue to be to the benefit of every ethnic group as well as in the interest of the Union as a whole. This is another gain the Soviet people owe to the October Revolution and to socialism.

The address recalled the difficult path covered by the Soviet Union. The building of socialism began seven decades ago in a war-ravaged country amid economic chaos and dislocation. The USSR was then for a long time alone in resisting world capitalism. During the Second World War it lost 20 million people and a third of

its national wealth. For many years after that the country and the people had to strain themselves to the limit in work, but they did not collapse.

The address also mentions deviations from Lenin's principles, violations of legality and democratic norms, manifestations of voluntarism, dogmatism and inertia in practical work, for which a dear price had to be paid.

Now reorganisation is a fact of life, but the people may not flatter themselves with what has already been achieved. Only the first steps have been taken. Most of the work is still ahead.

"Are there guarantees that the work will get along, that the process of change will not stall, that the past mistakes will not be repeated? Yes, there are. The people are interested in reorganisation, the working class — the leading force in Soviet society — has a profound interest in reorganisation," the address emphasises.

By extending democracy, strengthening socialist legality, stepping up the activities of the Soviets of People's Deputies, trade unions, the Young Communist League and other mass organisations, holding the dignity of the individual in ever greater respect and protecting the rights of citizens and work collectives in every way, full play is given to the most powerful of the constructive forces under socialism, that of free work by a free person in a free country.

"We live in a world which has changed greatly under the impact of the October Revolution. More than one third of mankind has already cast off the fetters of capitalist exploitation. Socialism exists, it is developing and growing stronger as a world system. There are no longer any colonial empires, but there are dozens of newly-free sovereign nations," the address points out.

The forces of the international proletariat, whose interests are expressed by the Marxist-Leninist communist and workers' parties, have grown. Broad-based democratic, anti-imperialist and anti-war movements are gathering

momentum. The general crisis of capitalism is going deeper.

The 70th anniversary of the October Revolution will be observed at a time when the human race has come to face the problem of survival. The future of the world, a world contradictory but integral and interdependent, is being decided today. Our planet can and must be delivered from the threat of nuclear war. A life in security, independence and progress can and must be ensured for all nations.

"Not everything here depends on us, on the USSR and socialism. But whatever depends on us, we shall do in full measure," the address says.

The policy of the Party and the Soviet State in world affairs has invariably been that of peace. Guided by new political thinking, they are demonstrating a realistic and flexible approach to international problems and shall press on perseveringly for countries to give up nuclear weapons on the threshold of the third millennium, for barring arms from outer space, and for reducing and ultimately eliminating them altogether on Earth.

But as long as international reactionaries whip up the arms race and maintain a policy of social revenge and "crusades" against socialism, the CPSU and the Soviet State will continue doing everything to keep the defence capability of the USSR and the socialist community at the proper level. The Soviet people may rest assured: military superiority by imperialists will never be allowed under any circumstances.

"We are applying the entire political prestige and international influence of our country to efforts for peace. These will be the more effective, the better the state of things at home and the closer our co-operation with the fraternal socialist countries," the address points out.

"Socialism and peace go together. The stronger socialism, the stronger world peace." □

Meeting of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee

AT its regular meeting, held on March 12, the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee studied the results of the talks conducted by Lev Zaikov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and Secretary of the Central Committee, with Czechoslovak leaders during his working visit to Czechoslovakia.

It was noted that the agreed-upon concrete directions for developing progressive forms of economic interaction, the measures to accelerate the establishment of direct production ties and research-and-production amalgamations give a new impulse to extensive mutually advantageous co-operation between the USSR and Czechoslovakia.

The meeting heard a report by Boris Yeltsin, alternate member of the Political Bureau, on an official friendly visit to Nicaragua by a delegation from the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The Political Bureau noted with satisfaction the steady development of Soviet-Nicaraguan relations based on equality and mutual respect, and expressed support for the Sandinist leadership's policy, and the constructive efforts

by the Contadora Group and other Latin American countries, aimed at achieving a political settlement in Central America.

The meeting discussed a report by Yuri Solovyov, alternate member of the Political Bureau, on a visit by a CPSU delegation to Libya to attend the celebrations marking the 10th anniversary of the proclamation of popular power there; and an account by Ivan Kapitonov, Chairman of the Party's Central Auditing Commission, of the participation by a CPSU delegation in the work of the 13th Congress of the Swiss Labour Party.

The Political Bureau discussed measures for further improvements in the performance of the housing and communal economy complex of the country. A series of measures were outlined to improve communal services to the Soviet people, to develop and expand technology in that field and to remove shortcomings. It is planned to increase capital investment in communal construction, to improve material and technical supply and to introduce new advanced instruments and equipment for housing and the communal economy in serial production.

Other questions of domestic and foreign policies were discussed. □

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CPSU Central Committee resolution

ON PREPARATIONS FOR THE CELEBRATIONS OF THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREAT OCTOBER REVOLUTION

"THE October 1917 Revolution in Russia has marked mankind's turn to socialism, heralded the birth of the world's first worker and peasant state, and ushered in a basically new and fair social system," the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union says in a resolution on preparations for the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

The document, which was published on March 14, also says:

"The 70th anniversary of the October Revolution is a great holiday for the Soviet people and a holiday for the people of socialist countries and all progressive people on Earth.

"It is a spirited review of our forces and the achievements of socialism.

"It is also a height from which we are to think over the results and lessons of the path traversed, the changes taking place in the world, and the new tasks facing Soviet society at a crucial juncture in its development."

The CPSU Central Committee recommends that in the run-up to the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution the working people and all Soviet citizens concentrate on fulfilling the decisions of the 27th Party Congress and meeting the targets of the 12th Five-Year Plan (1986-90)

and first of all the State Plan for Economic and Social Development in 1987.

The resolution institutes a special certificate of honour, which will be awarded to the work collectives and go-ahead workers that will have met the planned targets for the first two years of the five-year plan period by the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution and achieved top product quality.

Invitations to attend Revolution Day celebrations will be sent to the front-rankers in the socialist emulation drive and to the groups of workers in the fraternal socialist countries who will have won international socialist competitions in their own countries and at integration projects in the USSR.

