

Albania today

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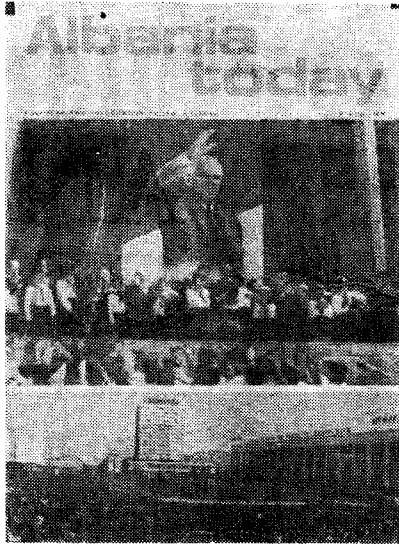
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◀ VIEW OF THE MEETING ORGANIZED ON MAY DAY IN THE CAPITAL
ON THE OCCASION OF THE AWARDING OF THE NAME
THE «PIONEERS OF ENVER» TO THE ORGANIZATION OF THE YOUNG PIONEERS.

ENVER HOXHA with partisans in the years of the Anti-fascist
National Liberation War (painting by Fatmir Haxhiu)





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OUR PEOPLE WITH PROFOUND RESPECT OF THE MARTYRS AND THE IMMORTALITY OF COMRADE

From Comrade RAMIZ ALIA
and veterans

May 5 in Albania is the Day of the Martyrs, the brave partisans who fell in the war against fascism for the liberation of the Homeland. On this day the Albanian people honoured with profound respect the memory of the martyrs of the nation and the immortal deed of Comrade Enver Hoxha. On this occasion, Comrade Ramiz Alia and other leaders of the Party and state laid wreaths and paid homage to the Cemetery of the Martyrs of the Nation.

ON MAY 5, AT THE PALACE OF BRIGADES, COMRADE RAMIZ ALIA AND OTHER PARTY AND STATE LEADERS HAD A MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF MARTYRS' FAMILIES AND VETERANS OF THE ANTI-FASCIST NATIONAL LIBERATION WAR.

COMRADE RAMIZ ALIA AND OTHER PARTY AND STATE LEADERS EXCHANGED WARM GREETINGS WITH THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE MEETING. THEY SPOKE ABOUT UNFORGETTABLE EVENTS AND EPISODES FROM THE GLORIOUS YEARS OF THE ANTI-FASCIST NATIONAL LIBERATION WAR AND EXPRESSED THE PROFOUND GRATITUDE AND RESPECT OF THE PARTY AND THE PEOPLE FOR THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR THE LIBERATION OF THE HOMELAND AND THE TRIUMPH OF THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTION, FOR THE ADVANCE OF THE HOMELAND AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF SOCIALISM, FOR THE HAPPINESS OF OUR VALIANT AND FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLE.

At this meeting, Comrade Ramiz Alia made a speech.

«We were now with our comrades who fell in the war,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia. «We paid homages to them, laid wreathes of flowers, passed by them with our raised fists and came here to meet you, the relatives of the martyrs and you, comrade veterans of the National Liberation War. On behalf of the Central Committee of the Party, on behalf of the comrades of the Political Bureau who are here in this Palace which bears the name of the partisan brigades, on this occasion I want to greet all martyrs' families of our Homeland,

HONOURED RESPECT THE MEMORY OF THE NATION FOR THE GREAT WORK OF ENVER HOXHA

Speech to the martyrs' families
of war

I want to greet all veterans, courageous fighters, former heroic partisans of our National Liberation War.

«Every May 5, our people honour and remember with special respect the martyrs of the war, all these glorious sons and daughters of the people who gave the most precious thing, their lives, for the liberation of the country, for independent Albania, for socialism. This has great importance, because in the blood of martyrs, in the great sacrifices of our people, in the National Liberation War, lie the foundations of present-day Albania, is the beginning of our march on the road of socialism, are the roots of the freedom and independence which we enjoy today.

«When we say, 'Long live the martyrs' memory', we say this as an expression of honour and respect for their sacrifice, as well as a pledge that our people will guard their behest, the aim of their war, like the apple of their eyes.

«May 5 this year is different from that of previous years. It is different because this time we no longer have Comrade Enver, our dear leader, our great commander, who led us from victory to victory. The loss we suffered is very great, the gravest since the time of Liberation to day, because we lost our most beloved man, we lost the hero of our nation, who at the head of the Party, at the head of the partisans, at the head of the whole working people, brought the Albanian people their freedom, brought justice, brought socialism. We lost the man who created the new Albania in which we live happily today.

«The Party and Comrade Enver,» pointed out Comrade Ramiz Alia, «have taught us not to

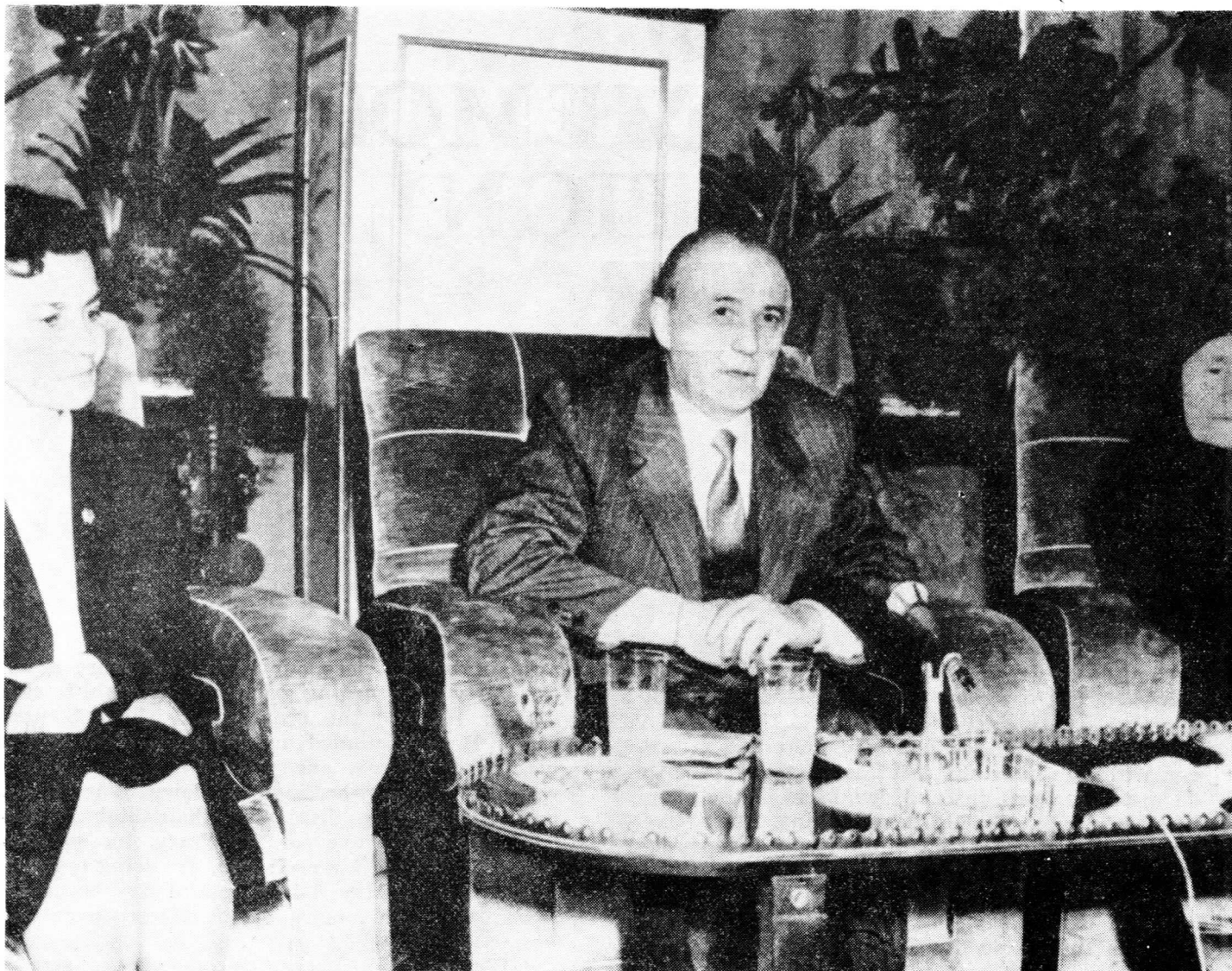
despair, but to close our ranks still more around the Party and, turning grief into strength, to carry further forward the great work which Comrade Enver Hoxha founded and built up. This is what workers, peasants, our wonderful youth, all the working people, who have set down to work with multiplied forces, displaying their high political level, a special love for the Party, for socialism and for Comrade Enver Hoxha, are doing today.

«This year May 5 is a special day because it is the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism.

«Victory over fascism is one of the greatest events in the history of mankind. By frustrating the fascist dream of world rule, it showed that the peoples will not accept imperialist oppression in the future, that they are ready to make any sacrifice for freedom and independence, for their sovereignty and rights.

«The important thing is that the Second World War not only led to the liberation of the peoples of Europe enslaved by fascism, but also aroused hundreds of millions of oppressed people in the colonies, who were stirred up for their emancipation.»

Comrade Ramiz Alia pointed out among other things, «Our people celebrate this day of victory with the feeling of legitimate pride for the outstanding contribution they made to its attainment. Albania was among the first countries of Europe to be attacked by fascism. But our people did not submit to thralldom, on the contrary, they began their resistance with rare courage. Under the leadership of the Party, with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, they rose and fought to the end,



Comrade RAMIZ ALIA and other leaders of the Party and state at the meeting

without any compromise, for the national and social liberation of the country, which they achieved with their own forces.

«What the Albanian people contributed to this war, the sacrifices they made and the blood they shed in proportion to the size of the population, are really incalculable. 28 thousand lives were sacrificed at the altar of victory. Whole regions of the country, houses and all, were burned down. No factory, no bridge remained standing, villages and towns were pillaged, and fields were laid waste. The whole wealth which the previous generations had created was destroyed, not in the figurative meaning of the word, but concretely.

«At the end of the war our country had 70 thousand people only in the organized army, without counting the resistance fighters in villages and towns. Compared to the one million inhabitants, which Albania had at that time, this figure

represented a total mobilization of the forces of the nation.

«We never forget the blood we have shed and the sacrifices we have made. Our wounds are still aching, and aching much. But we are proud because these sacrifices secured freedom and independence for our people, the happy life we enjoy today, the honoured name which Albania has in the world.

«The National Liberation War, led by the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha, has been and will always be a great inspiration to defend still better the freedom and independence which they gave us, to always advance on the road of socialism which they opened up for us.

«When the anti-fascist war ended,» Comrade Ramiz Alia continued, «many people, in the joy over victory, wished that new world-wide catastrophes are not repeated. Unfortunately, we see



Members of martyrs' families and veterans of the Anti-fascist National Liberation War

that dark clouds of aggressive wars have gathered on the horizons of the world. Many phenomena and events are reminders of the period which led to the outbreak of the two previous world wars. New pretenders to the establishment of world domination have emerged. The imperialist and social-imperialist superpowers, the United States of America and the Soviet Union, with their openly hegemonic and aggressive policies which they pursue, seriously threaten the world with the outbreak of a general conflict. Irrestrainable imperialist rivalry, the frantic arms race and war preparations pose great threats to the freedom and independence of all countries, peace and international security. There is no country in the world today which, in different degrees and manners, is not threatened by the aggressive course of imperialism and social-imperialism.

«In these conditions, our Party and people

cannot fail to be vigilant and watchful. Consistent on the line of its liberation war and its people's revolution, our country has pursued its constant policy of opposing the aggressive policy of imperialism and social-imperialism, fascism and international reaction.

«The line of the foreign policy of socialist Albania, which defends the high interests of the Homeland and serves the general cause of the revolution, socialism, peace and international security always and in any situation, was mapped out and applied with a secure hand by Comrade Enver Hoxha. Our Party, our State, our people will always abide by this policy. There is no force to swerve them from this line.»

Comrade Ramiz Alia continued, «Comrade Enver Hoxha instructed us to watch the situations that develop in the world and to draw relative conclusions in order to take the necessary measures

and to avoid being caught unprepared by anything.

«Therefore, we must fight and work tirelessly to always preserve the strong and unbreakable foundations on which our freedom and independence, our socialist system, are built. By abiding loyally to the tested line of the Party and applying the immortal teachings of Comrade Enver, we must ceaselessly strengthen the unity of the people around the Party, in which our strength lies. We should spare nothing for strengthening the people's state power and socialist democracy, for raising the preparation of our whole people for the defence of the Homeland to a higher level, for making the peaceful work and life of our people more secure and better.

«We must make still greater efforts,» Comrade Ramiz Alia instructed, «for strengthening socialist economy in all its branches and sectors, for fulfilling the tasks of the state plan, from the major tasks down to the smallest ones.

«A strong and advanced economy means not only a better life but also a stronger defence, more secure freedom and independence.

«We have all the possibilities for a more developed economy, because we have inexhaustible material and human resources. We have a modern industry which copes with the needs of our country successfully, just as we have a collectivized socialist agriculture which not only secures the

bread grain needed within the country, but has the possibility to gradually fulfil all the needs of the country, indeed, to secure still greater resources of income for our national economy through export, and within a short time. We have the new man whom the Party and Comrade Enver created over these 40 years, we have capable people who have worked wonders until today and will do more in the future. The duty of the Party, the duty of the people, is not to stop at what is achieved but to march further ahead in order to achieve new victories. This is the greatest homage we pay to all the work and the figure of Comrade Enver.

«Glory to the memory of the martyrs of the Nation!»

«Long live the Party!»

* * *

Comrade Ramiz Alia's speech was heard attentively and was often punctuated by applause of those present.

Comrade Ramiz Alia and other Party and state leaders, together with the members of martyrs' families and veterans of the Anti-fascist National Liberation War, sat for a photography to remember the occasion.

FROM COMRADE PROKOP MURRA'S SPEECH AT THE COMMEMORATIVE MEETING

«FORTY YEARS AGO, THE HISTORIC VICTORY OVER FASCISM, THE MOST REACTIONARY DARK FORCES MANKIND HAD EVER SEEN UNTIL THEN, WAS ACHIEVED,» SAID COMRADE PROKOP MURRA AMONG OTHER THINGS. «FOR SIX YEARS ON END, THE PEOPLES HAD TO SHED MUCH BLOOD, TO COPE WITH EXTREME PRIVATIONS AND MAKE COUNTLESS SACRIFICES, UNTIL THE FASCIST HORDES WERE FINALLY REDUCED IN THEIR DEN.

«THE ALBANIAN PEOPLE LINED THEMSELVES UP IN THE WAR AGAINST FASCISM FROM THE FIRST DAYS OF THE WAR. IN HIS MESSAGE ADDRESSED TO THE ALBANIAN PEOPLE ONE DAY AFTER THIS VICTORY, ON MAY 10, 1945, THE BELOVED LEADER OF THE PARTY AND PEOPLE, COMRADE ENVER HOXHA, POINTED OUT: 'THE CONTRIBUTION WHICH WE MADE TO THE GREAT CAUSE OF MANKIND IS IMMENSE, BECAUSE WE CLIMBED OUR CALVARY WITH GREAT PAINS AND REACHED THE APOTHEOSIS OF VICTORY PROUDLY AND STRONGER THAN EVER.'

«In these 40 years many changes have occurred in the world, but the lessons which are drawn from the Second World War are always valid. They call on the peoples to be vigilant and take action against the fascist danger and the threat of a new world war, more destructive than the previous ones.

«Our people, under the leadership of the Party of Labour of Albania, have drawn their lessons, and enlightened by the ideas of our unforgettable great leader, Com-

PROKOP MURRA: alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and Minister of Defence of the PSRA.

rade Enver Hoxha, have made brilliant achievements and progress on the road of socialist construction, the strengthening of the defence of the country and have fought and are continuously fighting to make socialist Albania more prosperous and stronger every day, an impregnable fortress in the face of any enemy.

«The cause of the Second World War should be sought in the very nature of the imperialist system, which is the source of wars and aggressions. The past and the present prove that as long as this system of plunder and exploitation exists, the peoples will always clash in wars. Pacifist illusions that imperialism may change its nature are fraught with grave consequences for the destinies of the peoples and the cause of peace. We always bear in mind the teaching of Lenin who said: 'Only after we have overthrown the bourgeoisie and have vanquished it, only after we have expropriated the bourgeoisie all over the world, only then the possibility of wars will be annulled.'

«Unequal economic and political development, uninterrupted cyclic crises of overproduction, the strengthening of political reaction, were expressions of the general crisis of capitalism. Finding no way out of the crisis, faced with the powerful movement of the masses of people, the bourgeoisie brought fascism to power. This is not accidental. Comrade Enver Hoxha has said: 'It is known that when capital enters a blind alley and finds itself under the strong blows of the working class, it is compelled either to declare itself bankrupt or to establish the fascist dictatorship and proceed towards war.' At that time the bourgeoisie in Germany, Italy

and Japan chose precisely the road of fascism and aggressive wars, with the aim of carrying out the redivision of the world, markets and spheres of influence.

«Fascism, as an out-and-out reactionary movement or form of government, belongs not only to the past. As the 8th Congress of our Party pointed out, fascism is knocking at the doors of many countries, in spite of the forms in which it appears. The President of the USA, Reagan, with his visit to the cemetery of the SS soldiers in West Germany, openly took the fascists under his wing, thus giving the signal to neo-fascist forces to organize themselves and go over to action. Therefore, the peoples, all the democratic and peace-loving forces must watch the events with vigilance.

«The patriotic war of the Soviet Union» continued the speaker, «the anti-fascist liberation war of the peoples of other countries of Europe, forced the Western powers to enter into alliance with the Soviet Union and fight against the fascist bloc. Nevertheless, their aims remained unchanged and were determined rather by the interest of hitting German capital which sought hegemony and domination in the world. They sabotaged the opening of the 'second front' in Europe several times, interfered and made attempts to put the anti-fascist liberation movements of the peoples under control so that the old capitalist order could be preserved wherever it existed.

«In commemorating the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism, the peoples of the world, the revolutionary Marxist-Leninists and progressive people remember with respect the glorious leader of the Soviet party and state, the great strategist, the architect of victory over fascism, Joseph Stalin.

«In the present time, the bourgeoisie and modern revisionists have raised a great noise with their propaganda about the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism and the end of the Second World War, in order to distort history to suit the interests of their policy.

«American imperialism and its allies have given exaggerated publicity to the role of the Western powers in the destruction of fascism. Their aim is to cover up their reactionary role in bringing fascism to power and prettify their present-day policy of oppression and expansion.

«The imperialists, like the social-imperialists, want to minimize the war of the peoples under fascist slavery, to ignore their contribution to the achievement of victory. They need this in order to show that the future of the peoples is allegedly in the hands of the big powers, that it is they who make rain and shine, there-



fore the peoples must put their fates in the hands of the superpowers and submit themselves to them. But the historical truth is that the enslaved peoples never reconciled themselves to fascists.

«The Albanian people,» pointed out Comrade Prokop Murra, «remember the 9th of May, the day of victory over fascism, with legitimate pride. They were among the first who were placed by history to confront fascist aggression arms in hand. When the horizon of the world was darkened and the fascist beasts hurled themselves on the peoples and tried to smother them, in our small country the rifle shots gave the signal of liberation, sounded the alarm for the general armed uprising.»

«The Anti-fascist National Liberation War of the Albanian people, organized and guided with far-sightedness, courage and valour, by the Communist Party of Albania



The presidium of the solemn meeting held on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism

and the strategist of this war, Comrade Enver Hoxha, is the most fierce, the bloodiest and most glorious war in the history of centuries-long struggles our people have waged for freedom, independence and social progress. In this war, which went beyond the limits of a war for national liberation, the most profound and radical turn in the historic destiny of our people was made: the Communist Party was created and the people's revolution triumphed. With the glorious victory which was achieved on November 29, 1944, the ardent desires and the boldest dreams of the Albanian patriots of the past and of the whole people were realized.

«With their heroic war and with the triumph of the great people's revolution, the Albanian people gave the great example which shows that even a small people, in definite national and international conditions, are in

a position to fight and conquer great enemies, and to achieve their national liberation and social emancipation, when, in the course of the liberation war they ensure sound unity and a high degree of organization, consciousness and readiness to make any sacrifice, when they create a capable, monolithic, consistent revolutionary leadership loyal to the end to the interests of the people.

«With their gigantic war they waged against fascism, our people made an outstanding contribution to the destruction of the darkest and most barbarous forces mankind had ever seen. They became members of the great anti-fascist coalition of the peoples and an example of revolutionary patriotism and internationalist stand towards the liberation war of other peoples.

«Compared with the size of its territory and population, during the Second World War, Albania carried

on its shoulder a very heavy burden. The armed people and the National Liberation Army of Albania, which totalled a standing force of 70 thousand partisans organized in brigades, divisions and army corps, engaged 15 Italian and German divisions in total war in the Albanian territory, and inflicted important losses to them. They killed, wounded and captured 70 thousand of them, destroyed or captured 2,110 tanks and armoured cars, over 1,300 guns and mortars, about 2,000 trucks and a great amount of weapons, munition and other war material.

«After the complete liberation of the country, on orders from the Commander-in-Chief, Comrade Enver Hoxha, two divisions of our National Liberation Army fought to assist the liberation of Kosova, Dibra, Montenegro, Bosnia and Sandjak. This war, in which hundreds of sons and daughters of our people gave their lives, was an important contribution of the Albanian people, with which they did their internationalist duty, of carrying the war for the destruction of fascism through to the end.

«The fascist occupiers, armed with modern weapons of the time, put the country to the torch and steel, committed atrocities in order to put out the flames of the people's war. In comparison with its population of only 1 million inhabitants, our country is ranked among the first countries as regards human losses and material damage suffered. 28 thousand sons and daughters of this people gave their lives at the altar of freedom. More than 7.3 per cent of the population was maimed as a result of the war. Tens of thousands of people were jailed or put into concentration camps in Italy, in Germany and in other occupied countries. Almost every Albanian family suffered material losses by the occupiers; 21 per cent of the houses in villages and towns were burned down or destroyed. More than one third of the livestock was slaughtered. The southwest command of the German troops admits: 'Only the destruction of bridges puts Albania tens of years black.'

«Despite these great odds of the war, the undeniable fact remains that Albania is the only country in Europe which was liberated by its own forces, without the direct intervention of the Red Army or any other allied army. The insurgent Albanian people and their National Liberation Army, under the sure leadership of the Communist Party, solved the strategic tasks which emerged within the country with their own forces. The decisive factor for the liberation of the country and the triumph of the people's revolution was the heroic war of the Albanian people, under the leadership of the Communist

Party of Albania. The auxiliary external factor in this victory was the Soviet Union, its Red Army, with Comrade Stalin at the head. The fate of Albania was decided by our people, arms in hand, with their heroic Marxist-Leninist Party at the head, and by no one else.

