

COMMUNIST PARTY OF ISRAEL
CENTRAL COMMITTEE

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IN THIS ISSUE:

- * On the attempt on life of comrade M. VILNER
- * 18th Plenary Session of the C.C, C.P.I
- * Delegations of the C.C. to USSR
- * Session of the C.C., Y.C.L.I.

Speech of Emile Habibi at the Knesset
The economic situation after the war

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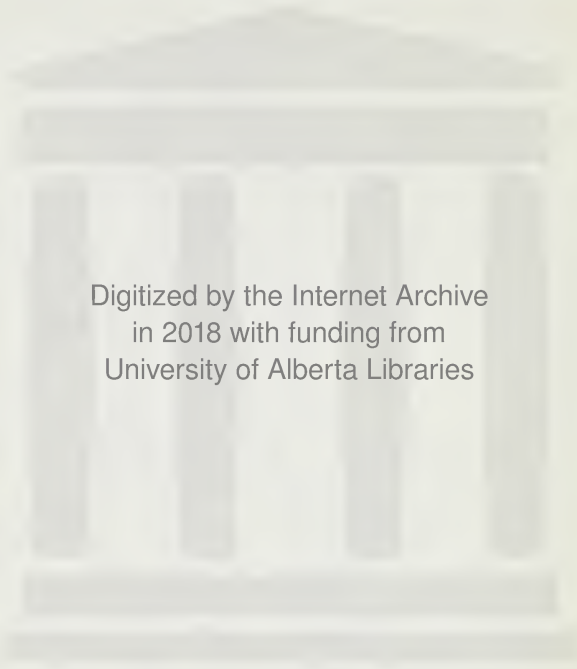
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C O N T E N T S

	<u>Page</u>
Communique on the Attempt on the Life of Comrade Meir Vilner	2
Communique on the 18th Plenary Session of the Central Committee, Communist Party of Israel	5
Resolutions of the 18th Plenary Session of the CC	7
Report of Comrade Tawfiq Toubi to the 18th Plenary Session of the CC, CP of Israel	23
Delegations of the CC to the Octover Celebrations in the USSR	33
Communique on the Session of the CC, YCL of Israel	34
Speech of Comrade E. Habibi at the Opening Session of the Knesset (Parliament)	36
The Economic Situation after the War - Article written by Tamar Gushansky	41
Celebrations of the 50th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution	48
Actions of Solidarity with the Vietnamese People	48

ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF COMRADE MEIR VILNER,
SECRETARY, POLITICAL BUREAU OF THE COMMUNIST
PARTY OF ISRAEL

In the evening of Sunday, October 15th, 1967, the following communique was issued to the press by the Department of Public Relations of the Communist Party of Israel:

Today, Sunday, October 15th, 1967, at about 18.15, an attempt was made on the life of the Secretary of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Israel, Member of Knesset, Comrade Meir VILNER.

M. Vilner left his home, accompanied by his wife, when suddenly a man, who had apparently waited for him stabbed him in the back with a knife. Several passersby came to M. Vilners help and prevented the assailant from stabbing him a second time. One of the people, a young man, struggled with the assailant and forced the knife out of his hand. The same person and other passersby than brought the assailant to a police station in the vicinity, where he was arrested.

The broadcast by "Kol Yisrael", the Israeli broadcasting station, that the assailant had voluntarily given himself up is untrue. The fact is, that he was overwhelmed after a struggle and brought to the police by people who had come to the help of comrade M. Vilner.

Immediately after the attempt on his life, comrade M. Vilner was taken to the police station, where he received first aid, and from there to the Hadassah Hospital where he was operated. Later in the same evening the surgeon pronounced that M. Vilner's condition was better and that there was no danger to his life.

The news of the attempt on the life of comrade M. Vilner spread quickly through the town, especially after the radio broadcast. Numerous people, public figures inquired after M. Vilner's condition and expressed their indignation at the crime.

Members and sympathizers of the Communist Party of Israel, members of the Young Communist League and many workers

assembled at the entrance to the Hospital immediately after the news of the crime was known in order to inquire about comrade M. Vilner's condition and express their abhorrence and protest against the crime. The attempt on the life of comrade M. Vilner is a result of the campaign of ferocious slander waged since the June war against the Communist Party of Israel and all opponents to the aggressive war, and especially against the leaders of the Communist Party of Israel and in forefront against comrade Meir Vilner personally. Member of Knesset M. Vilner has stood up heroically against the war hysteria and has viewed the struggle against the war, for its immediate stoppage and for the abolition of its consequences, as a patriotic task in the interest of the future and peaceful security of the State of Israel.

Comrade Tawfiq TOUBI, Member of the Knesset, Secretary of the Central Committee immediately after the incident contacted the police headquarters and demanded full and extensive investigation into the case and its background. Comrade T. Toubi told the Deputy Head of the Police, Keren, that the attempt on the life of the leader of the Communist Party of Israel is a serious political affair and asked quick action to reveal all the accompanying facts of the assault.

In the name of the Communist group in the Knesset, Member of Knesset Emile HABIBI, sent the following telegram to the Presidium of the Knesset:

"This evening (15.10.67) a criminal attempt was made on the life of Member of Knesset Meir Vilner. The assailant was caught by passersby and brought to a police station to be arrested. This assault was made against the background of threats and wild slanders voiced in public against Meir Vilner MK, the other members of the Communist Knesset faction and our Communist Party.

We ask the Presidium of the Knesset to condemn publicly the attempted crime and to see to it that a full investigation into all facts connected with the instigators of the crime be made.

* * *

The evening press on 16.10.67 revealed that the assailant was Abraham Ben-Moshe (Hatzron), 49 years old, a former sport correspondent of the extreme right-wing "Herut" daily, and now working as a corrector for the daily "Hayom", organ of the right-wing GAHAL block, represented in the Government by M. BEGIN. He was remanded by a judge in the Tel-Aviv Court until the beginning of court-procedures.

COMRADE MEIR VILNER THANKS FOR EXPRESSION OF
SOLIDARITY
=====

In the organs of the Communist Party of Israel the following statement of comrade Meir Vilner, Secretary of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Israel, was published:

"Leaving the Hospital I wish to express my thanks to all party- and public-organizations, comrades, sympathizers and friends, delegations of workers, youth and women, public figures and representatives of the intelligentsia, who expressed in different ways their abhorrence of the attempt on my life and wished for my full recovery.

"The many expressions of solidarity from Israel and abroad were a source of encouragement, helped me, and continue to be of help, to recover from the consequences of the assault. Therefore, my hearty thanks for all of them.

"In face of the great number of telegrams, letters etc., it is not in my power to answer all of them separately. Therefore I beg for understanding in good spirit at this way of expressing my thanks.

Tel-Aviv, 29.10.1967

(-) Meir Vilner

18th PLENARY SESSION OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE
COMMUNIST PARTY OF ISRAEL

On October 18th-20th, 1967, the 18th Plenary Session of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel was held, with the participation of the members of the Central Control Commission of the Party. Comrade Uzi BURSTEIN presided over the meeting.