An international scientific conference on the subject "The Great October Revolution and the Present Day" will be held in Moscow before the 70th anniversary of the Revolution.

A national assembly of Young Communist League members and other young people will take place in Leningrad.

Special functions will be organised throughout the country to honour old Bolsheviks, war veterans and retired workers, and measures taken to improve their housing conditions and the amenities and the medical and trading services available to them.

Books, pamphlets and posters dealing with the history of the Soviet State and its present day,

with friendship among the ethnic groups inhabiting the country, with outstanding achievements in Soviet science and culture, and with Revolution, war and labour heroes will be published in the languages spoken in the USSR and in foreign languages.

A collection of statistics on the national economy of the USSR over the past 70 years will also be printed, commemorative coins minted and a series of postage stamps, first-day covers and postcards issued by the time of the celebrations.

Besides this it is planned to publish the best works of Soviet literature, produce new plays, films and concerts, organise retrospective screenings of films and television shows, hold exhibitions and stage sports festivals, all dedicated to the Great October Revolution and the Soviet people's heroism.

This will include a national art show in Moscow, "Seventy Years of the Great October Revolution".

A number of measures are envisaged to explain the ideas of the October Revolution and today's policy of the Party and the Soviet State to foreign audiences.

The CPSU Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation will hold a joint meeting in Moscow in November to mark the 70th anniversary of the Socialist Revolution. □

SOVIET ECONOMY IN REFORM

Below is the abridged text of an interview economist Academician Abel Aganbegyan granted Zory Balayan of Literaturnaya Gazeta.

Question: What will the Soviet economy of the future be like?

Answer: Geared to intensive growth factors, it will be more receptive to research and technological advances. This will be a consumer-oriented economy with democratic public self-management.

Q.: In 1979 you said that the nation could not develop extensively any longer. This means that you knew what to do to improve our record. Why then did growth rates continue to fall?

A.: We couldn't foresee every detail. But even so we were too slow to act on ideas.

GNP grew 3 per cent a year 1981-1985. Growth will average 4 per cent 1986-1990, exceeding 5 per cent in the 90s. In 1990 GNP will be 130 billion roubles up on 1985.

Q.: The present is more important for us. It's good that an old man plants an apple tree, thinking of his grandchildren rather than himself. However, we want apples right now.

A.: We needn't wait until the 90s to have apples. It's a matter of proper harvesting, storage and transportation. As for the economic reform, it would be naive to expect results overnight. Progress is inconceivable without new machinery to boost productivity and efficiency. To be world-beaters we must renew two-thirds of our engineering output.

Q.: What is the standard of renewal for this industry and how did it do in the first year of the reform?

A.: It was 3.1 per cent in 1985 and 4 per cent in

1986. However, since we increased investment in engineering reconstruction 30 per cent last year, we can expect higher renewal rates from this year on.

Changes in investment policy are more general in character. We must focus on modernisation, resource-saving technology, and quality. We will restructure investment patterns to emphasise priority areas.

Q.: Hence, the term "structural policy"?

A.: Yes. The present economic structure was developed in the period of extensive growth. Hence it revolves around crude products, traditional materials, old technology, and repair services.

Q.: And the new structure?

A.: It will accentuate processing through hightech sectors such as engineering, informatics, chemicals and biotechnology. New materials will be a priority.

Q.: While all this is not present here, shall we go on with old methods and machinery?

A.: Let us look the truth squarely in the face. Obsolescent machinery fuels outsized repair services. Every year repairs claim tens of billions of roubles. The repairs of many types of machinery have cost us more than new plant.

Q.: Where did investment go if repairs were an acute necessity?

A.: A good point. The bulk of investment went into new construction, while operating capacities were crying out for repairs. We were creating new jobs manning them by people pirated from elsewhere. It was like a chain reaction. Jobs remained unfilled and the shift coefficient was going down. We have over 200 billion roubles' worth of unmanned jobs, 12 per cent of the nation's fixed production assets in terms of value.

Many enterprises failed to keep pace with technology. The number of people doing manual jobs did not decrease. Nowadays we have 50 million people in manual jobs, or every third

worker in manufacturing, every second in the construction sector and three out of four in agriculture. It would be a crime to continue as we did until recently. We must be more prompt with the reform.

Q.: The impression is created that we are not yet quick enough. Do you agree?

A.: Yes, in part. We have started many major projects to restructure management, investment policy and the social field. We are at the initial stage of the reform, as the January Plenary of the CPSU Central Committee stated.

An economic breakthrough is on the horizon.

Q.: We now also emphasise the new quality of growth with the social aspect dominant. What can you say on this score?

A.: If you want to know my opinion why we have made major social and economic blunders, it is because we ignored public interests, although Marx and Engels said that an idea would fail if it disregarded these interests.

Currently, the management machinery is being tuned to public interests, to self-funding and profit-and-loss accounting. Wages and social services, particularly housing, will be linked to industrial performance. This will step up productivity, efficiency across the board, and GNP to help us towards social targets.

Diet pattern is a social priority. We are not satisfied with agriculture's growth and output in the preceding 15 years. Last year farm output grew 5.1 per cent as against a yearly average of 1.2 per cent for 1981-1985. Agriculture can grow faster if public interests are satisfied accordingly. Now to housing. We need 40 million flats more for every Soviet family to have unshared dwellings. We hope to do this by the year 2000. We exceeded the housing target for last year, and in 1987, too, we are going to top the yearly projection. A major emphasis will be put on services, particularly retailing and public catering, and advanced household appliances to

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PRAVDA EDITORIAL:

USSR firmly committed to treaties

Here follows the full text of the editorial article published in Pravda on March 17 headlined: "Facts Against Lies. The USSR Firmly Committed to Treaty Obligations in the Field of Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms":

THE PROPOSAL on the resolution of the problem of medium-range missiles in Europe advanced in Mikhail Gorbachev's Statement of February 28 is a convincing example of new political thinking, and of the Soviet leadership's constructive approach to nuclear disarmament issues.

The implementation of that proposal will make it possible to free Europe of many hundreds of Soviet and US missiles and nuclear warheads.

The United States has in Western Europe today 380 missiles (108 Pershing-II and 272 Cruise missiles), and the Soviet Union has in its European part 355 medium-range missiles (243 SS-20 and 112 SS-4 missiles).