«We reject the efforts of imperialists, Soviet social-imperialists and Yugoslav Titoites to ignore and belittle the war and contribution of our people to it. They want to present it as a minor movement of some patriotic fighting units, dependent on their so-called aid. Such outright falsification speaks only of their typical imperialist and chauvinist concepts. Our people began their anti-fascist armed struggle at the time when the hordes of Hitler and Mussolini were at the height of power. Our people did not wait until the Red Army and the Anglo-American allied armies won. They did not expect their freedom to come to them ready-made, but engaged themselves totally in a life-and-death struggle against the fascist occupiers. They did not look forward to the material 'aid' of the Anglo-American allies, which in fact remained only wordy promises. And not only that, but their military missions concocted intrigues together with local reactionary forces, collaborators of fascist occupiers, in order to sabotage the war of our people.

«Today, while commemorating the 40 anniversary of the historic victory over fascism and the heroic struggle of the Albanian people which was crowned with the triumph of the people's revolution in Albania, we remember with profound admiration the great and vital role of the unforgettable glorious leader of our Party and people, Comrade Enver Hoxha.

«Enver Hoxha, the greatest son of our people and the greatest historic figure of our nation, founded the Communist Party of Albania, organized and led the National Liberation War and the people's revolution in Albania, created the National Liberation Front and the Albanian National Liberation Army, and laid the foundations of our people's state power. He gave the National Liberation War of our people its correct Marxist-Leninist orientation, its sound organization and its leadership for action. He is the architect of the correct line and stands of our Party in every moment, the main leader in its implementation in practice.

«Comrade Ramiz Alia has said: 'The great act which Enver Hoxha accomplished in that dark and troubled November of 1941 by founding the Communist Party gave the Albanian people the light they were lacking, gave them the mind to see the future, gave them the staff which would lead them in the titanic life-and-death struggle. It is a fact that the Communist Party of Albania,

which was a new Party without long experience, knew how to orientate itself with clarity in any situation and succeeded in carrying out its complete program. This did not happen in some other countries, in which there were old communist parties, because the leaders of these parties with their opportunist stands caused confusion and bemusement, and even defeats.

«Comrade Enver Hoxha is the founder and leader of the Anti-fascist National Liberation Front, the inspirer and organizer of the National Liberation Army. He led it personally, from the first guerrilla units to the divisions and army corps later. He worked out the strategy and tactics of this army and is the creator of the Military Art of People's War.

«Enver Hoxha is the founder of our people's state power, which was born from the barrel of the gun during the Anti-fascist War. From the distance of years that have passed we understand still more thoroughly how far-sighted was the work of Comrade Enver Hoxha in Peza in 1942, the decisions of Labinot in 1943, the historic decisions of the Congress of Përmet in 1944 and the Meeting of Berat on the eve of the complete liberation of the country.

«Comrade Enver Hoxha has the merit of having worked out and given the orientations to link up the war of the Albanian people with the great anti-fascist war of the peoples.

«Of historical salutary importance is Comrade Enver Hoxha's principled and unyielding struggle against the chauvinist interference of the revisionist leadership of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia to reduce our Party and the National Liberation War of our people.

«The Communist Party of Albania, guided with clarity and determination by Comrade Enver Hoxha, acted as the only leading and organizing body of the National Liberation War. At the appropriate time it mercilessly hit opportunist views which put in doubt the issue of our war and the future of our people. All the enemies, internal and external, failed. This is due, first of all, to the fact that the Party and the people had at their head a great leader who knew quite well what had to be done and who loyally followed the teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin in conformity with the concrete conditions of our country and the situations in the world.

«From the time of the end of the Second World War», the speaker pointed out, «profound changes have occurred in the world. Many events and phenomena are exact reminders of that period which led to the outbreak of the previous world wars. The present world si-

tuation is very tense, with complicated developments, fraught with threatening consequences and great dangers.»

«The deep, all-round crisis of the world capitalist system, the pronounced exacerbation of all contradictions, have led to increased rivalries and confrontations among imperialists over the redivision of spheres of influence and markets. They have led to the disruption of former equilibrium. Hot-beds of tension have increased. The arms race and preparations for war have increased beyond the boldest forecasts.

«All this dangerous and threatening situation has its source, first of all, in the aggressive, expansionist and enslaving policy of the two superpowers, American imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism, in their rivalry over world domination.

«In the conditions of the deepening of present-day economic and political crises, the darkest and most reactionary forces of bourgeoisie and imperialism have cropped up and are gaining the upper hand in many countries. Hence, open fascist and social-fascist military dictatorships are being established. State power in the United States and in the Soviet Union, in particular, has passed into the hands of extremist representatives of powerful industrial-military complexes. The course of policy from positions of strength, adventurism and intensive preparations for war, is linked precisely with the interests of these complexes. Clear proof of this is the militarization of the economy and the frantic arms race.

«The imperialists, and especially the two superpowers, try to put a demagogical veneer over this very tense and explosive situation. They make a great noise about disarmament, the reduction of the threat of war and the defence of peace. But neither Reagan's policy of talks from 'positions of strength', nor the policy of 'military-strategic equilibrium' of the chiefs of Moscow, the agreements and treaties which have been concluded or may be concluded eventually between them, about an alleged restriction of arms race and reduction of nuclear weapons, the creation of so-called nuclear-free zones, serve international security and the cause of peace. Moreover, the doctrines proclaimed at the White House, or the proposals made in the Kremlin, the endless talks in Vienna, Helsinki, Geneva, the sterile debate at UNO, are only a dangerous deception. Their aim is to lull the vigilance of the peoples to sleep, to camouflage or justify their arms race. All this game is played at the expense of other countries, against the revolutionary and liberation movements of the peoples.

«In our days it is more than necessary to tear the mask from the Soviet social-imperialists' 'socialist', 'anti-imperialist' and pacifist demagoguery. They come out as 'champions of peace' in order to deceive the peoples by speculating with the role which the Soviet state played in the past. After the death of J. Stalin and the advent to power of Khrushchevite renegades, a regressive counter-revolutionary process occurred in the Soviet Union with the result that it was transformed into a capitalist country of a special type, that is, into a social-imperialist country which pursues an aggressive and war-mongering policy which is as dangerous as that pursued by American imperialism. The aggressive Warsaw Treaty and NATO, dominated and manipulated by the two superpowers, in no way serve European peace and security. On the contrary, they contribute to deepening the dangers and tension on our continent.

«In these dangerous situations which exist, it is necessary that the peoples should increase their vigilance and throw themselves into actions to stay the hand of warmongers. The threat of war today is a real threat which looms large. But a new world war is not something fatal and unavoidable. It can be avoided if the peoples do not fall into passivity, if they become aware of the source of danger.

«The fate of peace and international security cannot be entrusted to the two superpowers, because they have been and remain the most savage enemies of the freedom and independence of the peoples. The real struggle for the defence of peace and for security goes not through talks, agreements and 'harmony' between the superpowers; peace and security are obtained not by going under the 'defence umbrellas' of the superpowers but by fighting resolutely against their expansionist aggressive and war-mongering policy.

«The defence of freedom, security and progress are connected closely with the revolutionary movement of the working class and the liberation struggle of oppressed peoples. As Comrade Enver Hoxha has stressed, these movements contain and impede the realization of war-mongering plans of imperialism, by attacking and weakening the world capitalist system.

«The 8th Congress of the PLA pointed out that in our time, the people's war and the revolution are on the agenda, not only as aspirations and immediate tasks for liberation from capitalist oppression and the imperialist yoke, but also as historical necessities to defeat the war-mongering plans of imperialism and avert a new general war.»

Comrade Prokop Murra continued:



«The 40 years that have passed from the historic victory over fascism are years of magnificent achievements our country and people have made on the road of socialism on which our glorious Party leads us. In these 40 years, Albania has entirely changed its aspect. From the most backward country of Europe, today it is the only country in the world which builds socialism and advances relying entirely on its own forces. Albania is the country which knows no crises, unemployment, inflation, rising cost of living, and other ulcers of the capitalist-revisionist order. Our country, once a backward country virtually without industry and plunged into illiteracy, today has its own multi-branched developed industry and its large-scale advanced socialist agriculture, which fulfil the needs of our people and of our non-stop development ever better. It has become the country of education and culture for the masses and



View of the hall during the commemorative meeting.

of free medical assistance for all. From a semi-colony of European imperialism, Albania today is a country with an independent economy and policy. It accepts no dictate and tutelage from anyone and has its say boldly in the world.

«Our achievements are great and our perspectives brilliant. We have always been and are optimistic about our future. But victories do not put us to sleep on our laurels and forget the dangers that threaten us. We do not forget that our socialist citadel is beset by an imperialist-revisionist ocean and that our enemies have given up their aims of overthrowing our socialist order and enslaving our people.

«The situations require that we must always be vigilant and completely prepared so that we are never caught in surprise. We live up to the behest of Comrade Enver Hoxha that '...We must always be vigilant,

always at work and on the attack to defend and carry further ahead the victories achieved. We must permit no one, whoever he be, to violate and deny our glorious and sacred work, the *People's Socialist Republic of Albania*.»

«In order to achieve this, it is necessary, first of all, to strengthen the unity of our people, the unity of the whole people around the Party and the Central Committee, with Comrade Ramiz Alia at the head, more and more each day. Let us turn the deep grief of the whole people over the loss of the unforgettable beloved leader, Comrade Enver Hoxha, into strength, let us close our ranks more and more around our glorious Party. In this unity lies the invincible strength of our people, and against the walls of this unity any internal and external enemy, who will dare to touch our Party and people's state power, our socialist victories, will smash his head.

«With still greater mobilization we will carry out the construction of socialism, will strengthen our independent socialist economy more and more each day. Let us work to fulfil the plans of our economic and cultural development at all costs. Let us work to make our country more powerful, because this is the basis of our secure defence, because from this depends the continuous increase of our people's well-being. The time requires that we transform 1985 into a year of all-out attack for all the working people to honourably carry out the tasks of this five-year plan and to go to the 8th Five-year Plan completely prepared.

«Above all, we must strengthen and raise still higher the military preparation of all our soldier people for the defence of the Homeland, which is the duty above all duties, so that our Albania always remains the unconquerable bastion of socialism and the revolution. Our Party and people have not based their defence at any time either on the 'umbrellas' of the superpowers or in passing political circumstances. They have always based it on the internal factor, on the strength and lofty patriotism of our people, on the strength and vitality of our socialist order. Our new and independent socialist Albania emerged from the Anti-fascist War of the people, was defended and will be defended by the whole soldier people. Work and vigilance — this is our motto.

«Our Party and socialist state follow everything that occurs in Europe and in the world with attention. Our foreign policy has been and remains the policy of proletarian principles defined by Comrade Enver Hoxha. These are the guarantee for the honoured name and respect which our Homeland has gained in the world. The Party of Labour of Albania and the People's Socialist Republic of Albania will consistently follow the

policy of the defence of the interests of our country and the strengthening of its international position in the future, too. Guided by the principles of proletarian internationalism, they will give powerful support to the revolutionary and liberation movements. They will support genuine Marxist-Leninist forces with all their strength and will carry the struggle against all variants of modern revisionism for the defence of the purity of Marxism-Leninism, through to the end.

«With states which have regimes different from our regime, we are for correct relations of mutual benefit, good neighbourliness, without interference in each other's internal affairs. As for the superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, we have never had and never will have relations with them. Our socialist state will fight unswervingly against the expansionist and aggressive policy of military blocs, led by American imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism.

«Following the road of the Party, which Comrade Enver Hoxha opened up and clearly defined before us,» said Comrade Prokop Murra in conclusion, «socialist Albania, which was born 40 years ago in the gigantic struggle of its people and which has the blood of its sons and daughters, the toil, sacrifices and efforts of an ancient and heroic people at its foundations, will always forge ahead, conquering all enemies and coping with any situation. Let us keep the triumphant banner of our glorious Party, of the Party of Enver Hoxha, always high, flying proud and unbedding!

«Long live our heroic people!

«Long live the Party of Labour of Albania and its Central Committee, with Comrade Ramiz Alia at the head!

«Glory to Marxism-Leninism!»

COMMEMORATIVE MEETING

On May 9, the General Council of the Democratic Front of Albania, the National Committee of the War Veterans of the Albanian People, and the District Party Committee of Tirana organized a commemorative meeting devoted to the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism at the hall of the Theatre of Opera and Ballet of the capital.

In the middle of the background, with the words «9th of May 1945-1985», there is our national flag and wartime portrait of Comrade Enver Hoxha, commander and leader of the Anti-Fascist National Liberation War of Albania. On either side of the flag are the banners of partisan brigades, divisions and army corps, which today are held high by our people's army.

Those present in the meeting received with applause the entrance into the hall of Comrade Ramiz Alia, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, and other Party and state leaders.

The commemorative meeting was declared open by the chairman of the National Committee of the War Veterans of the Albanian People, Comrade Shefqet Peçi.

Among other things he said: «Forty years have passed from the 9th of May 1945, the day of the great historic victory over fascism. This victory was the fruit of the war and extreme sacrifices of all the peoples of the world who united with the great anti-fascist coalition against the most savage beast mankind had ever seen.

«Our people commemorate this event at a time when the founder and leader of the Party, the organizer of the war and the army, the legendary Commander-in-Chief, the architect of

the new socialist Albania, our dear Comrade Enver Hoxha, is no longer amongst us.

«To honour the brilliant memory and work of Comrade Enver Hoxha, I propose two minutes' silence.»

All those present observed two minutes' silence as a sign of profound honour and respect for the unforgettable memory of the beloved leader of the Party and people, Comrade Enver Hoxha.

Comrade Shefqet Peçi continued: «The Albanian people were among the first victims of the Second World War, but, at the same time, they were among the first to receive the fascist hordes of Mussolini, arms in hand from, the 8th of April 1939.

«The heroic anti-fascist National Liberation War of our people entered a new and higher stage only after the formation of the Communist Party of Albania, which gave this war a platform and national character, and made it an inseparable part of the anti-fascist world war.

«It is the historic merit of the Party, with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head,» pointed out the speaker, «who, with rare ability and intelligence, gave creative solutions to many complicated questions raised during the war. The unity of the people and the creation of the Anti-fascist National Liberation Front, the organization of the armed uprising and the partisan army, the destruction of the old power and the setting up of the new state power in its place, the combination of the National Liberation War with the people's revolution, and reliance on our own forces, these are special features of the identity of the Anti-fascist War of the Albanian people.

«The victory of the National Liberation War gave our people real freedom and independence, gave them their state of the dictatorship of the proletariat, and opened the perspective of a new epoch, the socialist epoch, before them.

«The 40th anniversary of victory over fascism,» said the speaker in conclusion, «finds Albania a socialist and sovereign country with a strong and stabilized economy, with a powerful defence, with the new man imbued with the Marxist-Leninist ideology of the Party and the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha, with steel unity around the Party.»

The speech of the occasion was delivered by alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and minister of People's Defence, Comrade Prokop Murra.

Those present applauded for the Party, its Central Committee, with Comrade Ramiz Alia at the head.

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May 9, the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism, was commemorated with many activities all over the country. At meetings, mass rallies, topical afternoons, conversations with veterans of the war, former internees in fascist concentration camps, etc. people spoke about the outstanding contribution made by the Albanian nation to the achievement of this historic victory, the heroic war guided by the Party, with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, which led to the complete liberation of the country with our own forces.

PARTY AND STATE LEADERS LAY WREATHES AT THE «MOTHER ALBANIA» MONUMENT AND THE GRAVE OF COMRADE ENVER HOXHA AT THE CEMETERY OF THE MARTYRS OF THE NATION

On the 9th of May, the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism, thousands of inhabitants of the capital went to the Cemetery of the Martyrs of the Nation. Our whole people, with the great feeling of legitimate pride for the outstanding contribution they have made to the achievement of this historic victory, under the leadership of the Party with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, honoured with profound respect their sons and daughters who gave their lives in the battles against fascism and nazism and in concentration camps, those who shed their blood at the altar of victory, the foundations of happy days in which we live today. On this May 9, our people remember their glorious leader and son, the founder of the Party, the partisans remember their Commander-in-Chief and legendary leader of the

Anti-fascist National Liberation War, Comrade Enver Hoxha, with profound respect and gratitude. Everyone honours his brilliant immortal work.

Comrade Ramiz Alia, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, and other Party and state leaders came to the Cemetery of the Martyrs of the Nation.

To the tune of funeral marches executed by the band, Party and state leaders laid wreathes at the «Mother Albania» monument.

The Party and state leaders stood in silence with raised fists to honour the unforgettable memory of the fallen. The band executed the National Hymn.

Comrade Ramiz Alia and other Party and state leaders went up to the grave of the dear leader of the

Party and people, Comrade Enver Hoxha, and laid wreathes.

Comrade Nexhmije Hoxha laid a bouquet of flowers at the grave of Comrade Enver Hoxha and another bouquet at the «Mother Albania» monument.

Comrade Ramiz Alia and other Party and state leaders saluted with raised fists, observed silence and bowed with respect before the grave of Comrade Enver Hoxha.

Comrade Ramiz Alia warmly greeted the people who had come to pay homages, working people of work and production centres, relatives of the martyrs, war veterans and young people.

The people of the capital paid homages and laid wreathes at the grave of the beloved leader, Comrade Enver Hoxha, and the martyrs' graves.

SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

The Academy of Sciences, the Ministry of People's Defence and the National Committee of the Veterans of the War of the Albanian People organized a scientific conference devoted to the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism, on May 8, 1985 in the capital.

Attending the Conference were students and workers of various scientific, educational and cultural institutions of the capital, war veterans, representatives of the organizations of the masses and ministries, militarymen and other guests.

Present at the Conference were also the member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Adil Çarçani, the members of the Political Bureau and secretaries of the CC of the Party, Comrades Lenka Çuko and Simon Stefani, the member of the Political

Bureau of the CC of the Party and Vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Manush Myftiu, the member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Party and Vice-president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, Comrade Rita Marko, the alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Party and first secretary of the Party Committee of the District of Tirana, Comrade Foto Çami, the alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Party and Minister of People's Defence, Comrade Prokop Murra, the Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrade Vangjel Çërrava, the Chairman of the National Committee of the Veterans of the War of the Albanian People, Comrade Shefqet Peçi, members of the CC of the Party, the Presidium of the People's Assembly and the Government.

The President of the Academy of

Sciences, Prof. Aleks Buda, declared the Conference open.

At the Conference were read the reports «The Causes and Character of the Second World War», by the Doctor of Historical Sciences, Shyqyri Ballvora, «Independence and Internationalism — Basic Principles of Our National Liberation War», by Prof. Sofokli Lazri, «The National Liberation Movement of the Albanian People and the Struggle of the Oppressed Peoples against Fascism», by the Candidate of Sciences, Xhelal Gjeçovi, «On Some Military Problems of the Second World War and of the Strategy of the Albanian National Liberation Army», by the Candidate of Sciences, Kostaq Karoli, and Vangjel Kasapi, «The Anti-fascist Coalition and the Albanian National Liberation War», by Prof. Arben Puto, and «Lessons That Ought Not To Be Forgotten», by Prof. Agim Popa.



WE WILL ALWAYS THE TEARS OF COMRADE

GREAT RALLY IN THE «SKANDERBEG» SQUARE ON THE OCCASION OF THE AWARDING OF THE NAME THE «PIONEERS OF ENVER» TO THE YOUNG PIONEERS' ORGANIZATION

On May Day, the day of the International Solidarity of the workers, thousands and thousands of young pioneers from Tirana and all the districts of the country, as well as thousands of young men and women, students and workers, parents and teachers, tenderfoots, and others had assembled on the «Skanderbeg» Square of the capital.

This was a marked day for our children because their organization was being awarded the honoured name the «Pioneers of Enver», the name of the man most beloved and dearest to our hearts.

It is 10.00 hours. Powerful ovations break out when on the central tribune emerge Comrade Ramiz Alia, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, and Comrades Adil Çarçani, Hajredin Çeliku, Hekuran Isai, Foto Çami, Prokop Murra, the Member of the CC of the Party, Comrade Nexhmije Hoxha, members of the CC of the Party, of the Presidium of the People's Assembly and the Government.

A group of young pioneers present

the leaders of the Party and state with flowers and tie the red scarf round their necks.

Then, on behalf of the young pioneers' detachments of Tirana and their representatives throughout the country the young pioneer, Rezarta Meçe, presents the young pioneers aligned in front to the First Secretary of the CC of the Albanian Labour Youth Union (ALYU), comrade Mehmet Elezi, who said:

«Young pioneers, I hail you on the occasion of the ceremony organized for the awarding to your organization of the name the «Pioneers of Enver».

A powerful hurrah rings out.

Then, comrade Mehmet Elezi delivers the speech of the occasion. Among other things, he said:

«Our whole young generation, from the tenderfoots, the young pioneers, to the university students, with the profound grief they felt and expressed in these days, proved once more that our young generation is linked like flesh to bone with the Party and only with the Party, that it is and will always be the blood of its blood.

The tears we shed in those days were a sign not of weakness, but of strength and determination. Through our profound grief our boundless love for the Party and the vitality of our militant union grew even stronger. Herein lies our confidence in the future, too. This shatters the sinister expectations of our enemies.

«Comrade Enver Hoxha, with the Party of Labour, displayed to the young generation of Albania their only brilliant and sure road to the future: the road of the revolution and socialism. By forging consciously ahead on this road, our youth affirm their personality in all its greatness, a personality which is to the benefit of our society and people, to the benefit of the coming generations, too. Words alone cannot express our gratitude,» he went on further. «We have expressed and will continue to express it with our work and life. The young generation of socialist Albania, more than one million young pioneers and young men and women, pledge once more that they will always be vigilant, always on the attack, strong-

DAYS FOLLOW CHINGS ENVER HOXHA



willed and eager for knowledge, that they will defend the victories achieved and carry them ceaselessly ahead.»

Amid the great enthusiasm of the young pioneers and all those present, Comrade Ramiz Alia handed the young pioneer Alketa Cicollari the new banner of the organization the «Pioneers of Enver». Ovarions rang out. At these solemn and moving moments, Comrade Ramiz Alia said: Pioneers of Enver! I am handing you the new banner of your organization which from now on will be called the «Pioneers of Enver». Keep this banner with honour and raise it ever higher. Raise it higher and higher in the present and the coming generations of young pioneers. Be good workers, good fighters loyal to the Party, worthy sons and daughters of socialist Albania, as Enver wanted and told you to be.»

Powerful and enthusiastic ovarions rang out from the chests of all the young pioneers.

The young pioneer Xhoana Nano hands Comrade Ramiz Alia an album

of verses written by young pioneers of the different schools of the country, which express the great affection for and the profound gratitude of the young generation of Albania to Comrade Enver Hoxha, as well as their solemn pledge that they will always keep the name the «Pioneers of Enver» with honour.

Then, a group of young pioneers hand Comrade Nexhmije Hoxha a bouquet of red carnations to put it in Comrade Enver's work room.

After the meeting, 2,000 young pioneers, representatives of the 26 districts of the country, went to the Cemetery of the Martyrs of the Nation and on behalf of the organization the «Pioneers of Enver» laid a wreath on the grave of the beloved Leader and dear teacher, Comrade Enver Hoxha, and bowed in deep respect to the unforgettable memory of the glorious Leader of the Party and people.

