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CONTENTS:

COMMUNIQUE	1
SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA	6
NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION OF THE TERRITORY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA	7
SETTING UP OF COUNTY PARTY COMMITTEES AND OF PROVISIONAL COUNTY PEOPLE'S COUNCILS	10
SPEECH BY NICOLAE CEAUSESCU AT THE MEETING OF THE PARTY ACTIVE OF THE PRAHOVA COUNTY	11
NICOLAE CEAUSESCU TOURS PLOIESTI TOWN ENTERPRISES	18
DIARY	19

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COMMUNIQUE

The Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party took place on February 14, 1968. Attending the Plenary Meeting as invitees were heads of section of the CC of the RCP, first secretaries of regional Party committees, chairmen of regional people's councils, heads of central state institutions, chief editors of leading news-papers.

1. The Plenary Meeting examined and endorsed the proposals presented by Comrade Nicolae Ceauşescu concerning the organization of counties and municipalities, proposals that have been finalized by the Party and State Central Commission based on the principles adopted by the National Conference of the Romanian Communist Party and on the public debates which took place in this period. The Plenary Meeting decided that these proposals be submitted for debate and legislation to the Grand National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

2. The Plenary Meeting examined the information presented by comrade Virgil Trofin on the structure of the new local Party organizations, in compliance with the measures of improvement of the country's administrativeterritorial organization.

In keeping with the mandate given by the National Conference, namely of implementing on a Party line the measures following from discontinuation of the regions and districts as administrative-territorial units and from the organization of counties and municipalities, the Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee decided on the cessation of the activity of the regional and district Party orgaDigitized by the Internet Archive in 2018 with funding from University of Alberta Libraries

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nizations, on the establishment of county and municipal (town) Party organization, of their provisional leading bodies. In accordance with rules provisions, the leading committees of these organizations are to be elected at Party conferences to be held at the end of this year.

3. The Plenary Meeting heard the information presented by comrade Paul Niculescu-Mizil in connection with the international activity of the Romanian Compunis. Party. The Plenary Meeting approved and assessed highly the activity carried on by the Executive Committee of the Central Committee for the development of comradely relations, of contacts and exchanges of views between our Party and the fraternal parties conducted correspondingly with the cause of strengthening the unity of the communist and working-class movement, of all anti-imperialist forces.

The Plenary Meeting reasserted the full solidarity of our Party and people with the heroic fight of the Vietnamese people, the determination to grant it, henceforth too,full support, to militate for the immediate and unconditional cessation of the American bombing of the Vietnam Democratic Republic, for putting an end to the imperialist aggression in South Vietnam and the withdrawal of the interventionist troops, for observance of the Vietnamese people's right to decide its own fate, without any outside interference.

The Plenary Meeting examined the problems related to the invitation of the Romanian Communist Party to the consultative meeting announced for February 26, 1968, in Budapest, in preparation of an international conference of the communist and workers' parties.

The Romanian Communist Party conceives the consultative meeting in Budapest as an opportunity for an exchange of views between parties with regard to the

- 2 -

opportureness of the organization of an international conference, to its nature and aim, to the actions which should be undertaken so that such a conference may represent a real contribution to the improvement of the climate in the communist movement, to the cause of unity. The aim of the exhange of views within the consultative meeting must be of providing the possibility to the parties represented there to reciprocally set forth and know their points of view on the organization of an international conference, so that subsequently, after the consultative meeting, the respective parties, their leading bodies may be able to analyse the various points of view that were expressed and to decide on all the problems related to the preparation of the conference.

The Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party is of the opinion that an international conference, in order to serve the cause of unity, rapprochement and understanding among parties, must have the nature of a meeting aimed at a broad and fruitful exhange of views on the common problems of the struggle against imperialism, for the achievement of a general consensus, without adopting programmatic directives and documents for the activity of the communist parties, the sole ones entitled to and apt to shape their own domestic and international policies.

The Romanian Communist Party maintains that 1t would be useful to make at the consultative meeting an exchange of views concerning the conference agenda and shares the opinion that this should be limited to the problem of the concrete tasks of the present struggle against imperialism. Likewise, it would be useful to analyse within the consultative meeting what should be undertaken in order to pave the way for the participation of all communist and workers' parties, without any discrimination, in the future international conference and, at the same time, for

finding forms to render possible the participation of also other social-political forces which are conducting an active, sharp struggle against imperialism.