The fresh Soviet initiative is added proof that the USSR is permanently and steadfastly seeking an opportunity for the elimination of the nuclear threat, for creating an all-embracing international security system. At the same time, albeit certain military-political circles in the West, above all in the USA, sometimes admit by word of mouth the importance of the Soviet peace initiatives, they are continuing, in fact, to pile up one obstacle after another on the way towards building a nuclear-free world.

In opposing, as a matter of fact, the programme put forward by the USSR for a stage-by-stage elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, having discarded the Interim Agreement of 1972 (SALT-1) and the SALT-2 Treaty and advocating a "revision" of the ABM Treaty, the right-wing conservative forces in the USA and some of its NATO allies have set out not to curb the arms race, but to eliminate the obstacles in the way of the implementation of their military programmes.

Under the pretext of the need for righting the alleged "imbalance" in arms, the United States intends to increase considerably its nuclear arsenal before the end of the eighties. Everything is being done to upset the military equilibrium between the USSR and the USA, the Warsaw Treaty Organisation and NATO, which took shape in the seventies.

The attainment of that equilibrium was socialism's historical gain. It is apt to recall that in the early sixties the nuclear potential of the USA considerably exceeded the level of our nuclear armaments. The Soviet Union has never sought military superiority. Yet it could not forgo its security either. Therefore, in conditions of a growing threat from the USA, the USSR took appropriate measures to strengthen its defence capacity, which enabled it to ensure a rough balance with the USA in the field of strategic armaments by the early seventies. The US President had to admit in February 1971 that at that time neither the United States nor the Soviet Union had a clear nuclear advantage.

Yet military equilibrium does not suit the book of the nuclear weapon manufacturers and their political placemen dreaming of world rule. To conceal from their peoples, camouflage their policy of ensuring nuclear superiority, they are slandering the Soviet Union. To that end they have invented and are using the "Soviet military threat" myth. The then US Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, one of the moving spirits of the Cold War, wrote in his book *War, Peace and Change* that to make the country shoulder the burden of maintaining a huge military machine it was necessary to build up an emotional atmosphere tantamount to war mentality. It was

necessary to paint a picture of external threat...

In trying to renovate that battered prescription, the current Washington Administration has made a point of inventing more and more accusations against the Soviet Union about its alleged aggressiveness, about violation by it of international treaties and agreements.

Counting on people being uninformed about the true state of things, ignorant of the contents of the Soviet-American treaties containing the arms race, official Washington and its supporters in Western Europe have for many years now been poisoning the international atmosphere with fabrications about the USSR's "dishonesty" as regards its commitment to the contractual obligations. The anti-Soviet ill-wishers, lacking truthful facts, are trying to substantiate their inventions by a semblance of arguments. At one point they claim that it is impossible to monitor with the use of US national technical means the observance of the treaties by the Soviet side, at another point, disavowing their own selves, they set afloat lies about "violations by the USSR" allegedly registered by the very same national technical facilities.

The inconsistency of the claims about the

impossibility of monitoring by means of national technical facilities was convincingly proved, in particular, by former CIA Director William Colby. Asked by the newspaper *USA Today* whether it was worthwhile concluding any arms treaties with the Soviet Union, if the USA was unable to check what weapons the USSR had, William Colby said that it was not worthwhile if the USA were unable to check on the commitment to that agreement, but the USA did have such a capability.

The American national verification means have never pointed to any violations of any international agreements by the USSR. Back in 1985 the US representative to the Soviet-US standing consultative commission that monitors the observance by the sides of the concluded agreements reaffirmed in Congress that the USSR was strictly abiding by its commitments. In 1986 the US Joint Chiefs of Staff arrived at the same conclusion on the basis of the evaluation of US intelligence data. In the report on the United States military posture submitted to Congress the chiefs stated plainly that the Soviet Union observes its obligations to the full.

However, contrary to facts, Pentagon officials
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(TABLE 1)

Data on the Dismantling of Strategic Delivery Vehicles of the USSR and the US in Compliance with SALT-1 and SALT-2.

	USSR	US
Intercontinental ballistic missile launchers (ICBM LA)	293	37
<i>Including</i>		
<i>In compliance with SALT-1</i>	209	37
<i>In compliance with SALT-2</i>	84	—
Submarine-launched ballistic missile launchers (SLBM LA)	287	176
Heavy bombers	36	77
Total delivery vehicles dismantled	616	290

(TABLE 2)

Data on the Strategic Nuclear Forces of the USSR and the US (as at January 1, 1987).

	USSR	US
ICBM LA	1,398	1,016
Including ICBM LA's equipped with multiple independently-targetable re-entry vehicles (MIRV)	820	550
SLBM LA	922	672
Including SLBM LA's equipped with MIRV	352	640
Total ICBM and SLBM LA	2,320	1,688
including MIRVed ICBM and SLBM LA	1,172	1,190
Heavy bombers (HB)	164	522
including HB armed with cruise missiles (CM)	56	132
Total of ICBM, SLBM LA and HB, including those armed with MIRV and CM	2,484	2,210
	1,228	1,322
Total warheads on strategic delivery vehicles	about 10,000	about 15,000

Higher education reform in the USSR

By Gennadi Yagodin, Minister of Higher and Secondary Specialised Education of the USSR

THE need for higher education reform arises from the fact that in recent years the greater number of graduates have not ensured a better quality of training. We are nearing a point when we shall fully satisfy the country's need for specialists, but in the past few decades, due to objective reasons, attention was concentrated on expanding the network of educational establishments.

In the mid-60s our universities and institutes graduated 346,000 specialists and by the early 80s the number had risen to 847,000. The gainfully employed population increased by 55 per cent in the period between 1966 and 1986, while the number of specialists with a higher education increased fourfold. Today there are 5,100,000 students in the country's 894 colleges and more than half a million teachers and scientists are conducting pedagogical and research work.

There has been a marked negative tendency in the employment of college graduates, especially engineers, a considerable number of whom have been filling jobs that do not require their qualifications. On the other hand, there is a shortage of school teachers despite the greater number of teacher training colleges. A large number of agricultural college graduates do not work in their line and the role of the integration of education, science and production has been greatly underestimated.

