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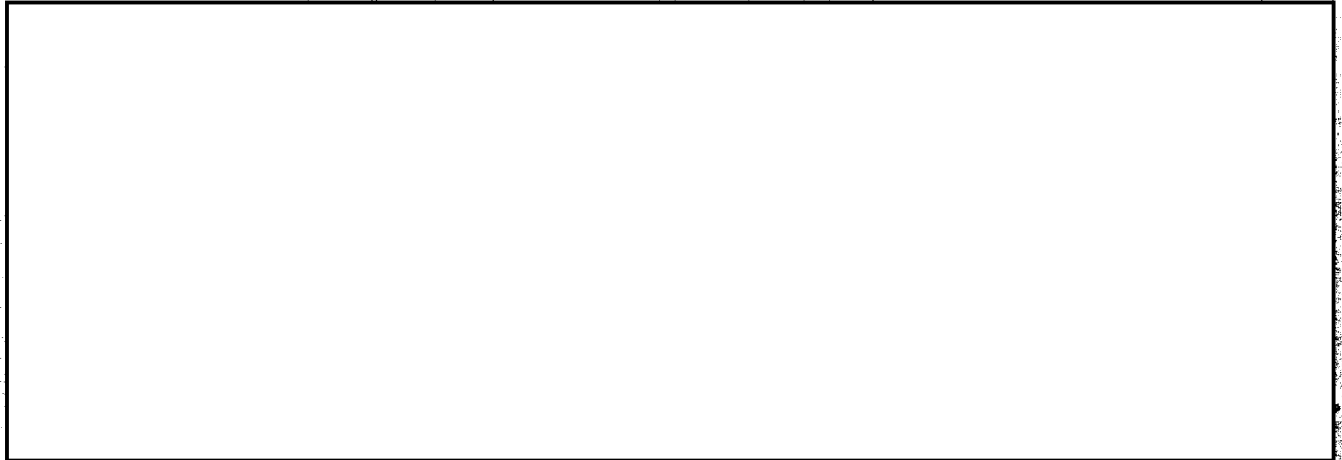


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84. Khrushchev Purges

The most extensive shake-up in personnel since Stalin's death is currently taking place in the USSR. The purges have been gathering speed since the removal of Police Chief Serov. On 20 March, Kosygin was appointed Chairman of the Gosplan (State planning). The fact that during his early career he enjoyed the favor of Molotov and Bulganin, that he has been in charge of consumer goods, and that at the 21st Party Congress he was very reserved in his criticism of the anti-Party group, has given rise to speculation concerning the reason for this appointment. In the Moscow Region the First Secretary of the Party, V. I. Kapitonov, has been replaced. This demotion appears to be part of a general shake-up of Soviet Party and government officials which has primarily affected the middle and lower levels of leadership. The most extensive changes have taken place in the non-Russian republics of Turkistan, Uzbekistan, Outer Mongolia, Byelo-Russia and the Ukraine. In the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Turkmen Republic, 10 of the 12 members were replaced. Two remaining members and two new members are Great Russians. In a speech before the 21st Party Congress, Presidium member Kirichenko presented a new policy of rejuvenation, calling for younger men to be appointed to positions of responsibility. Analysis of numerous demotions in widely separated areas seems to indicate that they are due to the convergence of several factors: an effort to promote the fulfillment of the Seven-Year Plan, further effort to place Great Russians in the non-Russian republics, and a policy of eliminating the deadwood that has accumulated over the years in the higher Party positions.