An important requirement is the ensuring of conditions so that all the communist and workers' parties, whithout exception, have the full possibility of participating in the preparation, under all aspects, of the international conference, thus making their contribution to its unfolding as a manifestation of unity. In this connection, the Plennary Meeting considers the non-invitation of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia and of other communist and workers' parties to the consultative meeting in Budapest as a discriminatory act.

The Plenary Meeting maintains that the whole activity of preparation of the conference, and the conference itself, must proceed on the bases of strict observance of the standards of relationship between the communist parties, taking as starting point understanding and recognition of the fact that unity and internationalist solidarity - so much needed by the communist movement - can only be established on the groundwork of the independence and equality of all parties.

The CC of the RCP is of the opinion that both the meeting in Budapest and a future international conference must not put into discussion and criticize the political line, domestic or international, of any fraternal party present or not at these meetings, must refrain from resorting under any form to the practice of blaming or condemning other parties - a practice which has caused profound harms to the communist movement. In no case must the participation or non-participation of a party in an international conference - a problem on which only the respective party can decide - be a reason for giving qualifications or labellings or affect the relations of comradely cooperation between the communist and workers' parties.

- 4 -

The CC of the RCP upholds that essential in the organization of an international conference of the communist and workers' parties is not a most speedy scheduling, but its thorough and patient preparation, the development of new contacts and meetings, new consultative meetings of the parties included, so as to ensure in this way the guarantees for its fruitful unfolding.

It is in this spirit that the Plenary Meeting has decided that the Romanian Communist Party participate in the consultative meeting in Budapest in order to actively contribute to the preparation of an international conference which should constitute a real contribution to the normalization of relations in the communist movement, meet the interests of restoring unity.

The Plenary Meeting has expressed the firm determination of the Romanian Communist Party not to spare efforts for the continuous development of relations with all communist and workers' parties, for a constructive approach of all problems of the international communist and workingclass movement, with the view to restoring and consolidating its unity, strengthening the cohesion of the forces fighting against imperialism, for peace and social progress, for socialism.

- 5 -

SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE

SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA

The proceedings of the ninth special session of the fifth legislature of the Grand National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Romania took place in Bucharest on February 15 and 16, 1968.

Attending the session besides the deputies were many invited guests from all over the country, heads of diplomatic missions accredited in Bucharest, Romanian journalists and foreign press correspondents in Bucharest.

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party, President of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Romania Nicolae Ceauşescu made the exposition on the improvement of the administrative organization of the territory of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

Debates, in which many deputies participated, took place in connection with the exposition as well with the draft bills concerning the modification of some articles of the Constitution of the Socialist Republic of Romania, the administrative organization of the country's territory, and the ensuring of local State government in the administrative-territorial units until the election of the people's councils.

After the debates, the deputies voted the draft bills on the agenda which thus have become laws.

(The exposition made by Nicolae Ceauşescu on the improvement of the administrative organization of the territory of the Socialist Republic of Romania was published in a special supplement.) .

According to the laws passed by the Ninth Extraordinary Session of the Fifth Legislature of the Grand National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Romania, whose proceedings were held in Bucharest over February 15 and 16, 1968, the territory of the Socialist Republic of Romania is organized in 39 counties:

1.- Alba county with the Alba Iulia municipality as

its seat

2.- Arad county - seat Arad municipality 3.- Argeș county - seat Pitești municipality 4.- Bacău county - seat Bacău municipality 5.- Bihor county - seat Oradea municipality 6,- Bistrița-Năsăud county - seat Bistrița town 7 .- Botosani county - seat Botosani municipality 8.- Brasov county - seat Brasov municipality 9.- Brăila county - seat Brăila municipality 10,- Buzău county - seat Buzău municipality 11,- Caraș Severin county - seat Reșița municipality 12.- Cluj county - seat Cluj municipality 13 .- Constanța county - seat Constanța municipality 14,- Covasna county - seat Sfîntu Gheorghe town 15.- Dîmbovița county - seat Tîrgoviște municipality 16.- Dolj county - seat Craiova municipality 17.- Galați county - seat Galați municipality 18.- Gorj county - seat Tîrgu Jiu municipality 19,- Harghita county - seat Miercurea Ciuc town 20.- Hunedoara county - seat Deva municipality 21.- Ialomița county - seat Slobozia town 22.- Jassy county - seat Jassy municipality 23.- Ilfov county - seat Bucharest municipality 24,- Maramureş county - seat Baia Mare municipality 25.- Mehedinți county - seat Turnu Severin municipality

