

SAY KHRUSHCHEV TOASTS STALIN'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Soviet Communist Party leader Nikita Khrushchev lauded the late Joseph Stalin's achievements at a New Years Eve Party in the Kremlin, press reports from Moscow said yesterday. Khrushchev was reported to have also said that he and his associates "are all Stalinists" in the fight against imperialism.

Surrounded by 600 guests, including the top echelon of the government the party and much of the foreign diplomatic corps, Khrushchev launched his discourse during a series of New Year's toasts.

The diplomatic sources said

Khrushchev observed that "class enemies" criticized the Soviet Union's weaknesses in order to fight against it.

"We discuss our weaknesses in order to correct them," he said.

Referring to Stalin, Khrushchev said the late Premier "of course" made mistakes and had shortcomings. But he added that Stalin "fought against our class enemies."

"I am proud that we worked together in this respect and helped in this great cause," Khrushchev said of Stalin. "I am proud we are

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Khrushchev

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Stalinists in this respect."

Then he added that, when it comes to fighting the imperialists, "we are all Stalinists."

Those who attended the party said applause rocked the white marbled Hall of St. George in the Kremlin at these remarks.

During the course of his toast, Khrushchev said the Soviet Union stopped the Suez fighting and obtained the withdrawal of Anglo-French troops from Egypt.

He deprecated the United Nations moves to halt the Middle East fighting. He asserted that nothing happened when the UN demanded an Anglo-French cease fire and withdrawal.

But, he said, after the Soviet Union sent letters to British Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden and French Premier Guy Mollet, the hostilities stopped.

Although the entire diplomatic corps was invited to attend the party, the ambassadors of the NATO countries stayed away. The boycott was led by the American, British and French ambassadors.

Besides Khrushchev, Soviet leaders who proposed toasts included Premier Nikolai Bulganin, former Premier Georgi Malenkov, former Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov, and Lazar Kaganovich, a first deputy premier.