In the afternoon, representatives of the young pioneers from all the districts of the country, who took part

in the ceremony on the occasion of the awarding of the name the «Pioneers of Enver» to their organization, paid a visit to Comrade Enver's home. At the entrance to the house they were met by Comrade Nexhmije Hoxha and other members of the family of Comrade Enver Hoxha.

Comrade Nexhmije Hoxha had a warm and cordial talk with the young pioneers. Then, she invited them to visit together Comrade Enver's work room. They went up there. They stood near Comrade Enver's table at which he sat and wrote for hours. «Everything here is as he left it on the last day of his life,» said Comrade Nexhmije Hoxha, «with the exception of this bouquet of carnations you presented me with today and asked me to put here.» The young pioneers expressed what they felt in simple but beautiful words which showed their boundless love for Uncle Enver and pledged that they would for ever be loyal sons and daughters of the Party, as Comrade Enver wanted and told them to be.

AN HONOUR AND JOY FOR THE WHOLE YOUTH

Thousands of students, teachers, pupils of middle schools, specialists and cadres ex-graduates of our University, filled the square in front of the main building of the University of Tirana on which the great meeting on the occasion of the awarding to the University of the name of the beloved Leader of the Party and people, Comrade Enver Hoxha, took place.

Powerful ovarions «Party-Enver we are always ready», «Party — our mother, your work — our deed», rang out when Comrade Ramiz Alia, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party and President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, Comrades Adil Çarçani, Member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Party and Chairman of the Council of Ministers, the Member of the Political Bureau and secretary

of the CC of the Party, Lenka Çuko, the Member of the Political Bureau of the CC and Vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, Manush Myftiu, Comrade Nexhmije Hoxha and other personalities came to attend the ceremony.

Comrade Manush Myftiu greeted the participants in the meeting on behalf of the Central Committee of the Party. In his address he said that in the days of the general grief at the loss of the great Leader of the Party and our people, Comrade Enver Hoxha, the 11th Plenum of the Central Committee of the Party decided to rename the University of Tirana, the University which was created under the direct care of Comrade Enver Hoxha the «Enver Hoxha» University of Tirana. He was the man who planned all its development and progress, which he followed with parti-

cular attention. The theoretical and philosophical work of Comrade Enver Hoxha has been and remains the ideological foundations of all the teaching, scientific and educational activity of the University. Comrade Manush Myftiu emphasized in his address that Comrade Enver Hoxha's figure stands out majestic against the background of the many-centuries long history of the Albanian people, among the great men of this soil and in the most glorious epoch of our national history, the epoch of the people's revolution and the construction of socialism which is closely linked with his name and work.

Further on, Comrade Manush Myftiu said that the life and work of Comrade Enver Hoxha are the highest example of total devotion to the revolutionary ideal. At the head of the Party for about half a century, he

loyally and consistently defended the teachings of Marxism-Leninism, developed them and enriched them in a creative spirit in the concrete conditions of the Albanian reality, opposed with courage and determination the distortions of the revisionist betrayal, through his work and thought. Comrade Enver Hoxha expressed the ardent aspirations of our people to light and knowledge, their unquenchable thirst for education, the dreams and aims of the great patriots of our National Renaissance who fought for the Albanian school, science and culture, for the advancement of our nation.

Comrade Manush Myftiu concluded:

«Let us steel our unity around our glorious Party, its Central Committee, with Comrade Ramiz Alia at the head, and find fresh forces to forge ahead with sure step on the road our great leader and teacher, Comrade Enver Hoxha, has mapped out for us!»

Then, he handed the Rector of the University, Prof. Osman Kraja, the decision on the awarding of the name of the beloved leader of the Party and people, Comrade Enver Hoxha, to the University of Tirana.

Amid the great enthusiasm and applause, Comrade Ramiz Alia hailed those attending the meeting with the words «Long live the 'Enver Hoxha' University of Tirana!» «Long live our heroic youth of work, the youth of knowledge, the youth of the rifle!»

A storm of ovations and hurrahs broke out on the square. In this atmosphere, Comrade Ramiz Alia unveiled the plaque «The 'Enver Hoxha' University of Tirana». Then, Comrade Ramiz Alia and the other leaders of the Party and state went into one of the offices of the Rectorate of the University together with students and teachers. In the talk that he had there, Comrade Ramiz Alia said among other things: «I congratulate you on the name of Comrade Enver Hoxha your

University has taken. When the Central Committee decided to award this name to your University, it knew that in this way it honoured and rejoiced the whole Albanian youth. The awarding of this name to your University is an honour, and at the same time a great obligation for the students, the whole youth. Our University deserves this name.

«I am absolutely sure,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia in conclusion, «that our student youth will always forge ahead according to the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha. Therefore, in this happy day for you and for us I wish once again the 'Enver Hoxha' University of Tirana to go ahead, to advance, to prosper, so that Albanian science and education rise ever higher, as Comrade Enver Hoxha wanted them to.»

More than 20,000 workers of the agricultural enterprise of Plasa and inhabitants of the surrounding villages came together in the village of Plasa of the district of Korça to take part in the meeting on the occasion of the awarding of the name of the beloved Leader of the Party and our people, Comrade Enver Hoxha, to the agricultural enterprise which has its centre at Plasa.

The Member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Party and Vice-president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, Comrade Rita Marko, the Alternate Member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Party and Vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Qirjako Mihali, and other comrades came to attend the meeting.

Comrade Qirjako Mihali greeted those present on behalf of the Central Committee of the Party, the Council of Ministers and, personally, the First

Secretary of the CC of the Party, Comrade Ramiz Alia.

Then, those attending the meeting took part in the ceremony of the inauguration of the plaque with the inscription «The 'Enver Hoxha' Agricultural Enterprise», which was unveiled by Comrade Rita Marko.

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On May Day thousands of workers and mechanizers, shipbuilders and dockers, sailors of the merchant and fishing fleets, workers of economic enterprises, veterans, militarymen, young men and women, and residents of the city of Durrës convened to a meeting on the main square of the sea-port.

Attending the meeting were the Member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrade Simon Stefani, the Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and first secretary of the Party Committee for the District of Durrës, Comrade Muho Asllani, and other leading comrades.

Comrade Muho Asllani delivered the speech of the occasion. He expressed the happiness of the whole people of the district of Durrës at the great honour the Party did to them by awarding the name of Comrade Enver Hoxha to the sea-port of Durrës.

Then, Comrade Simon Stefani handed the director of the sea-port the decision on awarding the name of the beloved Leader of the Party and people, Comrade Enver Hoxha, to the sea-port of Durrës.

Those attending the meeting went to the entrance to the seaport where the plaque with the inscription «The 'Enver Hoxha' Sea-port of Durrës» was unveiled by Comrade Simon Stefani.

CORDIAL OF COMRADES W THE PEOPLE OF



Comrade RAMIZ ALIA speaking at a meeting with the cadres of the district of Vlora.

MEETING RAMIZ ALIA TH VLORA DISTRICT

From May 13 to 15, Comrade Ramiz Alia, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania, paid a visit to the district of Vlora. He was accompanied by the Member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Party, Pali Miska, the secretary of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the PSRA, Sihat Tozaj, as well as the first secretary of the Party Committee of the District of Vlora, Enver Halili, and the chairman of the Executive Committee of the People's Council of the District of Vlora, Luan Muhameti.

THE STRENGTH OF THE PARTY LIES IN THE PEOPLE, IN THEIR WORK AND STRUGGLE

In the morning of May 13, Comrade Ramiz Alia had a meeting with the people of the region of Drashovica of Labëria. Thousands and thousands of inhabitants from the villages of the region came together at Rrepet of Drashovica. The people of Labëria gave Comrade Ramiz Alia a cordial and enthusiastic welcome.

Comrade Ramiz Alia greeted and shook hands with the cooperativists, old and young, and Enver's young pioneers, who expressed once again their boundless love for the Party, their spirit of lofty patriotism and their unshakeable determination to make their life even happier and their Homeland even more prosperous and more powerful with the teachings of the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha in their minds and hearts.

Under the secular plane-trees began a warm and cordial talk.

The head of the agricultural cooperative of Sherishta, Kujtim Sina, says: «We communists and cooperativists are very happy to have come to this meeting at historic Drashovica where Comrade Enver has paid us many a visit. Your coming here rejoices us and alleviates our grief

at his loss.» He informed Comrade Ramiz about the achievements of the cooperativists which are turning their grief into strength.

The director of the agricultural enterprise «Kanan Maze» of Kota, Esat Spano, spoke about the great results of the workers of this enterprise who have overfulfilled the planned tasks in milk, meat, vegetables, etc., while at the same time cutting down on production costs.

Joining the revolutionary movement «Champions for the application of the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha», the workers of this enterprise have set themselves the task of taking in 1,000 quintals of wheat and 200 quintals of milk above this year's tasks and of measuring the results of their work not by the plan but by their pledges.

Lindita Llanaj, a young woman of the agricultural cooperative of Sevaster, told Comrade Ramiz Alia about the broad participation of the young generation in the work of the cooperative and their ever greater results.

She said that the young people have pledged to take in 2,100 quintals of bread grain and 200 quintals of milk above plan with 3 per cent less expenditure.

«You greatly rejoiced us all, Comrade Ramiz,» said People's Hero Abdyl Haku, «you alleviated our grief at the loss of Comrade Enver Hoxha. The people of our region, just as our whole people, are closely linked, like flesh to bone, with the Party.

«Comrade Enver Hoxha remains alive in the hearts of the people, in his Party, in his comrades, in the Central Committee, in our strong leadership made up of the best comrades tested in many battles, so the people are very happy, they are very pleased and have complete trust in the leadership of the Party with you at its head, Comrade Ramiz. Our grief and tears have further cemented our strong sense of unity, have given rise to an unprecedented revolutionary drive everywhere, even in the most remote mountain regions.»

Amongst the enthusiastic ovations and applause of those present, Comrade Ramiz Alia rose to speak.

«I want to greet you all,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia among other things, «the people of Vlora River, of Mesaplik and Kuç, all the heroic people of your district on behalf of the Central Committee of the Party.

«It is in the tradition of our Party,» said he, «in the style of its work, in the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha, that the cadres of all party instances stand always by the people, learn from the people and struggle together with them, because the strength of the Party lies in the people, in their work and struggle. That is why we have come here among you today.

«The cooperativists and all the working people of the district of Vlora have scored good results in all directions — industry, agriculture and livestock-raising. We listened attentively to your warm words about our heroic Party, your words about Comrade Enver Hoxha and his work, which came from your hearts.»

Comrade Ramiz Alia went on:

«Albania is a strong and advanced country not only because of its developed agriculture and industry, but first and foremost because of the qualities of its people. It has learned and capable people who within 40 years have carried their country centuries ahead. Comrade Enver Hoxha, with whose name the creation of the new Albania is linked, showed our people the road to their victories, the road to their happiness, the road which we, the whole Albanian people, with follow faithfully. Ours is a brave people, a noble and undaunted people, a people who in the most difficult times have stood firm and fought with great determination in any situation, they knew how to turn into strength their great grief at the death of Comrade Enver Hoxha and under the slogan «Long live the Party, long live Albania!» burst out into an unprecedented mobilization drive.»

«Long live the Party of Labour!», «Party-Enver — we are always ready!» were the slogans that rang out from among those participating in the meeting.

«All our people, and in particular our youth, our working class and peasantry,» Comrade Ramiz Alia went on, «have shown and continue to show great political and ideological maturity. The unprecedented revolutionary spirit and mobilization that are being seen all over the country, are yielding their results. Rarely has work in agriculture been conducted at such high rates as this year. In industry, too, production tasks are being fulfilled in all sectors. This is happening because our entire people know how to mobilize their energies so as to cope successfully with the tasks facing them.

«Vigilance in the defence of the freedom and independence of the Homeland,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia, «is among the sacred tasks of our people and the Party. We do not forget that we live in encirclement, that we have imperialist, social-imperialist and revisionist enemies, so we must keep our eyes always open. Our enemies have suffered and will always suffer defeat, because in the first place, they have never known our people, who are a heroic people, a people united like flesh to bone with the Party. They have never known our Party which is a revolutionary Party tested in many battles. They have never known the spiritual strength of our people who are deeply convinced of the correctness of the great ideas of socialism, are great patriots of their socialist Homeland. So, we must be always vigilant, always attentive to the intrigues and activities of our enemies.

«Ours is a patriotic people, a people who have fought for justice, for independence throughout their life. The whole Albania, the whole Vlora and Labëria have fought for these ideals. This has happened here, in Drashovica, too. A whole history is linked with the name of Drashovica. It reminds us of the great and heroic war of 1920 in which the Albanian people and the people of Vlora, in particular, fought against Italian imperialism, as well as of more recent history, that of the National Liberation War, when the people of these zones, with the communists led by our unforgettable comrade, the brave of the braves, Hysni Kapo, at the head, displayed rare courage and heroism.

«We will keep always alive the great patriotism which is instilled into our children from the first years of their life, our ardent love for our Homeland. This patriotism is linked not only with the struggle for the defence of the country, but also with the great work for the socialist construction, for the economic strengthening of the Homeland, because, as is known, there cannot be a secure defence without a strong economy. This is the socialist patriotism which the Party has and continues to educate in us.

«At present,» Comrade Ramiz Alia continued, «we are working to fulfil the tasks of 1985 which is the last year of the 7th Five-year Plan. But the Party looks farther ahead. As you know, we are now discussing the draft-plan for the 8th five-year period in every work centre, in every institution, and the workers, peasants and intellectuals are giving their opinions about the further development of Albania, the further strengthening of our economy and culture. Our prospects are clear. We have all the possibilities to carry our economy ahead, because

we are a country with a powerful industrial base, with an advanced industry and a modern collectivized agriculture which is attaining high levels of development. All our material conditions make us sure of ever better perspectives for the economic and cultural development of the country. But, in the first place, we have our people, the decisive factor which resolves any difficult problem, we have our capable workers and specialists who have shown their worth in all fields. The Party trained these men one by one, educated them in schools, made them good specialists, as well as ardent patriots. We are witnessing today a great drive at work, an unprecedented mobilization of our people, and this is the result of the great work done by the Party in the course of these 40 years. So, we have all the material and human resources to secure the further advance of our Homeland, to carry the behest of Comrade Enver Hoxha through to the end. And the people with the Party at the head will do it.

«Our Party is linked with the people not only by means of votes, but through blood and struggle, through the titanic efforts for the liberation of the Homeland and the construction of socialism. Our strength lies precisely in this strong Party which Comrade Enver created in the course of the struggle as a means for the liberation of the people. Without the Party there could not be freedom. The people understood this, so they supported the Party and united with it.

«We won our freedom with our own efforts, so we know well its value. We won it with our blood, with the blood of 28 thousand martyrs, with great suffering and sacrifices. Whole cities and villages were razed to the ground. Every Albanian family had to pay for the freedom of the people, for the freedom of the Homeland. That is why we defend our freedom and independence with all our forces.

«We have built everything with our own forces, holding out our hand to nobody. This we do because we know that if you hold out your hand you will be forced to your knees, and if you stand on your knees others will ride roughshod over you. We want to advance, to live in freedom and with our toil.

«Your love for the Party,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia in conclusion, «your unshakeable trust in its correct Marxist-Leninist line, your determination to forge ahead on the road of the Party according to the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha, are a guarantee that the great tasks that face us will be overfulfilled.

After his address Comrade Ramiz Alia had a cordial talk with those present.

«Long live the Party!», «Long live the people!», «Long live Albania!» were the slogans heard among those present.

Comrade Ramiz Alia is seen off with great love and enthusiasm by the people of this region.

SELF-RELIANCE - OUR GREAT PRINCIPLE

In the afternoon of May 13, the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrade Ramiz Alia, went to the higher-type agricultural cooperative «Lenin's Road» of Novosela. On the square in front of the new Palace of Culture Comrade Ramiz Alia was met with enthusiasm and affection by hundreds of inhabitants of this economy and other people who had come from all the villages of Myzeqe of Vlora.

Comrade Ramiz Alia had cordial conversations with veterans, cooperativists and workers, with young men and women.

The secretary of the party bureau of the cooperative of Novosela, Them Mbyeti, expressed the great rejoicing of all the Myzeqe people at having Comrade Ramiz Alia among them. He said that the cooperativists are determined to fulfil all tasks according to the teachings of our unforgettable Leader, Comrade Enver Hoxha. They have completed the campaign of spring sowing 15 days earlier than last year and are fully convinced that they will be able to fulfil and overfulfil all tasks.

The head of the agricultural enterprises «The War of Vlora» of Llakatund, Shuaip Roshi, informed Comrade Ramiz Alia about the achievements of the workers of this enterprise and the new tasks they have set themselves: they will take in 6-10 quintals of maize per hectare above plan, and try to achieve yields of 100-150 quintals of maize per hectare in particular brigades and plots. The head of the «Vlora», agricultural enterprise, Qani Kamberi, also informed Comrade Ramiz Alia about the achievements of the workers of this enterprise.

Among the rejoicing of the cooperativists and their ardent ovations for our glorious Party, Comrade Ramiz Alia rose to speak:

«In these days,» Comrade Ramiz Alia began, «we have been deeply affected by our great loss, because we lost our most beloved man, the great Leader of the Party and people, Comrade Enver Hoxha. But we also felt the determination of the people, their unshakeable confidence in the Party, their optimism about the future. From all this we grow stronger and more confident

that we will be able to carry out the behests of Comrade Enver Hoxha. Our people now feel themselves obliged to do something more for the Homeland, for socialism, to be exemplary in their work.

«This confidence and optimism, this enthusiasm of the people has great significance,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia. «It shows their unshakeable determination to forge consistently ahead on the road the Party shows them, the road Comrade Enver has shown us. It also shows that the great ideas of the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha have struck deep roots in the hearts of the people, have become part of their consciousness and are being turned into a creative force. It shows the moral and political strength of our people, who see in the Party their saviour and the realizer of their aspirations.

«The improvement of the well-being of the whole people, of all the masses of the people, the further improvement of the life of all the working people is the common aim of the Party and the people. We have achieved this aim in common and we will continue to achieve it in common. We have asked nobody for credits for this purpose, we have done everything with our own work and toil. The principle of self-reliance, which our Party has implemented throughout its history, has not only enhanced the dignity and already high authority of our country, of all Albanians, but also, and in the first place, has saved our country from many dangers. We are the only country that can express its opinion freely about everything that happens in the world, and this we have achieved because our hands are free.

«Our foundations have not been laid in one day,» Comrade Ramiz Alia went on, «but from our foundations to the present development there is always the principle of self-reliance. With this principle we, the people and the Party, began and ended our Antifascist war. No foreign soldier trod our soil to fight against the nazi-fascist invaders. The socialist industrialization of the country was drafted and realized according to this principle. The Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha worked with wisdom and far-sightedness to create the conditions for this principle to be implemented in the future, too. We did not begin the development of our industry from hairpins and perfumes, as our revisionist enemies advised us, but from the heavy industry, the power industry, which was the most difficult. And today our power industry ensures the economic development of the country and is also a source of exports. We did not gear our agriculture to the production of citrus fruit, but set ourselves first and foremost the task of securing the

bread of our people so as to be completely independent in the future, too. We built our new system of education and our new culture, trained our army of cadres and specialists who design and build great and difficult projects, because we cannot resolve the problems of our economy relying on foreign specialists. They would not dig our minerals out of the ground, but would bury them even deeper there.»

Concluding, Comrade Ramiz Alia warmly thanked those present at the meeting and wished them, as well as all the cooperativists of the Myzeqe of Vlora, further successes in the fulfilment and overfulfilment of their pledges.

THE IMMORTAL WORK OF ENVER HOXHA LIVES IN THE NEW ALBANIA

Continuing his visits in the district of Vlora, in the forenoon of May 14 Comrade Ramiz Alia went to Himara, where he had a cordial meeting with the people of the region.

«How do you do?» says Comrade Ramiz Alia to Ksanthipi, the sister of the People's Hero Zaho Koka. «I see you are still going strong.»

«I do,» says she. «The Party has made us all strong. Let the Party live as long as the Mountain of the Lightning!»

«Long live the Party, long live the people!» says Comrade Ramiz Alia.

The chairman of the agricultural cooperative of Himara, after expressing the particular rejoicing of the inhabitants of Himara at the great honour that was done to them by the visit of Comrade Ramiz Alia, Thoma Kolagji, said that in 1961, when Comrade Enver Hoxha was among them, he had given many valuable instructions to turn the region into a flowering garden. In implementation of these instructions, compared with 1961, they now have increased the yields of olives 25 fold, of citrus fruit 19 fold and other fruit 4 fold.

Leter Koçani, who for more than 20 years now is squad leader in the «29 Nëntori» agricultural cooperative of Dhërmi-Palasa, said among other things that in the past the wife saw off her husband emigrating to foreign lands and remained weeping on the shore. Today you find our women in all sectors of life and work. Women make up the majority of the work force in the cooperative and are exemplary in the fulfilment of tasks.

The secretary of the party bureau of the «J. V. Stalin» agricultural cooperative of Qeparo, Jorgo Dedi, informed Comrade Ramiz Alia about the good work that is being done in the cultivation of citrus-trees, olives, vines, etc.

Efti Mato, secretary of the youth organization of the vanguard 9th brigade of the cooperative of Himara, said that the youth are in the forefront of all work, wherever difficulties are greatest.

Then, among the great rejoicing of those present, the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrade Ramiz Alia, rose to speak.

«Being in the district of Vlora,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia, «we could not fail to come here, to Himara, too, to meet you, the people of Himara and the whole Coast, a brave and hardworking people, linked like flesh to bone with the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha right from the beginning of our struggle and constantly afterwards. On this occasion, I convey to you, brothers and sisters, the warmest greetings of the Central Committee and our Party.

«The boundless love you nurture for our heroic Party,» Comrade Ramiz Alia pointed out, «reflects the ardent patriotism of the people of the district of Vlora, their close links with our Party, with the Work of our great leader, our beloved leader, Enver Hoxha.

«Our whole people are living through a particular situation which is linked with the deep grief of the Party and people at the loss of Comrade Enver,» Comrade Ramiz Alia went on. «This grief is great and deeply-felt by everybody, because Comrade Enver Hoxha was not only the great Leader of the Party and the people, but also the man who, better than anyone else, knew the spirit and aspirations of the people and succeeded in arousing the Party and the people to their feet and leading them to carry out their lofty aims and aspirations. Such men who not only become interpreters of the feelings of the people, but also place themselves at the head of them to liberate them, to help them cast away the shackles of bondage and exploitation and to bring them on to the road of freedom and progress are very rare in the history of mankind. Enver Hoxha was one of them.

«In prosperous Albania, in the great progress we have made in all fields — industry, agriculture, etc., we see not only the ideas and thoughts of the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha but also their concrete work and leadership.