26.- Mureş county - seat Tîrgu Mureş municipality
27.- Neamţ county - seat Piatra Neamţ municipality
28.- Olt county - seat Slatina town
29.- Prahova county - seat Ploieşti municipality
30.- Satu Mare county - seat Satu Mare municipality
31.- Sălaj county - seat Zalău town
32.- Sibiu county - seat Sibiu municipality
33.- Suceava county - seat Suceava municipality
34.- Teleorman county - seat Alexandria town
35.- Timiş county - seat Timişoara municipality
36.- Tulcea county - seat Vaslui town
38.- Vîlcea county - seat Rîmnicu Vïlcea town
39.- Vrancea county - seat Focşani municipality

The counties are complex territorial units from the economic, social and cultural point of view, balanced as to their area, number of residents and economic potential, capable of ensuring the high-grade turning to account of the material resources all over the country, for raising the welfare of the entire people.

The surface of a county is, on the average, of almost 6,100 sq.km. and the population of over 450,000.

The county is formed of towns and communes - basic units of the administrative-territorial organization of the country.

The town is the populated centre more developed from the economic, social-cultural and municipal-administrative point of view.

The municipalities are towns that have a greater number of residents, a special importance in the economic, social-political and cultural-scientific life of this country or have conditions for their development on these lines.

The following towns are to be organized as municipalities: Alba Iulia, Arad, Bacău, Baia Mare, Bîrlad, Botoșani,

- 8 -

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Brașov, Brăila, Buzău, Călărași, Cluj, Constanța, Craiova, Dej, Deva, Focșani, Galați, Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej, Giurgiu, Hunedoara, Jassy, Lugoj, Mediaș, Odorheiul Secuieac, Oradea, Petroșeni, Piatra Neamț, Pitești, Ploiești, Reșița, Roman, Satu Mare, Sibiu, Sighetul Marmației, Sighișoara, Suceava, Tecuci, Timișoara, Tîrgoviște, Tîrgu Jiu, Tîrgu Mureş, Tulcea, Turda, Turnu Măgurele and Turnu Severin.

The Capital of the Socialist Republic of Romania is the Bucharest Municipality.

The commune is the administrative-territorial unit which includes the rural population having common interests and traditions, and is formed of one or more villages, contingent upon the economic, social-cultural, geographical and demographic conditions.

The new administrative units will be lead by county, municipal, town and communal people's councils.

Representative organs of the citizens of the administrative-territorial units, the people's councils are to be elected in keeping with the principles on which the election system of Romania is based: universal, equal, direct and secret vote, as well as with the principle of the citizens' participation in the organization and conduct of elections, of the responsibility of deputies to their electors.

The people's councils will guide the local activity, ensuring the economic, social-cultural and municipal-edministrative activity of the counties, towns and communes, the protection of socialist and private property, the exercising of the civic rights, the observance of socialist legality and the maintenance of public order. Until the election of the county people's councils, the

Until the election of the county people's councils, the present deputies of the regional and district people's councils, elected in the constituencies within the radius of each county will form the provisional county people's councils.

The chairmen of the executive committees of the municipal, town and communal people's councils are the mayors of these administrative-territorial units.

- 9 -

SETTING UP OF COUNTY PARTY COMMITTEES AND OF PROVISIONAL

COUNTY PEOPLE'S COUNCILS

Under the decisions adopted at the recent Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party concerning the application on Party line of the measures deriving from the dissolution of the regions and districts as administrative-territorial units of Romania. plenary meetings of the regional Party committees were held on February 16, in all the country's regions which decided on the cessation of the activity of the regional Party organizations in view of the setting up of the county Party organizations and of the election of their provisional executive bodies. The same day, in compliance with the law on the administrative-territorial organization passed by the Grand National Assembly, sessions of the regional people's councils were held, which decided on the cessation of activity of these State bodies.