Comrade Tawfiq TOUBI, Secretary of the Secretariat of the CC, spoke on "The tasks of the Communist Party of Israel in the struggle for elimination of the crisis caused by the war and for peace".

Comrade Benjamin GONEN, member of the Central Committee and General Secretary of the Young Communist League of Israel, spoke on "The activities of the Young Communist League of Israel".

Comrade Wolf EHRLICH and comrade Saliba KHAMIS, members of the Political Bureau, reported on their talks with the representatives of the Central Committees of the fraternal Communist Parties in Italy, France and Britain.

Comrade Emile HABIBI, member of the Political Bureau, reported on the symposium on "The October Revolution and the struggle of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America for their national independence", held in Baku, USSR, in which he participated.

After the lectures and reports the Central Committee entered into a discussion of the problems raised. The discussion was summarized by comrade Tawfiq Toubi, and resolutions were accepted.

In a special resolution on the criminal attempt on the life of the Secretary of the Political Bureau, comrade Meir Vilner, the Central Committee sent hearty greetings to him, wishing him speedy and full recovery, so that he may be able to return to his work at the leadership of the Party.

The Central Committee elected Comrade Meir VILNER and comrade Tawfiq TOUBI to represent the Communist Party of Israel at the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the Great

October Socialist Revolution in Moscow.

The Central Committee congratulated comrade Pnina FEINHAUS, member of the C.C., on the occasion of her 70th birthday.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE 18th PLENARY MEETING OF THE
CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF ISRAEL

The Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel accepted the following resolutions:

- 1) On the criminal attempt on the life of comrade Meir Vilner;
- 2) Fraternal greetings of the Communist Party of Israel to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union on the occasion of the Great October Socialist Revolution;
- 3) Endorsement of the report and concluding speech of comrade Tawfiq Toubi;
- 4) On the struggle for peace and the elimination of the crisis caused by the War;
- 5) Solidarity with the people of Vietnam in its struggle against the American imperialist aggression;
- 6) Warning and vigilance in the face of the growing influence of neo-Nazism in Western Germany;
- 7) On the defense of the interests of the working class and toiling masses against the attack of the capitalists and ruling circles;
- 8) On the Party's activities and program of action for the year 1968;
- 9) On the XVth Congress of the Communist Party of Israel;
- 10) On the Party's activities among the youth and in preparation of the IXth Congress of the Young Communist League of Israel;
- 11) Endorsement of the reports of the CC's delegations to the talks with the United Worker's Party of Poland and the Communist Parties of Italy, France and Great Britain.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE 18th PLENARY SESSION OF THE
CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF ISRAEL

I. ON THE CRIMINAL ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF
OF COMRADE MEIR VILNER

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel, from its 18th Plenary Session, sends its heartiest congratulations to comrade Meir Vilner on the failure of the criminal attempt on his life and wishes him speedy recovery and an early return to his work at the Party leadership.

The Central Committee strongly condemns this criminal assault against comrade Meir Vilner on October 15th, 1967. This assault is a crime committed against our Communist Party, against the forces of peace, freedom and people's brotherhood and against friendship with the Soviet Union. The Central Committee calls on all people interested in democratic freedom in Israel, irrespective of their political views, to condemn this dirty crime and demand a thorough investigation and just judgment.

The Central Committee praises the public stand against the attempt on the life of Knesset Member Meir Vilner and the attempt to introduce the reign^{of}/knife and fist into the public and political life of Israel, and condemns all those who have condemned the criminal assault.

The Central Committee expresses its thanks to all fraternal Parties in the world, and to all people and democratic organizations, who have expressed, in telegrams and other forms, their condemnation of the criminal assault and their solidarity with our Communist Party of Israel.

The attempt on the life of comrade Meir Vilner is not a matter of our Communist Party alone; it is an assault on the freedom of political struggle and the democratic liberty in Israel, and represents a McCarthyist and fascist threat to our country.

The base attempt to murder comrade Meir Vilner, eliminate by murder a leader of a political party in Israel - the first such case since the establishment of the State - was carried out against the background of the growing chauvinist

anti-Communist, anti-Arab and anti-Soviet slander, against the background of the anti-Communist and anti-democratic demand of the reactionary forces to prevent the activities of, and outlaw, the Communist Party of Israel. The criminal assault was carried out under the rule of the "Government of National Unity", the Eshkol-Dayan-Begin-Government, whose very first step was to open an aggressive war, in the wake of which the anti-democratic and anti-working class line was strengthened.

The Central Committee expresses its anxiety about the way the Police investigates and handles the case of the assault. The handling of the case by the Police from the very beginning has been showing signs of trying to decrease the seriousness of the crime, which is a clear case of attempted murder. They try to present the assailant as a "national hero", who gave himself up to the Police of his own will, whereas in truth he tried to escape and was brought to the Police against his will after having been overwhelmed by passers-by. All this gives the impression of an obvious attempt to hush up the seriousness of the assault, and to conceal the background of the crime and the threats leading to it. This situation is all the more serious since anonymous letters threatening to take comrade Meir Vilner's life, continue to arrive even at the hospital.

The Central Committee demands a thorough investigation and judgment commensurate with the abominable attempt of murder.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel warns of the serious threats against freedom of political struggle and democratic rights and calls upon all to whom democracy is dear and all interested in the democratic protection of parliamentary order in public life, to raise their voice and unite in the struggle for checking the rise of reactionary forces, militarism and adventurous chauvinism in Israel.

II. FRATERNAL GREETINGS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF
ISRAEL TO THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION
ON THE OCCASION OF THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE
GREAT OCTOBER SOCIALIST REVOLUTION

In the name of all Communists in Israel, in the name of the toiling masses and all progressive people, Jews and Arabs, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel sends its heartiest greetings and congratulations to our fraternal Party, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

In our time, there is no other occasion which is nearer to the hearts of the working people all over the world, which is as encouraging and strengthening them in their belief in a prosperous future for mankind, as the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the first victorious socialist revolution, which once and for all put an end to the exclusive rule of capital in the world. The victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the liberation of the working people of Czarist Russia from darkness and tyranny, opened up widely the path to the full emancipation of the working class the world over, for all mankind, for a world without wars, exploitation and oppression.

In the relatively short historic period of 50 years, under hardest conditions, the heroic Soviet people under the leadership of the great Party of Lenin, succeeded to build socialism in its country, to fortify and enrich the socialist society, to defend the first workers and peasants rule in the world, to build and consolidate the eternal union of fraternity and equality between the peoples of the Soviet Union, to turn the first socialist state, which before the revolution was backward and weak, into a highly developed, enormous power, into the strong and undefeated bulwark of the revolutionary movement of our epoch, into a friend of decisive influence of the workers of all countries and all peoples in all continents.

We, the Israeli Communists, are grateful to the great Party of Lenin for its full victory in building the first socialist society in the world. The living example of the USSR is kindling our enthusiasm in the struggle for a prosper-

ous future of the working people of our country.