«The comrades that spoke here,» Comrade Ramiz Alia went on further, «said that Himara, Dhërmi, Qeparo, the whole Coast have changed radically. They were right

to say that Comrade Enver Hoxha is directly involved in these changes, as well as in the prosperity of the whole Albania. By expressing their profound grief at the loss of Comrade Enver Hoxha, our people displayed at the same time their great love for the Party, their close links with it and their great trust in it. Without the Party there would not be this happy life, the Albania we have today, without the Party socialism could not have developed and the living of the people could not have improved. The link of the people with the Party is a vital question to the workers, the peasants, the youth and the intellectuals, to all our people. So, let all of us, united to a man, forge ahead to fulfil the plans and the great tasks our Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha have set us. Comrade Enver Hoxha devoted all his life to the people, to Albania, to its development and progress. It is our duty, the duty of the communists and the whole people, to continue with determination on his road. We must carry our Homeland forward, develop the socialist construction of the country further, struggle with all our forces to constantly improve the living of the people.

«We were very glad to see,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia, «that the agricultural cooperatives of the Coast, including that of Himara, have a developed economy, and advanced economy, which grows and makes constant progress. You have all the possibilities to develop your economy further. We are convinced that you will implement the pledges you have taken here, that you will successfully carry out the tasks you have set yourselves and will always be in the vanguard. Really it is a great victory of the policy of the Party, and a great success of its work that in this region which in the past had only one road, that of emigration, such a level of well-being has been achieved today that people have the same standard of living as those of the cities.

«The internal situation is consolidated through the strengthening of our unity, the strengthening of the Party, our leader in all our victories. The Party opened the eyes to all of us, showed us the road of the struggle for liberation and it is now showing us the road on which we must go for the construction of socialism, for ensuring the freedom and independence of the Homeland. We will keep our Albania always strong, will ensure the further construction of socialism and the constant improvement of the living of the people, having always a strong Party, loyal to the teachings of Marxism-Leninism, a fighting revolutionary Party, as Comrade Enver Hoxha founded it, educated it and led it.

«Let us never forget,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia further on, «that we are a country encircled by many enemies — imperialists, socialimperialists and revisionists. Our people are tempered politically and ideologically, they hold dear their freedom and the independence of their country, they value socialism and their new life, so they work with rare self-abnegation and are ready for any sacrifice. The strength of our unity manifested itself particularly in these days of grief through the unprecedented solidarity of our people. This unity we must preserve as the apple of the eye. This is the greatest asset Comrade Enver Hoxha has bequeathed to us, this is the greatest victory in the history of our people. Nothing can divide our people, neither economic nor political and ideological interests. Our interests are the same, the one ideology unites us. Hence, we are strong in front of any enemy.»

«The Central Committee of the Party is convinced,» Comrade Ramiz Alia said in conclusion, «that our present and future road is the only correct one to ensure the happy present and future of our people, the complete construction of socialist society, an ever happier life for the present and future generations. This unprecedented drive at work will undoubtedly yield ever greater fruits.»

«I wish you all, men and women of the Coast, Enver's young pioneers, successes at work, and ever greater victories.»

PRODUCTION CALLS FOR PRACTICAL SPIRIT AND CREATIVE FANTASY

In the afternoon Comrade Ramiz Alia and the comrades accompanying him went on a visit to the electric bulbs factory.

«You came here to give us the warmth of the Party,» Liljana Numani, the director of the enterprise, told Comrade Ramiz Alia. «The Party, the whole people elected you to lead us. On behalf of the workers and specialists of our enterprise we pledge our word that we will respond with readiness and self-abnegation to any call of the Party and you.»

Expressing his thanks for the warm reception and congratulating them on their achievements, Comrade Ramiz Alia asked about the life of the workers, their conditions of work, as well as about many problems of production.

«We must by no means be satisfied with the levels of production we have already achieved, with the pre-

sent indices of work and financial income. Our specialists must work with more fantasy and in a more practical spirit to find new ways for the development of production and science,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia among other things. «We need and we have all the possibilities for a fresh and greater creative drive. This calls for will-power and creative energies from all our men.» Comrade Ramiz Alia expressed his confidence that the cadres and specialists will certainly struggle even more in the future to cope with the great tasks facing them, because they are people with knowledge and culture, because, as they work inspired by the ideals of the Party and the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha, the work they do is party work.

«The working class, all our working people, are finding fresh forces, are showing an unprecedented readiness and mobilization at work,» Comrade Ramiz Alia went on. «It is the duty of the organs and organizations of the Party, of the state power and the economy to raise this mobilization of our people to a higher level, to organize and direct them with competence and at a high scientific level for the further development of our economy.»

Then, amid the enthusiasm of the workers Comrade Ramiz Alia visited all the sections of this factory.

Comrade Ramiz Alia was seen off with ovations and applause by hundreds of workers, cadres and specialists of this enterprise as well as other participants in the meeting.

LET US REPLY TO THE REVOLUTIONARY SPIRIT OF THE MASSES WITH BETTER ORGANIZATION, WITH A MORE RESILIENT AND CREATIVE METHOD AND STYLE

In the afternoon of May 15, the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, Comrade Ramiz Alia, had a meeting with cadres of party, state and economic organs, and organizations of the masses of the district of Vlora, with veterans, militarymen, and others.

Those present in the hall of the Party Committee of the district, where the meeting took place, burst into



Comrade RAMIZ ALIA visiting the electric bulbs factory.

enthusiastic applause and ovations for the Party when Comrade Ramiz Alia came in. He met and had cordial talks with cadres of different sectors.

Declaring the meeting open, the first secretary of the Party Committee of the District of Vlora, comrade Enver Halili, informed Comrade Ramiz Alia about the unprecedented drive and mobilization at work of the working masses of the district of Vlora, which is expressed in concrete achievements and in ever higher indices in different sectors, about the further revolutionization of the life of the basic organizations of the Party and the enhancement of the vanguard role of the communists, about the efforts that are being made to improve the leading work of the organs of the state and economy, etc. At this meeting leading cadres of the organizations of the masses of the district, of the different sectors of industry and agriculture, of military units, etc., reported on the successes achieved and the objectives they have set themselves in the wake of the revolutionary

movement «Champions of the application of the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha».

Then, amid the great enthusiasm of those present, Comrade Ramiz Alia rose to speak.

«The ardent love of the people, the communists and all the working people of the heroic district of Vlora for our glorious Party, Comrade Enver Hoxha, their determination to implement his teachings,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia, «are a clear expression of their determination to forge ahead with unshakeable confidence on the road of the Party, the road of Comrade Enver Hoxha. Our Party went through the greatest test in those 40 years after Liberation. The death of Comrade Enver Hoxha was a great and grievous loss for all our communists, for all our people, because Comrade Enver Hoxha was our leader and teacher who in any situation, no matter how difficult and complicated, has led us from one victory to the other with his sure hand and his sharp mind. That is why we say that the new

Albania, socialism in our country, the life we are enjoying today are linked with the name of the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha. When we say Enver Hoxha we say the Party of Labour of Albania. The words Party-Enver are mutually indissoluble notions.

«The working class, the working peasantry, the youth, the intelligentsia, with the communists in the lead,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia, «displayed a very high political and ideological level at those moments. Not only by words, but by deeds they knew how to transform their grief into a mobilizing force in order to strengthen our socialist Homeland, to carry the construction of socialism ahead, to develop the economy and culture, to strengthen our defence, convinced that only in this way, in life, in practice, is the behest of Comrade Enver Hoxha implemented, that only in this way do we remain loyal to the teachings, ideas and the Work of Comrade Enver Hoxha.

«The initiatives of our people and the great drive of the masses at work,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia, «are a new revolutionary moment in the life of our country, which reflects the determination of the people to forge ahead on the road of the Party. We must respond with ever more qualified work to this moment, to this revolutionary spirit and this unprecedented mobilization which expresses through concrete work the great trust of our people in the Party and in the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha.

«It has great importance for us today,» Comrade Ramiz Alia pointed out, «to keep this revolutionary spirit alive and carry it further ahead. Let us develop this initiative further.

«The facts presented by the comrades who spoke here,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia, «show the great mobilization among our people here. During all this time there has been no unjustified absence amongst tens of thousands of cooperativists and young men and women. There has been no communist in your district who has not fulfilled and overfulfilled his tasks in these days. This is a great lesson taught us by the people, which we, the party cadres and the communists, must know how to assimilate so as to build a revolutionary method and style, more resilient and creative at work. The working class, the working peasantry, our youth have forged ahead and displayed an exceptionally high political level, their intimate relationship with the Party.» So, Comrade Ramiz Alia instructed, «We must respond with a wiser and more resilient work to the drive of the

people and the masses. We must support the great initiatives of the masses and channel them in the right direction through a better method of work and organization. This must be done without fail,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia, «so as not to allow the emergence of any contradiction between the revolutionary drive of the masses and our leadership of them. Only by acting in this way do we see processes in their dialectical development, do we work on the basis of the teachings of Marxism-Leninism, the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha. It is 40 years now that the Party is working for the education of the people in the struggle for the socialist construction. And if we speak about the high political consciousness of our people, of our youth, about this reflection of their ideological strength, this is the consequence of the careful work and the everyday struggle of the Party. The results achieved in all fields in our country show that the great work of the Party, its political, ideological and organizational work, has yielded its results. We see concrete results in your district, too.

«What is important in the work of the Party,» Comrade Ramiz Alia went on, «is the further strengthening of the links of the Party with the masses combating any manifestation of officialdom and bureaucracy. Comrade Enver Hoxha always taught us that the cadres must link themselves with the masses, because the masses are the strength of the Party. But when we say that the cadres must link themselves with the masses the question is not only about the leading cadres of the Party, but about all communists, from the secretary of the basic organization to its rank-and-file members. The duty of the party secretary of the cooperative, for example, is to go to the masses, to the peasants in the fields and to their homes, to go to the village and pass the night there, to talk with the peasants about the problems that concern the cooperative or the individual peasants.

«The Party calls for raising the revolutionary spirit and the militancy of all the communists to a higher level,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia. «We must seek more resilient forms in all directions, in accordance with the times and the ideo-professional and cultural formation of our present-day men and women.»

Comrade Ramiz Alia called for the further development of the creative thinking of the cadres and specialists in order to increase production through a better organization of work in our enterprises,

through the increase of the degree of mechanization, through the thrifty use of materials, especially those imported, and through efforts to replace them with local materials. Comrade Ramiz Alia instructed our cadres and specialists to raise their qualification to the level of contemporary knowledge so that they, too, each in his post of work, respond to the great revolutionary drive of our people.

«We must be thrifty users of the great assets of our country, of its great economic possibilities, looking for new and profitable technical and technological solutions. I think,» Comrade Ramiz Alia continued, «that our specialists in all fields have all the possibilities to develop their creative thoughts and ideas and to apply them more courageously.

«We must never forget the class struggle, which is an objective phenomenon,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia. «We struggle for the construction of socialism, and it is natural that our enemies try to hinder us. We work for the working class, the peasantry and the intelligentsia to remain always free, masters of their socialist Homeland, whereas the enemies try to make them the opposite. Therefore,» Comrade Ramiz Alia went on, «our vigilance must be ever sharper. For all these reasons,» he instructed, «we must constantly strengthen the defence of our socialist Homeland. The economy is the basis of our whole development. An advanced economy is an important factor for the defence of the Homeland. So, all of us must throw ourselves into mass actions,

into struggle at the head of the masses in order to carry out the great tasks that face us.

«I express my conviction,» said Comrade Ramiz Alia in conclusion, «that the party organization, the heroic people of Vlora, which have always distinguished themselves in work and struggle, the working class, the working peasantry, the intelligentsia, the youth, the women, the militarymen will as hitherto march always on the road mapped out by the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha. We thank you for the warm reception the people of Vlora gave us and will convey to the Central Committee of the Party your affection and resolution to proceed consistently on the road of the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha.»

The speech of Comrade Ramiz Alia was listened to with great attention and punctuated by applause and ovations.

In conclusion, the first secretary of the Party Committee of the District of Vlora, comrade Enver Halili, after thanking Comrade Ramiz Alia on behalf of all the communists and the people of the district of Vlora for his visits, cordial talks and warm meetings, and for his very valuable advice and instructions, pledged that the people of the district of Vlora, the communists, cadres and all the working people, will further steel the unity around the Party, its Central Committee, with Comrade Ramiz Alia at the head, so as to forge always ahead on the road mapped out by the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha.

COMRADE ENVER HOXHA FOUNDER, ORGANIZER OF OUR GLORIOUS PARTY

by FOTO ÇAMI

*His work is the banner
of the Party and communists, all*

IN THE ANCIENT AND RECENT HISTORY OF THE ALBANIAN PEOPLE, IN THE HISTORY OF THEIR CENTURIES-LONG WARS FOR FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE, FOR SOCIAL EMANCIPATION AND PROGRESS, IN THE HISTORY OF THEIR EFFORTS TO DEFEND AND DEVELOP THEIR LANGUAGE AND NATIONAL CULTURE, THEIR IDENTITY AS A NATION AND A PEOPLE, THE MOST BRILLIANT AND GLORIOUS EPOCH IS THE EPOCH WHICH IS LINKED WITH THE NAME OF THE PARTY, WITH THE NAME OF THE FOUNDER, ORGANIZER AND UNFORGETTABLE GREAT LEADER, COMRADE ENVER HOXHA.

YEARS AND CENTURIES WILL PASS, BUT THE COMING GENERATIONS OF ALBANIA WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER WITH SPECIAL RESPECT THAT GREAT HISTORIC ACT WHICH THE ALBANIAN COMMUNISTS, WITH COMRADE ENVER HOXHA AT THE HEAD, ACCOMPLISHED ON NOVEMBER 8, 1941, WHEN THEY FOUNDED THE COMMUNIST PARTY, THAT ACT WHICH WAS TO DETERMINE THE WHOLE COURSE OF EVENTS FROM THE WAR FOR LIBERATION AND THE WHOLE ROAD TRAVERSED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SOCIALISM.

Just as the great event of the founding of the Party is of a special and unprecedented dimension, so the central figure of the man who founded the Party, placed himself at its head, led it in the Anti-fascist National Liberation War, in the struggle for the socialist construction of the country, in the major battles in which the Party together with the people defended the victories achieved, defended Marxism-Leninism, has something, just as incomparable in itself. With astonishing speed, time affirmed the Party as the only leader of the masses, as the interpreter for the interests and aspirations of the masses, as the guide capable of taking upon itself great tasks; with the same speed time affirmed Comrade Enver Hoxha

as the founder of the Party and its outstanding leader, as the talented organizer and leader of our heroic people in the liberation war and the people's revolution.

Whenever we speak of the founding of the Party, we always see this event connected inextricably with the special role which Comrade Enver Hoxha played in it. Speaking at the memorial meeting in the capital, Comrade Ramiz Alia said: «The great act which Enver Hoxha accomplished in that dark and troubled November of 1941 by founding the Communist Party, gave the Albanian people the light they were lacking, gave them the mind to see the future, gave them the staff which would lead them in the titanic life-and-death struggle. The burden which the Albanian communists assumed at that time was heavy and their shoulders were very young.

But they bore it with honour and carried it through to the end, because at their head they had a great leader who knew very well what was required and where they must go.»

It was the great merit of Comrade Enver Hoxha who studied the situations and circumstances of that time profoundly, who assessed them in an all-sided manner, who analysed them in detail with sound Marxist-Leninist logic and began the courageous work of bringing the communist groups together, which eventually led to the historic union, to the founding of the Party. It was Comrade Enver Hoxha who, better than anyone else, understood that the grave situation of fascist occupation made this task still more urgent, put forward the historical imperative of leading the resistance and the war of the people for liberation from fascist slavery. Therefore, at the Founding Meeting, Comrade Enver Hoxha pointed out the urgent need for the formation of the Party, saying: «This is required by the objective needs, is required by the working class, is required by the communists, is required by the historical moments through which our country is going, is required by the people who call on us to throw ourselves into the war together with them.» The founding of the Communist Party of Albania is the work of the Albanian communists, with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, and no one else can claim its authorship.

FOTO ÇAMI — Alternate Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the PLA.

ENVER HOXHA- LEADER AND LEADER SERIOUS PARTY

TO ÇAMI

*of battles and victories
of the working masses of socialist Albania*

The fact that the Communist Party of Albania was created in a country in which the working class was very small in numbers and unformed as a class, testifies to a great maturity and farsight, to an entirely original solution worked out outside narrow schemes. It carried out its mission as the Party of the working class with honour, because from the beginning of its existence it placed the revolutionary ideology of the working class at its foundations, was formed as a Party of the new type on Marxist-Leninist ideological, organizational, strategic and tactical bases, in the example of the Bolshevik Party of Lenin and Stalin.

It is precisely these sound bases which brought our newly formed Party the great successes that kept increasing with the passage of time and contributed to the creation of an experience of incalculable value, both during the war and in the period of socialist construction. It is precisely these sound bases which give our Party its great vitality and strength. In his book, *When the Party Was Born (Memoirs)*, Comrade Enver Hoxha underlines: «Our Party was neither an adventurous enterprise which would be swept down by the first storm, nor a game of children who built castles in the air. The communists who founded and built their Party at the cost of blood and colossal sacrifices, may have been young in age, but the people from whom they had emerged, were an ancient, intelligent,

wise, valiant, and courageous people. The ideology which they represented, likewise, was the ideology of that class to which the future belonged, was the mainstay of that colossal force which will arouse the world to revolution and will lead it towards socialism and communism.»

More than once our Party has pointed out that the masses followed the communists not only because the communists were courageous and self-sacrificing, though, certainly, this is of great importance. Above all, the people supported the Party because it became the interpreter of their most progressive interests, the fighter for the realization of their dreams and aspirations. Under the leadership of Comrade Enver Hoxha, the Party, in its initial steps, worked out a revolutionary program of the National Liberation War and showed that it could lead and give its example in the implementation of this program. Without this the Party could not realize its mission and would end up as some other parties did, which, despite their experience and tradition, failed to place themselves at the head of the people because of the line they mapped out and the stands they adopted. This is the reason why the Party won its indisputable authority and, in less than one year, affirmed itself as the only leader of the liberation war on a national scale. This is a fact without precedent in the history of the international communist movement,

The Party ensured this authority through its extensive and many-sided links with the masses, in those ways which became habitual in its practice and which today have become ever more predominating. The convincing propaganda and work of the communists, accompanied with their revolutionary action and example, reached a degree of development which was never seen before. With this activity the Party tempered itself in actions carried out jointly with the masses, strengthened its authority, and, on the other hand, created the possibility to put to the test of actions the most progressive elements who would eventually swell its ranks, the future staunch militants of the Party.

In order to carry out the great task of organizing and leading the war properly and thoroughly, Comrade Enver Hoxha worked ceaselessly for the organizational strengthening of the Party, for the unity of its ranks. From the first hours of its existence, the Party came up against splitting activities, factionalists and deviators, and fought them sternly. They wanted to weaken the unity of the Party, to break this unity so that they could get hold of the Party. However, it was precisely in this struggle that unity was strengthened further. The long experience of later times has proved that the purging of the Party from opportunist, deviating and enemy elements has made it stronger and its unity unbreakable. It is the great merit of Comrade Enver Hoxha that,

with his high vigilance, with his rare political incisiveness, he discovered and exposed in time all those who were insincere towards the Party and the people and wanted to stab them in the back. This struggle of vital importance has been the decisive factor which saved the freedom and independence of our country, the fates of the revolution and socialism.

The most important experience which our Party has had from its founding and the greatest contribution of Comrade Enver Hoxha lie, in the first place and above all, in the content of the tasks which the Party set for itself and which it put forward for solution. In the process of their implementation, the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha displayed rare organizing ability, a creative revolutionary spirit.

The original solutions given to many difficult and complicated situations over a series of fundamental problems which were raised during the National Liberation War constitute an experience contributed to the treasury of Marxism-Leninism, which Comrade Enver Hoxha has treated and defended in his Works, and which the revolutionary experience of our Party has confirmed as indispensable correct solutions. All these questions include a broad sphere connected with the great work done for uniting the people and creating the Anti-fascist National Liberation Front, with the organization of the armed uprising and the partisan army, with the destruction of the old state and the building of the new people's state, with the correct differentiation of foreign allies in the war, with combining the National Liberation War with the people's revolution, etc.

What happened in our country, where the war for national liberation merged into one with the broad people's revolution, is a specific and, perhaps, unique phenomenon. In his time, Lenin worked out the thesis that the bourgeois-democratic revolution in the epoch of imperialism can and must be transformed into the proletarian revolution. Comrade Enver Hoxha developed this revolutionary idea further and proved with argument that the National Liberation War led by

the Marxist-Leninist party of the working class can be transformed into a profound people's revolution and the latter, in turn, into a socialist revolution. It was Comrade Enver Hoxha who, at the leadership of the Party, at the head of the Front, in command of the army, put this strategy of the revolution into practice in a completely conscious manner.

This rich experience helped to work out and confirm the important Marxist-Leninist conclusion of great validity that the Party of the working class should emerge at the head and should lead not only the proletarian revolution, the struggle for socialism, but also the democratic revolution and the struggle for national liberation, seeing this as the basic conditions for linking these two revolutions, these two struggles, into a single revolutionary process, and for going over from one stage to another.

National liberation would be achieved only by pursuing the path of the armed struggle against the occupiers and their tools. The working class was the force that would take this mission upon itself. No other class, except the working class, no other stratum or political grouping, emerged with a party of its own which could take the banner of national liberation. The Communist Party of Albania is the only Party which took over this mission and carried it through to the end. Comrade Enver Hoxha has refuted the slanderous allegations of numerous enemies that our Party has not permitted the creation of other political parties and that it was not disposed for collaboration with other parties in the liberation war. Our Party was not against the creation of other parties at that time; nor was it against collaborating with them, because it sought to collaborate even with such political organizations as the Balli Kombëtar. But outside the war against the occupier there could be no collaboration of any kind. The facts showed that the Balli Kombëtar and Legaliteti, which were a collection of representatives of the ruling classes of the country, went openly over to the side of the occupiers, and our war threw them overboard together with the occupiers. It was

a great blessing for our people and for the destinies of our war, that other political parties were not created. Had they been created, such parties would have served the ruling classes, the fascist and nazi invaders only, because it is understandable that every party that is created defends the interests of a definite class. The working class and its Party would not tolerate to share leadership with these parties, just as they would not accept to share the victories of the war with them.

The whole road traversed by our Party is glorious and heroic, because it was born from stormy waves. It waged many battles and knew no defeat. This is due to its correct and consistent Marxist-Leninist line, the outstanding thinking of its brilliant leader, Comrade Enver Hoxha. In the first Resolution of the Party it is pointed out that the National Liberation War of the Albanian people is a constituent part of the great anti-fascist world front. But the Party defended with fanaticism the identity of our people's war, firmly closed the paths to attempts on the part of the Anglo-American allies or our neighbours to interfere in our internal affairs. Had we allowed the Anglo-Americans to land at our ports, catastrophic consequences would have followed, likewise, it would have been just as catastrophic if we took notice of the ultimatum of the allies according to which we should stop our partisan brigades from crossing over to the north of Albania and routing the forces of reaction there. Momentous events like the defeat of the various factionalist groups, and especially of the faction of Vlora, the exposure of the compromise at Mukje, etc., in which the maturity and far-sightedness of the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha come out with striking force, have vital importance. Any judgement and action in a different direction would have channelled events in a different course and all the blood shed and sacrifices made by the people would have been in vain.

