

Albanian Party of Labour, the Government of the People's Republic of Albania and the Albanian people.

In recent years, the fraternal all-round co-operation between our two Parties, two countries and two peoples has witnessed rapid development. We are convinced that our two peoples will for ever be united and fight together, whatever changes may take place in the world and whatever storms may arise on the way ahead. Let us hold still higher the banner of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism and the banner of opposing U.S. imperialism and Soviet modern revisionism, unite still more closely with the people of all socialist countries and the whole world and exert our efforts and advance shoulder to shoulder for new, great victories in the cause of world peace, national liberation, people's democracy and socialism.

Now, I propose a toast

to the great friendship and militant unity between the Chinese and Albanian Parties, our two countries and two peoples.

to new and greater victories for the Albanian people in their socialist revolution and socialist construction,

to the glorious Albanian Party of Labour,

to ever-victorious Marxism-Leninism,

to the great unity of the peoples of the socialist camp and the whole world,

to world peace,

to the health of Comrade Enver Hoxha, the beloved leader of the Albanian people and close friend of the Chinese people,

to the health of Comrades Mehmet Shehu and Hysni Kapo, outstanding leaders of the Albanian Party and state, and the other comrades of the Albanian Party and Government Delegation,

to the health of the diplomatic envoys and their wives, and

to the health of all our comrades and friends present here!

Comrade Mehmet Shehu's Speech

**At the Banquet Given by Comrades Liu Shao-chi and Chou En-lai
In Honour of the Albanian Party and Government Delegation**

- The modern revisionists have now become the lackeys of the international bourgeoisie and imperialism.
- Today, it is the primary historical task of all true Marxist-Leninists never to separate the struggle against modern revisionism from the struggle against imperialism.

Dear Comrade Liu Shao-chi,

Dear Comrade Chou En-lai,

Esteemed Friends,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are greatly moved and gladdened by the most warm-hearted and friendly words spoken by Comrade Liu Shao-chi at this magnificent reception about the Albanian people, the Albanian Party of Labour, Comrade Enver Hoxha and the Government of the People's Republic of Albania. These words are a true expression of the pure and fervent friendship between our two peoples, two Parties and two Governments, a friendship which is unbreakable, brotherly and internationalist.

Dear comrades and friends! Allow me, on behalf of the Albanian people, the Albanian Party of Labour, the Government of the People's Republic of Albania and Comrade Enver Hoxha himself, the leader of our people and our Party, to convey our unbreakable, eter-

nal, brotherly and heartfelt friendship and the warmest tribute and best wishes to the 700 million great Chinese people, your glorious and heroic Party, your Government and Comrade Mao Tse-tung, the greatest and dearest friend of the Albanian people. At the same time, in the name of our delegation, I wish to express sincere gratitude for this reception, which is so cordial and so full of sentiments of friendship.

The friendship between Albania and China is not an abstract formula. It is the result and the noblest expression of the consistent implementation of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism guiding relations between socialist countries and between Marxist-Leninist Parties. It is the result of the common revolutionary struggle waged by our two peoples under the leadership of Marxist-Leninist Parties against imperialist occupationists, feudal lords, capitalists and reactionaries, for national and social liberation and for socialist revolution and socialist construction in their respective countries. It is the

noblest expression of our common fight against imperialism headed by the United States, reaction and modern revisionism with the present leadership of the Soviet Union as its centre. Now, as in the past, we are inseparable comrades-in-arms sharing weal and woe. We have always held high the pure and glorious banner of Marxism-Leninism and constantly and valiantly advanced shoulder to shoulder in striving for the final victory of socialism, communism and genuine peace in both our countries and in all parts of the world. Our friendship is an important factor in further strengthening the socialist camp and the international working-class and communist movements as well as the struggle of all peoples against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism. As two long-tested shock brigades on the socialist and communist front, our two Parties deem it their internationalist duty to constantly temper and enhance this steel-like friendship so that it may become ever stronger and more unbreakable.