We are grateful to the fraternal Party of Lenin for its full success in erecting and fortifying the eternal union between the fraternal and equal peoples of the USSR, for eliminating all national and racial discrimination in the USSR, a fact which proves the moral superiority of socialism, which strengthens our faith in future relations of peace and brotherhood between Jews and Arabs in Israel and in the Middle East.

All the peoples of the world are grateful to the Soviet Union for subduing the greatest of all enemies of mankind at all times. The masses of Israel, the masses of the Jewish people, wherever they live, will remember for ever, that it was the Soviet Army which destroyed the Nazi beast and saved millions of Jews from extermination. The people of Israel will always remember gratefully the support given by the Soviet Union to the right of self-determination of the Israeli people and the right to establish an independent state, a support which was also given to the right of self-determination of the Arab people of Palestine. The militarist circles in Israel, who by their aggression caused the severance of the diplomatic relations between Israel and the Soviet Union, had done great harm to our people and our country.

The recent aggression against the Arab countries, launched by the rulers of our country in the service of imperialism, did great harm to the most vital interests of Israel and to peace. The consequences of the aggression proves with great emphasis, that the Soviet Union's opposition to aggression and war is also in the interest of the Israeli people, whom the imperialists are prepared to sacrifice on the altar of their aggressive and criminal plans.

We, the Israeli Communists, value highly the Leninist foreign policy of the Soviet Union, which faithfully expresses proletarian internationalism. We value highly the Soviet Leninist policy of peaceful coexistence, which is of decisive help to all freedom-loving peoples in realising their highest aspirations.

As true patriots of our people and as proletarian internationalists, we strongly condemn the anti-Soviet slander, which is spread by reactionary circles and the lackeys of imperialism in our country, in the service of the cold war and

in order to mislead the masses of people to support a policy opposed to peace. The friendship and solidarity to the Soviet Union, the stronghold of peace and socialism, is a vital necessity to the working class and people of Israel, and we shall fight with all our might for these.

We condemn the splitting, anti-Soviet policy of the Mao Tse-Tung group in China. We strongly condemn all nationalist, anti-Soviet tendencies, which are foreign to the revolutionary tradition of the working class and harm, in fact, the patriotic and just interest of its people.

We receive encouragement and inspiration from the faithfulness of the great Party of Lenin to the principles of proletarian internationalism. We, the Israeli Communists, have guarded the Jewish-Arab unity in the ranks of our Party and repulsed every nationalist attack, from inside as well as from outside the Party, and have guarded the patriotic and internationalist policy of our Party.

We, the Israeli Communists, value highly the solidarity of the great fraternal Party of Lenin with our hard struggle against the intrigues of imperialism, against the aggressive and adventurist policy of the pro-imperialist rulers of our country, and for a policy of peace, national independence, democracy, peoples' brotherhood and social progress, the only real patriotic policy.

The heroic Soviet people, under the leadership of its Communist Party, has foiled all imperialist intrigues aimed at strangling the socialist state.

The sum total of the road which the Leninist Party has traversed since the October Revolution is proof that it is no longer in the power of imperialism to turn back the wheel of history. The darkness of capitalism has vanished from one-third of mankind. The former colonial peoples have liberated themselves and taken their fate into their own hands. Socialism has become the banner of the peoples who have broken the yoke of colonialism. The international working class is in the center of our era. The ideas and forces which grew out of the October Revolution determine the development of history. Socialism has proved its superiority. Marxism-Leninism has proved its correctness.

Long live the 50th anniversary of the great October Socialist Revolution which changed the world's face!

Long live the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Party of Lenin and follower of his path, the Party which realized the first victorious Socialist Revolution in the world!

Long live and be strengthened the unity of the world Communist movement and of all revolutionary movements of our time!

Long live peace and friendship between the peoples!

Long live the friendship between the peoples of Israel and the Soviet Union!

Long live Communism!

III. ENDORSEMENT OF COMRADE TAWFIQ TOUBI'S REPORT AND

SUMMARY

The Central Committee endorses comrade Tawfiq Toubi's report on the "Tasks of the Communist Party of Israel in the struggle for elimination of the crisis created by the war and for achieving peace" and the summary of the discussion.

IV. ON THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE AND ELIMINATION OF THE

CRISIS CAUSED BY THE WAR

A.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel states that the people of Israel desire the elimination of the dangerous crisis in our region, caused by the recent war, and a lasting peace between Israel and her Arab neighbours. But the position and actions of the Israeli Government prove that not peace and a just settlement of the conflict are their aims but perpetuation of the occupation, territorial expansion and prevention of a just peace settlement.

The Government's line of action, which rejects UNO handling of the crisis, the stubborn resistance to the withdrawal from the occupied territories, under the pretext of aiming at direct negotiations and a peace settlement for the alleged sake of Israel's security, the oppression of the Arab population in the occupied territories, the refusal of the repatriation of the refugees of the June War, their purposeful deafness to important declarations by leaders in Arab countries, especially among the UAR leadership, in favour of a peaceful settlement - all this shows that the Eshkol-Dayan-Begin Government is not at all interested in reaching a real and just peace between Israel and her neighbours.

The four months which have passed since the aggression have proved again, as did the 19 years since the establishment of the State, that the policy of dictating by force of arms and leaning on imperialism, the policy of accomplished facts, the policy of being blind to the legal rights of the Arab people of Palestine, did not bring peace but wars. Neither the recent war nor the military defeat of the Arab forces; neither new "natural" borders nor new conquests have solved any problem or brought a peace settlement between Israel and her Arab neighbours nearer.

Four months after the War, we are again confronted by the possibility of falling into the abyss of a new armed collision, and we hear repeated calls for it. The continuous bloody clashes in the Suez Canal area and other places fertilize the ground for a reopening of the war and make the efforts to find a peaceful settlement of the present crisis in our region more difficult. The Communist Party of Israel regards the strict observance of the cease-fire and prevention of a renewed outbreak of hostilities as a vital necessity for preventing a new war and for the creation of an atmosphere favourable to a peaceful solution.

B.

The ruling circles and their propaganda machinery try to lullify the vigilance of the Israeli people and obliterate their perception of the grave crisis due to the recent war. They do this by exploiting the flush of military victory, kindling the illusion as though the new territorial conquests will give security to Israel, and by inflaming nationalist and chauvinist passions. In spite of this, more and more people in Israel show the courage to raise their voice against that policy.

In the international arena, the policy of the Israeli Government, especially the wish to perpetuate the occupation is confronted by growing resistance. Neither in nor outside the UNO Assembly exists a serious force in the world which officially and openly supports the continued occupation and annexations. Even amongst the enthusiastic friends of the Israeli Government are some, who have begun to exert pressure on the Israeli Government for withdrawal from the occupied territories. They divest themselves of the policy of territorial expansion and annexations, for their own interests or on account of international public opinion and the changed situation in the Middle East following the war.