The history of our Party has been just as militant and magnificent, also, in the great struggle for the construction of socialism. This

magnificence is seen in the whole line and policy of the Party in the economy, defence, art and culture, it is seen in the stern ideological struggle against modern revisionists of various colours for the defence of the banner of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism, it is seen in the organization of the unexampled resistance in the face of threats and successive blockades which the imperialist-revisionist encirclement imposes on us. The immortal great work of Enver Hoxha stands out in all these heroic efforts. His work is the banner of battles and victories of the Party and communists, all the working masses of socialist Albania. «For us, the soldiers of the Party, there can be no greater satisfaction than this, when we see you, our people, masters of your own fate, happy, contented and free in a sovereign and independent Albania, in an Albania transformed into an impregnable fortress, and with ceaseless socialist development. The satisfaction and pride which we feel is the fruit of the great victories we have achieved, of our uninterrupted efforts, of our permanent concern to ensure that our Party is always at the head, as our tested guide,» pointed out Comrade Enver Hoxha in his Message of Greetings on the occasion of the 40th

anniversary of the Liberation of Albania.

The strength of our people, the vitality of socialist Albania, its all-round development and confidence in the communist future, lie in the strength and vitality of our Party, in its correct line and its wise leadership. This is the profound reason why, throughout his life, Comrade Enver Hoxha worked and fought for the strengthening of the Party, for the enhancement of its leading role, for its continuous tempering, for steeling the unity of its ranks, for strengthening its bonds with the people. If the imperialist interferences and plots or the revisionist betrayal which affected the communist movement could not pass in Albania, this is due to the fact that our Party was tempered by Comrade Enver Hoxha in many political battles, was educated by him in a lofty revolutionary spirit, was imbued with the Marxist-Leninist ideology, with patriotism and fiery proletarian internationalism.

The measures which were adopted in our country at the initiative and under the leadership of Comrade Enver Hoxha for the further revolutionarization of the Party and the whole life of the country were of decisive importance. A series of questions which have to do with the struggle

against the dangers of bureaucracy and liberalism, with the strengthening of the links with the masses and the implementation of the line of the masses, with the ideological and political tempering of the communists and working people, with the development of the class struggle and the enhancement of the leading role of the Party in the system of the dictatorship of the proletariat, etc., were worked out and deepened in this process.

All this constitutes that great theoretical and practical contribution which Comrade Enver Hoxha has made to the Marxist-Leninist doctrine of the Party as to all other fields. With the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha and under his leadership, our Party has become a strong and invincible Party, a Party which was tempered, matured and tested in numerous battles and stormy waves, a Party outstanding for its wisdom, lofty stands on principles, loyalty to the people, the Homeland and socialism. With such a Party and always enlightened by the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha, our people are confident that they will always march ahead and will score new victories which will raise the immortal work of Comrade Enver Hoxha higher and higher.

INDEPENDENCE AND INTERNATIONALISM BASIC PRINCIPLES OF OUR NATIONAL LIBERATION

by **SOFOKLI LAZRI**

The Albanian people were few in numbers, but they had plenty of courage and a noble spirit, great hatred for the enemies and loyalty to their friends. Their means were scarce and their economy was weak, but they were progressive in thinking and heroic in actions

OUR PEOPLE TOGETHER WITH THE PEOPLES WHO FOUGHT AGAINST FASCISM COMMEMORATE TODAY THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREAT VICTORY OVER IT. THE VICTORY OVER FASCISM WAS THE VICTORY OF THE WHOLE PROGRESSIVE MANKIND WHICH WAS ACHIEVED WITH MUCH BLOODSHED, IMMENSE CONTRIBUTION AND MUCH SUFFERING. NEVER IN ITS HISTORY HAS MANKIND KNOWN SUCH A SACRIFICE IN THE NAME OF THE FREEDOM OF THE PEOPLES AND INDEPENDENCE OF THE NATIONS, IN THE NAME OF DEMOCRACY AND PROGRESS. TIME WILL PASS, NEW GENERATIONS WILL COME TO LIFE, CHANGES WILL OCCUR IN THE WORLD, BUT THE GREAT IDEAL WHICH AROUSED AND UNITED THE PEOPLES OF DIFFERENT CONTINENTS IN THE WAR FOR THE OVERTHROW OF FASCISM WILL NEVER BE EXTINGUISHED. IT WILL REMAIN IN THEIR MEMORIES AS A BLAZING FIRE WHICH WILL ALWAYS INSPIRE THEM TO THE DEFENCE OF THEIR RIGHT TO LIVE FREE AND INDEPENDENT IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES, FREE OF OPPRESSION BY TYRANTS AND RACISTS, TO REMAIN UNBENDING AND UNYIELDING BEFORE THE DARK POWERS OF FASCISM AND REACTION.

This anniversary is very close to the hearts of the us Albanians who have made great sacrifices and given our maximum contribution to this victory.

Report delivered by Prof. Sofokli Lazri at the Scientific Conference on the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism.

We commemorate this date with the pride of the most fortunate generations of the Albanians who lived to see the realization of all these ideals, the centuries-long dreams and aspirations of those who lived and fought on this territory. We commemorate this event with the feeling of

jubilation at the freedom won and socialist objectives attained, with happiness and with the heads held high to see that our Homeland has become a country of contemporary development which is respected and honoured in the world.

But we commemorate this date with the deep grief because the glorious leader of the National Liberation War and the Heroic Commander of the Partisan Army, the man whom history placed among the great men produced by the Second World War and the people's revolutions, our dear Comrade Enver Hoxha, is no longer among us.

We no longer have among us the man who, in the most critical moments of fascist slavery when history placed the Albanian people before the alternative to survive or to be extinguished as such, guided the communists and true patriots and showed them the road of honour and salvation. We no longer have among us the man who led the people to the general uprising and on to the victory of November 29, the man who led them to the magnificent battles for the construction of socialism.

Just as the Party embodied the wisdom and intelligence of the people, their heroic and fighting spirit, the freedom-loving tenacious spirit in face of storms, so Comrade Enver Hoxha became the loyal and authenti-

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cal interpreter of these virtues and aspirations. Comrade Enver Hoxha has the historical merit that, by creating the Party of the communists, he laid the foundations of the steel platform of the National Liberation War around which the soundest and most progressive forces of the nation rallied themselves, formed the partisan army which would drive out the invaders and defeat the traitors, organized the new state which would give the power to the people. All these victories bear the stamp of his creative personality and individuality as the strategist and leader of the revolution, as the military leader and tribune of the people, as a statesman and outstanding communist militant.

The more we advance in years, the more Albania advances on the road of socialism, the clearer we see the perspective that await us, the better we become aware of and appreciate the steel that was poured on those foundations which were laid by the National Liberation War, see how decisive was the contribution of Comrade Enver Hoxha to determining the historical destinies of our Homeland.

We can see this role and contribution still more clearly when we compare the results of the war of our people against fascism with the war of the other peoples who fought and made sacrifices no less than we Al-

banians did. If we succeeded in coming to these days, this is not due to an accident or a stroke of good luck. This came about not only because the Communist Party of Albania, with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, knew how to define a correct general line, but also because it succeeded in coping with all the surprises of the war, in adopting correct stands towards all the complications that arose during the war, in understanding the great impact of every new phenomenon and in foreseeing the consequences of every single concrete action, because it was courageous and wise, resolved and flexible.

Comrade Enver Hoxha was not only the beloved leader of the Party and the outstanding Commander of the National Liberation Army but also the teacher and educator of all the anti-fascist fighters of our people. His revolutionary thinking and actions taught and educated the cadres of the Party and rank-and-file communists, commanders, commissars and partisans, people working on the grass roots and communists youths, anti-fascist patriots and all those who placed themselves in the service of the liberation war.

It was precisely this army of fiery revolutionaries and patriots, led by Comrade Enver Hoxha, which carried and realized with lofty devotion the great ideal of the liberation of the

Homeland, which, with its great internationalist spirit, joined its weapons with those of the other peoples fighting against fascism, which placed our country among the victors of the anti-fascist world war.

Comrade Enver Hoxha rose to the level required by that time, tackled all the imperatives which history set before our country, solved all the problems put forward before our National Liberation Movement.

He acted and gave leadership on all fronts — political, ideological, military and diplomatic, with rare creativeness and unrivalled determination. He put the stamp of his outstanding revolutionary personality to all the stages through which the National Liberation War of the Albanian people developed, to the battles in which the enemies were defeated, and the foundations of the victory over fascism were laid.

As for our people, they contributed beyond their powers. The human and material losses, in proportion to the territory, the size of the population and the economic potential of the country are greater than those which others have suffered.

The Albanian people were few in numbers, but they had plenty of courage and a noble spirit, great hatred for the enemies and loyalty to their friends. Their means were scarce and their economy was weak, but they,

were progressive in thinking and heroic in actions.

Albania was one of the first victims to fascist aggression, but it was also one of the first to rise arms in hand against it. When the Albanian people received the fascist legions with bullets on the shores of Durrës and Vlora, Shëngjin and Saranda, they were alone, while the so-called democratic Europe stood by and watched how the Roman she-wolf was tearing at a small country. It was the time when Britain, France, America and other countries hoped that by allowing the fascist beast to bite outside their spheres of influence and zones of their direct interests, they would turn its attention from themselves. However, concessions, compromises and bargains on their part could not check the spread of the fire of war. Soon the whole of Europe was involved in fires and paid very dearly for the policy of neutrality and non-interference of its leaders.

The fact that the Albanian people received fascism arms in hand and were not curbed by violence or taken in by deception adds to their honour and glory, because by so doing they told the great powers that they could enter into as many treaties and agreements as they wanted, but the destinies of the peoples could not be decided either in München or in Rome, either in Paris or in London.

When the Albanian people began their resistance to fascist invasion they knew that European states, both the big and the small ones, were not preoccupied by the fate that awaited Albania, therefore they did not expect any immediate aid from them. They knew also that the invaders were very powerful and savage, and that their forces in the field of battle could not be compared with the 8 million bayonets of Mussolini. But they were not

intimidated or discouraged by this. They dug out the rifles used in the erstwhile uprisings and began the war for freedom regardless of how long it would last and what its cost would be.

The crackles of the rifles of the Albanian resistance fighters in the spring of the year 1939, naturally, were not as loud as the gunshots which exploded in the autumn of that same year. But they were the first harbingers which showed that the fascist aggressions would not be triumphant marches, as Mussolini and Hitler thought, and that the policy of non-interference of Chamberlain and Daladier was bankrupt. It showed that the peoples would not submit to the use of force and to the policy of big powers, that they were taking their fate into their own hands.

Today, when all the balances are drawn and analyses made of the anti-fascist world war, it has been proved that victory goes to those peoples who place the freedom and independence of their homeland above everything. Those peoples who are determined to make the sublime sacrifice for this cause in any situation and under any circumstance. Only those peoples who are not afraid of the big and the mighty, who have the courage and boldness to oppose and clash with enemies, can resist and win.

The history of the Second World War and, especially, that of our National Liberation War proved a still greater truth. It proved that freedom and independence is won by those peoples who do not expect them from others, but win them with their own forces, who create their own means and organisms to defend and guarantee them.

The Italian fascists and German nazis, after suffering defeat on the great fronts, would have retreated from the

enslaved countries as they eventually did. But if our people had not liberated themselves with their own forces, if at the end of the war they would not have set up their own army and state, and above all, if they had not gained a clearly defined political awareness, the place of the former invaders would have been taken by new ones. We are witnesses of what happened in many countries of Europe which expected freedom to come to them ready, served on a plate. It was proved that the peoples who won their freedom with war had the conviction, resolve and courage to defend it later against any attempt to rob them of it.

The theory of waiting for freedom to come from others was a theory and a policy which not only was supported by the reactionary forces, by those who did not want to fight or who collaborated with the invaders, as was the case of the Balli Kombëtar in Albania, but also was championed and propagated also by the Anglo-Americans who wanted to establish their hegemony every-where.

Slogans like those which said that «Fascist Italy and nazi Germany are big powers and we can do nothing to them», or «Why should we get killed in vain when the British and the Americans will come to liberate us», or «Let's keep in good terms with the occupiers, because they will leave on their own», etc., had nothing to do with tactics. They expressed and represented the plan of preserving the old political order and class privileges. There were also many harmful mentalities and views cultivated by foreign invaders and the ruling classes in their service. This created many difficulties because it was precisely with the old political mentality and practice that the Balli Kombëtar and other enemies played their games.

The Party reached victory in this

field because it knew not only how to defeat it, but also how to affirm and produce arguments to prove the validity of entirely new principles connected with the political and economic independence of the country, with the national and popular sovereignty, with its relations with allies and hostile states, etc. These principles were very rapidly adopted by the people because they expressed their real desires, because they defended the loftiest interests of the Homeland, because they showed on what secure bases the new state of the new Albania would be built.

The aim of the anti-fascist war was to ensure general liberation, liberation from old mentalities of submission and capitulation spread by the enemies, liberation from all complexes of inferiority to big powers, liberation of the physical and mental forces for the defence of achievements made and for coping with the future.

Right from the start, the Party put forward the question that unlike in the past, the liberation of the country would lead to its complete independence without any political obligation or without making it conditional on foreign powers. Consequently, only an independent struggle, politically and militarily unconditioned on others, would be able to realize this objective. Moreover, as regards the question of independence in political stands, complete sovereignty on decision-making, which had to do with the life and destiny of Albania, the Communist Party of Albania and the leadership of the National Liberation War, with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, did not put them off until the war was over but resolved them while the war was in progress. The decision adopted at the Congress of Përmet which refuses to recognize the agreements entered into by the

old Albanian state with foreign states, marks a change of historic importance in the international relations of Albania. In practice, it showed that the time when the destinies of Albania were decided in the capitals of Europe had gone for ever, that the foreign policy of the new Albania, which was born in the heat of the liberation war, would be a policy in the service of the sovereign interests of the country, the defence of its complete political and economic independence.

It was clear that by refuting the agreements dictated and imposed on our people by foreigners, the Albanian people would never accept such other agreements in the future. Foreigners were to leave Albania without a trace.

Our National Liberation Movement did not recognize to the big powers and foreign states the right to discuss or decide those questions which had to do with the fate of Albania and the Albanian people.

If events in Albania did not develop as they did in the neighbouring countries in which the individuals who led the war entered into negotiations with the kings and governments in exile in London and submitted, in different extents, to interference and pressure by the British and others, a thing which cost them very dearly eventually, this is due to the revolutionary and far-sighted policy of our Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha.

The firm and categorical refusal of the attempts of the Mediterranean Allied Headquarters to subordinate the war of the Albanian people to the «allied strategy», the categorical refusal to receive any kind of approval from this headquarters before carrying out actions or taking our stands towards the various political forces within the country, were one

of the outstanding acts of profound revolutionary content in the field of international policy in the period of war, taken by the Commander-in-Chief of the National Liberation Army. This played a decisive role in determining the fates of the development of the war and the future of the Homeland.

In the relations with countries and movements which fought against fascism, the Communist Party of Albania and the leadership of the National Liberation War proceeded from the principle that these relations should and could be built on the basis of equality only. Relationships of commanding and dictation could not exist now with the Albanians.

However, while fighting for complete independence and sovereignty, the Albanian National Liberation Movement did not want to isolate itself and act in dissociation from the great antifascist coalition, without contacts and collaboration with the national liberation movements of the neighbouring countries. On the contrary, it sought and established contact by working tirelessly for the creation of fruitful collaboration in the interests of the common cause, the overthrow of fascism and the liberation of peoples from bondage to it.

From the time when the Communist Party of Albania was created and took upon itself the leadership of the liberation movement, it declared that the war of the Albanian people would be inseparable from the war which the countries of the great anti-fascist coalition were waging, but, at the same time, it declared that it would link itself up especially with the war of the Soviet Union. The question here was not only about ideological affinities. This orientation, which represented a clear political platform, showed that the Albanian people wanted to link themselves up with the

most progressive forces in the coalition, with those forces which were consistent opponents of fascism, with their ideology and its practice, which were sincerely on the side of the peoples and completely irreconcilable with imperialism. The Soviet Union, the state which emerged from the October Revolution and was led by a consistent bolshevik like Stalin, constituted a great guarantee that the war would be carried through to the end, to the complete destruction of nazi Germany and the collaborationist forces, that this war could not end up with a compromise, which would have spelt catastrophe for the enslaved peoples. The question of carrying the war through to the end was a question of life and death for the forces of anti-fascist resistance. The total destruction of nazi invaders meant the total destruction of collaborationists, the fascist regimes set up or supported by them. A compromise, in the lines suggested by some circles not without influence in the West, would have enabled these reactionary forces to change patrons quickly and to find new champions who would prop up their oppressive regimes. Moreover, for the countries where the liberation wars were led by communists, as Albania, Yugoslavia, Greece, etc., Britain and the United States of America had worked out a clear policy of saving the reactionary forces and transforming them into their allies after the war. Anglo-American representatives were attached to the staffs of Ballists, Cetnici, Zervists, and others, not to encourage them to abandon the Germans, as they said for propaganda aims, but to organize them and throw them into actions against the partisans, to train them to seize power when the appropriate moment came.

The development of events showed

the correctness of our Party in the selection and differentiation between the anti-fascist allies. The Soviet Union recognized our National Liberation War and the right of Albania to self-determination without reservations, without afterthought and without conditions attached, as Britain and the United States did.

In his major works, *The Anglo-American Threat to Albania*, *Laying the Foundations of the New Albania*, *The Titoites*, etc., Comrade Enver Hoxha has made a detailed analysis of the causes of the known conflicts between us, on the one hand, and the Anglo-American allies and the representatives of the Yugoslav national liberation movement, on the other hand, as well as the stands which the leadership of the Party and the National Liberation War of Albania maintained towards them.

It is true that the British had entered the war against nazi Germany, but they preserved and defended their old empire-building plans and conceptions. They wanted to reduce the Germany of that time to submission, because it was a danger and rival their spheres of domination and influence. Moreover, guided by this policy, they directed most of their efforts in the field of diplomacy not so much towards increasing the efficiency of the coalition and assisting the rapid liberation of the peoples from nazi bondage, as towards manoeuvres to ensure their expansion and hegemony after the war with the least expenditure. This strategy could not but come into opposition with the liberation, democratic, anti-imperialist spirit which the anti-fascist war had taken in an irreversible manner.

What the Anglo-Americans did not want to understand was that the peoples under fascist bondage had not risen against it in order to change

one kind of yoke for another. The political awareness of the peoples had developed greatly and they were convinced now that the imperialist policy of the big powers was responsible for the great tragedy in which the whole world had been involved. Their conviction was strengthened still more when they saw that both London and Washington were making alliances with and giving open moral, political and even military support to friends of and collaborators with nazi-fascist, quislings and traitors.

But British colonialist ideology and traditional anti-communism, the undermining and subversive activity of its representatives, were powerless in face of the liberation ideals of our people. They could not stop them from achieving their freedom, independence and complete sovereignty. In Albania they came up against the determination of the Anti-fascist Liberation Movement, led by the Communist Party with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, not to make the slightest concession and compromise, to cut their grabby hands from the first attempt and to close all paths from which they might try to pass in the future.

Therefore, the victory achieved by our National Liberation War against the Anglo-American policy which was aimed at preserving old reactionary regimes and at establishing their hegemony, was of no less importance than the victory achieved over the German nazis and Italian fascists.

The Albanian people, who had been enslaved for centuries on end during their history, have lofty feelings of solidarity with the peoples who fight for national liberation against foreign yoke. From the time of Skanderbeg and for ever after, Albanian volunteers participated in the

battles for freedom fought by the neighbouring peoples of Rumania and Greece, of Bulgaria and Italy of Garibaldi.

But the National Liberation War imparted a new meaning and content to this feeling of solidarity, not only made it more massive, but also gave it its political awareness. The common historical fates of the neighbouring peoples of the Balkans, the struggle against common enemies, required a new form of collaboration, a new spirit in the relations between them, a realistic reflection of the past and a correct view of the perspective.

These new stands, this objective analysis and examination of the situation created by the war opened the road of rapprochement with and collaboration between the national liberation movements of the neighbouring peoples of Yugoslavia and Greece, to the humane and generous stand towards Italian soldiers who were abandoned in Albania after the capitulation of fascist Italy.

In establishing this collaboration, our Communist Party and our leadership of the National Liberation War proceeded not only from the immediate needs of the war, such as the mutual assistance to cope with fascist aggression, co-ordination of military actions in order to increase their striking effect, etc. These things, certainly, had their importance, which was very great because the main thing at that time was to drive the enemies from our territories as soon as possible, to liberate the peoples from foreign yoke as soon as possible. But these connections and this collaboration, which emerged from such a great test as was the common war against fascism, were seen by the Communist Party and the National Liberation Movement of Albania as a basis for the establishment of entirely new relations

between states and peoples of the Balkans.

Foreign powers had transformed our peninsula into a powder keg, they dominated it and did what they liked with it. By dividing and splitting up the peoples of the Balkans, by pitting them against one another and fanning up hostilities among them, they preserved their own domination and played with their destinies whenever they wanted and as they liked. The governments of the Balkan countries, with puppet kings at their heads, not only were sold out governments, but also were the most reactionary governments which existed in Europe. The fact is that the ruling classes in the Balkans made common cause with the invaders and served them to the end. But foreign patrons and local traitors never succeeded in curbing the freedom-loving spirit of the Balkan peoples, their insurgent spirit, their courage and valour. It is not accidental that the liberation movements of the Balkans were among the most widespread and most powerful of Europe. No other enslaved people of our continent have displayed such a spirit of selflessness and made so many sacrifices as our people have made.

The possibilities existed, the more so since the liberation movements of the Balkans were led by the communists, for these countries to free themselves of old animosities which were imposed on them by reactionary bourgeoisie and foreigners, to march towards the future with a true spirit of fraternity and friendship, to establish sincere and fruitful collaboration in the interests of the Balkan peoples, for the creation of mutual and general security.

Proceeding from these sincere desires and noble aims, the Commander-in-Chief of the National Liberation

Army of Albania, Comrade Enver Hoxha, ordered two divisions and thousands of other fighters to Yugoslavia to fight together with the Yugoslav partisans against the common fascist enemy.

Albania was liberated sooner than other enslaved countries, but the Albanian fighters did not consider their duty completed. As long as nazi Germany and its allies had not capitulated, the war could not be considered to be over and freedom secured. Moreover, just as other peoples with their war against fascist hordes were contributing to the liberation of our country, so our people made their contribution to their liberation.