Modern production calls for a system of uninterrupted training for all workers and experts even with the highest qualifications. In order to organise such a system it is necessary to provide the bedrock of knowledge because education is possible only when it is built on a solid foundation. The basic laws of nature and the development of human society should be taught at the initial stages of education and should form the foundation of an individual's development. Regrettably, the secondary school as we see it today does not always provide that foundation.

When and why did the standards of our educational system begin to drop?

As a professional teacher I can say that to a great extent it was caused by good intentions. In our pursuit of technological achievement we tried to cram into our schoolchildren and college students an amount of knowledge they could not possibly digest. As a result, the basic laws indispensable for an advance were lost in the growing avalanche of information.

It is the major task of the secondary and higher school today to build that foundation. That means we have to work to select the most important information and strike out everything that is redundant in our textbooks and programmes.

One of the "bricks" in that foundation is the students' independent work. It is this type of work that had always made the greatest contribution to education and the development of the personality. Only by working on one's own can a person learn to work properly. In higher education, this individual work has been sacrificed to collective forms of work, such as the collective seminar, the collective lecture, collective practice, collective lab work. We are trying to remedy the situation now.

Textbooks are another problem. Till now practically none of them ever posed questions that required answers. They usually propounded definite concepts, provided material that had to be read, understood and remembered in order to be recounted when necessary. True knowledge should find other ways of expression like, for instance, solving problems that require reflection, research and mental effort. It will not be easy to rectify the situation.

Another very important feature of the reform is that part of the instruction will be linked with production. The work should be grounded in the students' knowledge, and the knowledge, in turn, should intensify the process of production. How is that to be done?

When we speak of the need for integrating education with production and science, we are planning to do so on a professional basis when the

student has already built his foundation of knowledge, i.e., during the student's fourth or fifth year in college. That is when the work will be both professional and productive. The working process will be organised in different ways depending on the educational establishment, because physicians, teachers, building engineers, power engineers all work in different conditions.

That engenders yet another important feature of the reform that we are planning to introduce. We will try to get away from the habit of providing regulations for all situations that may occur at higher educational establishments. We are not going to exercise rigid regimentation of college life. We have told the teachers and professors there that they know better how to cope with their specific problems so they are to make decisions and shoulder responsibility. Colleges now have the right to restructure their educational process; they are allowed to reduce compulsory classes and give students more time for independent study and work on their course projects and papers and other research and creative work. It goes without saying that this work is to be done under the supervision of the teachers.

Colleges are allowed to reduce the number of disciplines by combining them. For the senior students there will be practicals to last up to a year during which instruction will be combined with work at their workplaces, for instance in the capacity of technicians or engineers. Of course, the students will not work full time or a full working week.

Another very important issue is the material and technical facilities of education, which have been lagging far behind. It will not be easy to bring them up to par for some time yet. It will take a lot of money. Under the present circumstances, we will be able to resolve the problem only by the year 2000. However, we hope it will happen sooner thanks to the revolutionary changes which education will introduce in science and all areas of life. □

(APN)

USSR Academy of Sciences: wind of change

By Guri Marchuk, President of the USSR Academy of Sciences

THE reorganisation process which has enveloped the whole country is under way in the USSR Academy of Sciences, too.

Today, Soviet science holds leading positions in mathematics, theoretical physics, radio physics and astronomy. Outstanding results have been obtained in space research, laser technology, organo-mineral chemistry, light alloy and magnetic materials technology as well as in some fields of molecular biology. There are a number of directions, however, where we lag behind world standards, and sometimes quite significantly. To close that gap, the Academy is drawing up a forecast for the development of the key directions in science to be used together with the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology in programmes for attaining the world standard in those directions.

What is so radical about the reorganisation of Soviet academic science? First of all, it is the expansion of the rights and the increase in the activity of the associations uniting scientists by their specialities, the establishment of more flexible organisational structures at research institutes and dramatic activation of co-operation between the central and the

republican academies of sciences.

The divisions of the Academy (of which there are 17: mathematics, general physics and astronomy, nuclear physics, general biology, history and others) which earlier performed mostly scientific and methodological functions have now been granted the right to manage material and financial resources, draft plans for the institutes accountable to them, handle international scientific links and close down ineffective research subdivisions. But at the same time they now bear full responsibility for the progress of the respective directions of science in the USSR.

Organisational structures are being remodelled at the institutes, too, which are the basic element in the Academy of Sciences. The objective of this work is, first, to strengthen the research schools and, second, to secure an inflow of young talent — notably as department and laboratory heads. The flexible structure of research institutions will help quickly react to the ever arising new directions of research and close down unnecessary subdivisions.

The central role in all this work belongs to people or to the human factor. This is a sphere where we still have a lot of unsolved problems. For years many executive posts at research

institutes, departments and laboratories have been filled by the same people. That unhealthy situation has objectively slowed down the ascent of young creative forces to science management. In the meantime, really outstanding discoveries are made mostly by young scientists. That is why science calls for a continuous inflow of young talents. The Presidium of the USSR Academy of Sciences has worked out proposals for changing the promotion system at all research institutions of the Academy.

The Soviet Union is switching over to an intensive economy. Cost accounting has a growing positive impact on the general efficiency of the national economy. At the same time it has begun to actuate many factors of scientific and technological progress, for without continuous introduction of new ideas and without science an intensive development in any economic link is simply impossible. We are also witnessing new organisational forms of scientific and technological progress such as intersectoral research and engineering complexes, research and production associations and the CMEA Comprehensive Programme of Scientific and Technological Progress. All this creates a solid foundation for the development of the USSR on the new economic basis. □

(Pravda — APN)

Within the overall course of democratisation of Soviet society: elections in a new way

By Dmitri Gaimakov, *Novosti* correspondent

EXPRESSED in figures 4000-14-5-2-1 is the formula of the competition, so far the only one in the USSR, held for filling the post of director of the RAF Motor Works in Jelgava, Latvian SSR. The first figure stands for the number of people who offered their candidature for the competition. The remaining ones show the results of a number of elimination rounds. Eventually, Viktor Bossert, a 38-year-old engineer from Omsk, Siberia, emerged as the winner.