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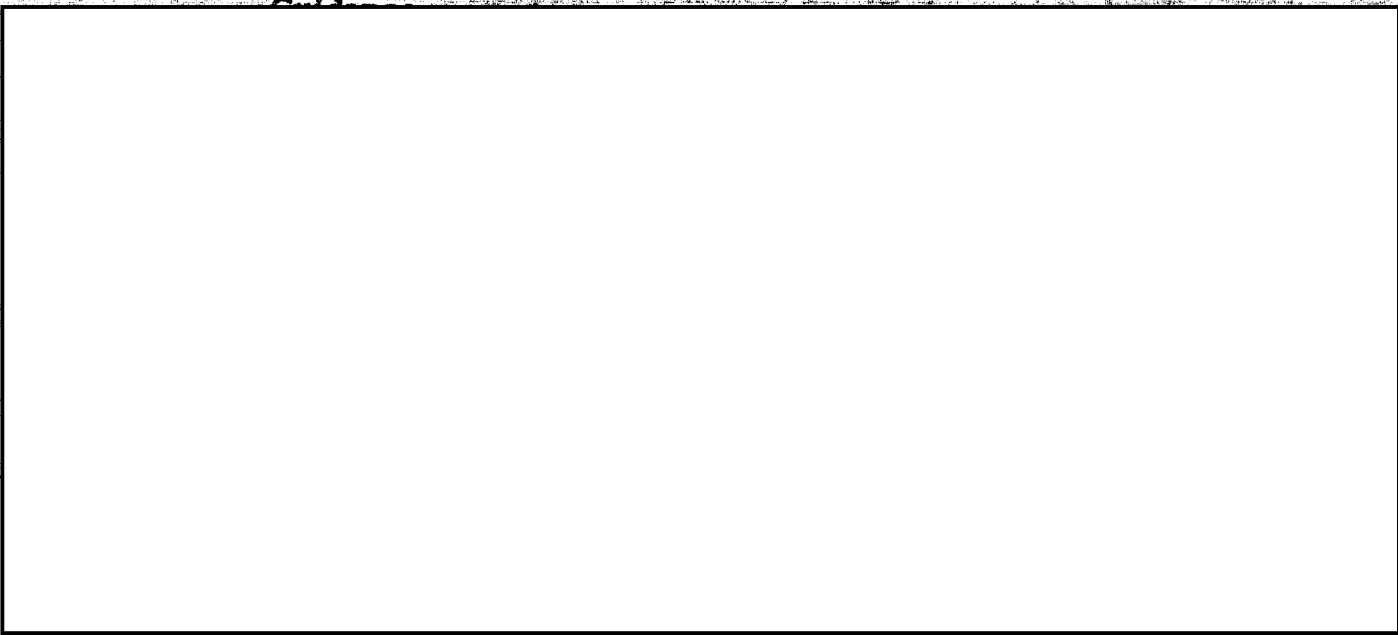
~~SECRET~~**85. Communist Bloc Threatens Laos**

Bi-Weekly Propaganda Items Nos. 34 and 46 describe Communist attempts to maintain a state of tension in Southeast Asia through relentless propaganda attacks directed at the Royal Laotian Government and recurrent attempts to provoke border incidents which could lead to the recall of the International Control Commissions (ICC). Through the ICC (composed of representatives of Poland, India and Canada) the Communists are able to influence Laotian internal affairs in addition to being kept fully informed of Laotian policies and contemplated actions. An all-out international Communist propaganda barrage is presently being directed at the Laotian Government's action against the Communist-inspired mutiny of the two Pathet Lao battalions (armed and dominated by the Vietminh). In November 1957 the Laotian Government agreed that 1500 Pathet Lao troops would be integrated into the Laotian Army. The Neo Lao Hak Sat (NLHS), made up of Pathet Lao members, was recognized as a legal political party. The NLHS leaders demanded higher ranks and more important positions than the Laotian Government offered. The Government agreed to the NLHS demands and scheduled formal integration 11 May 1959. However, on 10 May, Prince Souphanouvong, leader of the NLHS, ordered the Pathet Lao not to participate in integration ceremonies. Legally, this order constituted an act of rebellion since the Pathet Lao had been placed under the command of the Laotian Army by the November 1957 agreement. The Laotian Government issued the ultimatum that, unless the Pathet Lao accepted the assigned ranks or resign from the service within twenty-four hours, they would be considered in open mutiny. Laotian army units surrounded the Pathet Lao battalions. Souphanouvong ordered the Pathet Lao to surrender on 17 May. On 19 May, one battalion surrendered, but 700 men of the remaining battalion escaped in the direction of North Vietnam. There are persistent reports that the Pathet Lao mutiny was inspired by the Vietminh forces, 50-100 of whom had entered Laos in Laotian uniforms probably to lead the Pathet Lao mutineers into North Vietnam.

