

Pravda Publishes Attack by U. S. Red

By JACK RAYMOND

Special to The New York Times.

MOSCOW, June 27—Questions about the conduct of the Soviet leaders during Stalin's rule were placed before the Soviet public today.

They appeared in Pravda, chief Communist party newspaper, which finally told Soviet readers that Nikita S. Khrushchev had denounced Stalin's terror in a special report at the Twentieth Communist Congress last February.

The party organ presented the issue by indirection. It published an article by Eugene Dennis, secretary general of the United States Communist party, which originally appeared in The Daily Worker of New York June 18.

Earlier published references to the criticism of Stalin never specified the report by Mr.

Continued on Page 5, Column 3

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SOVIET PUBLISHES ATTACK ON CHIEFS

Continued From Page 1

Khrushchev, Soviet Communist party leader, although material from it was recognized as similar to that which had been distributed to party organizations following the congress in Moscow.

Pravda cited—and did not deny the authenticity of—the version of the Khrushchev speech made public by the United States State Department on June 4.

A footnote in Pravda explained that Mr. Dennis was referring to "materials published by the United States State Department and entitled 'Report by Khrushchev at the Twentieth Party Congress.'"

Pravda thus far has not reported a statement by Palmiro Togliatti, Italian Communist leader, on the same subject. A statement by Maurice Thorez, French party chief, was drastically diluted in a brief dispatch.

The Soviet leaders have not commented on these statements, which contain some criticism of them.

Major Questions Raised

But the Dennis article raised profound questions similar to those raised by the others:

Did the present Soviet leaders try to change anything? Was all that happened inevitable? Was it inherent in the ruling political philosophy? How great and serious are the changes now taking place?

Questions of this nature regarding the top leaders are unprecedented in the Soviet journalism of today. Their appearance, even in the form of a republished speech, gave rise to the belief that the text of Mr. Khrushchev's speech itself might soon be published.

Its contents are known by most of the Soviet people. The speech has been heard at party and factory meetings throughout the country. It is still being quoted and discussed at party organizations. Paraphrases of it have appeared in newspapers and periodicals.

But characterizations of Stalin's dictatorship such as those employed by Mr. Dennis, descriptions like "tragic story," "unforgivable crimes," "tortures, rigged trials and large-scale deportations" never before appeared in the Soviet press.

The denunciations of Stalin's rule had heretofore been couched in euphemism about the "cult of personality" and infractions

of "Socialist legality" by Stalin's subordinates.

Pravda also made its own contribution of information in connection with the material used by Mr. Dennis. In a footnote it said that not only Jewish doctors but Russian and Ukrainian doctors "were illegally arrested." It noted this in connection with Mr. Dennis' reference to the "persecution of Jewish doctors."

Mr. Khrushchev referred to the case in his formal published report to the party congress. It is given in further detail in the version of the secret speech used by Mr. Dennis. In that version, Stalin ordered the arrest of several eminent physicians. Stalin died before they were executed and they have since been rehabilitated.

Covers Two Full Pages

Mr. Dennis' article covered fourteen and a half columns spread over two inside pages and running over to the last page of the four-page Soviet party newspaper.

The article was titled "Eugene Dennis on the significance of the twentieth party congress."

Mr. Khrushchev's report depicts a "tragic story," the Soviet people were told through the Dennis article.

"The crimes that sullied the latter period of Stalin's leadership are unforgivable," the article went on.

"Nor did they have any historical or political 'necessity.' Nothing can justify the use of tortures and rigged trials; large-scale deportations; provocative and chauvinist actions, as in the case of Yugoslavia; the persecution of the Jewish doctors."

[Mr. Dennis' article as printed in The Daily Worker added at this point: " * * * and snuffing out the lives of more than a score of Jewish cultural figures."]

"Why did these things happen? Were they inevitable?" Mr. Dennis asked, and mentioned the "State Department theme that the Khrushchev report condemned 'only' those injustices which were perpetrated unnecessarily."

[The Daily Worker text said: " * * * injustices which were perpetrated against 'the wrong people.'"]

"In the discussion on the Twentieth Congress currently being centered around the special Khrushchev report, questions frequently arise about the present Soviet leadership," the article in Pravda went on. "Did some of them try to bring about changes before the last three years? Could the past evils have been checked earlier? How big

and serious are the changes now under way?"

Mme. Furtseva Defends Policy

Soviet criticism of Stalin is a sign of Soviet strength not weakness, Ekaterina A. Furtseva, a top Communist leader, has declared.

Mme. Furtseva, an alternate member of the Soviet Communist party's Presidium, hinted that earlier action to end the Stalin cult might have taken place if war had not broken out.

During the Soviet war against Germany, she said in an interview published this week in the weekly newspaper National Guardian, the deification of Stalin may have helped inspire greater valor among Soviet soldiers.