The Albanian people and Party regard the birth of the People's Republic of China as a historic victory for the great Chinese revolution under the leadership of the glorious Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung. It is a great blessing for the socialist camp and all mankind, because this great event of world significance has completely changed the balance of forces in the international arena, tipping it in favour of revolution, socialism and communism.

Within a short period, the People's Republic of China has already become a great and powerful socialist country with a modern economy, modern science and technology and an indestructible modern national defence. The weight of People's China in the world arena is such that no major international problem of any kind can be settled without her participation. Every achievement and success won by the People's Republic of China in any field heartily gladdens and inspires the people of the world; it angers U.S. imperialism, reaction and modern revisionism — the enemies of People's China and the people of all countries — because the great People's China with her correct and principled Marxist-Leninist policy has now become the main insurmountable obstacle to world domination by U.S. imperialism and its vassals and to their plans for aggression and plunder.

At present, U.S. imperialism is still occupying by armed force Taiwan and neighbouring islands, which constitute inalienable parts of Chinese territory. It is trying hard to prevent the restoration of the indisputable legitimate rights of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations. It is making ceaseless provocations against the People's Republic of China, contriving treaties of aggression and setting up military bases around her, and kindling the flames of war in various places so as to achieve its main and ultimate objective — direct aggression against the People's Republic of China.

U.S. imperialism has mustered mercenaries from some countries as well as part of its own crack forces

and military equipment for a rabid war against the heroic, fraternal Vietnamese people at China's very gate. Wresting weapons from the enemy, the Vietnamese people are waging an epic war to drive the U.S. aggressors out of southern Vietnam, defend the north and reunify their country, which is an integral whole. Johnson's manoeuvres for "peaceful" settlement of the Vietnam question constitute a hypocritical and vicious fraud. They are the vain and desperate struggles on the part of the aggressors to extricate themselves from the total isolation of their own making and to save themselves from their approaching doom. The Vietnamese people's heroic struggle is a school of people's war. It has exploded the myth of the invincibility of imperialism. The Albanian people, Party and Government unreservedly support the struggle of the brotherly Vietnamese people and firmly believe that the Vietnamese people will win final victory.

U.S. imperialism is occupying south Korea, which it has turned into a multipurpose military base and a land of oppression and hunger. It is conducting provocations against Cambodia and Laos, aiding and abetting Japanese militarism, engineering anti-popular and counter-revolutionary plots and wars in many countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America, and energetically reviving German revanchist militarism in the heart of Europe, thus seriously menacing the freedom, independence, sovereignty and lives of all peoples, as well as world peace.

Wherever the bloody hands of the Yankees reach, there occur intrigues, military coups d'etat and bloodshed, and there the people are subjected to oppression, exploitation and slaughter. The peoples see and experience this every day and are deeply indignant at these crimes. For this very reason, the peoples are rising in resistance to their deadliest enemy — U.S. imperialism — and its lackeys of all kinds. The principal task of the people of the whole world is to tie the hands of the U.S. imperialists and mete out to them as quickly as possible the punishment they deserve. It is fortunate for the future of mankind that the People's Republic of China is standing in the forefront of this struggle. Today, the People's Republic of China is an impregnable bastion of socialism and the hope, guarantee and powerful mainstay of the people of all countries striving for freedom, independence and economic and social progress.

The Communist Party of China stands in the forefront of the struggle in defence of Marxism-Leninism against modern revisionism, which is an offspring of bourgeois ideology and constitutes the main danger in the international communist movement and the working-class movement. The modern revisionists have now in fact become the lackeys and natural allies of the international bourgeoisie and imperialism.

As flunkeys and natural allies of the bourgeoisie, the modern revisionists are painstakingly trying to

dupe the peoples and hoodwink them, making them believe that murderers are "humane," that gangsters are "benevolent," that oppressors are "liberators," that U.S. imperialism, the international gendarme, is "sensible," that it too "desires peace," and that "negotiations are possible" with it. The modern revisionists are "firemen" serving imperialism and trying hard to extinguish the flames of revolution of all peoples. They are servile hatchetmen of imperialism, acting as saboteurs in the socialist and Marxist-Leninist ranks and within the socialist camp and the international communist movement. In playing the ignominious role of the biggest betrayers in human history, they direct the spearhead of their attack at the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party, the chief bastion of socialism and standard-bearer of Marxism-Leninism.