And now for some other latest examples. In Mozhaik, a town near Moscow, at a meeting of representatives of the work collective of a multiple printing plant Valeri Tseplyayev, former shop superintendent, has been elected director by a majority vote. By secret ballot, something which has never happened before, a meeting of the work collective of the Moscow Mafet Plant has given preference to one of the two candidates for the post of head of the enterprise: Yuri Nesterov. The Law on the State Enterprise, the draft of which has been published for a nationwide discussion, opens up new opportunities for the development of direct democracy in production, which is possible, incidentally, on a large scale only in socialist society.

In his speech at the January 1987 Plenary Meeting of the CPSU Central Committee, Mikhail Gorbachev said that it is quite natural that matters to broaden inner-Party democracy should be considered within the overall course of further democratisation of Soviet society. Many different proposals have come in to the CPSU

Central Committee in this connection. One of them concerns a change in the procedure for the election of secretaries of Party committees: from district committees to the Central Committees of the Communist Parties of the Union Republics. "Here . . . secretaries, including first secretaries, could be elected by secret ballot at the plenary sessions of the respective Party committees," the General Secretary said. And the first example of putting into effect precisely that proposal was set by Communists of the Izhmorsky District, Kemerovo Region, Western Siberia.

On February 6, a plenary session of the Izhmorsky District CPSU Committee was held. It has become in a sense the last word in inner-Party life. There were two practically equal candidates in reserve for the post of first secretary of the District Party Committee, equal in experience, political, professional and moral qualities. It was then that the idea was conceived of holding elections on a competition basis.

In the focus of this unusual experiment were Ivan Malkov (39), Chairman of the Executive Committee of the District Soviet of People's Deputies, and Gennadi Sedykh (37), director of a state farm. After a thorough discussion at the District Committee's plenary session of the merits and demerits of both candidates, their names were put on the secret ballot-papers. Malkov won the election by a nine-vote majority (29 to 20).

Commenting on the new-style elections, N Yermakov, First Secretary of the Regional Party Committee, did not conceal the fact that there had been both apprehensions and doubts before the District Committee's plenary session: indeed, there are as yet no new provisions and directives. "But directives based on real experience always

prove more precise and viable," the Regional Committee Secretary said with good reason. One can give a lot of examples of how the various forms and methods of Party work emerged and were put through their paces first in the Party organisations of factories and mills, districts and regions and only then were made a norm of life, the property of the entire CPSU. The instance in Kemerovo Region is precisely in such a category.

Personnel policy changes in keeping with the times are taking place at different Party levels, continuously. Therefore, there are grounds for believing that the number of examples similar to the Kemerovo one will increase. In the latter half of this year, elections are to be held, in keeping with the Rules of the CPSU, in primary and shop Party organisations, each with a membership of under 15. As of the beginning of 1986, the number of such primary organisations alone in the CPSU stood at 175,222, that is, 39.8 per cent of the total number of primary Party organisations. This means that one can expect that even at these meetings many Communists will elect the secretary of the Party organisation from among two or more candidates.

The largest number of novelties (if by that time they do not turn into something ordinary) may be produced by election meetings in the CPSU, when such meetings are held in more than 721,000 Party groups, over 511,000 shop and upwards of 440,000 primary Party organisations, and also in more than 4,600 district, city, area, regional and territorial Party committees.

Experience of the past shows that the development and extension of inner-Party democracy within the CPSU, which is the political leader of Soviet society, has a favourable influence upon every sphere of its life. □

USSR FIRMLY COMMITTED TO TREATIES

(Continued from Page 95)

and other "hawks" are alleging the opposite. They maintain that only they — and from "sources" known only to them — are learning the "truth" that the Soviet Union, in conducting the modernisation of its strategic offensive arms, does not dismantle its old nuclear systems, the way the US "invariably" does. If their words are taken at face value, it turns out that the United States, by destroying its old arms systems and replacing them with the same number of units of the latest type, is "disarming" itself in the face of a "Soviet military threat". That and also some "other violations" by the USSR compelled the US to renounce SALT-2 as well as the 1972 Interim Agreement on Certain Measures with Respect to the Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (SALT-1).

However, facts — real not invented ones — demonstrate something different. From the moment the Soviet-US SALT-1 and SALT-2 agreements were signed, the USSR, fulfilling its contractual obligations, dismantled more than twice as many strategic arms as the US did (see table no. 1). Thus, SALT-2 and the 1972 Interim Agreement have not impaired the security of the

United States in any way.

On the whole, as is clear from table no. 2, as of January 1, 1987 the Soviet Union has somewhat more strategic delivery vehicles than the US, but the US has an advantage in the total number of nuclear warheads. As a result — there exists an approximate balance.

These data convincingly refute the lie about the alleged aggressive intentions of the USSR and about the violations of its international commitments by it. The lie and inventions concerning alleged violations by the Soviet Union of the treaties and agreements it signed remain just lies and inventions regardless of who is repeating them.

Facts testify that our country has always stood and stands for an unwavering observance of commitments under the concluded agreements and for preserving everything positive that has been achieved up to now, with so much work and by means of such strenuous efforts, in the field of limitation of strategic arms. Loyalty to international commitments on the part of the United States, renunciation by it of the course towards undermining strategic military parity would have great significance for strengthening peace on Earth, for ensuring felicitous conditions with the aim of drafting new Soviet-American agreements on arms limitation and reduction. Only by means of joint efforts, considering yet once more the entire responsibility that rests with the USSR and the US in the current extremely complicated international situation, is it possible to achieve the objective formulated in the joint Soviet-American statement adopted in Geneva in 1985 — that of preventing any war between our countries, whether nuclear or conventional. □

(Continued from Page 94)

slash down the time taken by household chores.

Q.: Listening to you, I thought that even complicated economic aspects of the reform can be reduced to: "what is good to each is good to all". I think this should be the pivot of our economic activity. What do you think of this?

A.: The main interests of the individual, the workforce and the state should coincide. Easier said than done, and we need a doing reform.