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Soviet economic pressure on Finland which brought down the Fagerholm Government was relaxed as a result of the Kekkonen-Khrushchev meetings of January 22 and 23 in Leningrad. The new Finnish Government, headed by Agrarian Sukselainen, which was formed without the participation of the Social Democrats, found the favor of Khrushchev. When the Social Democrats started to attack the new government, the Soviets launched a propaganda campaign against them. On 25 April, the Soviet Government organ, Izvestia, published a long article directed against the "reactionary" circles in Finland who were trying to bring about the fall of the government. It specifically singled out the Social Democratic leaders, mentioning the names of Chairman Vaino Tanner, former First Secretary of the Party Vaino Leskinen, Vice-Chairman Olavi Lindblom and Kaarlo Pitsinki, Secretary General of the Party. These men were accused not only of pursuing a reactionary policy but of being the servants of imperialist circles beyond the Finnish borders. On 8 May, Pravda, the Soviet Party organ, carried an interview of Khrushchev's which repeated the charges made previously in Izvestia. Other articles and radio broadcasts directed at Finland continued to repeat the same charges. The brazenness of the Soviet attitude is well illustrated by the Radio Moscow commentator who said that "although some Finnish newspapers sought to accuse the Soviet Union of intervention in Finland's internal affairs, in reality the Soviet Premier's words against the Finnish Social Democratic leaders, because of one-sided orientation toward the Western imperialists, can only be regarded as support for an independent Finnish foreign policy". Khrushchev himself, replying to a Tass question on Fenno-Soviet relations, said: "It is common knowledge that the relations between the USSR and Finland have been developing rapidly in recent years in a spirit of friendship, mutual understanding and cooperation". It is to be noted that the Social Democrats have declared that they fully support Article 6 of the Fenno-Soviet Friendship Pact signed on 7 April 1948, which pledges non-interference in each others' affairs.



The announcement on 16 June 1958 in a Communiqué of the Hungarian Ministry of Justice of the secret trial, sentencing and execution of Imre Nagy came as a rude shock to world opinion. It was a grim reminder that over a year and a half after the suppression of the Revolution, the regime of Janos Kadar, either with the approbation of or on instructions from Moscow, was continuing its policy of repression and terror against the leaders and participants in the Revolt. In summation the Communiqué read: "... the People's Court Council of the Supreme Court, on the basis of the trial proceedings, sentenced the defendants as follows: Imre Nagy to death, Ferenc Donath to 12 years in prison, Miklos Gimes to death, Zoltan Tildy to 6 years in prison, Pal Maleter to death, Sandor Kopacsi to life imprisonment, Dr. Jozsef Sallagyi to death, Ferenc Janosi to 8 years in prison, Miklos Vasarhelyi to 5 years in prison." This was the final episode in the Nagy case which, from the moment he took refuge in the Yugoslav Embassy on 4 November to avoid capture by Soviet forces attacking Budapest, represented a primer on Soviet police methods and jurisprudence. Thus, in agreeing to the termination of Nagy's and his colleagues' asylum in the Yugoslav Embassy, the Yugoslavs demanded and received in writing the following guarantee of their safety, "the Hungarian Government, agreeing to the proposals contained on page 3, section 9, of the letter of 18 November 1956 addressed to me by the Yugoslav Government hereby confirms in writing its verbal declaration that it does not desire to apply sanctions against Nagy and the members of his group for their past activities." On 28 November, the morning following receipt of this document, the Nagy group left the Yugoslav Embassy in transport supplied by the Kadar regime and accompanied by Soviet personnel. After a brief pause at the Soviet Military Headquarters, the group was trans-shipped to Rumania, where, according to the Hungarian Government, they had "voluntarily" accepted asylum. The Yugoslav Government angrily denied this version of Nagy's departure from Hungary, accused the Kadar Government of abduction and "flagrant breach" of the agreement. In his last conciliatory statement on Nagy, Kadar on 27 November said: "We have promised not to start any punitive proceedings against Imre Nagy, and we shall keep our word". From 3-26 June the International Labor Conference convenes its 43rd Session in Geneva. Last year the credentials of the Hungarian delegation were rejected by more than the necessary two-third's majority vote on the basis of the UN findings that the Hungarian Government which executed Nagy and Maleter was a puppet of a foreign power (the USSR). There is a good likelihood that this action will be repeated this year.