On February 17, in all the 39 counties of the country meetings were organized of the Party active and of the deputies to the regional and district people's councils within the radius of the respective counties, at which the county Party committees, the county people's councils and their provisional executive bodies were constituted. The meetings of the Party active and of deputies were attended in each county by Party and State leaders of Romania.

Nicolae Ceaușescu, General Secretary of the CC of the RCP, President of the State Council, spoke at the meeting held in Prahova county.

SPEECH BY NICOLAE CEAUSESCU AT THE MEETING OF THE PARTY

ACTIVE OF THE PRAHOVA COUNTY

Nicolae Ceauşescu said at the beginning of his speech that the inauguration of the new local Party and State bodies signifies implementation of one of highly important decisions endorsed by the National Conference of the Party concerning the perfecting of the conduct of social life in Romania. A new stage is ushered in in the activity of the Party and State bodies with deep-going repercussions for the future development of our socialist society, for raising the welfare of our entire people. The measures concerning the new administrative-territorial organization endorsed by the recent Grand National Assembly session, which are an integral part of the programme for perfecting the general management of the economic and social activity, provide a better organizational framework for the creative work of building the new social system in Romania. By removing some intermediary echelons the central management comes nearer to the basic units, the town and commune, and their role in the whole economic-social activity, in the work of socialist construction is growing. A still larger participation of the broad people's mass will be ensured in running State and social affairs, as well as the development and perfecting of our socialist democracy - fundamental feature of our new system.

After having extensively referred to the tasks incumbent on the county Party committees and the communal, town and county people's councils, the speaker said:

This year has started well. During its first month the plan provisions were topped. All conditions exist for fulfilling, this year too, the plan provisions. The

work done by the Romanian people in socialist construction is, undoubtedly, of great importance for the development of our socialist nation, of great national significance. By successfully guiding this work the Party is fulfilling its fundamental task in society, that of organizer and leader in the struggle of building the new system, of realizing the country's general progress and of raising the welfare of the whole people.

At the same time, the Party fulfils in this way an international task. The internal successes in socialist construction are of great international significance, as between the internal and external tasks there is an indissoluble unity. The bigger successes each socialist country is recording in socialist construction, the more the material and spiritual strength of each socialist nation grows, the greater is the strength and influence in the world of the whole world socialist system.

Through its entire activity our Party is making an active contribution to the struggle against imperialism, to the victory of the cause of socialism, peace and social progress throughout the world.

Referring to some problems of the current international situation Nicolae Ceauşescu said: The evolution of international life fully confirms the principles of the foreign policy of our Party and State, the correctness of the directions along which we proceed in our activity on a world plane. More and more forces are rising against the aggressive policy and actions of imperialism, and in the first place the aggressive policy and action of American imperialism. Growingly broad forces and more and more politicians speak up for an end to the US bombing of the Vietnam DR, for the cessation of its aggression against the Vietnamese people. The evolution of the fights in

South Vietnam, the successes obtained by the patriotic forces against the reactionary forces of Saigon and against the American interventionists stand proof of the force of the National Liberation Front, of the fighting capacity of a people that has risen to defend its liberty, the right to decide its fate by itself without outside interference. The Party and Government of our country consider it absolutely necessary that an end be put to the aggression in Vietnam, that the air raids and the aggressive acts against Vietnam DR be stopped immediately and unconditionally and that the Vietnamese people be left to solve the problems of its life by itself without outside interference.

We are anxious about the situation in the Near East, about the fact that tension continues to be maintained in that region and that we are witnesses to continued occurrences of a series of local conflicts. This creates a great danger to the peace in that part of the world, as well as to general peace. Therefore, we consider it necessary that efforts be made for the withdrawal of the Israeli troops as soon as possible from the occupied territories, for the peaceful solution of the controversial problems, including that of the Arab refugees, for ensuring the security of the frontiers of all the states in that region, of their national independence. It must be understood that the maintenance of tension only serves international imperialism and reaction in those states. Everything must be done so that a peaceful solution be found to the Near East conflicts.