(APN — Literaturnaya Gazeta)

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SOVIET PACIFIC POLICY

By Eduard Ryabtsev, *Novosti* political analyst

I THINK the Soviet Union has every reason to be satisfied with the results of the talks held by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze with the leaders of Australia, Indonesia and the Indochinese countries. They all support the idea of creating a comprehensive system of international security. They believe that to facilitate this task it is essential to limit and reduce nuclear weapons, prevent the militarisation of space, ban nuclear tests, settle conflicts peacefully and establish a new world economic order. The coincidence of views on these key issues opens up broad opportunities for constructive political dialogue between these countries and the USSR, and among themselves.

However, I think it is too early yet to say that this visit by Eduard Shevardnadze has removed the existing prejudice towards Soviet Pacific policy. In Australia, for instance, some officials and the opposition expressed apprehensions over the real Soviet intentions in the South Pacific. Influenced by the myth of "Soviet expansion", they believe that the USSR wants to establish a military presence in the region. But they do not have any serious arguments or evidence to support this allegation. They just mention a Soviet-Vanuatu agreement on fishing. To follow this strange logic it appears that independent states of the region do not have the right to sign

any trade or economic agreements with the USSR. But this is an encroachment on the sovereignty of small nations.

Mikhail Gorbachev clearly set forth Soviet policy in the Pacific in his speech in Vladivostok. It is aimed at easing and eventually removing military and political confrontation in Asia and the Pacific. During his stay in India the Soviet leader also made proposals to normalise the entire situation in the region.

Confidence measures

These proposals provide for talks to reduce the naval operations in the Pacific, above all, those involving ships with nuclear weapons on board. The USSR also proposed limiting anti-submarine rivalry with the same aim in view. It is ready to hold talks with the US and interested Asian countries on confidence-measures in the military sphere as regards Asia and the adjacent regions of the Indian and Pacific oceans. These measures imply notification of the movements and manoeuvres of the ground (amphibious), naval and air forces of these countries.

So, Moscow is matching its words with deeds. Alleging the contrary means wrecking its efforts to promote peace and stability in Asia. During his stay in Indonesia Eduard Shevardnadze expressed the Soviet view that to establish genuine security it is primarily necessary to lower the level of military activities and rivalry all along the line. It is also essential to downgrade the military presence of any powers outside their national borders. And, naturally enough, genuine security should be based on confidence. In other

words, the states concerned should carry out jointly measures which would make them fully confident that neither force nor the threat of force will be used against them.

This is why I think that the dialogue between the Soviet Foreign Minister and the leaders of Asian and Pacific countries is of exceptional importance. It has enabled them to reveal the identity or similarity of positions on a number of specific issues, without which the elaboration of joint political measures leading to durable security in Asia and the Pacific is unthinkable.

The Soviet Union is sincerely striving for security. It is enough to say that it has signed two protocols to the Rarotonga Treaty on the South Pacific nuclear-free zone, and recently proposed the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe and substantial cuts in such missiles in Asia. This step is logical for its foreign policy strategy which is aimed at creating a nuclear-free and non-violent world. With the same goal in view Moscow supports the formation of such zones in South-East Asia and on the Korean peninsula.

But no matter how sincerely the USSR might be striving for security in Asia, its efforts will not produce results unless the idea of comprehensive security in Asia and the Pacific enjoys the practical support of all countries in the region. The tour of the region by the Soviet Foreign Minister shows Moscow's readiness to co-operate with all countries on this road. The more vigorously other states back its efforts, the quicker the situation in the region will be normalised, and peace and stability established there. □

Address by Najib to seminar in Kabul

RELATIVE PEACE and calm have prevailed all over Afghanistan's territory since the termination of large-scale military operations, said Najib, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. He was addressing the participants in the first seminar of secretaries of village organisations of the PDPA, which opened in Kabul on March 13. The text of Najib's speech has been published in the newspaper *Haqiqat Enqelab Saur*.

The current situation in the country, Najib

said, is characterised by growth in the authority of the Party and the revolutionary power as a whole among the people. The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Government have succeeded in taking and maintaining political initiative. A number of bandit groups have gone over to the side of the people's power, and many armed groups have now taken a wait-and-see attitude. Some opposition groups are co-operating with the PDPA and the Government. Talks are being held with others on national reconciliation, which creates conditions for normalising the situation in the country.

Due to the policy of reconciliation, it has become possible to incorporate representatives of various social strata and groups of the population, including the clergy, into the system of state administration. This is an important earnest of a broadening of the social base of people's power, Najib pointed out.

Another factor of tremendous significance is the return home of refugees. The process of national reconciliation and the growth in the international prestige of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, which comes out from a peaceable platform, creates conditions for a political settlement around Afghanistan and improvement in relations with neighbouring countries, Najib noted.

The General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee touched on the problems of the Afghan countryside. The Party's primary organisations play and will continue to play the paramount role in resolving them, he stressed. Over the years of the revolution, the countryside has been the scene of tremendous change, first and foremost social change. The bulk of the

rural population are now medium landowners and land-starved and landless peasants, which necessitates a correct definition of the approach to them by the Party. Najib pointed out that the poverty and backwardness of the countryside remained as before the most difficult problem. The cause of this was that the Party and the revolutionary power proved unable to realise fully from the very start of the revolution the whole complexity and knottiness of the agrarian-peasant issues. The main force was concentrated in cities, and the necessary military, social, political and ideological and cultural measures for strengthening the fundamentals of power in the countryside were not carried out.

The agrarian reform was carried out hastily and could not meet its main goal, which was to rally closely the millions of peasants around the Party and the revolutionary power. Meanwhile, the enemies successfully used our blunders to deceive the peasants, the Afghan leader stressed. The policy of national reconciliation started by the PDPA and the Government and the new tactics of resolving the land problem accord with the peasants' interests. Therefore it can be said that the success of reconciliation depends above all on the peasants.

Najib then touched upon the objectives of the primary Party organisations in the villages and pointed out that there are 35,000 peasants in the Party ranks, 8,000 having joined it in the recent year. There are now 1,000 village Party organisations embracing 2,000 villages all over the country. A further expansion in this network is a pressing need; on this depends a strengthening of the Party's positions in the countryside, the General Secretary of the Party Central Committee stressed. □

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Laying the blame at the wrong door

By Major-General Yuri Lebedev

IN a recent report to Congress the US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency covered the US record in observing its treaty commitments. The greater part of this report is devoted to the ABM Treaty, which is enough to put you on your guard. Of all agreements, this one cannot boast of being strictly observed by the US. It is only necessary to mention the "Star Wars" programme. However, the US claims the contrary. But why should it then seek an "extended interpretation" of the ABM Treaty? Maybe because it has become too narrow for it?

