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Significant Dates ▶

[ASTERISK denotes ANNIVERSARIES. All others are CURRENT EVENTS]

NOV

- 1* Hungarian Revolt (1-4). 1956. TENTH ANNIVERSARY.
- 4* Greek Civil War ends with Communists acknowledging defeat. 1949.
- 7* Bolshevik October Revolution. 1917.
- 9* Cambodia declares independence from France. 1953.
- 10* Communist World Youth Day celebrates founding of WFDY. 1945.
- 11 Communist International Student Week celebrated by IUS (11-17).
- 12* Sun Yat-sen, first President China, born. 1866. 100th ANNIVERSARY. (Dies 12 March 1925).
- 12 International Conf. on War-Danger and Disarmament. Sponsored by All India Peace Council, Indian Assoc. for Afro-Asian Solidarity, and World Peace Council (communist). 12-19 Nov in New Delhi.
- 14* (Unequal) Treaty of Peking cedes Chinese "Great Northeast" to Russia. 1860.
- 14* Jawaharlal Nehru born. 1889.
- 15* Bolsheviks proclaim "Declaration of the Rights of the Peoples of Russia" affirming principle of self-determination of national minorities. 1917.
- 20* U.S. lifts naval quarantine of Cuba. 1962.

DEC

- 1* Sergey Kirov, Communist leader, assassinated, Leningrad. 1934. [Note that show trials of the "19" (15-16 Jan 1935) and the "16" (19-24 Aug 1936) took place roughly 17 years after communist seizure of power: Red Chinese purges are in same period of CCP rule.]
- 2* U.S. achieves first controlled nuclear reaction, Univ. of Chicago. 1942.
- 8* Pres. Eisenhower advances "Atoms for Peace" proposal in address to UN General Assembly. 1953
- 12* Milovan Djilas sentenced to prison (arrested 19 Nov). 1956. TENTH ANNIVERSARY.
- 14* USSR expelled from League of Nations for unprovoked aggression against Poland and Finland. 1939.
- 14 Budapest, World Trade Union Conference to Promote Foreign Trade and Oppose Monopolistic Discrimination against Underdeveloped Countries. Sponsored by WFTU (Communist) 14-17 Dec.
- 19* Vietminh attack on French installations at Haiphong begins 7 1/2 year war. 1946. TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY.
- Buddhist Conference, Dacca, Pakistan.
- General Council of World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU - communist), Sofia.

SECRET

(Significant Dates.)

Media Lines

26 September 1966

"RED GUARDS" FORCE RE-NAMING OF MAJOR CHICOM PAPER. Ta Kung Pao (Great Public) will be renamed Chien Chin Pao (March Forward) effective 15 September. According to Reuters News Agency, the change is due to a "request" from the Red Guards, the youth - vigilante group so active in the current "cultural revolution." The paper will also be reduced (despite its continuing use of "Daily" in its name) to a thrice-weekly publication and will continue to specialize in economic and trade matter. Before the cultural purge began Peking had six daily newspapers. It now has only three: Jenmin Jih Pao, the Communist Party daily; Kungjen Jih Pao, the trade union paper; and Kwangming Jih Pao, a paper for intellectuals. (Unclassified)

ITALIAN COMMUNIST DAILY TO CEASE PUBLISHING IN ROME. According to a recent item in Il Messaggero, leading Rome daily, attributed to ADN, the official East German News Agency, Luigi Longo, Secretary General of the Italian Communist Party, (PCI), has told other high officials of the PCI that it will be necessary -- for financial reasons -- to dispense with the Rome edition of L'Unita. Heretofore, L'Unita has been published daily in Milan and Rome; the Milan edition will continue daily publication. According to the same ADN source, Longo said that L'Unita's circulation in the South and in the metropolitan area of Rome has fallen off sharply; in the Rome area circulation is only about 7,000 copies per day. On the other hand, the paper continues to do well in the North. As there are Communist printing facilities in Milan which at present are only in operation a few hours daily, Longo said it is better to continue the Milan edition of L'Unita, and print there whatever additional copies are needed for Rome and the South. (Editor and Publisher International Yearbook, 1965 edition, gave overall circulation figures for L'Unita as 150,000 on weekdays, and 200,000 on Sundays, figures which seem too high in light of the above recent information.) However, according to Corriere della Sera the influence of L'Unita's chief editor in Milan, Alicata, is being curtailed because of his ideological/political differences with party secretary, Longo. Moreover, Alicata is being accused of having conducted polemic exchanges more with the Communist Paese Sera (Rome) than with the bourgeois press. (Unclassified)

SOVIETS PLAN TO START "READER'S DIGEST" - TYPE MAGAZINE. According to Newsweek magazine, the Soviet news agency, Novosti (Agentstvo Pechati Novosti), plans to publish a magazine somewhat similar to Reader's Digest. Tentatively called Sputnik, the new magazine will be published in English and will contain summaries of articles from a wide variety of Soviet newspapers and magazines. It will also carry color ads for Russian goods, including caviar, cameras and automobiles. (Unclassified)

SECRET

(MEDIA LINES CONT.)

SECRET

[Comment: Isn't it strange how irresistibly the Communists seem attracted by the successes of "decaying" capitalism?]

"CULTURAL" PURGE AFFECTS CHICOM PROPAGANDA MAGAZINE. As part of the current "cultural purge" in Red China, the Party propaganda apparatus has been re-organized, and the former head, Lu Ting-yi, fired (reported in ML, 15 August 1966). The effects of the purge are now becoming apparent in some of Chicom propaganda reaching the outside world, notably the monthly review, China Reconstructs (CR). The January 1966 issue, published before the purge, contained color photographs and good art work. Compared to other Communist magazines, CR was fairly "slick," to use the trade argot. The July issue, published since the purge, contains some sepia photographs, but not color. The editorial content, which was never exciting, is even more drab than before, featuring mainly diatribes on reactionary trends in Chicom literature and the arts, one of which is entitled, "Sweep Away All Monsters." Symbolic of the change perhaps is the July cover of Mao smiling at Comrade Mehmet Shehu of Albania; the January cover, in full color, was a charming little Kazakh musician from the Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region of China. According to all the evidence, Chinese culture has been swamped with ideological propaganda. As one observer put it: "The color is literally gone from Chinese culture." Of more direct interest, this change from an attractive magazine for foreign consumption cannot but hurt the Chicom cause -- not the free world.

SECRET

(MEDIA LINES)