The problem of European security also continues to focus the preoccupations of our Party and State. We hold that new and positive results have been obtained in this domain too and that there are favourable conditions for further actions to be taken on the path of improving



relations among LL opean states, for strengthening the climate of security on the continent. To this end it is necessary for all states, for all governments to start out from the realities now existing in Europe and not from wishes and fancies. We consider that the recognition of the existing frontiers must be ensured, that the two German states be recognized, as also the ensuring of their participation together with the other European nations, in the normalization and improvement of inter-state relations, in creating European security.

As is known, our Party and Government consider the existence of military blocs, of the NATO aggressive pact as an obstacle in the path of developing trust and cooperation among states. In our opinion efforts must be intensified for the dissolution of the NATO aggressive pact and, with it of the Warsaw pact. This would have a positive influence on the political climate in Europe, on the improvement of inter-state relationships, on strengthening peace on our continent and throughout the world.

Measures are also necessary for the dismantling of military bases and the withdrawal of foreign troops from the territories of other states; as long as the military bases and the foreign troops will continue to be on the territory of other states it is difficult to speak about the rigorous implementation of the principle of observing the independence and sovereignty of other states. The implementation of European security presupposes the development among states of new type relations, that start out from the observance of the national independence and sovereignty of everycne, from non-interference in the affairs of other states, from trust and cooperation. It must be understood that European security is closely linked to the ensuring of the security and independence of each state. We consider that it is necessary to intensify the

activity on all planes for further steps to be taken on the path of creating the necessary conditions for the implementation of European security.

Mankind is justly preoccupied with the danger spelt by the existence of nuclear weapons. Therefore, it is necessary to make sustained efforts for the cessation of the nuclear armaments race, the liquidation of the existing stockpiles; this is the only real way that could safeguard mankind against the danger of a thermo-nuclear war. The nonproliferation of atomic weapons whose significance is incontestable, must be implemented in the conditions of assuring all the nations that renounce these weapons, that they shall never be the victims of an atomic aggression or of a threat of nuclear weapons being used against them. It is the legitimate right of each state that renounces the atomic weapon to have the certainty that no attempts will be made on its national independence and sovereignty. The use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes is taking on great importance for the future. It can be said that on this depends the future economic progress itself of each country. That is why the access to researches in this domain to the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes must be ensured without any kind of restrictions to all the states.

A particularly important problem of our epoch is the support that has to be given to the economic growth of the underdeveloped countries. This is an imperative of the greatest importance at the present in the life of mankind, whose solution will have a tremendous influence on future development, on the international political climate. It can be understood that maintenance of large zones of the globe at an underdeveloped, undernourished level, cannot but be a hindrance in the path of developing cooperation among peoples, cannot but bring prejudices to the cause of peace, of social progress and civilization generally.



We hold that the small and medium-sized countries have a more and more important role in international life, that it is necessary to take into account their point of view in solving the problems on the world agenda. It is necessary that they should act firmly so as to make their active contribution to the cause of peace and progress, and not leaving it only to the big powers to solve the problems of the world.

The role of the communist and workers' parties, of all anti-imperialist and democratic forces - Nicolae Ceauşescu further said - is asserting itself more and more in the contemporary political life. Their steadily growing influence in the world calls for the finding of ways of achieving the unity of struggle of these forces. This is the principal guarantee that they will be able to fulfil the role incumbent on them in the struggle against imperialism and reaction, for the realization of the progressive aspirations of the peoples.

We assess that the road towards the consolidation of the unity of these forces is the re-establishment of links, the normalization of relations between the communist and workers' parties. Everything must be done, in our opinion, for an end to be put to the present tension in the communist and working-class movement, and nothing must be done which would add new elements of tension, of worsening relations among the communist and workers' parties. It is in this spirit that we consider that an international conference may be justified only to the extent to which it contributes to the development of cooperation among all the parties, among all the anti-imperialist forces, to strengthening their unity. The Romanian Communist Party has decided to take part in the consultative meeting in Budapest desirous of contributing, together with other parties, to finding the best ways of normalizing the relations among



parties, to preparing in the most democratic spirit a world conference that should lead to the strengthening of the unity of the communist and working-class movement. This can only be achieved by proceeding from the Marxist-Leninist principles of full equality among parties, of the observance of the independence of each party, of non-interference in the internal affairs, of reciprocal respect, of the right of each party to work out its own political line in keeping with the conditions of the country where it carries on its activity.