Take one example, the question of the American early warning radars which are being or will be developed far from the national territory of the US.

The authors of the report present them as all but legalised by the Treaty, or, at least, as the "modernisation" of the earlier sited BMEWS (Ballistic Missile Early Warning System) posts. But in actual fact they are fundamentally new. One of them has already been built in Thule, Greenland, and another will be set up at

Fylingdales in Britain.

Indeed, when the ABM Treaty was signed, the already existing BMEWS radars which were not of the phased-array type were not subject to territorial limitations. Yet, under *Article VI* each side pledged not to deploy in the future radars for early warning of strategic ballistic missile attack except at locations along the periphery of its national territory and oriented outward.

Confirmed by experts

It is perfectly obvious that under the ABM Treaty the big US early warning radars in Greenland and Britain are prohibited.

This fact is confirmed by experts. Thus, Sweden's National Defence Research Institute (FOA) maintains that the construction of the US radar station in Thule cannot be listed as modernisation. In the opinion of the FOA experts, this is an entirely new radar for early warning of missile attack. It can issue such a warning much quicker, and makes it easier to identify dummy targets and MIRVs. They believe that this is not just a new radar but also part of the SDI effort to develop a large-scale ABM system with space-based elements.

This opinion is shared by SIPRI (Stockholm

International Peace Research Institute) which has stressed that the US radars are directly at variance with the ABM Treaty and create a precedent for the deployment of ABM components developed in the SDI framework outside US territory. SIPRI is of the opinion that such a precedent may lead to NATO's involvement in practical work under the SDI programme.

Washington feigns ignorance of the fact that there is only one negotiated and possible interpretation of the ABM Treaty. It is also laying the blame at the wrong door by accusing the USSR of violating the Treaty with its radar at Krasnoyarsk. But the Soviet radar is designed for monitoring objects in space, not for early warning.

The USSR has repeatedly given exhaustive technical explanations to the US on this score. But the US pretends that they are not enough because it wants to have a pretext for torpedoing the ABM Treaty.

Striving to promote Soviet-US relations and consolidate the ABM Treaty, the USSR is ready to suspend the construction of its radar at Krasnoyarsk on the basis of reciprocity, that is, if the US does the same as regards its radars in Thule and Fylingdales, and is ready to start negotiations on this subject.

Such are the facts.

(APN)

Euromissiles have not enhanced security

By Vladimir Katin, *Novosti* political analyst

MIKHAIL GORBACHEV's proposal to eliminate medium-range missiles in Europe is now widely discussed. The response from NATO capitals is generally positive and promising, but not without apprehension.

But, paradoxically as it might seem, some people are frightened by the prospect of Europe being left without these missiles. The French press even suggested that it was a nuclear Munich. Some people in West Germany reason as follows — how much effort and time was spent in persuading the West European public to accept the American Pershing-IIs and Cruise missiles just to give them up so easily now.

Well, to doubt is human. Let's put it another way: have American missiles enhanced the security of Western Europe?

The formal pretext for the 1979 NATO decision to deploy 572 US medium-range missiles in Western Europe was the Soviet replacement of the obsolete SS-4s and SS-5s with SS-20s. This pretext was formal because as a result of this replacement the yield of the warhead total had been reduced by more than twice. So the strategic situation in Europe did not change, and no additional threat was created to Western Europe. Incidentally, Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, General Bernard Rogers said frankly in 1983 that Pershing-IIs and Cruise missiles would have been sited even if there had been no SS-20s.

This is not the only fact which shows that the NATO missile decision was not caused by Soviet SS-20s. It appears that the first contracts for the development of Pershing-IIs were concluded in 1969, and for Cruise missiles in the early 1970s. The NATO leaders had decided to modernise their nuclear potential in 1975 when the SS-20s had not even existed.

I think that all these facts testify to the intention of the US and NATO as a whole to gain military superiority over the USSR. I may be asked whether this is really so, what's the aim of gaining such superiority. The point is that right after the appearance of the highly accurate Pershing-II missile (with a CEP* of up to 40 metres) NATO adopted new doctrines — one of "decapitating" the enemy, and the other of a "limited" nuclear war.

Here we have approached the answer to the question of whether the American missiles with which West Europeans have supposedly learned to live with, have really enhanced their security? Judging by all, the main aim which the US pursued in deploying its medium-range missiles in Europe is to turn it into the number one theatre of hostilities. It is no secret that there are scenarios for a nuclear attack on the USSR. In these scenarios Western Europe is allotted a dual role — that of a bridgehead and a victim — with a view to weakening retaliation against US territory in the event of aggression against the USSR. It follows from this that the American concern about the security of Western Europe is utterly feigned.

For this reason all who express concern over the prospect of eliminating medium-range missiles in Europe are actually playing up to the aggressive circles in the US and NATO. Europe will only become safe if all nuclear weapons are removed from it, and if the US strategists cease to consider it a theatre of hostilities. Now there is an opportunity to do this, and it is the duty of all Europeans not to miss it.

(* = Circle of equal probability)

GRATITUDE FOR ASSISTANCE

THE USSR Chargé d'Affaires to the USA visited the US State Department on March 16 and conveyed on behalf of the Soviet Government gratitude for the aid in the evacuation of the crew of the dry cargo ship *Komsomolets Kirgizii* which had been in distress off the coast of the United States.

Gratitude was also expressed on behalf of the USSR Ministry of the Merchant Marine to the US Coastguards and other American organisations, which participated in evacuating the Soviet crew.

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Scientific and technological progress and quality

By Alexander Ivanov, Cand. Sc. (Economics)

THE contemporary stage in the development of the socialist countries' economies is marked by their transition to intensification. Improvements in product quality and product reliability and durability through the introduction of scientific and technical achievements are inseparably bound up with the intensification and efficiency of social production.

