



The President's Daily Brief

10 January 1970

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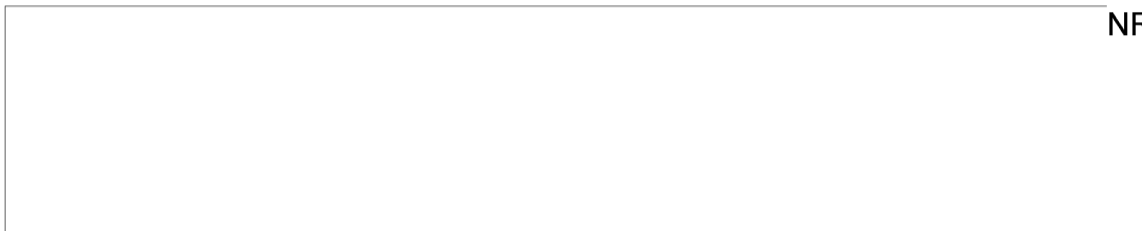
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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS



NR Record

The Yugoslav press has published an interview with a Hungarian Marxist which is highly critical of Soviet distortions of Marxism. (Page 3)

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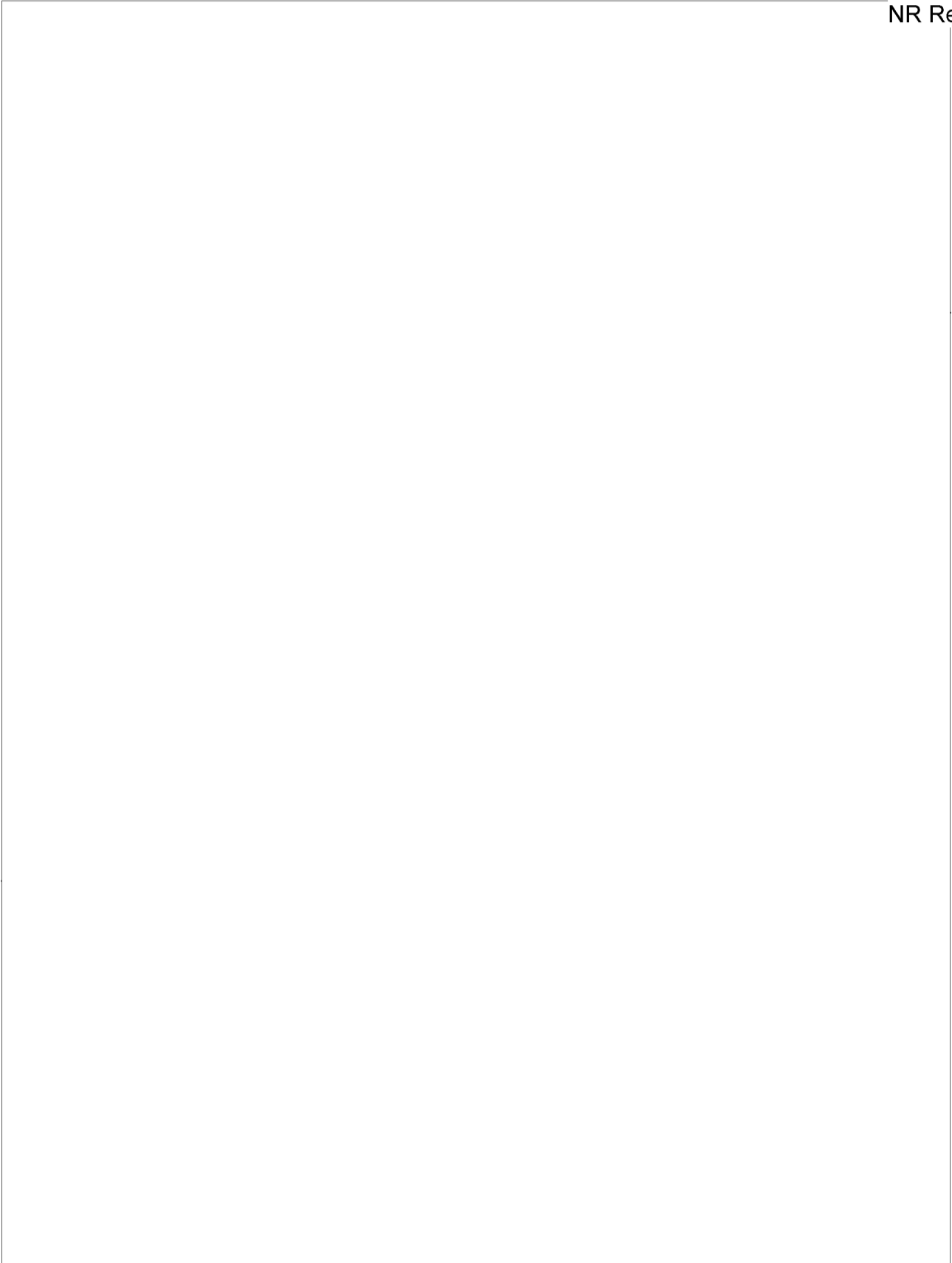
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USSR-HUNGARY-YUGOSLAVIA

Gyorgy Lukacs, a veteran Hungarian Marxist philosopher, has publicly condemned Soviet distortions of Marxism in a recent interview with a Yugoslav correspondent in Budapest. Last week Borba, one of Yugoslavia's main dailies, published the interview in three installments. In it Lukacs forcefully explains the need for a Marxist renewal to avoid a crisis in the socialist world. Lukacs boldly criticized the Soviet leadership for losing common cause with European socialists and characterized the theories of Stalin and his predecessors as "tactical maneuverings which are largely irrelevant." Lukacs expanded his heresy by citing Tito and the Yugoslav self-management system as a major contribution to Marxist renewal.

The 85-year-old Lukacs is a party member but does not hold a party position. This is the first time he has linked current Soviet policies in his tirades on Stalin's errors. His remarks will complicate the position of Hungarian party leader Kadar who is attempting to introduce liberal measures within the bounds posed by Soviet conservatism.

Lukacs' article appeared a few days after the Lenin Centennial theses which implicitly criticized the Yugoslav system, and this may have swayed Borba's editors to cooperate with the Hungarian philosopher.

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