

SOVIET SECTOR

Warsaw Pact Calls For Disarmament, Economic Cooperation

Nov. 26 (NSIPS) — The Warsaw Pact summit meeting concluded today with the release of a communiqué calling for immediate disarmament measures, dissolution of the NATO and Warsaw Pact military blocs, and expansion of international economic cooperation.

* In a firm warning that bellicose people in the West are trying to "create a new conflict situation," the Pact declared that it is ready to dissolve itself if NATO does the same simultaneously. The Pact declared it is ready to enter into negotiations immediately on how this can be done. It agreed to give up paragraph 9 of the Pact treaty if NATO gives up its paragraph 10: these are the clauses which permit the expansion of the blocs to additional countries. The Pact offer directly hits NATO schemes to declare the whole Middle East part of its "southern flank" and also at the South Atlantic Treaty Organization.

* In order to remove the danger of a nuclear world-war, the Pact countries proposed that a world treaty be signed against first-use of nuclear weapons in a challenge to the "forward defensists" of NATO like Bundeswehr Gen. Schnell and Carter defense advisor James Schlesinger. The communiqué also called for nuclear non-proliferation, but specified that this must not sabotage peaceful use of energy.

* Attributing special significance to the question of Berlin, the communiqué stated that strict observation of the 1971 four-power agreement is the precondition for making Berlin a cornerstone of peace and détente in Europe. All attempts to use Berlin for hostile conditions, the Warsaw Pact countries are ready to expand all-around cooperation with West Berlin.

In a section of the communiqué largely blacked out by the Western press, the Warsaw Pact stated that it is "ready for expanded bilateral and multilateral economic cooperation with all countries in the world in various forms." The Pact endorsed the resolutions of the September meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement which called for debt moratorium and a new world economic order.

The following are communiqué excerpts which have been ignored by the western press:

Paragraph 3:

"... The participating states in the Warsaw Pact deem it important to pursue the elaboration and realization of comprehensive measures for cooperation in the areas of environmental protection; transport; and energy on an all-European plane, as provided for in the concluding declaration of the all-European conference... Taking into consideration the experiences at hand on international cooperation, particularly in the framework of the U.N. Economic Commission, it is appropriate in the near future to examine these questions practically at multilateral consultations in the all-European framework.

The participating states in the Warsaw Pact greet the readiness of the Soviet Union to introduce, upon agreement with

interested nations in Moscow, a multilateral consultation on questions of energy.

The participants at the meeting of the political advisory committee begin from the assumption that the development of economic cooperation in Europe cannot be isolated from economic relations on a world scale. They support a reformation of international economic relations on a just, democratic foundation, on the basis of the equality of all nations, large and small, socialist and capitalist, developed and developing. In this context, they support the principled orientation of the program for international cooperation which has been presented by the developing countries and the non-aligned group of states.

... However, it has also become obvious that certain forces are striving to take advantage of the development of these relations for goals opposed to understanding and friendship between peoples and for intervention into the internal affairs of other states. The participating states of the Warsaw Pact consider it necessary to emphasize once more that these efforts follow a hopeless path, which they decisively reject.

... It is also necessary for the mass media to service the public with truthful information on world events, as well as on the rapprochement between peoples, and that use of the media against the cause of peace and cooperation on the continent not be permitted. The participants... who devote great attention to the solution of humanitarian questions, start from the principles of socialist humanism, and consider it important for all inhabitants of the continent worthy work and living conditions, the removal of unemployment, and free access to the accomplishments of science, technology and culture be maintained.

Paragraph 4:

"... The participants of the meeting emphasize the firm intention of these countries to develop also in future a multifaceted cooperation and a comradly coordination with the young nations of socialist orientation. Irrespective of all possible differences in the choice of the form for the construction of a new society, the nations of socialism and the states with a socialist orientation are natural allies in the struggle for peace and the security of peoples. With satisfaction, the increasing weight of the developing states of Asia, Africa, and Latin America in international endeavors was emphasized. The fifth conference of nations and heads of states of the Non-Aligned group in Colombo demonstrated anew their positive role in the international community. The nations represented at the (Warsaw Pact) meeting are firmly committed to strengthen their cooperation in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, to strengthen national independence, peace and social progress."

Pravda:

"Old Songs"

Nov. 22 — The following are excerpts from an article by Pravda correspondent G. Vasilyev in Pravda on the Williamsburg, Va. 22nd annual session of the North Atlantic Assembly:

The first to sound the alarm at the meeting was J. Luns, the indefatigable servant of the 'cold war.' The General Secretary of NATO reiterated his usual array of anti-communist, militaristic banalities. He intimidated his audience with a supposed "growth" of the Soviet military budget and painted a gloomy picture of the future of Western Europe if it does not hurry up and build up its armed forces.