We consider that the unity and cooperation among the communist and workers' parties must proceed from the increasing force of each party, separately, from the strengthening of the unity of the ranks of each party. Only on this basis will a real internationalist unity be achieved and the growing role of the communist and working-class movement in the contemporary society be ensured. The unswerving observance of these principles creates conditions for the achievement at a higher level of the unity of struggle of the communist and workers' parties, for proletarian internationalism to take on a new superior content.

The Romanian Communist Party - Nicolae Ceauşescu said in conclusion - will militate unswervingly, henceforth too, for making its contribution to the improvement of the relations among parties, to the development of cooperation and strengthening their unity. We shall develop cooperation with all parties, whether they take part or not in the consultative meeting or in another conference considering that in this way we shall fulfil the duty of active detachment in the struggle against imperialism, for peace and social progress, shall we fulfil the internationalist mission we have towards the working-class everywhere, Nicolae Ceausescu said on concluding his speech.

- 17 -

NICOLAE CEAUSESCU TOURS PLOIESTI TOWN ENTERPRISES

Nicolae Ceaușescu, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party, President of the State Council, paid a short visit to the town of Ploiești.

At the Brazi refinery, the first objective seen round was the catalytic cracking complex, unit which was commissioned in September 1967 and which is one of the most up-to-date units of its kind on the continent. The catalytic cracking complex processes annualy about 1,100,000 tons of heavy crude oil distillates ensuring thus a higher turning to good use of these raw materials. The General Secretary of the CC of the RCP positively appreciated the fact that in a short lapse of time, the installations were producing at the planned capacity. At present, the value of the over-all production realized at this complex is tantamount to the total output of the refineries in Cîmpina and Ploiești Nord.

The next visit was to the Ploiești petrochemical combine where in 1968 a factory of phenol and acetone will be commissioned with an annual capacity of 15,000 tons of acetone and 25,000 tons of phenol, and a factory for dimethyil-terephthalate planned to produce 14,000 tons annually, products to be used especially for the manufacture of polyester fibres. Building work on the new objectives is six months ahead of time.

Afterwards, the hothouses of the Ploiești State agricultural enterprise were visited, a vegetable growing complex stretching over more than 50 hectares.

At noon, Nicolae Ceauşescu participated in the meeting of the Party active at which the County Party Committee, the County People's Council and their provisional executive bodies where constituted.

Nicolae Ceaușescu, President of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Romania, received on February 13, Jaromir Ocheduszko, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Polish People's Republic in Bucharest, who presented his credentials.

- 19 -

In the speeches made on the occasion, the Polish Ambassador and the State Council President spotlighted the development of the Romanian-Polish friendly relations and the expansion of cooperation between the two countries.

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Ib Norlund, member of the Executive Committee, Secretary of the CC of the Communist Party of Denmark, paid a visit of friendship to Romania between February 9 and 12, at the invitation of the CC of the RCP. He was received by Nicolae Ceauşescu, General Secretary of the CC of the RCP, together with Leonte Răutu, member of the Executive Committee, Secretary of the CC of the RCP. During the meeting problems of the present-day international situation, of the communist and working-class movement, and also problems concerning the steady progress of the fraternal relations between the two Parties were discussed.

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Franz Muhri, Chairman of the Communist Party of Austria, paid a visit of friendship to Romania, over February 11 and 13, at the invitation of the CC of the RCP. He had a meeting with Nicolae Ceauşescu, General Secretary of the CC of the RCP, together with Manea Mănescu, alternate member of the Executive Committee, Secretary of the CC of the RCP, during which views were exchanged on current problems of the international situation, of the communist and working-class movement as well as on some problems of common interest to the two Parties.



On February 12 and 13 V. Koucky, Secretary of the CC of the Communist Party of Częchoslovakia, paid a friendly visit to Romania at the invitation of the CC of the RCP. He had meetings with Nicolae Ceauşescu, General Secretary of the CC of the RCP, Paul Niculescu-Mizil, member of the Executive Committee and of the Standing Presidium, Secretary of the CC of the RCP, and Mihai Dalea, Secretary of the CC of the RCP, exchanging views on the occasion, on the development of the relations of friendship between the two Parties and States, and also on some present-day problems of the international communist and working-class movement.

