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PART I

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS IN WORLD COMMUNISM
DURING OCTOBER

During the month of October, there was striking evidence from areas outside Communist domination that Communist control of organized labor is steadily diminishing. It is apparent that most non-Communist workers beyond the Soviet orbit are now aware of the danger of Communist exploitation of their economic grievances for political purposes. As a result, Communist agitators have, on the whole, been less successful in their efforts to capitalize on labor disputes than they were, for example, in the London Dock strike and the French Miners' strike. With the possible exception of France and Italy, it is unlikely that the Communists will succeed in precipitating any strike of major proportions this fall.

Recognizing these setbacks, the Communists have intensified their attempts to compensate for them, mainly by using the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), now completely Communist-controlled, for infiltration of non-Communist labor organizations. Proceeding cautiously, they have de-emphasized political issues and stressed social and economic problems. They are seeking to infiltrate non-Communist labor by setting up WFTU "trade departments," which are international organizations of workers within one trade or industry, and by bringing into these departments such key workers as the miners, metal workers, seamen, communication workers, and petroleum workers. The WFTU is still in the process of building up and numerically strengthening these "departments", of which there will be sixteen by the end of 1950. It will then claim that it represents organized labor in all significant industries throughout the world.

The success or failure of this tactic will depend largely upon the unity and power developed by the non-Communist unions. However, the possibility should not be altogether dismissed that this device, which is being used to redress Communist losses in labor movements of the West, may have some effect, even though political sophistication in these areas has considerably increased.

Another device which the Communists continue to use - and not entirely without success - is the "peace" campaign. While the Communist-sponsored International Peace Day (October 2) and the peace congresses which followed during October apparently left little impression on non-Communists, they were, by Communist standards, not altogether unproductive. Activities of

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this sort serve not only to win converts, but also to increase the experience and efficiency of local Communist organizations.

In addition to the failure of their efforts to extend control over predominantly non-Communist elements, the Communist leadership in a number of countries remains internally divided, as demonstrated particularly in Norway, Italy and Japan. It should be kept in mind, however, that the differences of opinion center about the choice of methods which Communists should employ in attempting to gain power. The activists, who want to fight against non-Communist regimes with all means, fair or foul, are ready to go underground and are opposed to temporary compromise; the legalists, who ostensibly want to remain within the constitutional framework of their country prefer to avoid illegal methods until the moment is opportune for them to abandon constitutionality and become overt rebels again. It would be erroneous to assume that Titoism is necessarily at the bottom of these struggles even though the victorious faction of a party may accuse the defeated leaders of such a crime. Present events in Norway are a case in point.

From the standpoint of US security, the protraction of internal differences within the Communist parties - and among the separate national parties - is of considerable importance. If the warring factions cannot unite and one of them is eliminated from official party leadership, those disgruntled Communists may transform their opposition into enmity against principles for which the conquering faction stands. It is at this stage that the Tito-Cominform struggle may enter their field of political consideration and that the tactical dispute could become an ideological fight. Before the Tito dispute, fallen Communists had no rallying point other than the ineffective Fourth (Trotsky) International. The development of Titoism has encouraged them to form an opposition without abandoning Communism.

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PART II

SURVEY OF SIGNIFICANT TRENDS

This survey of significant trends in the international Communist movement which have become apparent during the month of October contains only those developments which are believed to have an important effect on the potential of world Communism.

1. Communist Labor ControlINTERNATIONAL

Recent World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) moves to establish new "trade departments" and to exploit those already in existence represent an increasing Soviet effort to penetrate strategic western industries and professions. In addition to the International Unions which the WFTU has already established for the Metal Workers (in Paris), Miners (Brussels), Seamen and Dockers (Marseilles), Building Trade Workers (Helsinki), Leather and Fur Workers (Prague), Textile Workers (Warsaw) and Teachers (Paris), the WFTU has recently set up a Postal, Telegraph and Radio Workers Union in Berlin and is preparing to form an Agricultural Workers Federation in Bologna. New international unions will be organized during the next three months for the food workers, transport workers and petroleum workers. A WFTU spokesman has stated that sixteen such "trade departments" will have been formed by the end of 1950.

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FRANCE

The Communist-dominated General Confederation of Labor (CGT) did not, during October, make appreciable progress in its attempts to create the "unity of action" program which it has pushed for several months in an effort to gain control of the non-Communist labor unions. While there is some evidence of co-operation between the Christian Labor Federation (CFTC) and the CGT on the national level, the CFTC is resisting co-operation at departmental and local levels. The most important reason for the CGT's failure to create such unity of action is

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probably the French workers' disinclination, after their experiences of 1947 and 1948; to engage in new strikes, particularly those of a political nature. Moreover, the Force Ouvriere (FO) leaders believe that in the event of a strike the FO could not expect the CGT to hold to pre-strike agreements if, for any reason, the CGT considered it opportune to disregard them.