Great efforts are now being made, especially at the UNO, to find a political settlement of the crisis caused by the War. The Communist Party of Israel, which always upheld the need for a peaceful settlement of Israeli-Arab relations in all fields, supports every effort to find a peaceful solution of the present crisis, the Palestinian problem and Israeli-Arab relations, based on honouring the just national rights of all peoples in the region, among them the just rights of the Arab people of Palestine and the right of existence of Israel.

C.

The continued occupation of Arab territories does not bring nearer a peaceful solution and the settlement of Israeli-Arab relations but renders this more difficult. It deepens enmity, puts peace farther off and places an ever increasing burden on the security of Israel. The increased arms race after the War, the ever growing armed forces, the permanent mobilization of army reserves and the enormous burden of military expenditure, all these weaken Israel's security, are contrary to the interests of the people and make Israel's dependency on the imperialist power more complete.

The continued occupation turns the people of Israel into an oppressor that negates the freedom of another people. Thereby it endangers its own freedom, and the peace and security of both peoples in this country. The acts of oppression as well as the acts of terror and sabotage, which grow severer against the background of continued occupation, cause great harm to both peoples and claim innocent victims, Jews and Arabs alike. These acts bring misfortune to both peoples, Jews and the Arabs.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel condemns the acts of oppression and collective punishment, the destruction of houses and the mass arrests in the occupied territories, and demands their immediate termination. The continued occupation, oppression and the "strong hand", only strengthen resistance to the national oppression and foreign conquest, to the detriment of future relations between the two peoples and the detriment of peace.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel also condemns the acts of sabotage and terror, which cause harm to both peoples and to the struggle for the just rights of the Arab people of Palestine.

The stand that "there will be no withdrawal without direct negotiations and a peace settlement", heard in different nuances from quarters which supported the war and declare that for the sake of peace and security Israel must remain in the occupied areas, as though peace could be achieved by this, this stand is, in fact, identical with the policy of the Government. By perpetuating the occupation, Israel will not find the way to peace and security. The idea that by military dictates and occupation of Arab territory Israel can enforce a "peace settlement", which tramples upon the rights of the Arab people of Palestine, leads of necessity to the conclusion voiced by the Minister of Defence, Moshe Dayan, in the name of a "peace settlement and a final decisive battle" towards this aim, Dayan is even prepared to conquer Damascus, Cairo or Rabat-Amon. The continued occupation produces most severe dangers to peace in this region as well as to the security of Israel. The Arab peoples and world public opinion will not agree with the continued occupation of territories of three Arab countries.

D.

It is untrue that the withdrawal will bring a new war in its wake. The contrary is true. The withdrawal will help both sides, the Israeli as well as the Arab, to find the way to peace and a just settlement of the Palestine question, which can never be found by military dictates and positions of force. The only solution to the Palestine question and the crisis in Israeli-Arab relations lies in a new Israeli policy, cutting off its dependency on, and support for the interests of, imperialism in this region, recognition by Israel of the just national rights of the Arab people of Palestine and, first of

all, the rights of the refugees, recognition by the Arab states of Israel and her lawful rights, including the right of open waterways. In order to reach negotiations and a peaceful settlement on these principles, which have been and remain the real and true basis for a just peace settlement, the withdrawal of the Israeli armed forces to the pre-5th-of-June-positions is of vital necessity.

A new Israeli policy, for which the withdrawal is a necessary step, will still further strengthen the anti-imperialist forces in the Arab countries and in the ranks of the Arab national liberation movement, who fight for a peaceful and just settlement which honours the right of existence of Israel. This is in the interests of the Israeli people.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel states therefore that the interests of peace and security, future relations between both peoples and the future well-being of Israel in this region, which is the uppermost national interest of Israel, demand the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the occupied territories and the abrogation of the unlawful territorial annexations.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel calls on all people interested in a real, just and lasting peace, to all who long for partnership and fraternal relations between the people of Israel and the Arab peoples, to unite and raise the peace slogan: "The Israeli forces must withdraw from the occupied territories to make way for peace!"

V. SOLIDARITY WITH THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE IN THEIR

STRUGGLE AGAINST THE AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS

The last day of the Plenary Session of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel, the 21.10.1967, coincided with the day of international action against American aggression in Vietnam.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel adds its voice to all progressive and peace-loving mankind and strongly condemns the continuous acts of American imperialist aggression against the people of Vietnam and the escalation of barbarous bombing of the towns of the Democrat-

ic Republic of Vietnam, and their peaceful populations, who are building socialism.

Even in the USA opposition to the aggression grows daily and the public demand for stopping the bombing and the war increases. This week stands in the sign of strong mass demonstrations of the American and other peoples.

The Central Committee calls on all peace-loving people in Israel to increase public activity against the continuation of American aggression in Vietnam. The members of the Communist Party and Young Communist League of Israel will continue to strive for the extension of the movement of solidarity with the Vietnamese people and their heroic struggle, and will do all in their power to intensify public protest in Israel against the imperialist aggression, for stopping the war and withdrawal of the aggressive imperialist forces from Vietnam.

The Communist Party of Israel adds its voice to those of the international peace-loving forces and demands the ending of the barbarous attacks on North-Vietnamese towns and the people of South-Vietnam, in order to render possible a peaceful settlement, which will secure the freedom and unity of the homeland of the Vietnamese people according their free will.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel wishes the heroic people of Vietnam, the national liberation front of South Vietnam and the Government of the Vietnamese Democratic Republic a speedy victory in their just struggle against American imperialist aggression.

The American aggression against Vietnam meets with the ever growing opposition of the heroic people of Vietnam, who, with the help of the socialist countries and particularly of the Soviet Union, is striking hard blows at the aggressor. The American aggression against Vietnam is opposed by international public opinion and by the masses of the peoples of the whole world.

VI. WARNING AGAINST THE RISE OF NEO-NAZISM IN

WEST-GERMANY

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The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel views with deep concern the continuous rise of the Neo-Nazi and militarist forces in Bonn, as recently shown by the success of the National Democratic Party in the elections to the Landtag of Bremen. This accomplishment, which followed similar successes of the Neo-Nazi party in other parts of the Federal Republic, shows that fascism is again capable of mobilising growing sections of the population of West Germany.

This is also evident from the support given to the Neo-Nazi party by big monopolist capital, which again rules in Western Germany.

At a time when in Eastern Germany big monopolist capital and its rulers were abolished, and thus the social basis for fascism and militarism was uprooted and a state of workers and peasants established, in Western Germany the social basis for imperialism, revanchism and fascism was reestablished.

The revival of the Neo-Nazi party was made possible by the freedom of action and the support given to it by the Bonn rulers, while at the same time the German Communist Party has been outlawed for already eleven years.

The growth of the Neo-Nazi party increases the danger of revanchistic trends in Bonn and endangers European and world peace.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel calls on all political forces in Israel, who from the bitter experience of the Jewish people understand this danger, to unite and protest against the revival of the Nazi beast at Bonn and to demand the outlawing of the Neo-Nazi party, prevention of supply of atomic weapons to the German army and closing the way to the domination of Nazis and militarist adventurists in Germany.