The war of the Albanian partisans in Yugoslavia represents one of the most glorious chapters in the history of the National Liberation Army of Albania. Their heroism and sacrifices, their internationalist solidarity, the lofty feeling of militant love for the Yugoslav partisans and sincere fraternal links with the peoples of Yugoslavia, characterized them in every step and every action throughout the time of their stay in that neighbouring country. The presence and war of the Albanian partisans in Kosova, Macedonia and Montenegro gave a great impulse to the Albanians in Yugoslavia to rise in war against fascist invaders and the Ballist, Cetnici and other collaborators. It strengthened especially their conviction that this was the best road to realize their right of self-determination after the war.

But those who took over in Yugoslavia after liberation refused to take the hand that the new Albania extended to them and followed the old policy of Serbian kings towards it. In Kosova and other regions inhabited by Albanians, the rights to which they aspired during the Na-

tional Liberation War were not realized.

History has its own ups and downs. Progressive developments, for which much blood is shed and many sacrifices are made, are not always realized.

But there is one thing which cannot be suppressed and snuffed out. This is the freedom-loving aspiration, the desire of the peoples to live in harmony and friendship among themselves, the effort to establish a sincere collaboration of mutual interest. The day will certainly come when the ideals for which the peoples of the Balkans rose in the Anti-Fascist War triumph everywhere.

We have returned and will always return to our National Liberation War not only because it is the most glorious epic of our people, the most brilliant page in the thousand-years long history of Albania, but also because it is the inexhaustible source of lessons for the preservation and development of our free life, the source of light to see our correct future road. In moments of joy or grief, in

moments of victories or setbacks, our people will always draw from it clarity and courage, determination and valour to cope with any situation, any threat and danger from whatever quarter they may come.

The National Liberation War, led by the Party with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, gave our people new qualities which increased the vitality and virtues which were formed in centuries-long wars, gave them an ideology, an entirely new policy and moral principles on which the internal and external relations of our country would be built and develop.

It gave the Albanian people the invincible weapons to fight and emerge triumphant in the long political, economic, ideological and psychological struggle which the various enemies have waged for more than 40 years against our free life. Speaking at the solemn rally in Tirana on April 15, Comrade Ramiz Alia said, «The Albanian communists and people defeated the intrigues and threats of

the imperialists one after another, coped with the anti-Albanian attacks of the Titoite revisionists, resisted the pressures of the Khrushchevites with success, and were not deceived by the perfidy of the Chinese revisionists.»

It is the ideals of the National Liberation War, the blood shed and innumerable sacrifices made for the freedom and independence of the Homeland which always make us vigilant and irreconcilable with imperialism and social-imperialism, with the policy of Reagan and Gorbachov, with NATO and the Warsaw Treaty, with the Common Market and Comecon, with the military umbrellas and other circles of the imperialist-revisionist hell.

With the experience of our National Liberation War and inspired by it, with the Party in the forefront and with the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha in our minds and hearts, the banner of freedom and independence will fly for ever high in Albania, our Republic will always advance on the brilliant road of socialism.

LESSONS THAT OUGHT NOT TO BE FORGOTTEN

by AGIM POPA

Peace today cannot be defended without the peoples rising to a man in the struggle against the two superpowers, against both American imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism as the main cause of tension in the world and of the threat of a new general war

THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR AND THE HISTORIC VICTORY OVER FASCISM IS NOT SIMPLY AN ACT OF HOMAGE TO THE PEOPLES THAT FOUGHT TO OVERTHROW THE HATEFUL ORDER OF FASCIST BONDAGE WHICH THREATENED THE WHOLE WORLD, AN ACT OF RESPECT TO THOSE MILLIONS WHO LAID DOWN THEIR LIVES FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF VICTORY, OR AN OCCASION TO REMEMBER THE INNUMERABLE VICTIMS AND SACRIFICES OF THE PEOPLES DURING THE YEARS OF THE GREATEST, THE BLOODIEST AND THE MOST DESTRUCTIVE WAR THE HISTORY OF MANKIND HAS EVER KNOWN. THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO DRAW THE PROPER LESSONS, TO SEE WHICH WERE THE FACTORS WHICH LED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FASCISM AND THE OUTBREAK OF THE WAR, AND HOW THE STRUGGLE AGAINST WAR AND THE FASCIST THREAT SHOULD WE WAGED. THESE LESSONS ARE OF VITAL IMPORTANCE IN OUR DAYS WHEN, WITH THE POLICIES THEY FOLLOW, WORLD IMPERIALISM, ESPECIALLY THE TWO SUPERPOWERS, AMERICAN IMPERIALISM AND SOVIET SOCIAL-IMPERIALISM, AND THEIR AGGRESSIVE MILITARY BLOCS, ARE PUSHING THE WORLD TOWARDS A NEW, DESTRUCTIVE GENERAL WAR.

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It is a fact that the same phenomena which led to the outbreak of the two world wars are occurring again today before our eyes in ever more alarming proportions.

The exacerbation of the international situation and the increase of the threat of war, Comrade Enver Hoxha

Report delivered by Prof. AGIM POPA at the Scientific Conference on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism.

pointed out at the 8th Congress of the PLA, become ever more acute because of the grave economic, political and ideological crisis which has struck the capitalist and revisionist world today.

The entire period after the Second World War is filled with economic crises following one after the other. However, the present crisis, which began in the seventies, is the gravest

deep-going crisis of all. This crisis is going on for a very long time and the capitalist-revisionist society is proving incapable of coping with it.

This crisis has led to a great exacerbation of inter-imperialist contradictions, a sharpening of the competition and struggle between the imperialist powers for markets, spheres of influence, sources of primary materials and energy, zones of capital export, etc.

In particular, with their exploitative, expansionist and aggressive policy, with their strategy geared to world domination, the two superpowers are today the main source of the exacerbation of the situation in the world and the increase of the threat of war. The PLA has constantly stressed this point.

In the present conditions of a protracted, profound crisis, the policy and activity of the superpowers is characterized by a pronounced enhancement of their aggressiveness. If in the past in the relations between the two superpowers, as well as between the two military blocs which are led and manipulated by them — NATO and the Warsaw Treaty, there was a policy of maintaining an equilibrium

of some kind, of respecting each other's zones of influence and of going in step in the armaments race, today, as a result of the general crisis and unequal development, the policy of confrontation and disequilibrium is prevailing, with reactions and consequences which cannot be foreseen. Hence, there exists a state of imbalance fraught with the threat of armed conflicts which can lead mankind to a general imperialist war.

An expression and, at the same time, a result of the increased aggressiveness of the superpowers, and world imperialism, in general, is the feverish militarization of the economy and the frenzied armaments race, which is expressed either in the quantitative and qualitative development of missiles and nuclear weapons or in the build-up and sophistication of the so-called conventional armaments. This constitutes one of the more characteristic phenomena of our times. The military budgets of the two superpowers are growing to unheard-of proportions from one year to the other. The military budget of the USA has risen from 14.4 billion dollars in 1947 to 222 billion dollars in 1980, and from 265 billion dollars in 1984 it will go up to about 314 billion dollars in the financial year 1985-1986. The military budget of the Soviet social-imperialists has grown to similar proportions and at similar rates, as it clearly emerges from the statements of the Soviet leaders to the effect that they have never allowed nor will they ever allow the USA to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union. Such military expenditure in time of peace is unexampled in world history and there is nothing in the past that can be compared to it.

The aggressive and war-mongering nature and policy of world imperialism, American imperialism and So-

viet social-imperialism in particular, is clearly expressed, among other things, in the creation of «hot zones» and the outbreak of local wars which are stirred up by the superpowers and the other imperialist powers to further their expansionist aims, to create pretexts for their presence or intervention, to stamp out the revolutionary and liberation movements in different countries and zones, to maintain a state of tension and to pave the road for the profitable armaments trade. Local wars are, at the same time, used as some kind of «security valve», a means of reducing tensions between the superpowers, so as, for the time being, neither of them will have to set out on a course of global confrontation which might have catastrophic consequences for themselves, in the first place. However, as Comrade Enver Hoxha said, «local wars prepare the ground for aggressors to unleash wars on a broader scale, they are tactical moves of the general strategy of the imperialists for a global imperialist war».¹

In many of its documents and materials, the Party of Labour of Albania has forcefully drawn the attention to these alarming phenomena which are fraught with the real threat of a new world war which, in the conditions of the existence of modern weapons of unimaginable destructive power, could have extremely grave consequences for the whole mankind.

The period before the Second World War was characterized by the advent to power of fascism in some countries, by the establishment of the most savage dictatorship of the bourgeoisie bent on putting down by violence the revolutionary movement of the masses and enslaving other peoples. In our time, in the conditions of the deep-going and all-round crisis which has the whole world capi-

talist-revisionist system in its grip, of the great exacerbation of all internal and external contradictions of capitalism, there is a clear tendency to the resuscitation of fascism and the establishment of fascist dictatorships. As the 8th Congress of the PLA pointed out, fascism is knocking at the door of many countries. This is seen, among other things, in the fascization of the state apparatus, the adoption of anti-worker laws and the enforcement of repressive military-police measures against strikes, movements of protest, etc., the revival of neo-fascist forces and different terrorist groups regardless of their eventual «Leftist» labels, the establishment of open military-fascist dictatorship in several countries, or social-fascist regimes in a number of countries ruled by the revisionists. In particular, the policy of American imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism is assuming ever more essentially fascist features with each passing day.

So, the facts prove that today fascism, although in forms different from those of Hitler and Mussolini, hangs menacingly over many countries and may take advantage of the further exacerbation of the crisis of the capitalist order and the preparations for a new imperialist general war. This is a real and not imaginary threat which calls for high vigilance and resolute actions on the part of the peoples and revolutionary forces to stop it.

As the experience shows, the two world wars broke out also as a result of the venturesome course of the war-mongering imperialist circles in power, with their wrong calculations and their hopes and illusions about the possibility of circumscribing the war in space and time, of the achievement of an easy and rapid victory.

In our time, too, we are seeing that,

going by their aggressor and warmongering logic, the imperialist and social-imperialist ruling circles are making miscalculations which lead them to dangerous confrontations up to the unleashing of a new destructive world conflagration.

By following the line of fierce confrontation with the Soviet social-imperialists and by deploying American missiles in Western Europe, the Reagan administration stakes on a war between the Warsaw Treaty and NATO on European territory, away from the shores of America. As Comrade Enver Hoxha indicates, the Chinese social-imperialists, too, want a head-on collision between the United States of America and the Soviet Union in Europe. Good sense, however, suggests that such calculations are only dangerous illusions for those who make them, in the first place, as well as the world in general, which may be hurled into a general conflict with extremely grave consequences for mankind.

It is publicly known now that the Pentagon and NATO have worked out a number of military-strategic doctrines, theories and plans which go under different denominations — «flexible reply», «first strike», «air-land battle», «Rogers plan», «star war», etc., but which are all based on a common calculation: to achieve victory in an eventual war by means of a first or unilateral strike, giving the adversary no possibility or time to reply. The Soviet social-imperialists, too, base themselves on the plan of dealing their adversary a shattering blow, which is clearly evident from both the speeches of their leaders and their official declarations, when they say that they have all the means to carry such a threat into effect.

By pushing the world towards a new war, world imperialism and so-

cial-imperialism, especially the two superpowers, intend — and this is not the least important part of their plans, to deal a shattering blow at the revolution and the liberation struggles of the peoples, so as to ensure «tranquility» for their rule over the workers and peoples. However, their calculations are destined to failure. Neither police and fascist oppression, nor social demagogy, nor imperialist war can alter the laws of history, can eliminate the class and liberation struggles from the life of society divided into antagonistic classes, or save capitalism and imperialism from their inevitable doom.

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The Marxist-Leninist hold that, as long as imperialism exists, different wars — unjust wars of oppression, aggression and plunder unleashed by the imperialists, as well as just revolutionary and liberation wars, are inevitable. Referring to unjust imperialist wars, Lenin emphasized: «The proletariat fights and will always resolutely fight against war, without, at the same time, forgetting for a moment that wars can be eliminated only when the whole division of society into classes is eliminated.»²

Hence, the conclusion that if, in general, wars are inevitable as long as imperialism, exists, this does not mean in the least that this or that concrete war cannot be avoided or prevented, otherwise the struggle of the proletariat and the peoples against war would be meaningless. There are many historical facts to prove this. From this stand-point, a new world war in the present time is not a fatality, but only a possibility.

On this question our Party has refuted both the preachings of the

Soviet and other revisionists to the effect that world wars can be totally excluded from the life of human society even before the collapse of imperialism which engenders them, preachings intended to negate the absolute necessity of the revolution and the overthrow of capitalism as the only real road to eliminate wars from human society, as well as the thesis of the Chinese revisionists on the inevitability of a new world war in the present time, which serves them to justify their venturesome policy of stirring up a war between American imperialism and Soviet socialimperialism. The imperialists and social-imperialists head for war, but they are not completely free to act as they wish. But what is to be done, Comrade Enver Hoxha asked, to stay the hand of the imperialist warmongers? «This cannot be achieved through a course of capitulation and submission to imperialist warmongers, or by toning down the struggle against them. The facts have proved that the unprincipled compromises and concessions of the Khrushchevite revisionists did not make American imperialism any tamer, better behaved, or more peaceful, but on the contrary, they made it more arrogant and voracious. But the Marxist-Leninists are not for pitting one imperialist state or grouping against the other, nor do they call for imperialist wars, for it is the peoples who suffer in them... Marxist-Leninists have always been and are the most determined opponents of unjust wars.»³

The Party of Labour of Albania has stressed many a time that for avoiding and preventing the outbreak of a new imperialist world war and ensuring peace, it is necessary to free the minds of peace-loving peoples from a number of complexes and psychoses which continue to be encouraged by

imperialism and world reaction, the two most dangerous enemies of peace and security — American imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism, in the first place.

Historical experience teaches us to reject the doctrine of the superpowers based on the «policy from position of strength» as a means supposed to avoid the threat of war and ensure peace. Such is today Reagan's doctrine of achieving superiority over American's rival, Soviet social-imperialism, through the armaments race and talks from positions of strength, which must bring it to its senses and prevent it from embarking on an aggressive course and, in this manner, ensure peace and security in the world. The same, in essence, is the doctrine of the Soviet social-imperialists on the so-called «military strategical parity» between the two superpowers and their two military blocs, which Soviet and pro-Soviet propaganda advertizes as «a decisive premise for peaceful coexistence and the prevention of a nuclear war», «the factor which enabled Europe to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the end of the Second World War in conditions of peace», a powerful means to contain the aggressive circles of imperialism from a nuclear adventure, etc. As is seen, here we have to do with the same imperialist logic intended to deceive the peoples, to justify the frenzied armaments race and the aggressive and warmongering policy of the superpowers.

It is clear that a policy built on these concepts («from positions of strength», etc.) is a dangerous policy of balancing on the brink of war which may easily lead to an actual war. Dealing with these imperialist concepts at the 7th Congress of the PLA, Comrade Enver Hoxha forcefully stressed: «The People's Republic

of Albania does not accept and publicly exposes the so-called theory about the need to preserve the «balance between the superpowers» as a condition or basis to avoid war and defend peace. Peace and international security in Europe and in the world are not achieved through the establishment of 'harmony' or balance between the superpowers, but through struggle against imperialist pressures and intervention, through the effort for the liberation of the peoples, through the strengthening of national independence and sovereignty.»⁴

Our Party has also rejected and exposed the American-Soviet imperialist doctrine of «umbrella talks» between the two superpowers as an effective means and guarantee for preventing war and ensuring peace. The essence of this doctrine is that the peoples should leave their fate and that of the whole world, the fate of peace and international security, in the hands of the superpowers and put themselves under the «protective umbrella» of either superpower. But it is common knowledge that the two superpowers, the American imperialism and the Soviet social-imperialism, are the main cause of international tension, that they are leading the world towards a new general holocaust. The so-called disarmament talks of the two superpowers are a great bluff and utter deception.

Everyday that goes by proves true with new facts that the clamour of the two superpowers about disarmament, their interminable plans and projects, their never-ending conferences and talks are only a smokescreen to cover up and justify their armaments race. In the reality, in their talks there is no question about real disarmament, but only about an equilibrium between the two superpowers which, armed to the teeth, want to

maintain their nuclear monopoly to the detriment of other countries which in this way remain at the mercy of the superpowers and have to submit to their nuclear blackmail. These countries are left with the «consolation» that the superpowers will eventually pledge their «word of honour», that they will not employ their nuclear weapons against non-nuclear countries in whose territories there are no such weapons!

But it is known what the pledges and commitments of the superpowers are worth. Their policy and actions are characterized by perfidy and the unscrupulous violation of agreements and pledges. Everyday we hear the two superpowers accusing each other of the violation of the agreements reached on this or that kind of armaments. They need these accusations to justify the continuation of their frenzied armaments race.

One of the historical lessons of the Second World War is precisely that the talks and agreements between the imperialist powers about disarmament, peace and international security have led only to the preparation and unleashing of aggressions and wars. This lesson should never be forgotten. Our Party adheres firmly to the thesis, whose correctness has been proved by the experience of many years, that both when the two superpowers come together and reach an understanding and when they compete and quarrel with each other, it is others that pay the bills.

Faced with the mighty upsurge of world opinion against the nuclear armaments race of the superpowers, these are forced to embark on an all-out demagogical campaign for nuclear disarmament. However, imperialism, the superpowers and their agents, such as the modern revisionists and others, try to propagate the

idea as if only the nuclear armaments pose a threat to mankind, while passing in silence or covering up their unrestrained competition in conventional armaments and the danger threatening the peoples, the whole mankind from the outbreak of wars waged with this kind of weapons. It is absolutely necessary to refute this idea which is supported by the aggressive and war-mongering forces, too.

It is clear that the preparations of the superpowers and the other imperialist and social-imperialist powers for war are based both on nuclear and conventional weapons. Our Party has stressed that «Albania is resolutely against war and for peace and genuine security, against atomic and conventional armaments, and for the liquidation of all nuclear or conventional weapons», that «ignoring the threat of conventional weapons may cost the peoples very dear», that «the struggle against imperialist war and genuine peace cannot be imagined without opposing conventional armaments.»⁵

With the advent to power of the revisionists in the Soviet Union, after Stalin's death, and its degeneration from the great homeland of socialism and the staunch defender of peace and international security into a capitalist country, along with the United States of America, another just as dangerous, aggressive and war-mongering superpower — Soviet social-imperialism, emerged on the world scene. In order to lull the vigilance of the peoples to sleep and to manipulate their movement against war, the Soviet social-imperialists and their supporters propagate the thesis that, as in the time of the October Revolution and the Second World War, today, too, the peoples and peace-loving forces must rally around the Soviet Union, the supposed powerful

bastion of anti-imperialism, peace and peoples' freedom. This dangerous demagoguery must be exposed and rejected. Comrade Enver Hoxha said, «The peoples must not fall into the trap of the so-called 'anti-imperialist front' advertised by the Soviet social-imperialists in which they are seeking to embroil all those who are opposed to and fight against United States imperialism. To join this 'front' means to sacrifice the loftiest interests of your country, to expose the people to danger, to become a minion of the social-imperialists and cannon fodder for their ambitions. The contradictions of the Soviet Union and the United States of America are not contradictions between socialism and imperialism, as Moscow is trying to pass them off, but contradictions between two big imperialist powers.»⁵ Peace today cannot be defended without the peoples rising to a man in the struggle against the two superpowers, against both American imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism, as the main cause of tension in the world and of the threat of a new general war.

The road of an effective opposition to the policy of the superpowers is not that of «non-alignment» preached by the Yugoslav revisionists, or «equidistance» from the military blocs, etc. First of all, the «non-alignment» preached by the Titoites is only a fiction, a hoax. Yugoslavia is *de facto* aligned to one or the other superpower, follows an internal and external policy in their service. The essence of the Titoite preachings about «non-alignment» and the «movement of the non aligned», which have met with the approval and support of the two superpowers and the other imperialist powers, is to divert the peoples from the resolute struggle against imperialism and social-imperialism, to sabotage their revolutionary and libera-

tion struggles. This movement of non-involvement in the resolute struggle against imperialism and the superpowers can by no means be a factor for the maintenance of peace and the strengthening of international security, on the contrary, with the illusions it spreads, it leaves a free hand to the imperialist and social-imperialist warmongers.

The acute and vital question that poses itself today when we commemorate the 40th anniversary of the end of the Second World War and the victory over aggressive and war-mongering fascism, is: «What must be done in the face of the threat of a new even more destructive war to which imperialism and the superpowers are pushing the world?»

The historical experience of the Second World War brought to the fore with particular force the great importance of the powerful role of the peoples who rose bravely in the resistance to fascism and, with their determined struggle, became one of the decisive factors of the victory over fascism. This lesson is of primary importance for the present struggle against the threat of a new world war. In 1951 the great Stalin declared: «Peace will be preserved and strengthened if the peoples take the question of the defence of peace into their own hands and defend it to the end. War may become inevitable if the warmongers are able to deceive the masses of the people, if they succeed in deceiving them and throwing them into a new world war.»⁶

Hence, it is necessary for the peoples to sharpen their vigilance and rise in resolute actions to stay the hand of the imperialist and social-imperialist warmongers. Not the pacifist illusions spread by the war-mongering forces to lull the peoples to sleep, not the hopes on talks and agreements

between American imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism which conspire against the peoples, not realiance on this or that superpower and their military blocs or the other imperialist powers, but the blow-for-blow struggle against imperialism, the two superpowers, in the first place, and the other imperialist powers so as to prevent them from leading the world into a new holocaust, that is what is required in the present time. Comrade Enver Hoxha said, «The important thing is that the peoples do not fall into fatalism, become passive observers and be caught unawares; they must be prepared for the worst and fight to prevent it from occurring.»⁷

The struggles and efforts of the working class and the masses of the working people, of the freedom-loving peoples, of the revolutionary, patriotic, democratic and peace-loving forces, their resistance to the aggressive and inhuman policy of imperialism, the two superpowers, in particular, are decisive factors against the world capitalist and imperialist system, which deepen the splits in the capitalist alliances and exacerbate inter-imperialist contradictions, which hinder and prevent the realization of the enslaving and war-mongering plans of imperialism.

As far as Europe is concerned, our Party has made its stand clear that, not such illusory meetings as that of Helsinki or Stockholm at which the superpowers have the initial and last word; but only resolute opposition to American imperialism, Soviet social-imperialism and any other imperialism, liquidation of aggressive blocs, NATO and the Warsaw Treaty, removal of nuclear weapons and missiles, of foreign troops and bases, rejection of any foreign dictate and tutelage, are the only effective way for ensuring peace on our continent.

However, as the 8th Congress of the PLA points out, the development of events will show whether imperialism will be able to hurl the world into a new catastrophe, or the peoples will succeed in preventing the war and saving mankind. Hence, the peoples must be prepared for both possibilities; on one hand, to struggle with all the forces and means at their disposal to prevent the outbreak of a new war, to stay the hand of the warmongers and to foil their plans; on the other hand, to keep in mind and rightly assess the other possibility, too, that of the outbreak of a war so that they are not caught unawares but know how to go about it if the war cannot be avoided.