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AUSTRIA

By its decision to disaffiliate from the Communist-controlled World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) and to join the new Western-sponsored Trade Union International, the Austrian Trade Union Federation (TUF) has dealt a blow to Communist aspirations in Austria. At the same time, Communist strength in the Chamber of Labor, which, together with the Chambers of Commerce and Agriculture, is influential in matters of economic legislation in Austria, has been reduced to less than 10%.

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CANADA

Both major Canadian labor organizations, the Trades and Labor Council (TLC) and the Canadian Congress of Labor (CCL), have delivered decisive defeats to the Communists within their ranks. The TLC expelled the Communist-dominated Canadian Seamen's Union (CSU), while the CCL voted indefinite suspension of the leftist International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers and refused to reseat on its executive board five officers of the Communist-dominated United Electrical Workers of America who had been suspended earlier in the year. The CCL also refused to reestablish its affiliation with the WFTU, turning down a resolution to this effect submitted by the United Electrical Workers Union.

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ICELAND

Communists within the labor movement are attempting to persuade individual unions to join the WFTU now that the Federation of Icelandic Labor Unions has withdrawn from the WFTU. Particular attention is being directed toward the Communist-dominated Dagsbrun (unskilled laborers), the largest union in Iceland, and there is a strong possibility that the Communists will be successful. However, it is considered unlikely that any significant number of other Icelandic unions will be persuaded to join international industrial unions sponsored by the WFTU.

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AFRICA

Although the August dock strike in Reunion allowed the Communists to take advantage of what appeared to be legitimate grievances of port and railroad workers, the Communist Party apparently suffered a defeat in its attempt to develop the transportation stalemate into a general strike. With very few exceptions, the CGT was unsuccessful in inducing sympathy strikes in other industries and thus failed in its objective.

JAPAN

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There was further evidence of the trend toward isolation of Communism in Japanese labor. A large segment of the Communist-dominated Government Communications Workers broke with the Communists and the important Government Railway Workers severed their affiliation with Zenroren, a Communist Labor Council.

PHILIPPINES

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A series of strikes in transportation and the public utilities, apparently directed by the Communist-infiltrated Congress of Labor Organizations, failed to develop into a general strike which Communist leaders probably hoped would embarrass the Government on the eve of the national elections. The failure was due mainly to the Government's strong-arm tactics combined with limited concessions.

LATIN AMERICA

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The WFTU intends shortly to extend its organizing efforts on behalf of the "trade departments" to Latin America. It has scheduled for January or February 1950 a Preparatory Conference for a Petroleum Workers International. A parallel development in this area is probably foreshadowed in the talks held during the spring and summer between the Mexican Miners and the left-wing CIO Mine, Mill and Smelters Unions regarding the formation of an Inter-American Mine and Metal Workers Federation. Such a federation, if formed under the guidance of the Communist union leaders who opened the talks, could be expected to affiliate with the WFTU Miners International.

However, during the past month, Communists in the Latin American labor movement have failed in most of their major efforts and are facing increasingly difficult problems. In

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Ecuador a series of strikes was planned by the Communists but failed to materialize. In Panama, the communist-dominated Federación Sindical de Trabajadores de Panama (FSTP) did not succeed in its efforts to organize workers on the Chiriqui Land Company and United Fruit Company plantations. In Colombia, the Communist-dominated Confederación de Trabajadores de Colombia (CTC) for the first time faces a legalized anti-Communist federation. In Cuba, anti-communist elements in the labor movement have continued a terror campaign against their Communist rivals. The Latin American labor leader, Vincente Lombardo Toledano, has not yet gained a firm legal footing for his Union General de Obreros y Campesinos de Mexico (UGOCM) and remains an orphan in the Latin American labor field.

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2. The Communist Peace Campaign

INTERNATIONAL

The Communist-sponsored "International Day of Struggle for Peace" on 2 October obtained only scattered popular support in those Western countries where demonstrations were staged. Despite an unprecedentedly heavy barrage of Soviet broadcasts in the drive to mobilize "the people" against their "aggressor" governments, the Communists can count as their main achievements only: (1) a peace demonstration of about 160,000 in Paris; (2) scattered meetings in Rome celebrating "Italian-Russian friendship month"; (3) an assembly of 1200 peace partisans in Mexico City; and (4) a few street riots in Brazil. The relatively small turnout in Paris, hub of the World Peace Movement, reflects the failure of the Peace Partisans to link the "struggle for peace" with the immediate wage demands of the French working classes. A more pointed effort to connect the peace movement with local Communist objectives was made at the Mexico City meeting where the Communist Party leaders proposed establishment of a "national committee in defense of our petroleum."

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FRANCE

The National Council of Combatants for Peace and Liberty, a Communist front organization, in addition to condemning Yugoslavia, the US, the atom bomb and the war with Vietnam, sponsored a so-called "peace ballot." During seven weeks, the poll ended with slightly over five million ballots cast, about one half million less than were cast in a similar drive in 1946. Young

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conscripts and their families were asked to sign a pledge not to fight against the enemies of "US imperialism".