The Pentagonians actively buried themselves (in workingover) parliamentarians from 15 countries in the committees of the assembly. Admiral Kidd, Jr., threatened the delegates with the "dangerous plans" of the Soviet Navy.

It is no secret that the general improvement of the international situation intensifies the unwillingness of the public in the NATO countries to gratify the insatiable appetites of the militarists. But the serious economic and social problems of the western states are an imposing reminder of the real needs of peoples. The repercussions of these realities and not the fabricated woes and cares of the West could be heard in the speech on economic questions by the West German representative E. Lange: economic instability, mass unemployment, inflation, unstable currencies and the energy shortage. Speeches on "Atlantic solidarity" could not cover up these real and extremely serious political and economic contradictions which show up in relations between NATO countries. The Turkish and Greek representatives skirmished, while the English and West German delegates clashed on the question of prices of industrial raw materials and agricultural products.

As has become known, serious excitement was caused behind closed doors in one of the committees by the report on the political problems of the bloc, prepared by Netherlands representative P. Dankert. It stated that NATO's attitude to the military might of the USSR and to the fact of the growing influence of communists in Western Europe is "formed under the influence of outdated conceptions and exaggerated fears." The speaker recommended a "more balanced approach to these phenomena, based on objective analysis and not pathological suspicion and emotional rhetoric."

It is not surprising that this speech was hostilely received by the representatives of the reactionary NATO circles and under their pressure it was rejected by the session of the assembly as "underestimating the communist danger."

According to observers, the whole course of work of the North Atlantic assembly demonstrated that it has long since become a political anachronism.

Red Star On:

"The Nuclear Ambitions Of The Atlanticists"

Nov. 21 — The following are excerpts taken from an article by Colonel M. Ponomarev in today's Red Star, the Soviet military daily.

This week in London, the Nuclear Planning Group of NATO met. According to the press, the defense ministers of the eight NATO members discussed 'measures relating to the use of

nuclear forces in a combat situation,' as well as problems of improving American nuclear weapons stationed in western Europe.

The details of the discussion and decisions taken in London, remained unknown to the general public. The sessions of the group took place in strictest secrecy and the final communiqué was couched in deliberately foggy language. But nevertheless, it clearly reveals the intention of the group's members to increase the nuclear might of the North Atlantic bloc.

Such an intention glaringly contradicts the interests of the peoples of Europe... The progressive public connects the decisions taken in London with the demands for immediate use of tactical nuclear weapons in case of a conflict and a simplified procedure for deciding on this, which are ever more frequently being put forward by certain NATO circles.

West German General K. Schnell, in particular, has come out with this demand. He is the chief commander of NATO's forces in the central zone of Europe. In a report he made at the Academy of the High Command of the Bundeswehr in Hamburg, as well as for Bundestag deputies from the SPD and FDP, and in an interview to the Frankfurter Rundschau, General Schnell proposed to consider certain categories of nuclear weapons, particularly the so-called 'atomic mines' and the warheads of Zenith rockets, 'conventional tactical weapons.' On the surface, this is a matter just of a change of classification, but behind this, are far going and extremely dangerous plans.

First of all, the classification of the use of 'atomic mines' as 'conventional tactical weapons' would not require permission from the president of the U.S. Secondly, such weapons could be used by NATO troops on the first day of combat. And thirdly, against existing bans, it could be given to the West German Bundeswehr.

It is not surprising, that Schnell's demands provoked a sharp reaction from the European public. Even the French bourgeois paper Figaro expressed alarm. It recalled that Schnell is not alone. Not so long ago, English Vice-Marshal of Aviation S. Menol and French Colonel Jenest spoke out in the same spirit. The paper also recalled rumors that West Germany (FRG) already has control over the British nuclear weapons on its territory.

The dangerous intentions of the NATO militarist circles, the nuclear ambitions of the Atlantic generals, are poisoning the political climate in Europe. All this again brings to mind the necessity of high vigilance in regard to those forces which come out against détente.

Horizont:

The Sexennium Of Echeverria — A Balance

Nov. 26 (NSIPS) — The following are excerpts from an article in the German Democratic Republic weekly magazine Horizont. The accomplishments of the six-year term of Mexican President Luis Echeverria are evaluated.

On December 1, 1976, the six-year term of office of Mexican President Luis Echeverria Alvarez ends. This sexennium occurred under the burden of increasing contradictions, attributable on the one hand to the worldwide crisis of the capitalist system, and on the other to the fact that the recent development of capitalism in Mexico occurred on the basis of dependence on the imperialist nations, above all the USA.

The Mexican governments — aside from the so-called Final Stage of the Revolution under Lazaro Cardenas (1934-1940) — have 'neglected', to implement in deed the slogan of social justice.