Fundamental to the changes are new methods in the treatment of materials at molecular and atomic levels that literally revolutionise production, raise labour productivity scores of times, and eliminate waste. In the non-mechanical treatment of materials an electron or laser beam, plasma, ultrasound and a magnetic field can be used. Using them, one can perform cutting, drilling, soldering, surfacing and welding operations and obtain new high-quality materials.

Co-operation

The sweeping task of accelerating the development of science and technology set by the CMEA Summit Conference (Moscow, 1984) calls for a cardinal restructuring of the fraternal countries' interaction in such an important field as the development of new materials and methods of their production and machining. It is no accident that this field was given priority in the Comprehensive Programme for Scientific and Technological Progress of CMEA Member Countries up to the Year 2000.

The CMEA countries' co-operation programme in this field envisages cardinal improvements in the technical level and technological standards in mechanical engineering, metallurgy, radioelectronics, electrical engineering, and industrial chemistry. It is intended to substantially increase the reliability and extend the service life of machinery and equipment, and reduce material, energy and labour consumption and production costs.

In order to further promote the socialist countries' multilateral co-operation, they formed

the CMEA Standing Commission whose main task is to develop new materials, industrial technologies for their manufacture and also equipment for putting them to work.

To improve techno-economic characteristics of products it is essential to use materials with excellent physical, chemical and mechanical properties and to further improve manufacturing processes. As is known, one ton of plastics can replace 3-5 tons of steel in the national economy. The weight of machines is reduced, and fuel and energy are saved in the process of operation. It has also been estimated that 1,000 tons of metal powder replaces 2,500 tons of rolled stock and releases 80 metal-cutting machine tools for other work. The life of articles made from powders is roughly twice as long as that of articles made from metals.

Economic gain

In 1984 alone, 36 production processes were developed in the field of powder metallurgy, 14 new materials were invented as well as methods for manufacturing articles from them, and 21 types of high-class instruments and equipment commercialised. As the result of implementing the Comprehensive Programme in this field, the USSR expects to save by the year 1990 a total of 192,000 tons of ferrous and 14,000 tons of non-ferrous metals and 206,000 tons of rolled stock. The annual economic gain, according to preliminary estimates, will reach 144 million roubles. Similar results are expected in other socialist countries.

Without belittling the leading role of metals, researchers and engineers are showing a growing interest in ceramics. The widest uses of ceramics are expected in gas-turbine and adiabatic diesel engines.

A standardised stock of electronic devices, special production equipment, and semiconductor and special materials for their manufacture has been established in the CMEA countries.

Crucial for the socialist countries' industries is the development of a unified series of induction motors. Co-operation in this field is pursued within the framework of the international Inter-electro organisation. Thus, commercialisation of

the new standard series of high-voltage up to 1000 kW induction motors ensured a substantive saving of critical materials. The reduction of material consumption rates is aided by the development, within Interelectro, of cables and wires from aluminium-copper bimetal the adoption of which would save over 3,000 tons of copper a year; new types of plastics will save 100-200 thousand metres of cotton cloth which is in short supply.

The growing need in the CMEA countries for non-ferrous metal products is closely linked with the development of electrical engineering and electronics, and other sectors, which promoted a search for new technologies for non-ferrous metal production. Specialists from Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia have introduced a converter and dumped waste slag flotation technology for obtaining copper concentrates. Its use in Czechoslovakia has already afforded an annual economic gain of 2.9 billion korunas.

Engineers from the USSR and the GDR have developed new designs of ferro-concrete columns and beams. Their use will save 20-30 per cent of steel and also cut the consumption of cement and other building materials.

Unified standards

Science and production work collectives in Hungary and the Soviet Union jointly develop and adopt new technologies for the production of equipment with resistant and long-lasting coatings. In particular, the enamels resistant to acids and alkalis developed by them will secure an economic gain for both countries.

An important problem is one of welding which is a leading process in metal working. Thanks to active industrial co-operation between the CMEA countries they have already been widely using about 30 technologies for welding, hard-facing and cutting and about 20 types of new welding materials. About 30 prototypes of welding equipment using progressive welding technologies — ultrasonic, electron-beam, plasma-arc, friction — have been developed in line with unified standards.

Experimental work connected with the use of plasma, vacuum and detonation coating has a big future. Industrial technologies for these sophisticated and fundamentally new processes, in a number of instances, are to be developed and introduced. This will increase the life of products and metal structures and make it possible to organise in a big way the restoration of worn-out parts and components and ensure their protection against corrosive media.

A feature of the socialist countries' co-operation at the present stage is their effective interaction throughout the science-technology-production cycle. This will preclude parallelism in research, making it possible to deploy brain power and material resources in the decisive areas and to shorten the research and development time.

(*Socialism: Theory and Practice*, March 1987.)

Council for Mutual Economic Assistance: its aims and activities

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(N.B. The cross-heads in this bulletin were inserted by Soviet News—Ed.)

Deputies to European Parliament at CMEA

"THE CMEA countries are seeking to actively develop international trade and economic co-operation, to remove discriminatory barriers in its way and to prevent the use of economic relations as a tool for political pressure," CMEA Secretary Vyacheslav Sychev said during a meeting on March 17 with a delegation of the group of the European People's Party of the European Parliament. The delegation arrived in Moscow at the invitation of the USSR Parliamentary Group and the Soviet Committee for European Security and Co-operation.

Vyacheslav Sychev noted that the EEC states were leading partners of the CMEA countries among developed Western states. The socialist countries buy from them a lot of industrial goods. Selling them their products, the CMEA countries meet a considerable share of their import requirements. The EEC countries use over 500 Soviet licences and more than 100 licences from other CMEA countries. Orders from the CMEA countries provide jobs for about two million

workers in the EEC countries.

"The establishment of official relations and development of co-operation between the CMEA and the EEC would also create more favourable conditions for the development of relations between individual socialist and the EEC countries," pointed out Vyacheslav Sychev.

He noted that the realisation of pan-European projects, for instance environmental control, development of science and engineering, standardisation, transport, the power industry, statistics and long-term economic forecasting could be a sphere for practical development of relations between the two international economic organisations.

Group chairman Egon Klepsch, leader of the delegation, said that both sides are interested in co-operation. He favoured drafting and signing a declaration on co-operation between the EEC and the CMEA and signing trade contracts between the EEC and individual socialist countries. □