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During the visit of friendship B.N. Ponomariov, Secretary of the CC of the CPSU, paid to Romania on February 16 and 17 at the invitation of the CC of the RCP, he had talks with Nicolae Ceauşescu, General Secretary of the CC of the RCP, Paul Niculescu-Mizil, member of the Executive Committee and of the Standing Presidium, Secretary of the CC of the RCP, and with Mihai Dalea, Secretary of the CC of the RCP. During the talks, views were exchanged on present-day problems of the international communist and working-class movement and on problems concerning the preparation of the consultative meeting and the international conference of the communist and workers' parties.

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The delegation of the Communist Party of Japan who paid a visit to Romania between February 13 and 20 at the invitation of the CC of the RCP was formed of Tomic Nishizawa, member of the Presidium and of the Secretariat of the CC of the Communist Party of Japan, and Hiroshi Ide, member of the Editorial Board of the "International documents" review of the Communist Party of Japan. During the meetings they had with Nicolae Ceauşescu, General Secretary of the CC of the RCP, Chivu Stoica and Paul Niculescu-Mizil, members of the Executive Committee and of the Standing Presi-

dium, Secretaries of the CC of the RCP, views were exchanged on the expansion of the relations of friendship between the two Parties, and on the current issues of the international situation and of the communist and working-class movement.

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The Plenary Meeting of the Central Council of the General Trade Union Confederation of Romania, held in Bucharest on February 16, discussed and approved the measures concerning the improvement of the organizational structures of the territorial trade union bodies, in consequence of the law passed by the Grand National Assembly concerning the new administrative-territorial organization of the country, the preliminary implementation of the Budget for 1967 and the Draft Budget for 1968, the implementation of the budget of State insurance for 1967, and established the measures for the handing over of the administration of the social insurance funds to the Ministry of Labour, in the light of the Decision adopted by the RCP National Conference. The participants in the Plenary Meeting were informed of the results of the socialist emulations in 1967 and decided to give moral and material incentives to those who have been frontrankers in socialist emulation for five years running

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The 35th anniversary of the heroic struggles of the Romanian railway and oil workers, of January-February 1933, and the Railway Worker's Day have been celebrated throughout the country by various events, being an opportunity of reviewing the contribution made by the railway workers to the great achievements obtained in building up the socialist society in Romania.

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A Romanian Government economic delegation led by Alexandru Boabă, Oil Minister, visited Ceylon between February 1 and 10, at the invitation of the Minister of Industry and Fishery of Ceylon.

- 21 -

Following the discussions held with the executives o of the economic ministries in Ceylon, an economic and technical cooperation agreement was signed between Romania and Ceylon. On the Romanian side the agreement was signed by Alexandru Boabă, while on the Ceylon side by Hugh Fernando, Trade Minister. The leader of the Romanian delegation called on the Prime Minister of Ceylon.

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A delegation of the Soviet-Romanian Friendship Association led by Aleksandr Danilov Ivanovich, Minister of Education of the Russian SFSR, deputy to the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, paid a visit to Romania between February 2 and 13, during which they attended the events occasioned by the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance Treaty between Romania and the USSR. The delegation toured the towns of Bucharest, Sibiu, Deva, Hunedoara, Timişoara, Turnu Severin and Craiova.

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After a several-day visit of friendship r.iu to Cuba at the invitation of the CC of the Communist Party of Cuba, Emil Bodnaras, member of the Executive Committee and of the Standing Presidium of the CC of the RCP, together with Dumitru Lazăr, alternate member of the CC of the RCP, deputy head of the international relations section of the CC of the RCP, arrived back in Bucharest on February 17. They had talks with members of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Communist Party of Cuba. At the invitation of Fidel Castro Ruz, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, Emil Bodnaras, saw the work being done for the arrangement and development of agriculture in the Havana region; Fidel Castro gave ample explanations in connection with the plans for the many-sided development of the Cuban agriculture and of the other branches of the national economy. The Romanian guests toured various regions

in Cuba, visited the "Camilo Cienfuegos" sugar factory, the "July 26" school development in Santiago de Cuba, the "Cubano de Acero" metallurgical works and the National Centre for Scientific Researches under the University in Havana, and laid a wreath at the Mausoleum of Jose Marti.

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