On Sept. 1 of this year, President Echeverria delivered his final state of affairs report before both chambers of the Congress, giving a picture of the immense accomplishments of this man, in relation to what his government wanted to and could achieve. ... The President also detailed negative tendencies and unresolved problems: for example, the devaluation of the peso — which to even mention was practically considered state treason previously — linking this to the general currency crisis, inflation, the increase of the petroleum prices, the necessity to make exports competitive, the flight of capital. He promised a rapid evening out of wages, intensified price controls through the agency of CONASAPO (National Association for Food Stuffs). He mentioned the deficit of the payments balance (approximately \$3.5 billion), foreign debts (according to latest official reports, approximately \$15 billion), as well as the burning problem of creating jobs, which must occur on the level of 950,000 work places per year.

... In fact, a certain unrest is noticeable in Mexico. Despite broad-sweeping reforms, despite the emerging restructuring of the country, which includes the formation of collectives and the modest initiation of the construction of small industries, there are continual land occupations by land-hungry peasants, leading to their violent dispersal, even to the deployment of the military against impoverished Indians... Dead, wounded, burned heads, deserted towns mark the trail which these expeditions for 'the restoration of order' leave behind them.

Obviously, such things and related events do not occur under orders from Echeverria. Nevertheless, as unlimited as the executive powers of the President are, an economically powerful reaction, which aims to defeat his policy of reforms, continually succeeds in breeding unrest. This reaction attacks, sometimes here, sometimes there, in the dark, or openly, through the deployment of paramilitary formations, and finds its victims among progressive university professors, teachers, students, and above all, among 'rebellious' peasant leaders... The crimes initiated by these fascist elements liquidate not only opponents, but also are used for the purpose of spurring anti-communism, in that they are attributed to 'left extremists' of the 'League of the 23rd of September', an enraged terrorist group with which the communists have no connection.

... Many claim that a contradiction exists between the domestic and extremely progressive foreign policy of the President. Nevertheless, one can trace certain negative tendencies in both areas to the same root: Echeverria not only rejects class struggle, but for him, class struggle does not even exist. Even though he calls Mexico 'a nation of workers,' he does not pose the question of power; similarly, he always speaks of an imperialism with 'various signatures.' Nevertheless: Who could forget that Mexico is an important factor for the maintenance of peace; that, at all international forums, it has raised its voice against colonialism, against intervention in the internal affairs of other states, against the injuring of sovereignty and of human rights; that Mexico has condemned the arms race, and

decisively demands disarmament; that Echeverria's 'Charter of the Economic Rights and Obligations of Peoples', brought before and endorsed by the majority of the UN, strengthened the just demands of the developing countries.

...Echeverria gave new content and depth to relations with Cuba; after all, his country remains the only Latin American nation since 1962 to maintain these relations. Despite the economic dependence of Mexico on the U.S., Echeverria has always been known to defend the honor of his nation, and it remains today, with its weaknesses and greatness, the hope of many Latin Americans, the sanctuary for thousands who are being pursued by fascist or semi-fascist dictators on the continent...

Neues Deutschland: Gaullists Call For Renewal

Nov. 20 — The following are excerpts from an article by Gerhardt Lee, Paris correspondent, in the East German Party newspaper, Neues Deutschland:

"We have not come together to draw up a balance sheet of our disappointments and our resentments..." These bitter words came from Claude Labbé, the chairman of the strongest bourgeois faction in the French parliament, the UDR (Union des Démocrates pour la Vème République). They were spoken at the latest conference of Gaullist deputies in Rocamadour... At Rocamadour, and even in the party's central committee meeting that followed it, it was evident that the Gaullist politicians were not just standing ground. If we were to put their speeches and decisions together, then we could confirm that first of all, what has prevailed in spite of everything is that they will remain united and that they will continue to carry out the heritage of Gaullism by supporting the president and his government, as in the struggle against the Union of the Left. The UDR has not become an opposition party.

Nevertheless, the shocks that the party experienced have not receded without leaving their trace. First of all, it lost its left wing, whose representatives had played a large role in the past in winning over working class layers. Its leading representatives such as former Gaullist Minister Jean Charbonnel and Léo Hamon, Admiral Sanguinetti, and General Binoche, have been advocating an alliance with the Union of the Left. Jean Charbonnel, the mayor of Brive (Corrèze) recently said in an interview, "As far as we are concerned, we can ally ourselves with the left wing parties without being absorbed into them and without disowning our past. We believe that we can serve Gaullism this way because its work is unfinished due to the faults of the right wing." The PCF, and recently even leading politicians in the SP, have repeatedly called on the Gaullists to draw the consequences from their disappointments and to join up with the Union of the Left...