The Central Committee calls on the people of Israel to demand from the Israeli Government cessation of its friendship and military relations with the West German government, and opposition to the dangerous revival of Nazi forces in Western Germany, in the interest of the people of Israel and world peace.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel sends its fraternal greetings to the Communist Party of Germany, and demands freedom of action for Communists and the legalisation of the West-German Communist Party, in order to block the way to the danger of nazism, for the sake of peace in Europe and the whole world.

VII. IN DEFENSE OF THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING CLASS
AND POPULAR MASSES AGAINST THE ATTACK OF CAPITAL
AND THE GOVERNMENT
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The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel warns the toiling masses of the attack launched by the big bourgeoisie and the Government on the living standard and social achievements of the working class, which has become fiercer since the establishment of the Eshkol-Dayan-Begin Government. The War has not solved the basic problems of Israel and has pushed peace farther off. It has also worsened the economic situation of the toiling masses and intensified the attack on the rights of the working people of Israel.

Tens of thousands of workers are unemployed. The small relief felt during the last weeks is artificial and has been brought about only by sending many unemployed workers to (low-paid) relief work or army jobs.

Following the millionaires' convention in Jerusalem last August under the pretext of care for Israel, the Government and Histadruth leadership began a new attack on the achievements and living standard of the workers.

In an additional state budget the Government presented the capitalists with allowances of 30 million Israeli Pounds, in addition to 120 million pounds in the form of easy loans. On the other hand, the Government and Histadruth leadership, towards the renewal of the collective labour contracts, decided to freeze wages until 1970, to increase exploitation by raising production norms, enforce so-called production efficiency dismissals and legal procedures to curb the freedom of trade union struggle.

The "efficiency" dismissals continue and the Histadruth enterprises are pioneers in this field. The Secretary of the "Labour Company" (the roof company of the Histadruth

commercial and industrial enterprises - Histadruth==General Trade Union Organization - translator), A. Yadlin, declares endlessly the need for more dismissals and other reductions of the workers' social conditions. General Laskov, the head of the Port Authorities, has only one care: attacking the Union of Port Workers and their rights.

The Israeli workers have learned from their own experience the importance of defending their rights. The workers in Acre district struck in solidarity with their fellow workers of the "Middle-East-Tube-Company" who struck against unjust dismissals (in September); the stevedores of Ashdod Port struck a full week against encroachments of their rights, and the stevedores in the Haifa Port showed solidarity with their fellow workers at Ashdod and so brought to nought the attempt at undermining the port workers' unity. The agricultural workers of "Ma'aloth" waged a sit-in strike against the raising of production-norms and the inhuman behaviour of the director of Keren-Kayemet (=the development company of the "National-Fund" - transl.). The Arab workers living in villages suffer from poverty and unemployment and struggle for their right to full employment.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel calls on the working people of Israel, Jews and Arabs alike, in workshops and villages, to continue and increase their struggle, to close their ranks, regardless of their political positions or party affiliation, in order to foil the attack of capital and the Government on their living standard and rights and to oppose the anti-labour plans of the employers and the Government.

VIII. ON THE ACTIVITY OF THE PARTY AMONG THE YOUTH
TOWARDS THE IXTH CONGRESS OF THE YOUNG COMMUNIST
LEAGUE OF ISRAEL
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The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel endorses the report on "the activity and tasks of the Young Communist League of Israel" by comrade Benjamin GONEN, and calls on the Party and Party-members to give every possible help towards the success of the IXth Congress of the YCL of Israel, to be held according to the decisions of the Central Committee of the Young Communist League of Israel.

The Central Committee will extend every help in order to make the IXth Congress of the Young Communist League of Israel a full success.

IX. ON THE TALKS WITH THE UNITED WORKERS PARTY OF
POLAND AND THE COMMUNIST PARTIES OF ITALY,
=====FRANCE AND GREAT BRITAIN=====

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel heard a report on the talks held by comrade Meir VILNER with representatives of the Central Committee of the fraternal Polish Party in Warsaw during September.

The Central Committee heard also reports by comrades Wolf EHRLICH and Saliba KHAMIS on the talks of the delegation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel with representatives of the Central Committees of the Communist Parties of Italy, France and Great Britain.

The Central Committee endorsed these reports and the activities of the delegations. The Central Committee expresses its satisfaction on the statements published after the talks between the fraternal Parties and our Party, which represent an important step towards the strengthening of our Communist Party's ties with the fraternal Parties. This is in the interest of peace in our region and the world and in the interest of the unity of the World Communist Movement.

X. ON THE PARTY'S ACTIVITY AND PLAN OF ACTION
=====FOR THE YEAR 1968=====

Summarizing the fulfilment of the Party's plan of action, the Central Committee notes the devoted activity and strong stand of the Party organizations, comrades and sympathizers, in all kinds of struggle led by the Party for peace, against war, for the defense of the daily interests of the working people, distribution of the Party press, and the success of both fund raisings, one of 100,000 Israeli Pounds and the second of IL 50,000, for the purpose of ensuring the Party's normal activities.

In order to strengthen the struggle for peace, defense of the workers' interests and democratic freedom, for people's brotherhood and friendship with the Soviet Union, the Central Committee decides on the following plan of action for the year 1968:

- a) Widening of the Party's ranks.
- b) Increasing the distribution of the Party press and publications.
- c) Ensuring the organized political-ideological education in the Party.
- d) Strengthening the Party's activity among the youth in preparation for the IXth Congress of the Young Communist League of Israel.
- e) Strengthening the Party organization in preparation for the XVith Congress of the Party.

XI. THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

The Central Committee decided to coopt the comrades Uzi BURSTEIN and Fouad KHOURY to the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel.

XII. THE XVITH CONGRESS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF ISRAEL =====

According to paragraph 51 of the Party statutes, the Central Committee decided that the XVith Congress of the Communist Party of Israel should be held in autumn 1968.

THE HOMELAND OF OCTOBER - THE DECISIVE FORCE
IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMANITY IN OUR EPOCH
.....

(Excerpts from lecture delivered by comrade Tawfiq Toubi at the 18th Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel, held on 19-21, October, 1967.)

The anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution binds us to wind up the stage of development which was reached by the world in this feast of humanity, binds us to examine what are the general and stable lines of development and what are the temporary manifestations.

In the last period we are witness of the growing aggravation of the international situation, of the growing aggravation of imperialist aggression and above all that of the American imperialism against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and against the national liberation movement and of the intensifying dangers of world war.

The intensifying aggression of the American imperialism in Vietnam, the Israeli pro-imperialist aggression in our region and the crisis resulting therefrom, the imperialist intrigues in different places in the world against the political and economic independence of peoples, the growing force of the neo-Nazism in Western Germany - all these manifestations are serious steps in the global campaign of imperialism against the forces of socialism and above all against the Soviet Union. In the annual report regarding the world situation given by the General Secretary of UNO to the present assembly it was stated that the prospects for the future of the world have worsened to a great extent. It might be said, that they even involve serious concern, because violent solutions are becoming more and more dominant in the international relations. Hence, a similar chaos which caused two world wars during thirty years might be created again.