88. The Palestine Refugee Problem

The seemingly insoluble 11-year-old Palestine refugee problem will be a major consideration in the UN General Assembly meeting this fall during which the future status of UNRWA (UN Relief and Works Agency) will be debated. There are, at present, approximately 900,000 refugees from Palestine in the Arab states. UNRWA's mandate expires in June 1960. Its primary current job is to care for the Palestine refugees. If UNRWA is dissolved something must take its place, for the refugees are generally destitute. (There are approximately 450,000 in Jordan, 225,000 in the Gaza Strip, 110,000 in Lebanon and 85,000 in Syria.) The refugee leaders, supported by all Arab states, say the only solution is for them to return to their homes in Palestine, from which they fled in 1947-49. However, Israel refuses to allow repatriation of the refugees. Both sides are frozen in these attitudes. UNRWA cannot solve the problem, since this is not its assigned function. There is little hope of a political settlement, but if the "host" countries' economies could be made to absorb a portion of the refugees, the problem would begin to dissolve by the steady, yet undramatic, assimilation of the refugees into the economy. Privately, some Arab leaders concede that such a solution is probably the only feasible one. To provide employment would require large-scale economic development programs, capital for which is not locally available. Both in Jordan and possibly in the Sinai, the natural resources make economic development programs practicable. In Lebanon, the refugee problem is complicated by the fact that assimilation of 110,000 refugees would upset the delicate Christian-Moslem equilibrium upon which the political structure rests.

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For many years, non-Communist nations have been grappling with communication and propaganda problems posed by Communist semantics. Technically, an indoctrinated Communist is not being hypocritical in declaring for peace, democracy and the independence of nations. Among Communists each of these words and concepts has a special meaning that is not detected by the non-Communist mass audience. For Communists, peace is not the absence of war, but a situation which obtains only when communism triumphs; democracy is not government with the consent and participation of the governed, but a Communist Party dictatorship; and independence means independence from indigenous class exploiters and from suppression by capitalists and imperialists, an independence which only a Communist society loyal to the Kremlin can provide. The dialectical meaning of these words is spelled out in the writings of Lenin and in other Communist sources, as shown in the attached selection of exploitable quotations. General ignorance of Communist meanings among the non-Communist targets of Communist propaganda enhances the impact, while simultaneously disguising the true meaning of Moscow's pronouncements for peace, democracy, independence and other double-entendre words and concepts. For example, a reading of the title, "Problems of Peace and Socialism," the international Communist publication which has replaced the defunct Cominform Journal, conveys dramatically contrasting impressions depending upon whether the non-Communist reader uses his own or the Communist dialectical definition of the word "peace".

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"Communist Semantics"

"Every 'peace program' is a deception of the people and a piece of hypocrisy unless its principal object is to explain to the masses the need for a revolution, and to support, aid and develop the revolutionary struggle of the masses that is starting everywhere..."
Lenin, Selected Works, Vol. V, p. 237.

"This is why the struggle of the peoples for peace, democracy and Socialism logically leads to the victory of communism. Only communism will ensure eternal peace."
From a proceeding at the USSR Academy of Sciences, No. 6, December 1951, titled:
"Dialectical and Historical Materialism -- the Theoretical Foundation of Communism."

"The Bolsheviks were not pacifists who sighed for peace and confined themselves to the propaganda of peace... The Bolsheviks advocated an active revolutionary struggle, for peace, to the point of overthrowing the rule of the bellicose imperialist bourgeoisie."
History of the CPSU (b), p. 167.

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"Communism alone is capable of giving really complete democracy..."
Lenin, Selected Works, Vol. III, p. 82.

"Whoever promises the people "democratic" peace, without advocating at the same time a socialist revolution... is deceiving the proletariat". Lenin, Collected Works, Vol. XXII, p. 156.

"Democracy is by no means a boundary that must not be overstepped; it is only one of the stages in the process of development from feudalism to capitalism, and from capitalism to communism." Lenin, Selected Works, Vol. VII, p. 91.

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"Therefore, there can be a question only of utilizing bourgeois State institutions with the object of destroying them... The Communist Party enters such institutions not in order to do constructive work, but in order to direct the masses to destroy from within the whole bourgeois state machine and parliament itself." From "The Communist Party and Parliamentarianism," Theses adopted at the 1920 Second Congress of the Comintern.

"Of course, to support one country against another would be a crime against communism. But we Communists must use one country against another. Are we not committing a crime against communism? No, because we are doing so as a socialist state, which is carrying on Communist propaganda and is obliged to take advantage of every hour granted it by circumstances in order to gain strength as rapidly as possible..."
Lenin, Selected Works, Vol. VIII, p. 284.

"Not only in China but also in the world, without exception, one either leans to the side of imperialism or to the side of socialism. Neutrality is mere camouflage and a third road does not exist." Mao Tse-tung statement "On the People's Democratic Dictatorship" (1949)