The Marxist-Leninist analysis of the current conditions shows that in our time the struggle for the prevention of war and the defence of peace is closely linked with the revolutionary struggle for the overthrow of the bourgeoisie and imperialism. In this situation, Comrade Enver Hoxha said at the 8th Congress of the Party, «the peoples' war and the revolution are on the agenda, not only as aspirations and immediate tasks for liberation from capitalist oppression and imperialist yoke, but also as historical necessities to defeat the war-mongering plans of imperialism and avert a new general war.»⁸

In the present conditions the teachings of the great Lenin about the necessity of the overthrow of capitalism, which is the source of war, through the transformation of the imperialist war into a revolutionary civil war and the triumph of socialism as the only real road to save mankind from all wars, sound very topical and have vital importance. Our Party adheres consistently to these teachings. In connection with this, Comrade Enver

Hoxha wrote: «Lenin taught the communist revolutionaries that their duty is to smash the war-mongering plans of imperialism and prevent the outbreak of war. If they cannot achieve this, then they must mobilize the working class, the masses of the people, and transform the imperialist war into a revolutionary liberation war.»⁹

The modern revisionists, like the renegades from the 2nd International exposed by Lenin in his time, try to ignore precisely this link between the struggle for peace and the revolutionary and liberation struggle against the bourgeoisie and imperialism, for their overthrow. They stand totally on the positions of bourgeois pacifism, deny the necessity of any revolutionary action, make the question of socialism and the liberation of the peoples dependent on «détente» under the pretext that the struggle for peace today is a decisive factor also for the solution of problems of social and national liberation which preoccupy the working people and the peoples of the world. The revisionists turn things upside down, they even consider the revolutionary movements undesirable allegedly for the sake of avoiding the threat of a nuclear conflict. These preachings, however, which take off the agenda any revolutionary task are not only a betrayal of the cause of the working class, but also a disservice to the cause of the defence of peace and the avoidance of war. Hence, the exposure of these preachings is an absolutely necessity for an effective struggle against the threat of a new war which hangs over mankind in the present time.

The facts prove that in the period before and during the Second World War the communists played a decisive role in leading the anti-fascist resistance of the peoples and their

liberation struggle against the fascist occupiers. This, too, is an important lesson. In the struggle that is being waged today to avert the threat of war and to stop it, if it breaks out, a great role of vital importance belongs to the true revolutionary Marxist-Leninist parties. They see their role in enhancing the political awareness of the masses, in making them conscious of the threat of war, in organizing and arousing them in active actions against the war preparations. The Marxist-Leninist parties and forces take an active part in the present movement against the preparations for war and in the defence of peace by giving them correct orientation and slogans, by combating the preachings of an abstract pacifism among them and directing their struggle against the cause of tension and the source of war — imperialism, the two superpowers, in the first place. Above all, the Marxist-Leninist see their task for the constant advancement of the revolutionary and liberation struggle to overthrow capitalism and imperialism, as the only road to save mankind from imperialist wars.

Today, on the 40th anniversary of the end of the Second World War and the victory over fascism, the peoples remember the passionate words of Julius Fucik, «People, be vigilant!» Comrade Enver Hoxha, the great and unforgettable leader of the Party and our people, has more than once drawn the attention of the peoples to the great threat that hangs over mankind in the present time.

As for our people, who took an active part in and made an important

contribution in blood and sacrifices to the great antifascist struggle of the peoples, they have drawn the appropriate lessons from the experience of the Second World War and the developments after the war up to our days. Led on the right course by the Party of Labour of Albania and illuminated by the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha, they remain always vigilant towards developments and situations in the world today which is fraught with dangers. Our people are fully aware of the savage hostility of the diverse imperialists, especially the two superpowers, of the reactionary forces and the modern revisionists towards our Party and our socialist Homeland. They do not forget for a moment their aims to overthrow our socialist order, to enslave our country which, with its example and unyielding stand, exposes the demagogy and the dangerous policy of imperialism and revisionism before the whole world, proves the correctness and vitality of Marxism-Leninism, and shows the peoples the only correct road — that of the resolute struggle for national and social liberation. So, attentively following developments in the world, having no illusion about and hope in the «assurances» and offers of this or that great power, our people have taken and are taking all the necessary measures so as never to be caught unawares, but to be always fully prepared to cope with any surprise.

The constant strengthening of the unity of our people round the Party, the preservation and strengthening of the dictatorship of the proletariat and the active participation of the mas-

ses in the government of the country, the combat readiness of the whole people to defend their country, the constant advancement of the socialist construction, the mobilization of all energies for the ceaseless development of our socialist economy according to the great Marxist-Leninist principle of self-reliance, the consistent implementation of an independent foreign policy, a policy of the ceaseless strengthening of the international position of the country, of the strengthening of friendship with the revolutionary forces and the peace-loving peoples, of peaceful relations and good neighbourliness with other countries, the relentless struggle against imperialism and reaction, and especially, the two superpowers — this is the road which guarantees the secure future of our people in any situation.

1 *Enver Hoxha*, Report to the 6th Congress of the PLA, p. 39, *Alb. ed.*

2 *V. I. Lenin*, Collected Works, vol. 8, p. 801, *Alb. ed.*

3 *Enver Hoxha*, Imperialism and the Revolution, p. 371-372, *Eng. ed.*

4 *Enver Hoxha*, Report to the 7th Congress of the PLA, p. 214-215, *Alb. ed.*

5 *Enver Hoxha*, Report to the 7th Congress of the PLA, p. 186, *Eng. ed.*

6 *J. V. Stalin*, Interview given to the «Pravda» correspondent on February 16, 1951.

7 *Enver Hoxha*, Report to the 7th Congress of the PLA, p. 191, *Eng. ed.*

8 *Enver Hoxha*, Report to the 8th Congress of the PLA, pp. 162-163, *Eng. ed.*

9 *Enver Hoxha*, Imperialism and the revolution, p. 372, *Eng. ed.*

TRIBUNE OF THE WORK AND LIFE OF THE GREEK MINORITY IN SOCIALIST ALBANIA

Under the solicitude of the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha personally, the first issue of the newspaper *Laiko Vima* organ of the Democratic Front of Gjirokastra for the Greek minority, appeared 40 years ago, on May 25, 1945.

To celebrate this event, a solemn meeting was organized in the palace of culture of the city of Gjirokastra.

Amidst the enthusiasm of those present, Comrade Sofokli Lazri, member of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania, read the message of greeting which the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania, Comrade Ramiz Alia, sent the editorial board of the newspaper *Laiko Vima* on the occasion of this anniversary.

Comrade Ramiz Alia's message of greeting says among other things:

«Today you celebrate an unforgettable anniversary and an historic event for the people of the Greek minority, a marked day in the efforts of the Communist Party of Albania, the people's state power and Comrade Enver Hoxha, personally, for the solution of the national question in Albania on the Marxist-Leninist correct road.

«Forty years ago, under their direct solicitude, only a few months after the foreign occupiers were driven from our country and the blood-sucking beys and aghas were overthrown, *Laiko Vima*, the first newspaper in the Greek language to come out in Albania, began to be published in Gjirokastra. I avail myself of the celebration of this joyous anniversary for us

all, to send, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Party and the General Council of the Democratic Front of Albania, my heartfelt greetings and wishes for still greater new successes to the editors and printers of *Laiko Vima*, its correspondents and collaborators, and all its readers.

«The 40-year long history of your newspaper is the history of the development and emancipation of the Greek minority in Albania, the raising of their cultural level and standard of living, the strengthening of unity with their Albanian brothers.

«The history of *Laiko Vima* is the 40-year old testimony to the equal rights and duties which the people of the minority have as equal citizens of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, the preservation and development of their national traditions, their mother tongue and culture, the raising of their political and ideological consciousness.

«The thousands of issues of the newspaper *Laiko Vima* produced in these 40 years represent living chronicles of the struggle of the minority people for the building of their new life and for the defence of the Homeland, for the formation of the new patriotic man devoted to the cause of socialism.

«The newspaper *Laiko Vima*, guided by the Party, is a newspaper made for the minority people and by the minority people. Its pages have been filled with contribution by writers, poets and artists who have sung in Greek to the new life in our country,

love and friendship between the minority people and their Albanian brothers, the brilliant perspective of our people.

«I am confident that, as always, you will be guided by the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha, the great friend of the minority people, who was so much concerned about and interested in their elevation and advancement. His warm meetings and talks with minority people, his words and advice, are a source of inexhaustible inspiration and encouragement for you.»

The speech of the occasion was delivered by the editor-in-chief of this newspaper, Vasil Cami, who pointed out that in the 40 years of its existence, this organ has reflected the realization of the rights and real equality which socialism brought in Albania, the life, well-being and radical changes of the years of the Party in Durrës and wherever the minority people work and live.

Comrade Xhoxhi Robo, General Secretary of the Democratic Front of Albania, handed in the «Order of Labour» of the First Class, awarded to the newspaper by the Presidium of the People's Assembly. Orders and medals were awarded also to working people, collaborators and correspondents of the newspaper.

A solemn session, in which various papers were read, was held in one of the auditoriums of the Higher Teacher Training Institute of Gjirokastra.

On this occasion, the new building of the editorial board of the newspaper *Laiko Vima* was inaugurated.

COMMUNIQUE OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE PSR OF ALBANIA ON THE LIQUIDATION OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE HEAVY SNOWFALL

The Council of Ministers of the PSRA is happy to report that the grave consequences of the heavy snowfall of January-February of this year in the northern districts have been liquidated totally and before the time set. This is another great victory testifying to the special and continuous care of the Party, the state and our society for man, to the strength of the socialist order, the stability of our people's economy.

The damage caused by the heavy snowfall this year was great, but, on instructions from the Central Committee of the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha personally, and under their solicitude, all the measures were immediately taken to help the victims.

The whole of Albania, young and old, the working class, the cooperativist peasantry, the people's intelligentsia, the youth, the army, the entire people rose as one to eliminate the consequences of this disaster. The marvellous socialist solidarity that our Party has tempered among our people, the militant unity of the people around the Party, in which the invincible strength of our socialist order lies, stood out once again in this great readiness and mobilization of our men and women.

The work for the liquidation of the consequences of the heavy snowfall coincided with the profound grief of our nation at the death of the glorious leader of the Party, Comrade Enver Hoxha, but the people of the zones affected by this natural calamity, together with the volunteers from all

over the districts of the country, worked day and night, with heroism and a lofty revolutionary spirit, turning the great grief into strength. For three months on end they did a great volume of work, many new houses were built and 1,604 houses, various economic objects, schools, kindergartens, crèches, houses of culture, health centres, etc., were repaired. The electric and telephone network and the water-supply of the villages of the badly hit areas were rebuilt, too. The total expenditure of all this great work is estimated at nearly 24 million leks.

In order to replace the livestock lost as a result of the snowfall, all the necessary measures have been taken to replace it in conformity with the conditions of the northern zones. For this purpose, the agricultural economies of the other districts have made their voluntary contribution to the replenishment of the livestock of all the northern districts. Likewise, from the funds created through the contributions of the working people, 8.3 millions leks were used to meet the expenditure of the agricultural economies for the payment of the workdays put in, for the liquidation of the consequences of this calamity, 8.9 million leks for the economical-financial assistance of the agricultural cooperatives more damaged economically, 2.3 million leks for the increase of the investment fund and 1.2 million leks for the increase or creation of the reserve pay fund of the agricultural cooperatives, etc.

During this period the working people of the affected district, just as

all the working people of our country, worked with a high mobilization also for the fulfilment of the other tasks of the state plan.

The Council of Ministers of the PSRA greets the population of the zones affected by the heavy snowfall of this winter, who coped with the difficulties created through their selfless work and a high revolutionary spirit; it greets the volunteers from all the districts and all those who took part and worked tirelessly in this great action; it greets the working class, the cooperativist peasantry and the other working people for the many initiatives they undertook and the valuable contribution they made.

The liquidation of the consequences of the heavy snowfall of this year demonstrated the great energies and inexhaustible possibilities that lie hidden in our people and economy. We should utilize these possibilities and the experience gained in this colossal work in the interest of the economy and our socialist Homeland. With mobilization and organization at work, with a lofty sense of responsibility, we should work tirelessly to carry out the tasks the Party has set for the fulfilment of the plan of the year 1985, so as to make our beloved Homeland stronger, and more prosperous, and the life of the people happier.

**THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
OF THE PEOPLES SOCIALIST
REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA**

Tirana, 31.5.1985

THE NARROWING OF DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN TOWN AND COUNTRYSIDE CLOSELY WITH THE INCREASE OF THE WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE

by **NEZHDET HOXHA**

The increase of the well-being of the cooperativist peasantry at higher rates than those in the city, on the basis of social work of the cooperativists, in the first place, the development of productive forces at rapid rates, the all-round state aid for the development of the countryside in all directions, the gradual transformation of group property into the property of the whole people, have been and remain the roads along which the gradual narrowing of distinctions between town and countryside has proceeded

ONE OF THE FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEMS OF SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION IN ALBANIA, WHICH CONSTITUTES A CHARACTERISTIC FEATURE OF THE POLICY OF THE PARTY OF LABOUR IN THE FIELD OF INCREASING THE WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE, IS THE GRADUAL AND CONTINUOUS NARROWING OF ESSENTIAL DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN TOWN AND COUNTRYSIDE.

WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PEOPLE'S STATE POWER AND THE CARRYING OUT OF A SERIES OF RADICAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHANGES WHICH PUT OUR COUNTRY ON THE ROAD OF SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION, THE CENTURIES-LONG CONTRAST BETWEEN TOWN AND COUNTRYSIDE WAS LIQUIDATED, THE RELATIONS OF OPPRESSION AND EXPLOITATION OF THE PEASANTRY BY LANDOWNERS AND TOWN BOURGEOISIE WERE OVERTHROWN, AND THE BIRTH OF ENTIRELY NEW RELATIONS OF RECIPROCAL HELP AND COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE WORKING CLASS AND THE WORKING PEASANTRY BECAME POSSIBLE.

However, despite the major socialist changes which have been made and which opened up broad perspectives for the uninterrupted and all-round advance of the countryside, important differences between town and countryside still are preserved for a

NEZHDET HOXHA: publicist.

long time. These differences are connected with the levels of development of productive forces in town and countryside, with the different degrees of maturity of socialist relations of production and, in the first place, with the degree of the socialization of ownership and work, with the living

conditions and way of life, with the development of education, culture, etc.

Our Party has worked continuously and uninterruptedly, always taking into account the stages of the socio-economic development through which the building of socialism in our country has passed, in order to bring about the gradual narrowing of essential distinctions. The continuous measures which the Party has adopted for the gradual narrowing of distinctions between town and countryside have always had profound political, ideological and socio-economic contents of vital importance for the fate of socialism in our country, because about two thirds of the population of Albania live and work in the countryside and because agriculture is the basis of our economy. Through these all-round measures and the general policy for the narrowing of distinctions which

INCTIONS NTRYSIDE IS CONNECTED EASE HE WHOLE SOCIETY

the Party follows with consistency, the alliance of the working class with the cooperativist peasantry has been continuously strengthened.

Our experience of socialist construction shows that the struggle for narrowing the differences between town and countryside is a long struggle waged in many directions. But the main thing that carries weight in the intensification of this struggle is the systematic work done by the Party and under its leadership in a conscious manner. The attitude towards this problem, the fact whether the essential distinctions are continuously narrowed or, on the contrary, are ceaselessly deepened as occurs in the capitalist, bourgeois and revisionist countries, shows, in the final analysis, whether progress is made on the road of socialism or otherwise, whether the path to the penetration of bourgeois-revisionist elements in the economy is blocked or left open.

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Our Party has treated the problem of distinctions between town and countryside in a scientific manner and with a revolutionary spirit, regarding it as a constituent part of its program for the building and defence of socialism. The roads which our Party has pursued for narrowing distinctions between town and countryside constitute a variety of approaches to the problem. In the present stage of the complete construction of the

socialist society, the Party's policy of narrowing these distinctions takes account both of the development of the productive forces and the perfecting of the socialist relations of production.

In order to develop the productive forces in agriculture large investments have been made continuously in land-improvement schemes, irrigation, systematization, fertilization and manuring, the building up of the fertility of the land, the improvement of strains and hybrids of plants and breeds of animals, etc. As a result of the all-round measures taken for the development of productive forces, our agriculture has changed a great deal compared with the past as well as from one five-year planned period to another. Thus, for example, in the last 40 years under our people's state power, the surface of arable land has increased nearly 2.4 times against the pre-Liberation period, the draught power and energy basis has marked a total increase of over 90 fold against the same period. More than 84 per cent of the work on the land, 70 per cent of sowing, 55 per cent of harvesting, and 100 per cent of thrashing of cereals are carried out by mechanized means. The use of chemical fertilizers is beyond any comparison with the past, and our agriculture uses now 145 kg of active matter per hectare of land, which is equal to 6 qu/ha of chemical fertilizers. Alongside the strengthening of the material base of agriculture, the qualification of the cooperativists and the increase

in the number of specialists of agriculture, our agriculture has seen the introduction of advanced technique and technology in the cultivation of plants and development of livestock on a large scale.

All this has contributed to increasing agricultural production at relatively high rates as well as to raising the well-being of the peasantry in the process. It is enough to mention that in the year 1983 the rural population increased 2.1 times against the pre-Liberation period, at a time when agricultural production has increased 5 fold against the pre-Liberation period and 3 fold against 1960. From the stand-point of the standard of living, the cultural, educational and health level of the people, the village is rapidly drawing closer and closer to the level of the city. At present there is no great distinction between town and countryside.

Alongside the development of the productive forces and the strengthening of the material-technical base in the countryside, special attention has been devoted to perfecting the socialist relations of production, especially the relations of ownership. The degree of socialization of ownership has increased; against 1,454 agricultural cooperatives that existed in 1960 — the period in which the collectivization of agriculture was completed, as a result of the merger of cooperatives we have now 419 enlarged cooperatives, of which 47 belong to the higher-type cooperatives, whereas a number of agricultural cooperatives have been

transformed into economies based on the property of the whole people. The gradual development of the cooperativist ownership through transition from the cooperatives on a village basis into enlarged cooperatives and, later, to higher-type cooperatives, and, the gradual transition of group ownership into ownership of the entire people when the objective and subjective conditions mature, and on the basis of voluntarism, is a new major contribution about the complete construction of socialist society by our Party to the treasury of Marxism-Leninism.

Of special importance in all this are also the measures for the establishment of the system of free accumulation at differentiated prices for the plains zones and for the hilly and mountainous zones, the implementation of differentiated tariffs for work done with the means of machine and tractor stations, etc. These not only have led to the narrowing of distinctions between town and countryside but also have brought hilly and mountainous zones ever closer to the plains zones. In this manner, through the perfecting of the relations of exchange between the state and agricultural cooperatives, and through the redistribution of national income, the agricultural cooperatives of the hilly and mountainous zones gain a supplementary profit of over 270 million leks a year. This financial policy provides the possibility for extended socialist reproduction to develop even in the agricultural cooperatives with soil and weather conditions less favourable than other cooperatives, as well as for speeding up the rates of the increase of the well-being of the peasantry, in general, by narrowing distinctions in the incomes of the working people in town and those in countryside, and those in the hilly and mountainous zones, on the one hand, and the plains zones, on the other.

One of the important directions which the Party has pursued for narrowing the essential distinctions between town and countryside is through increasing the role of the fund of social consumption. Throughout the whole period of socialist cons-

truction, the Party has worked to ensure that the fund of social consumption, both in town and countryside, should increase at more rapid rates than the fund of individual consumption, giving priority to the fulfilment of the needs of the cooperativist peasantry in the process of distribution.

The extension of 8-year education in all villages and the rapid development of secondary schools in the countryside, free medical care and the functioning of many socio-cultural and health institutions in the countryside, the electrification of all villages, the improvements in the network of trade and communal services, the improvement of conditions in general and the supply of drinking water, the extension of motor-roads and telephone lines, etc., all these are important measures which have been taken and continue to be taken for the development of social sectors in the countryside. In this framework the extension of the pensions system in a centralized form and through a single criterion in the whole country assumes special importance. As Comrade Enver Hoxha pointed out, «The establishment of pensions system for all cooperativists constitutes another step forward towards the improvement of the well-being of the cooperativist peasants, towards bringing the living conditions in the countryside as close to those of the town as possible, and will serve as a powerful incentive for the advance of our socialist countryside.»¹

The rates of the increase in the real income of the peasantry on the basis of the growth of agricultural and livestock production and the all-round state aid for the countryside, especially after the completion of collectivization, have been higher than the increase in the real income of the population in the city. With this all-round revolutionary process we can proceed gradually towards the narrowing of economic inequalities between the peasantry and the working class. Beginning from 1960, which is the year when the collectivization of agriculture was completed, the real per capita income in the countryside has increased 1.4 to 2.4 times

as rapidly as the income in the city. As a result, the level of the per capita income in the countryside has drawn closer to that of the town working people (in the conditions when in the city, too, the real income per capita has continuously increased). At the present time there are agricultural cooperatives even in the hilly and mountainous zones in which the level of income of the cooperativist peasants is close to or equal with that of the workers.

The increase of the well-being of the cooperativist peasantry at higher rates than those in the city, on the basis of social work of the cooperativists, in the first place, the development of productive forces at rapid rates, the all-round state aid for the development of the countryside in all directions, the gradual transformation of group property into the property of the whole people, have been and remain the roads along which the gradual narrowing of distinctions between town and countryside has proceeded. However, as experience shows, the struggle to narrow distinctions between town and countryside is a long and arduous struggle of a profound ideological, political, economic, social and organizational character, which the Party has always waged systematically according to the stages of the construction of socialism, adapting it to the uninterrupted development of the socialist revolution and the waging of the class struggle.

Our Party has always pursued a correct, Marxist-Leninist, revolutionary line for the raising of the well-being of the whole people. This policy which is materialized in the ever better fulfilment of the material and cultural needs of all working people of town and countryside, the increase of the real per capita income, without overlooking the need for narrowing the scissors between the income of the working people of town and countryside, the gap between zones, different strata and groups of population. However, in spite of all measures taken, in spite of the profound changes that have been made, still there exist relatively noticeable distinctions in the level of the real per capita income

and the standard of living of the population in town and countryside.

Therefore, the Party has envisaged and adopted other important measures for narrowing these differences, seeing this process as a great matter of principle and of primary importance for the strengthening of the socialist order and the alliance of the working class with the cooperativist peasantry. The measures which have been adopted and carried out in the field of the rapid development of the productive forces and the perfecting of the socialist relations in the countryside in recent years serve the attainment of this objective.

The steps taken for increasing productive investments have special importance. In the period 1981-1985, about 29 per cent of productive investments will be allocated to agriculture. Seeing the lower level of incomes of the peasantry in the hilly and mountainous zones, the state uses centralized funds to make financial investments in the opening up of new lands, systematization of reclaimed land, the setting up of blocks of fruit-trees, vines, olives, etc.

