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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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I. The Party Line in the Cominform Journal

1. An editorial in the issue of 7 January, dealing mainly with familiar organizational themes, stated the present tasks confronting Communist parties outside the orbit as: "to lead the struggle

25X1

- a. for peace
- b. for banning nuclear weapons
- c. against attacks on

- A. the democratic rights and interests of working people.
- B. their democratic organizations.
- C. the national independence and sovereignty of many capitalist countries".

2. The Cominform Journal reflected the preoccupation of the Soviet leaders with the situation inside the U.S.S.R. and the satellites during this period, which saw both the fall of Malenkov and the undermining of Nagy's position in Hungary. The line for foreign Communist parties to adopt in their official and public pronouncements on the resignation of Malenkov, was implicit in the terms of his explanatory letter to the Supreme Soviet: this was to be (for the present at any rate) a civilized affair, the stepping down from high office of a well-intentioned man who had found it all too much for him. A deeper meaning was to be found in the references to Bukharin and Rykov in Khrushchev's report to the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U., and in his denunciations, repeated in one editorial after

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25X1

- 2 -

another and in an article signed by Luigi Longo of the P.C.I., of the "sorry theoreticians" and "vulgarisers of Marxism" in the U.S.S.R. and Hungary who had underestimated the importance of heavy industry and collective farming, and who had tried to prove that light industry can and must outstrip all others. The "morass of opportunism" awaited these right-wing deviationists who had abandoned Leninist principles and were "belittling the leading role of the Party."

3. To any well-read Party theoretician, whether sorry or otherwise, this language must have sounded like a warning that the present Communist line - opportunist as it is in everything but name - might be due for a change; but against this must be set an article which appeared in the issue dated 1 April, entitled "Combating Sectarianism", which restated the broad, rightist line of today and denounced the sectarians who cloak themselves in "ultra-revolutionary talk" and refuse to work among the broad masses of the people. To sum up: no change in the Party line on this side of the Curtain; on the other, heavy industry fully restored as the sacred cow, flanked by animal husbandry and crop-raising.
4. The World Peace Council campaign for the abolition of nuclear weapons has now overtaken the struggle against German rearmament as the principal "Peace" theme in the Cominform Journal. Communist parties were exhorted to support the Peace Partisans in the struggle against "the criminal schemes of the atom maniacs" and to help them reach the target of a thousand million signatures. Molotov's statement that another war would mean the end of capitalism, but not of civilization itself, is now a stock theme.
5. Special occasions which received publicity in the Journal during this quarter were:
 - a. The Afro-Asian Conference. This was represented as a defeat for U. S. diplomacy, since their efforts to persuade governments to refuse the invitations had been balked..
 - b. The anniversary of the death of Lenin. This was played down, in view of the recent decision by the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U. to transfer celebrations from this day (21 January) to his birthday (22 April).
 - c. International Women's Day.
 - d. Fifth anniversary of the Sino-Soviet Treaty. This received normal prestige treatment, and an editorial stressed the vast economic assistance and wealth of experience which the U.S.S.R. was giving to China.

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25X1

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S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

- 11 -

3. Policy towards Yugoslavia

25X1

39. Difficulties over the implementation of the new policy towards Yugoslavia continued; the matter is reported to have been discussed at closed meetings, though there seems to have been no open discussion and the subject was avoided at the Conference. In Trieste, Vittorio Vidali, the Party Secretary, has shown a striking lack of decision. After having expressed continuing anti-Tito sentiments immediately after the charge, he later modified his opposition and at the Trieste Communist Party (P.C.T.T.) Conference, held shortly after the P.C.I. Conference, stressed the importance of collaboration with Yugoslavia not only in the cultural but also in the political field. More recently, however, he is reported to have demanded that the P.C.T.T. should be represented at discussions in communist parties over the restatement of the Cominform line towards Yugoslavia, in order that Tito's past misdeeds should not be entirely forgotten. In the Gorizia Federation there was such uncertainty and bewilderment among inhabitants of the frontier area, who were afraid to make contact with pro-Tito Slovenes lest they should later be accused of "diversionary sympathies", that meetings have been held to explain, albeit inadequately, the new policy.

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