U Thant did not state who does resort to methods of violent solutions. He did not point out the American imperialism and its protigees as being guilty of jeopardizing peace in the world.

AGAINST DEFEATISM, AGAINST ADVENTURISM

The widening aggression of the American imperialism does not imply that it is all-powerful and that it might easily fling the world into a bloody mealstrom of war or instal therein the way of life favourable to it, or curb the process of social development in our days which was, and still is, the transition from capitalism to socialism.

By the counter-attack which it launches during the last years, imperialism strives to create the impression that it can easily overcome the movement of national freedom. The mouthpieces of imperialist propaganda point to Indonesia, Ghana, Vietnam, Greece, the Middle East as evidence of this argument. But the facts are otherwise.

Vietnam is a witness of the weakness of the American imperialism and not of the weakness of the movement of national liberation or of socialist forces, which were, and still are, the power that sets its seal on the historical development in our time.

Prior to the second world war, imperialist Japan was able to dare to occupy half the territory of China and even to work havoc there as a victor, though it was many times smaller than China. Today we are witness of another inverse manifestation. The greatest imperialist power in the world - the United States of America - is incapable of subduing the Vietnamese people of 30 millions. Vietnam, both parts of it, supported by the Soviet Union and the socialist camp, withstands the imperialist assault and does even inflict serious defeats to the American aggressors. Vietnam continues to fight, though 600 thousand American troops, 750 thousands South Vietnamese troops and other pro-American armies are concentrated on its territory - to say nothing of the considerable amount of heavy and modern war equipment.

On the 21st October, the international solidarity day with Vietnam, demonstrations will be held throughout the world, manifesting the opposition for the continuation of the war of American aggression. We shall mobilize our forces and act, together with other opponents of the perfidious war in Vietnam, to multiply our solidarity with the valiant people of Vietnam.

We do not ignore the fact that in face of the progress of the national liberation and socialist forces stand many difficulties. In this hard road setbacks do occur even.

The imperialist forces, especially that of the United States of America reveal an obstinate opposition and even a capacity of manoeuvre. They exploit the non-negligible weaknesses of the national liberation movement in order to cause local and temporary setbacks.

There are difficulties in the socialist camp as well - mainly in consequence of the activities of the Chinese leaders, headed by Mao Tse-Tung. These leaders are continuing to plunge in decadency. Their activity causes harm to the achievements of the Chinese revolution and to the aid presented to fighting Vietnam. The disrupting stand of the Chinese leaders weighs heavily on the socialist and anti-imperialist camp and encourages the aggression of the imperialists.

But, notwithstanding all such difficulties, we should not be seized by defeatist mood on the one and by adventurism on the other hand. To be entangled by such mood will only render service to the enemy. Those who disdainfully and contemptuously criticize the policy of the Soviet Union and its efforts to safeguard world peace, by its tendering its aid to the attacked peoples should know that peaceful coexistence between countries of different regimes is not a matter which the imperialists accept easily but one which was forced on them by the forces of socialism and national liberation.

WHAT WAS ACHIEVED DURING 50 YEARS

These are historical days. Our duty is to stop and examine wither have we reached? Wither has reached humanity for the sake of which, we Communists are devoting our efforts and forces. Let pessimists and those seized by panic in the presence of futile demonstration of the imperialists look and see what glorious way humanity has traversed during so short historical period - during the past hundred years since the publication of the "Capital" by Karl Marx, since the working class was granted the sharp weapon of the Marxist-theory.

Ever since Karl Marx materialized his theory until the establishment of the first socialist state only fifty

years have elapsed. The Russian proletariat under the guidance of the glorious Party of Lenin realized Marx' theory and broke through the capitalist chain and thus began the stable march of humanity towards the socialist future.

Ever since the establishment of the Soviet State thirty years had elapsed until a tremendous socialist camp came into existence, which includes 35 per cent of the world population and 26 per cent of its territory. The socialist camp whose hands reach the Moon and Venus is marching forward with gigantic pace from financial and social point of view and today is the decisive factor in the development of the human society.

The colonial system has almost been wholly liquidated in Asia, Africa, and Latin America and only separate isles of colonialism remain, such as the territories under the rule of Portugal in Africa. While in 1919 the colonies included 69 per cent of the world population they include today only one per cent thereof. In place of the colonies 70 sovereign new states were established, part of them marching through the non-capitalist development. Thanks to the tremendous political and economic aid which the Soviet Union and other socialist countries present to peoples fighting for the consolidation of their sovereignty and economic independence the movement for national liberation strengthens and becomes a force of wide influence as regards the struggle for peace and socialism.

Since the proletariat in Russia, under the guidance of Lenin's Party, seized power the authority of the international revolutionary working class became more tremendous. Today there are Communist and Workers' Parties in more than 90 countries and the number of Communists grew from 400 thousand during the October Revolution to 50 million in our days. The world Communist movement is, notwithstanding the difficulties, a tremendous world force which guides hundreds of millions of human beings in their struggle for freedom, peace and socialism.

Being loyal to the precepts of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union is steadfastly^{and} consistently concerned to strengthen the economic and social foundation of socialism in its country and other socialist countries. The Soviet Union supports the struggle of people for national and social liberation and assists their economic development and in the meantime stubbornly acts against the imperialist provocations and for the prevention of a new world war conflagration.

Consequently the workers and peace-loving people throughout the world, and in Israel as well, repay the Soviet Union and the Party of Lenin by sympathy, and consistent solidarity. On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the October Revolution, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel sends its best greetings and wishes and its sincere appreciation for the great homeland of October and the valiant Party of the Soviet Union.

KNIGHTS OF ANTI-SOVIET INSTIGATION

These last days a wide instigation against the Soviet Union and against its policy in the Middle East is conducted in Israel. With the best tradition of anti-Soviet slander the ruling circles in Israel distort the stands of the Soviet Union. They strive to eradicate from the heart of the masses of people in Israel the natural sympathy for the Soviet Union in its historical duty in the rout of fascism and the rescue of millions of Jews from the claws of the Nazi beast.

The anti-Soviet instigators strive to represent the opposition of the Soviet Union for the aggression of the ruling circles in Israel as an opposition for the State of Israel and as a socialist support for its annihilation. This false argument was rejected by the heads of the Soviet State on different occasions.

The anti-Soviet propaganda is supported by all sorts of renegates who win the title of experts on "Soviet Union affairs" and of "repentants". The renegates (such as the writer Maniechko) and the repentants (such as Mikunis and Sneh) turn their backs on the camp of communism and actually pass to the camp of the rulers. All their talk regarding "one-sided Soviet policy" in the region, on "support for the murderous Arab chauvinism", on "global interests in the policy of the Soviet Union", and on "anti-Jewish communism", which fill the speeches and interviews of Sneh and Mikunis, and which are published daily in "Kol Ha'am", are but one sort of the anti-Soviet propaganda. Conducted in Israel, which leads to worsening of relations between Israel and the Soviet Union and cause severe harm to the national interest of Israel. The anti-Soviet talk has its origin in blind nationalism in loss of the class compass regarding development in the region and the world.