With sheer demagoguery, the modern revisionists are clamouring for "unity" within the socialist camp and the international communist movement. But their aim is not unity but a split, not the strengthening but the weakening of the socialist camp and the international communist movement. They are the greatest splitters and arch-enemies of unity. In fact, they have taken united action with U.S. imperialism in an effort to bury the revolutionary cause, to prevent revolutions where they have not taken place and suppress them where they have, and to make those places where successful revolutions have been made revert to capitalism.

There is nothing in common between Marxism-Leninism and modern revisionism. They are poles apart on all issues, and there is nothing that unites them today. In these circumstances, our two Parties and the other Marxist-Leninist Parties, as well as all true Marxist-Leninists and revolutionaries, have every reason to deem it our primary historical task never to separate the struggle against modern revisionism from the struggle against imperialism.

Dear Chinese comrades and brothers! Our Party, Government and people are comrades-in-arms of your heroic Party and glorious people, and we are greatly inspired and honoured to stand shoulder to shoulder with you at the barricade in defence of Marxism-Leninism, the socialist camp, the cause of all peoples and world peace. We will follow our road to the very end. We realize that there will be difficulties and sacrifices, but we believe that ours is the only correct road leading to the victory of socialism and communism and to world peace.

The people of our country, who experienced untold sufferings and drew many useful lessons from their own history and that of other peoples, now, as in the past, never fear any obstacles, difficulties, sacrifices or enemies. As always, we never retreat before the enemies, but hold our heads high in advancing to meet them. Our people had trials of strength with the occupationists of two foreign powers and won victories under the leadership of the Party headed by Comrade Enver Hoxha. They established their own state power

and within 22 years have turned the People's Republic of Albania from a backward agricultural country into an agricultural-industrial country with a steadily growing socialist economy, an ever more flourishing socialist culture and a national defence ensuring the people's victory over all enemies.

Under the difficult conditions of capitalist and revisionist encirclement, our people, after successfully fulfilling the Third Five-Year Plan, have now begun to strive for the successful fulfilment of the plan for 1966 — the first year of the Fourth Five-Year Plan, a plan which will certainly bring new and greater victories to our people.

I wish to take this opportunity to stress that the all-round, fraternal and internationalist aid given by People's China to our country is an important factor which enables the Albanian people to surmount the obstacles and difficulties created by the imperialists and modern revisionists and to achieve one success after another. Dear comrades! Allow me, on behalf of our Party, Government and people, to express heartfelt gratitude to your Party, Government and people for this valuable aid and to assure you that we will for ever stand together with you shoulder to shoulder and that our friendship is sincere, fraternal, unbreakable and eternal, just as the Marxist-Leninist thought, on which our great friendship is based, is unbreakable and eternal.

Dear comrades and esteemed friends! I request you to raise your glasses and drink a toast

to the unbreakable, militant friendship between the Albanian people and the great Chinese people,

to the heroic Chinese people,

to the glorious Chinese Communist Party and its great leader dear Comrade Mao Tse-tung, the esteemed friend of the Albanian people,

to the fraternal People's Republic of China and its Chairman Comrade Liu Shao-chi,

to the Vice-Chairman of the People's Republic of China Comrade Soong Ching Ling,

to the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China and the Chairman of its Standing Committee Comrade Chu Teh,

to the Government of the People's Republic of China and its Premier Comrade Chou En-lai,

to the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party Comrade Teng Hsiao-ping,

to the health of all the members of the diplomatic corps present at this reception,

to the health of all those present here,

to the victory and glory of Marxism-Leninism, and

to genuine peace and friendship among all peoples!