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UNITED KINGDOM

On 22-23 October, the Peace Congress, which was announced last June as the culmination of the summer peace campaign, was held in London. It is evident that reports in the Daily Worker, claiming the attendance of 1000 delegates, were exaggerated and that the Congress was not indicative of a significant success in the summer-long peace campaign.

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CANADA

The Canadian Peace Movement, a fellow-traveller unit which organizes Peace Councils in Canada, held a meeting in Ottawa on 5 October. The speeches followed the Communist line, advocating the immediate recognition of Communist China, prohibition of the atom bomb and concerted efforts for peace. Only some 400 persons attended the meeting.

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SCANDINAVIA

During late September and early October Communist-led peace committees were active in Scandinavian countries and peace week was observed throughout the peninsula. However, little enthusiasm appears to have been aroused by the demonstrations.

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LATIN AMERICA

In Mexico, the Communists and fellow-travellers organized a "Peace" rally of 1200 people on 2 October, the "International Peace Day". However, the permanent "Peace Committees" which were supposed to continue to operate in Mexico, Chile and Cuba were less active during October than during previous months. Only in Panama increased "Peace" activities have been noticeable. On the other hand, the peace campaign in Mexico has been credited with causing the revival of some Fascist and rightist groups and with causing a split in the Partido Popular, thereby reducing the local political prestige and influence of Lombardo, the Communists and the fellow-travelling leftists.

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3. Factionalism in the Communist LeadershipNORWAY

The expulsion of former Party Secretary Peder Furubotn and several of his followers, allegedly - but falsely - for Titoist deviation has, in effect, resolved the schism which has existed within the Norwegian Communist Party (NKP) since early 1948. Furubotn's expulsion will probably be followed by a general purge, but it is not likely that he will form a rival party, particularly since Moscow's blessing is certain to remain with the established party.

It is believed that the schism was not an ideological one. There is no true nationalist sentiment in the NKP. The schism was the product of a struggle for party control by two factions, one represented by party chairman Emil Løvlien, exponent of moderation, and the other led by Furubotn who advocated immediate concentration of the party's effort upon underground activities. Until the elections, Løvlien tried to conciliate the rival groups and, as much as possible, held disciplinary action in abeyance. However, when the Communists suffered a heavy defeat in the elections, conciliation became meaningless and the Furubotn group was summarily expelled.

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JAPAN

The retrogression of Communism in Japan has apparently caused much self-criticism within the ranks of the Communist leaders, with rumors again cropping up of factionalism within the Communist hierarchy.

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GREECE

Greek Communism faces a difficult period of re-adjustment during the coming months and may be particularly vulnerable to defeatism and to the conflict between national and international (Cominform) leadership of Zachariades has periodically won out over rival dissidents who, in general, represented home-grown Communism. Following the Tito-Cominform split, Greek defections have increased, particularly since the early 1949 dismissal of Markos and the Greek Communist espousal of Macedonian aims. Zachariades is still in power but his identification with recent guerrilla failures has probably undermined his following and increased the possibility of further defections. Following a bitter ideological exchange with Tito, the guerrillas on 23

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October charged that Tito and Athens were conspiring to form a Titoist party in Greece. While such an effort is perhaps not yet co-ordinated, both Tito and certain Greek elements are believed to have been working independently toward this goal for some time, and a similar development has already occurred earlier in 1949 in Slavo-Macedonian ranks. Creation of such a Communist faction would serve both Tito and Athens by driving a wedge into Greek Communist ranks and by spreading the Tito brand of national Communism at the expense of the USSR.

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PART III

FORTHCOMING COMMUNIST EVENTS1949

November	(indefinite)	Bologna	Preparatory Conference for a WFTU Agricultural Workers Union
	(indefinite)	London	21st Congress of the UKCP
	3 - 5	Sofia	Preparatory Conference for a Food Workers Union of the World (WFTU- organized)
	10	—	International Day of Democratic Youth
	15	Peiping	WFTU Asian Conference
		Moscow	Council Meeting, International Feder- ation of Democratic Women (IFDW)
	17	—	International Day of Students
	24 - 28	Calcutta	All-India Congress for Defense of Peace
December	5	Brussels	Congress of International Organization of Journalists
	6	Peiping	Asian Conference, International Feder- ation of Democratic Women
	10 - 12	Bucharest	Preparatory Conference for WFTU Trans- port Workers International

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January or February		Mexico City	Preparatory Conference for WFTU Petroleum Workers International
February	21	—	World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY) Day of Solidarity of Youth of Colonial Areas
	(indefinite)	Oslo	Extraordinary Congress of the Nor- wegian CP
In 1950		Budapest	Music Festival Sponsored by the Inter- national Organization of Progressive Musicians

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