Totally ignoring the pro-imperialist policy of the Israeli rulers and their global duty in the service of the monopolist capital which the war of the rulers of Israel against the Arab countries fulfill, the followers of Mikunis and Sneh assert arbitrarily and in contradiction to all facts that not the struggle between imperialism and the forces of freedom is decisive but the national Jewish-Arab contradiction. But even when they restrict the struggle in the region to a struggle between Jews and Arabs they ignore the fact that the government of Israel conducts a policy of denying the rights of the Arab people of Palestine, a policy of aggrandizement and annexations relying on imperialist support. They repeat the argument of Eshkol-Dayan-Begin, which implies that the latest war was one of existence and deliverance from annihilation.

Our Communist Party will widen its elucidation against the turbid anti-Soviet current. Notwithstanding the obstacles in the anti-Soviet atmosphere, we shall continue to uplift the truth about the policy of the Soviet Union, a policy which is in the interests of peace in the region and in the world, - in the interests of all peoples including the people of Israel. We shall not let reaction throw into oblivion the historic duty of the Soviet Union in the rescue of Jewish masses during the second world war, its support of the rights of the two peoples of Palestine - the Jewish and Arab - for self-determination and liberation from imperialist yoke, its support in the establishment of the State of Israel and its continued support of the rights of the Palestinian Arab people. In spite of the anti-Soviet slanders, we shall continue to explain the internationalist policy of the Soviet Union which strictly safeguards the rights of all peoples in its country, which behaves with equality and respect to all the peoples, big and small, throughout the world.

THE STRUGGLE FOR THE PREVENTION OF NEW WORLD WAR

On the background of events which occurred in our region during the last months, voices are heard here and there raising suspicion regarding the foreign policy of the Soviet Union. There are impatient people who have fits of panic whenever there is any difficulty in the complicated international struggle between the socialist and capitalist systems. To such "interpreters" there is no answer in face of any imperialist onslaught. They raise suspicion regarding the policy of peaceful coexistence adopted by the Soviet Union.

We reject such "revolutionary", petty-bourgeois attitude - in whose foundation is laid the barren and adventurist revolutionarism of the Chinese leaders.

The imperialist aggression, even when conducted in this or other regions of the world, though it has not culminated yet to any direct collision with the Soviet Union, strives to achieve step by step the alteration of the international equilibrium of forces and to create better conditions for striking at the socialist camp and above all the Soviet Union. That is the fundamental aim of imperialism. Whence, the great threat for the peace of the world created by the imperialist aggression and whence our duty as well to do everything for curbing aggression and defending the independence and sovereignty of the attacked peoples. Whence the necessity for obstructing the road leading to a third world war.

The prevention of a new world war was and still is a high precept and the central duty of all progressive humanity and that of Soviet policy. The realization of the policy of peaceful coexistence and the prevention of a third world war do not imply any reconciliation with imperialist aggression, submission to blackmail or forsaking the victims of aggression to their lot. It is a policy of unrelenting struggle against imperialism, of aid to the liberated peoples to consolidate their independence, their economic and social progress and their ability to withstand aggression. Such historical struggle which grows in intensity, the rapid economic development of the Soviet Union and other socialist states are, to the detriment of imperialism, from historical point of view.

We should not forget a fundamental fact. In all the tumultuous development in the world during the last 50 years, - victory over fascism, the manifestations of the socialist system, collapse of the colonial system, intensification of the national liberation movement, the tremendous growth of the working class and the strengthening of the socialist forces therein - the driving and guiding force was and remains the Soviet Union.

Since the appearance of the Soviet Union on the stage of history there is no other factor which can exert its influence on human development more than the Soviet Union. Every additional year in which there is success in frustrating the plots of the imperialists to force on the human society a new world war brings in its wake additional

economic and scientific development in the Soviet Union and enlarges its industrial, technical and military power. Every such year adds force to people to withstand all sorts of imperialist aggression, enhances the social changes in different regions of the world. Every such year enriches the historical content of our epoch - the transition from capitalism to socialism.

The struggles for building socialism and communism and for the sake of national liberation and economic independence are complicated processes connected one with the other. The policy of the great socialist camp and of the forces of peace are the main factor for thwarting imperialist machinations. But not all the decisions, especially regarding questions of war and peace are solely dependent on the will of the socialist countries. Owing to this very reason it is imperative to fight for preventing a third world war.

STRENGTHENING OF THE SOVIET UNION - GUARANTEE FOR PEACE

There are people who maintain that as a result of their aggression the imperialists may be able to create such strategic situation which may be decisive for their benefit when they shall determine to force on humanity a new world war. We have certain words to say on that point:

A) Whatever threats may aggression bring in its wake, in consequence of the attitude of the Soviet Union and all the socialist camp, aggression does not pay. In Vietnam it certainly does not pay. Notwithstanding the devastation and victims which it brought to the Middle East, the imperialist forces did not succeed to overthrow the progressive systems in Egypt and Syria. In the meantime certain factors are beginning to act in the region and throughout the world which will wholly annul any profit of aggression.

B) The very thought that imperialists are capable of creating an easy strategic situation for themselves - is not correct. The Soviet Union is doing everything in her power to prevent any new war. But if, non the less the imperialists will succeed to enforce a new world war, their defeat will be inevitable, whatever are the victims and destruction. The lot of military contest between the socialist and capitalist systems was already decided during the second world war - when the Soviet Union defeated the great war machine of Hitler.

Every additional year in which we succeed to prevent world military contest is an additional year of strengthening of the industry and the defence of the Soviet Union. This matter will strengthen in its turn the real prospect for the prevention of war and ensures that in case a world conflagration, the number of victims and the range of destruction will be less.

What do the results of the economic development in the last years prove? Whilst the average of the yearly industrial growth in the world as a whole was 7.3 per cent, in the developed capitalist countries it was 5.4 per cent and in the socialist world it was 11.3 per cent (among which 10.5 per cent in the Soviet Union). The comparison between the development of the Soviet Union and that of the United States emphasizes the advantages of peaceful years for socialism.

The development of the United States and the Soviet Union in the years 1950 - 1966

1950=100

<u>1966</u>		<u>average yearly percentage</u>
<u>National Income:</u>		
United States	177	3.6
Soviet Union	391	8.9
<u>Industrial production</u>		
United States	209	4.7
Soviet Union	497	10.5
<u>Agricultural production</u>		
United States	131	1.7
Soviet Union	201	4.7
<u>Labour productivity</u>		
United States	190	4.1
Soviet Union	262	6.2

The rapid pace of growth in the Soviet Union will be continued in future too. In accordance with the five year plan 1966-1970 the industrial production will grow in the Soviet Union by 53 per cent and the agricultural production by 25 per cent. Every year the Soviet Union is reducing the gap between it and the United States. If in 1913 the Czarist Russia produced only 12.5 per cent of the general production of the United States, today the production in the Soviet Union reaches 65 per cent of that of the United States. In the steel production, for instance, the Soviet Union has already reached 78 per cent of the production of the United

States. In different productive sectors the Soviet Union is even above the level of the United States.

