

Progress, Strains Mark Socialist Nations' Ties

PROGRESS and new strain marked the relations among countries of "the great commonwealth of socialist nations" during the past week. Outstanding was the joint Polish-Soviet statement that climaxed a visit to Moscow by a delegation representing the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party and the Polish government.

At the same time a grim uneasy peace descended on Hungary as active fighting sputtered out and the workers' general strike came to a partial end.

In a third socialist country, Yugoslavia, Marshall Tito tossed an ideological bombshell that brought a verbal spanking from Moscow and Prague.

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HEADING THE POLISH delegation to Moscow was the United Workers Party's first secretary, Wladyslaw Gomulka. Other members were Premier Jozef Cyrankiewicz,



TITO

Aleksander Zawadzki, chairman of the State Council, and Stefan Jedrychowski, chairman of the State Economic Planning Commission.

The chief Soviet negotiators were Nikita S. Khrushchev, first secretary of the Communist Party; Kliment Y. Voroshilov, chairman of the presidium of the Supreme Soviet; Premier Nikolai A. Bulganin, and First Deputy Premiers Anastas I. Mikoyan and Maxim Z. Saburov.

The Polish-Soviet statement includes:

- A declaration that relations between the two countries will be developed "on the basis of complete equality and respect for territorial integrity, national independence and sovereignty, and of non-interference in internal affairs."

- A reaffirmation of the Polish-Soviet alliance.

- Cancellation of all Polish debts incurred since 1945 and extension of new Soviet credits of 700,000,000 rubles plus 1,400,000 tons of grain.

- Agreement that "the temporary presence of Soviet troops in Poland's territory" continues to be necessary, but that the location and number of these troops "is determined by special agreements between both sides." Soviet troop movements will require the agreement of Polish authorities and So-



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viet military personnel and their families are subject to Polish law.

- A Soviet commitment to promote the repatriation of Poles now in the Soviet Union and to submit to the Supreme Soviet Presidium the question of releasing and repatriating Polish prisoners.

- Reaffirmation of the need to

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Hungary

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strengthen cultural ties.

- Condemnation of the aggression against Egypt and a demand that the aggressors withdraw all their forces from Egyptian territory.

- A pledge to work jointly for the admission of the Chinese People's Republic into the United Nations.

- Support for a reduction in armaments by the great powers, "the banning of atom and hydrogen weapons, the liquidation of military bases on foreign soil."

- Support for the Kadar government in Hungary.

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IN HUNGARY, following a conference with Premier Janos Kadar, the Budapest Workers Council decided to call off the general strike which had been in progress for about three weeks. Some workers returned to their factories, but according to dispatches from Vienna, many continued to say away. Transportation difficulties were evidently one factor in preventing a fuller return to work.

One issue that has been widely publicized—the alleged deportation of Hungarian citizens to the USSR by the Soviet military forces—was blasted as a fraud by Soviet Foreign Minister Dmitri T. Shepilov in a speech before the UN General Assembly. The speech was made during the debate on a Cuban resolution accusing the Soviet Union and Hungary of genocide.

Shepilov described as "mythical" an alleged report of the Budapest official radio admitting deportation. "A check-up has revealed that no such reports were broadcast by the Budapest radio," he said.

The Soviet Foreign Minister denounced the genocide charge and pointed to the glass house in which some of the accusers were living. He cited British atrocities in Kenya and the French extermination of 48,000 Algerians.

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IN HIS ACCOUNT of the Hungarian events Shepilov declared that the country's "former leadership committed grave mistakes and faults . . ." and that these "caused justified discontent among a section of the population." He asserted that the Oct. 23 protest demonstration "was altogether legitimate. However, reactionary fascist elements, seeking to undermine and destroy the system of people's democracy, then attempted to make use of this healthy movement for their own ends."

Shepilov defended the use of Soviet troops in both the early and later stages of the struggle as necessary to prevent "the restoration of a hotbed of fascism in the center of Europe."

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MARSHAL TITO as well as Palmiro Togliatti, general secretary of the Communist Party of Italy, also justified the second Soviet military intervention, though both criticized the original use of Soviet troops. Both also urged support of the Kadar government.

However, Tito's discussion of the Hungarian crisis, made in a speech at Pula, Yugoslavia, was considerably sharper than that of the Italian Communist leader. He attacked "those obdurate Stalinist elements that have succeeded in various parties in still maintaining their positions. . . ."

Tito also criticized the present Soviet leaders for having discussed all past Stalinist evils as merely products of "the cult of personality (one-man rule) and not as a question of the system." Concerning his talks with Soviet leaders Tito said:

"We warned that those tendencies that once provoked such strong resistance in Yugoslavia existed in all countries, and that one day they might find expression in other countries too. Then it would

be far more difficult to rectify this. . . .

"The Soviet leaders had a different attitude toward other countries, holding certain wrong and defective views on relations with these countries—with Poland, Hungary, and others.

"We saw that this attitude was imposed rather by those people who stood and are still standing on Stalinist positions. But we believed that there were still possibilities that within the Soviet leadership those elements would win through internal evolution which stand for stronger and more rapid development in the direction of democratization, abandonment of all Stalinist methods, the creation of new relations among socialist states, and development in this same direction in foreign policy as well."

Criticizing the first request for Soviet troops as "a fatal mistake," Tito said concerning the second Soviet intervention:

"Which is now the lesser evil: chaos, civil war, counter-revolution and a new world war; or the intervention of the Soviet troops that were there?"

"The former is a catastrophe and the latter an error. It is understood that if the latter saves socialism in Hungary, then, comrades, we will be able to say, although we are against intervention, that Soviet intervention was necessary."

Tito's speech elicited from the Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda the first criticism of the Yugoslav leader since the reconciliation with Yugoslavia in June 1955. Pravda charged Tito with interfering in the internal affairs of other Communist Parties and asserted he was developing the idea that "Yugoslavia's road to socialism is the only true course."

Rude Pravo, newspaper of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, likewise criticized Tito's speech.

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the economic and other difficulties in these countries can be traced in no small measure to the effects of this cold war.

Moreover, the efforts of the Soviet Union to correct the relations between socialist states is being hampered by the continuation of the cold war, by the attempts of various imperialist groupings to capitalize on past mistakes as well as to make use of the present efforts at correction for their own reactionary purposes.

"But these elements are not concerned with democracy or with national independence. Those who embraced a Horthy and a Franco, as well as those who were responsible for the overthrow of the elected government of Guatemala and those who are at this moment invading the territory of Egypt cannot convince the world that their interest in Hungary is based on concern for democracy and national independence."

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WARNING AGAINST "pro-war hysteria whipped up by the Knowlands, Eastlands, McCarthys, and other pro-war forces in our land," the National Committee urges the ending of such provocative outfits as Radio Free Europe, Project X and the Central Intelligence Agency.

"In America's national interest and for the sake of world peace, we urge a new summit conference to tackle afresh the root question of the cold war. We call for the dissolution of all military blocs, the simultaneous withdrawal of all military forces from all foreign lands and the closing of all military bases on foreign soil.

"We urge widespread support of the efforts by relief agencies cooperating with the UN and the Hungarian government to assist the people of Hungary. We also propose that economic aid be voted by Congress, without strings, to Hungary as well as other nations."