In the non-productive sphere, a great part of the expenditure made for the building and maintenance of kindergartens, schools, homes of culture, creches, maternity homes, etc., are defrayed by the state with the result that the social, educational and cultural conditions in the countryside are more or less the same as in the city. The single and centralized system of social insurances for the cooperativists, established in 1971, was further improved and amended in 1976 and 1983. In this way, the criteria determining different groups of pensions and assistance are identical both for workers and peasants, compensation for peasant women during pregnancy and after childbirth has been instituted in the same way as for women in the city, the amount of pay of the cooperativists in case of temporary inability to work, etc. has been increased. At present, the cooperativist peasants enjoy the right to pension and other facilities provided for according to the rules of the social security

on the same terms as town working people. Likewise, they get free assistance in all health services. Each agricultural cooperative has its own health centre, including ambulatory service with a permanent physician, mother and child consultant ward at the maternity home, a dentist and pharmacy. Each village has its own health personnel and nearly 100 per cent of childbirths take place with qualified medical assistance.

In the years of the people's state power, the educational network has spread to the tiniest and remotest villages. For a long time now, 8-year education in the countryside has become compulsory, and secondary schools, of an agricultural or general direction, are widespread. Today, agricultural schools have twice as many students as all the secondary schools of the country in 1980. Demographic changes, resulting from the narrowing of distinctions in the educational level of the population, in town and countryside, are one of the important aspects of the rapid development of our village in the period of the socialist construction of the country. In recent years, the rates of the raising of the level of schooling in the peasant population have been about 2.5 times as high as those of the city, whereas the difference in the level of schooling between town and countryside has fallen to 6.9 per cent against the previous 18.9 per cent.

Special care has been devoted to the treatment and solution of problems concerning the sphere of economic relations of exchange between agricultural cooperatives and economic enterprises, such as those including the relations of procurement of agricultural and livestock products, their processing and the distribution of them to the population, the supply of the agricultural cooperatives with material-technical equipment, etc. The continuous extension of the sector of services in every village and agricultural cooperative has influenced in the socio-economic development of the countryside. Thousands of trading units for food-stuffs and other items, catering units, a broad network of communal services employing thousands

of mechanics, masons, carpenters and joiners, shoe-menders, radio-technicians, etc., have been set up in the countryside.

Relying on the experience won and taking account of the growth and concentration of agricultural production, steps have been taken to go over gradually to the stage in which the procurement and accumulation organs and trade departments can draw the agricultural products directly from the fields, so that the agricultural and livestock products are estimated more correctly.

The measures the Party has envisaged and adopted for the rapid development of agricultural cooperatives are all-sided. It has put particularly great stress on the measures concerning the improvement of relations of distribution of the social product, because these relations are a concrete reflection not only the relations of socialist ownership, but also of the economic policy of the Party which takes account of the dialectical unity between production and distribution of material blessings on the basis of the requirements of the economic laws of socialism. However, the development of production, the increase in social product at rapid rates, form the basis for the perfecting of all other relations. Therefore, the fundamental thing in narrowing the distinctions between town and countryside has been and remains the increase of production, the continuous and all-round development of the productive forces, the fulfilment and overfulfilment of quotas envisaged in the plans of economic development of every agricultural cooperative. So, the basis to attain all the objectives set for the rapid development of the countryside, for the increase of well-being and for narrowing the distinctions between town and countryside is the work with high effectiveness done in the collective economy, next comes state aid and support which, as always, has not failed and will never fail to be given. In this context, the deepening of the

measures adopted for improving organization and management of work and production, strengthening of working discipline, utilization of information valuable for agricultural sciences on a large scale and for the utilization of the advanced experience by all the working people of agriculture, assume special importance.

Now that all the agricultural econo-

mies have entered the road of intensive development, when the accumulation fund of the agricultural cooperatives, the state credits and investments in them have increased, important funds are made available for them and, when used with effectiveness, they help to increase agricultural and livestock production and the incomes of the agricultural cooperatives. On this basis,

the well-being of the cooperativists will be further raised and the distinctions between town and countryside as well as between the hilly-mountainous zones and the plains zones reduced.

1. ENVER HOXHA, *Report to the 6th Congress of the PLA*, p. 83, Alb. ed.

press review

A NEW CAMPAIGN OF CHAUVINIST REPRESSION AGAINST THE ALBANIANS OF KOSOVA

ATA

More than 3,344 Albanians have been given long prison terms in these four years. A new trial has been staged at Peja.

As the Yugoslav news agency, TANJUG, reports, a session of the Federal Conference of the Socialist League of the Working People of Yugoslavia was held in Belgrade. The Conference dealt with the measures that have been taken to «stabilize» the situation in Kosova after the events of the Spring 1981 and the policy that should be followed in the future for this purpose. Under the pretext that «some hotbeds of the counter-revolution still linger on in Kosova», the Conference called for stepping up repressive measures against the Albanian population, further measures restricting their autonomy, new limitations of their national and democratic rights which were formerly recognized by law. Thus, for example, the member of the

Presidency of the Federal Conference of the Socialist League of the Working People of Yugoslavia, Milan Rakas, called for «more energetic actions on the part of the security forces and a stronger policy of condemnation in Kosova». In particular, he demanded the intensification of the struggle against the youth of Kosova, under the pretext that it is being indoctrinated with nationalistic sentiments.

Speaking about the situation in Kosova, at a meeting of the Presidency of the Yugoslav Fighters, a Yugoslav high official, Shukria Bjeđić, demanded that «the high party leadership should intervene and, if need be, let even the blood flow for the solution of problems.»

This new chauvinist platform began to be carried out immediately. As the news agency TANJUG reports, under the accusation of «writing, distributing and reading pamphlets and propaganda material with hostile content, in support of the slogan 'Kosova-Republic'», nine students of the 'May 11' middle school

of Peja: Robert Rasaj (19 years), Hava Shala (19 years), Avni Haxhaj (19 years), Zyrafete Myriçi (1ç years), Myrvete Dreshaj (19 years), Hidajete Kelmendi (20 years) and the minors S. K., Z. Sh. and E. A., all from Peja and its district, were put on trial at Peja.

As Milan Rakas said at a press conference with foreign newsmen in Belgrade, about 1,000 judicial proceedings have been carried out against Albanians and 2,244 people have been sentenced to prison terms in these four years.

As emerges from many reports in the Yugoslav press, this new campaign of repression has caused great concern among the Albanian population of Kosova which sees itself defenceless under the grave threats of the Great-Serb chauvinism which has stepped up its attacks. «Serb nationalism is creating an anti-Albanian atmosphere,» said Ismail Mikulovci, secretary of the Socialist League of Kosova, at the recent meeting of the Presidency of this organization.

**press
review****PLANINC'S TENDENTIOUS DECLARATION**

ATA

The Yugoslav news agency, TANJUG, gave an interview of the Yugoslav prime minister Planinc with the American newspaper *The New-York Times* before leaving for an official visit to the USA. Speaking about the problems of the internal and external policy of Yugoslavia, about Albania she said: «Albania is creating problems, because it wants a

part of Yugoslavia for itself, interferes in its internal affairs and encroaches on its integrity.»

Asked by a correspondent of the ATA to comment on the statement of this Yugoslav high state official, the spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the PSRA said: «The Declaration of Mrs Planinc indicates that the Belgrade leadership holds on to a stale and false

formula in order to justify its anti-Albanian stand and policy. In a tendentious manner it distorts the truth about the policy of Albania towards Yugoslavia which is a policy of non-interference and good neighbourliness, just as it openly distorts the legitimate concern of the PSRA about the freedom and the national and democratic rights of the Albanians of Kosova and the other regions of

ONLY SINISTER PLANS NEED COVER-UP

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

It is a week now since two Albanian weight-lifters disappeared suddenly in Titograd of Yugoslavia on their journey back to Albania. As is only natural, the long silence of the Yugoslav side has aroused great concern in our public opinion, among our sportlovers and the relative families about the whereabouts and lives of the two Albanian citizens.

Finally, on the insistent

demands of our Foreign Ministry through diplomatic channels, the Secretariat for the External Affairs of Yugoslavia informed only orally the Albanian Embassy in Belgrade that two Albanian sportsmen had presented themselves to the commissar of the Council of Refugees of Yugoslavia, and demanded his protection.

The long time the Yugoslav authorities needed for such

an explanation cannot be the result either of bureaucratic procrastination or simple negligence.

As the spokesmen for our Ministry of Foreign Affairs also pointed out, this long silence indicates that our sportsmen were the victims of a frame-up. Apparently the Yugoslav authors of this mafia-type operation needed some time to find this version. Whatever the angle this

**press
review**

Yugoslavia. If Mrs Planinc has made this strange statement to win the consideration of the American leading circles, this is another question.»

question is seen from, the protracted silence about the fate of the Albanian sportsmen shows the implication of somebody in Yugoslavia in this question.

There is a clearly apparent political stand on this question which is aimed at preventing the disclosure of the truth, at keeping Albanian, foreign and Yugoslav opinion in the dark about

this question. Only sinister plans need the covering-up of the truth and the concealing of facts.

The mysterious manner in which the disappearance of the two Albanian sportsmen was dealt with cannot fail to create feelings of concern among the Albanian citizens transiting through Yugoslavia.

This stand towards our sportsmen and country is maintained at a time when Yugoslav officials make statements in which they express themselves ready for the improvement of relations

with Albania. However, the disappearance of the Albanian sportsmen in Titograd and the treatment of this question do not conform to those statements.

Many pretexts, excuses and problems can be found and created to increase frictions. The stand of the Yugoslav authorities in the case of the disappearance of the two Albanian sportsmen in Titograd does not serve the development of relations of good neighbourliness.

SOKOL GJOKA

REAGAN'S GRAVE PROVOCATION AGAINST THE FEELINGS AND THE ANTI-FASCIST WAR OF THE PEOPLES

«ZËRI I POPULLIT»

A powerful wave of legitimate indignation and protest is sweeping Europe and other regions of the world, as well as the USA itself, at the visit of the American president, Ronald Reagan, to the grave of the SS soldiers in the West-German city of Bietsburg on May 5. At a time when the peoples and the whole progressive mankind is preparing to celebrate one of the greatest events in his-

tory, the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism, the American president lays wreathes and flowers on the graves of the fascist executioners. This is a grave provocation against the feelings, the memory and the great heroic struggle of all the anti-fascist peoples who, united in a military coalition, shed torrents of blood to vanquish the nazi beast. It is a grave

offense to the memory of all the martyrs and fighters, all those who made superhuman sacrifices in the great anti-fascist world war. As all the other peoples, the Albanian people who, led by the Party with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, waged a heroic struggle against fascism, which gave them a place of honour among the members of the

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anti-fascist coalition, condemn this provocation, too.

The disgraceful gesture of Ronald Reagan has particular significance and far-reaching political and ideological aims. It is not merely the gesture of a fascist die-hard who seeks to cover up the heinous crimes of the nazis and nazism at any cost and on any occasion. To the SS graves at Bietsburg the American president was led by this fascist mentality and feelings, his extreme-right ideology and inspiration, his reactionary policy and the class he represents. This clearly emerges from his whole political career and activity, from the time when he was governor of California, when former nazis or neo-nazis were the favourite guests in his court, to the days when, as president of the United States, he ordered the cruel bombardments against the Lebanese population or the occupation of Grenada.

In Bietsburg Reagan paid homage to the Hitlerite policy and methods. The similarity of the American policy to that of the Third Reich is evident. With utter shamelessness, Reagan called the nazi criminals «human beings» and with these words he thought that he could erase a chapter of history — the barbarous crimes of the Hitlerites, their unheard-of tortures and massacres, their gas

rooms and concentration camps, the villages and cities they razed to the ground. With this the American president intends to intimidate the peoples and the progressive and democratic forces by threatening them with the nazi ghosts and showing them that the followers of nazism are alive in the White House. This line Washington followed right from the first day after victory, by becoming the main haven for the nazi war criminals who had escaped the justice and retribution of the peoples.

American imperialism is the continuer of Hitler's crazy dream of world domination. What the nazis did in the past, the soldiers of the Pentagon are being prepared to do in the future. America needs a psychological and moral preparation of world opinion, its bemusement, the blunting of the vigilance of the peoples and the neutralization of their hatred against their aggressors and oppressors.

The provocation of the American president is directed against the feelings and freedom-loving aspirations of the European peoples and the other peoples of the world. Reagan went so far in his defiance as to make light of the demands and mass protests of European opinion with the aim of tarnishing,

however little, the great deed of the anti-fascist peoples who destroyed fascism. The aggressive course of American imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism has created today a grave threat to the freedom and independence of the peoples of the whole world.

In the speech he held on May 5 at a meeting with the members of the families of the martyrs and with veterans of the National Liberation War, the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the PLA, Comrade Ramiz Alia, said: «Many phenomena and events are reminders of the period which led to the outbreak of the two previous world wars. New pretenders to the establishment of world domination have emerged. The imperialist and social-imperialist superpowers, the United States of America and the Soviet Union, with their openly hegemonic and aggressive policies, which they pursue, seriously threaten the outbreak of a general conflict».

Imperialist America wants the peoples to forget the criminal past of the nazis, to forget the dangers of the present, too. But this is a vain hope of short-memoried aggressors and occupiers. The memory of the peoples, just as their existence, is very long.

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THE RENEWAL OF THE WARSAW TREATY IS DIRECTED AGAINST THE PEOPLES' INTERESTS

«ZËRI I POPULLIT»

At the top-level meeting of the member countries of the Warsaw Treaty, held in the Polish capital, the protocol of the renewal of this treaty for a term of 20 years and for its postponement for another 10 years, was signed. This is an act which does not coincide either with the interests of the peoples of member countries of this Treaty or with the interests of other European peoples or with peace, security and real reduction of tension in our continent. The decision on the renewal of this aggressive military treaty for a new term of virtually 30 years was taken at a time when the peoples of Europe and of the whole world demand, more than ever before, that the aggressive military blocs directed by the two superpowers, the USA and the Soviet Union, should be disbanded, that the Soviet and American bases and their military presence in the European countries and anywhere else should be liquidated.

The communique published after the top-level meeting of the Warsaw Treaty, chaired by Mikhail Gorbachov, endeavours to present the renewal of the Warsaw Treaty as a continuation of the original contents and aims

which this Treaty had 30 years ago, when it was founded.

At the time of its creation, the Warsaw Treaty's purpose coincided with the interests and free will of its members, with the needs for the defence of freedom and independence of these countries against imperialist threat. In those conditions, socialist Albania, also, signed it and adhered to it as a member with full rights. After the betrayal of the Soviet revisionists, the character of the internal and foreign policy of the Soviet Union changed, and the character of the Warsaw Treaty changed, too. Comrade Enver Hoxha has said: «The Warsaw Treaty has ceased being the pact of the defence of the socialist countries, it no longer serves its original aim of defence. It has been changed into a tool of pressure, interference and aggression of the stronger against the weaker, of the Soviet revisionist leadership against the other member countries participating in it.»

The whole activity of the Warsaw Treaty, after the betrayal of the Khrushchevites until today, clearly discloses its aggressive nature and reactionary content as an instrument of war for hegemony

in the hands of Soviet social-imperialism. Just like its counterpart, the military bloc of NATO, it is the bulwark of attacks on and aggression against the sovereignty and independence of all European peoples. In the war plans of Soviet military staffs, the Warsaw Treaty is seen as one of the basic means for the realization of these plans, which include not only the countries of our continent, but also other regions, in which the aims of the Soviet social-imperialists to activate the Warsaw Treaty have gained prominence. The Soviet Union is pushing and expanding the geographical borders of the military activity of the Warsaw Treaty, just as the United States has widened the range of the military activity of the NATO bloc, which carries out military exercises as far as the coasts of the Carabbean Islands and Nicaragua, and even the Persian Gulf where it has sent its naval units. The Warsaw Treaty not only does not defend the freedom and independence of different countries, but, on the contrary, has been used as a means to suppress its member countries and even peoples of other countries. The aggression committed against Cze-

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choslovakia in August 1968 and its invasion by the troops of the Soviet Union and other member countries of the Warsaw Treaty, remain a very significant living testimony to the aggressive and occupationist character of this Treaty. And what happened to Czechoslovakia in 1968, a logical consequence of the social-imperialist policy, may happen to any other country, if the hegemonic interests of the Soviet Union, which dominates the Warsaw Treaty, require this. The occupation of Afghanistan by the Soviet troops in 1979 is another significant fact.

Under the pretext of strengthening military collaboration within the framework of the Warsaw Treaty, the Soviet Union has established and extended its military presence in these countries, putting them practically under its direct control and military dictate. Part and parcel of these measures is also the deployment of Soviet nuclear missiles in the countries of the Warsaw Treaty. This aggressive military treaty has been involved completely in a real war-mongering competition with the other aggressive bloc, NATO, for war preparations.

The renewal of the Warsaw Treaty serves the Soviet Union to legalize the sphere of influence in its zones, just as the participation in NATO bloc serves to legalize the influence of the United States

in its respective zones. By including the European countries in the military blocs directed by them, the superpowers legalize their military umbrellas over them, hence, they legalize their illegal presence in our continent.

The propaganda which is conducted on this occasion cannot cover up the great truth that the renewal of the Warsaw Treaty is a decision taken by the Soviet side, just as everything which has to do with the whole range of strategic military and political problems of the Warsaw Treaty are the responsibility of the Soviet Union. The so-called collective function is nothing other than a time-worn slogan which cannot cover up the facts that this Treaty is directed and controlled according to the needs of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union in Europe and beyond it.

The renewal of the aggressive Warsaw Treaty is an act which is directed not only against the interests of the European peoples, but also against the interests of other peoples of the world. It should be seen as part of the stepping-up of the aggressive policy of imperialism and social-imperialism, a further step ahead in their general offensive against the freedom and independence, national sovereignty and pride of the peoples. The Party of Labour of Albania and Comrade

Enver Hoxha have always drawn attention to the dangerous character of the Warsaw Treaty after the party and state leadership in the Soviet Union was usurped by the Khrushchevites. Even before the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia they warned about these dangers. All the years that have passed since then have completely proved the truth of the predictions and the correct Marxist-Leninist stand of our Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha. The bold revolutionary and internationalist act of socialist Albania, which denounced the Warsaw Treaty and withdrew itself from it in 1968 will remain an unforgettable act. That was a great and just decision which had great value for the time when it was taken, and has great validity today, because it helps people to see what stands should be taken towards imperialist military blocs.

Socialist Albania has always condemned the imperialist blocs as a great threat to the freedom and independence, genuine peace and security. It has condemned the NATO and Warsaw Treaty pacts as two instruments of war and aggression in the hands of the two superpowers, has openly made known its principled stand that there can be no talk about real security on our continent without, first, seeing that the military bases of NATO and Warsaw

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Treaty, directed by the USA and the Soviet Union, are dismantled, without liquidating their all-round presence in the European countries. With its active stands and policy, socialist Albania has emerged as a factor of stability in the Balkans and Europe, by defending the aspirations of the working masses and peoples and siding with

them. In his speech delivered at the commemorative meeting on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the liberation of the Homeland, Comrade Ramiz Alia said: «Albania is a European country, and as such it is actively interested in everything that happens in this continent. Splits and divisions in Europe, tensions and frequent

confrontations between different countries of this continent, have their source in their participation in the military blocs of the superpowers. Our view is that only firm opposition to American imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism, the liquidation of military blocs and expulsion of foreign troops can secure peace in Europe.»

■

THE «STAR WAR» PROJECT — A GREAT THREAT TO ALL THE PEOPLES

ZËRI I POPULLIT

Among the current directions of the European policy of the White House is that of securing the support and participation of its West-European «allies» in the so-called «star war» project. Bilateral and multilateral talks that have taken place in Washington and in the West-European capitals have revealed again that there have been great disagreements on this question between Washington and its «allies» since 1983, when Reagan came out with his «initiative of strategic defence» for the first time. At the Bonn high-level meeting of the Seven, although Great Britain and the Federal Republic of Germany showed themselves more ready to cooperate with their

«great ally», on a whole Reagan did not succeed in securing the «collective support» he was after. France re-affirmed its opposition to the American plan, as formerly expressed with its «Eureka» project. Because of these divergences there was no mention of the «star war» project in the «political declaration» released after the Bonn high-level meeting.

It is not difficult to see why the American imperialists are devoting so great attention to their «star war» project which calls for the building of space stations for the deployment and launching of thermo-nuclear weapons in the direction of the earth. This is not merely a question of prestige, as it is linked

with the name of Reagan, its «inventor». First of all, it is a question of furthering the aims of the United States of America to achieve world domination in all directions.

In the economic field, the implementation of the «star war» project calls for huge financial funds, and a whole army of specialists and scientists. Without reducing their expenditure in the field of conventional armaments, the United States of America is feverishly trying to put huge funds and other material and human resources at the disposal of the Pentagon. However, the United States also want to engage the economic, financial and human resources of their «allies» in this project, which can be

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done only by further more depriving these countries of their engineers and scientists. That is why the representatives of the United States insist that all its «allies», not only the European ones, but also Japan, Australia, Israel and others, should take part in its space venture, by presenting this project as an offer of major technological profitability.

The new package of billions of dollars — up to now there is talk of 26 billion dollars, which is destined for financing the «star war» project, is not less attractive for the magnates of the armaments industry who make fabulous profits from the armaments trade. This explains the immediate readiness of some big monopoly companies in the European countries to accept Pentagon's offer of collaboration under the direction of American generals.

However, these aims run counter to the interests of the West-European big bourgeoisie which, though being not against the armaments race and the militarization of outer space as such, intends to do it only in the interests of its own profits and expansion. Expressing the interests of this bourgeoisie, its representatives in power call

for reinforcement of the technological base and competitiveness of the industry of the countries of the Common Market, more government support and broader cooperation among the European countries in the development of European military programs such as «Ariane», «Hermes», «Eureka», etc.

From the political and military stand-point, with its «star war» project American imperialism seeks to gain superiority over its main rival for world domination — Soviet social-imperialism, which has the same pretensions and is engaged in the same unrestrained drive towards the military use of outer space. However, in the military strategic plans of the United States of America, as in those of the Soviet Union, a not less important place is occupied by attempts at keeping their respective allies in check, and for this purpose not only the power of the dollar or the ruble, but also atomic blackmail is used. In this direction Reagan's plans is fraught with grave threats to the European «allies» of the United States. With the apple of discord Reagan threw among his «allies» in order to deepen their contradictions among them, espe-

cially between France and the Federal Republic of Germany, the West-European countries are afraid of Washington's political and military neglect, the more so as they have neither been asked or consulted about this plan previously.

Whether the West-European allies will join Reagan's «star war» project or not, the fact is that a new feverish armaments race has begun in proportions and with consequences that have no precedent in the past. After the deployment of their troops, naval fleets, atomic weapons, Pershing and Cruise missiles, the American imperialists are trying to raise their nuclear shields on the skies of Europe and the world to intimidate the peoples and profit from their blood. The Soviet social-imperialists are doing the same. The atomic armaments race of the two superpowers goes on and the danger of the transformation of the old continent from an ammunition depot into a shooting range increases with each passing day.

That is why the indignation and opposition of the European peoples as well as all the other peoples of the world to their imperialist and social-imperialist enemies become ever greater.

The victory over fascism (sculpture by Odhise Paskali)



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