The Soviet Union holds today the first place in the world in the sector of education and the training of experts of technicians.

The high educational institutes in the Soviet Union are attended by 4 million students. This number exceeds 3.5 times the number of students in the Universities of England, France, Western Germany and Italy together.

The industrial, technical and cultural progress of the Soviet Union is the main factor influencing the development of the human society. The guarantee for the continuation of this dynamic development of the Soviet Union is, then, a decisive matter for the future of peace, for the future of contest between the two world systems, the socialist and capitalist.

It should never be forgotten, when analysing the international situation, this main thing: The October Revolution has fixed the trend of development of our epoch - to the victory of socialism the world over.

DELEGATIONS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF ISRAEL
TO THE CELEBRATION OF THE 50th ANNIVERSARY

A delegation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel, composed of comrade Meir VILNER, Secretary, Political Bureau, and comrade Tawfiq TOUBI, Secretary, Secretariat of the C.C., attended, on invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

The delegation delivered the fraternal greetings of our Party to the glorious Party of Lenin (text of greetings identical with the resolution No.2 of the 18th plenary meeting of the CC, appearing in this issue of the Information Bulletin.).

Comrade Wolf EHRlich, editor-in-chief of the organ of the CC, ZO HADEREKH, attended the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the Great Socialist October Revolution at the invitation of the editorial board of PRAVDA.

In the framework of the October celebrations in the USSR, several symposiums and conventions on different themes were held.

Comrade Emile HABIBI, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Israel, and Yoseph ALGAZI, secretary of the editorial staff of ZO HADEREKH, participated at the symposium on the October Revolution and the National Liberation Movements of Asia, Africa and Latin-America, which took place in Baku, USSR, on September 19th-22nd.

A delegation of the CC, composed of comrades Pnina FEINHAUS, member of the CC, and Souheil NASSAR, member of the District Control Commission in Nazareth, attended, as guests of the All-Soviet Peace Council, the festive meeting of this Council in honour of the 50th anniversary of Lenin's "Decret on Peace", which took place at the Smolny in Leningrad, on October 25th-26th.

A delegation of the C.C, composed of the comrades Abraham LEVENBRAUN and Jamal MOUSSA, both members of the CC, attended the symposium on problems of the October Revolution and the international working-class movement, which took place in Leningrad.

CONGRESS OF THE YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF ISRAEL

IN APRIL 1968

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On Friday and Saturday, 29-30.9.1967, the Central Committee of the Young Communist League of Israel convened with presence of comrade David HENIN, member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel.

Comrade Benjamin GONEN, General Secretary of the YCL of Israel reported on the political situation and the tasks of the YCLI at this fateful hour for the people and youth of Israel.

Comrade Ghassan HABIB, member of the Secretariat of the YCLI, reported on the activities of the YCLI's delegation at the Convention of World Youth, which took place in Leningrad in honour of the 50th anniversary of the Great Socialist October Revolution.

In his report, comrade Gonen spoke of the causes of the recent war in the Middle East, denouncing the imperialist intrigues which aim at stopping the progress of the peoples towards national independence and social progress, guarding the imperialist positions, and continuing the exploitation of the peoples in this region. He strongly denounced the Israeli Government for its participation in the imperialist plans.

Comrade Gonen reported on the YCLI's activities during recent months. He expressed satisfaction at the firm stand of the YCLI-members, side by side with the Communist Party, in the struggle against the War and for the elimination of its consequences. He also pointed out several weaknesses in the League's activities, which must be overcome in order to advance the tasks of the Young Communist League of Israel.

Comrade Gonen proposed a plan of activity for the next 6 months, based on:

- 1) Strengthening political activity among the youth;
- 2) Mobilization of the youth for the defence of its rights, full employment and an improved standard of living;
- 3) Strengthening the political-ideological education in the ranks of the League;
- 4) Expansion of the League's ranks;

5) Strengthening the Young Pioneer-Movement.

IN THE NAME OF THE SECRETARIAT, COMRADE GONEN PROPOSED TO CONVENE THE IXTH NATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF ISRAEL IN APRIL 1968.

After a full debate the following resolutions were adopted:

Endorsement of the Secretariat's report and of the resolution to convene the IXth National Congress of the YCL of Israel in April 1968;

On the necessity to eliminate the consequences of the recent aggression and to withdraw the armed forces of Israel from all occupied territories in order to create conditions for talks towards a just peace;

Heartiest greetings to the Youth of the USSR on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the October Revolution;

Demand for the immediate release of MIKIS THEODORAKIS and all other political prisoners in Greece;

Protest against the American aggression against the people of Vietnam, and greetings of solidarity to the heroic people and youth of Vietnam;

Call to the youth of Israel not to follow the wave of anti-Arab chauvinism and to prevent provocative acts of terror against the Arab population in this country, such as were recently committed in the Yemenite quarter of Tel-Aviv and against Arab workers and passers-by in Nethania.

EMILE HABIBI AT THE OPENING SESSION OF THE KNESSET:

"JEW AND ARABS HAVE SPILLED ENOUGH BLOOD -

LET THERE BE PEACE!"

ESHKOL: GOVERNMENT OFFICES WILL BE MOVED TO

EASTERN JERUSALEM

The former armistice lines were military fronts and do not bind us politically; the armistice agreements are dead and do not exist any longer; there is no other possibility but to come to an agreement on permanent borders by direct negotiations; we shall never agree to return to the pre-war situation; the Arab countries have to solve the refugee problem; we shall remain in the positions held now until a peace settlement is reached; we never shall agree to any negotiator, but only to direct peace talks with the Arabs; all Government offices, still in Tel-Aviv or in temporary quarters in Western Jerusalem, will soon be moved to permanent quarters in Eastern (occupied) Jerusalem - these were the main points of Prime Minister Levy ESHKOL's opening speech at the Winter Session of the Knesset (Parliament) on 30.10.1967.

In the following discussion the head of the Foreign and Security Committee of the Knesset David HACOEN, explained the real meaning of the Government's position in the following words:- "For 20 years we held on to positions gained in 1948, which were never agreed on; we shall hold on for another 20 years to the positions now gained, agreement or not. Meanwhile the State of Israel will be 40 years old."

EXPERTS FROM THE SPEECH OF COMRADE EMILE HABIBI M.K.

"Five months have passed since the opening of the War on June, 5th, and now the Government has to admit that the War has not solved the basic problems of our country, but, on the contrary, has rendered them even more severe. The Prime Minister had to state before the delegation of the "United Jewish Appeal" (the financial raising organisation abroad - transl.): "I am not sure whether the War is behind us or also before us."

"Honourable Member of the Knesset! I do not want to remind you of past promises to the people, given by the Government and its speakers, that the policy of force and territor-

ial conquest will lead to peace with the Arab peoples, which is longed for by the people of Israel. I am sure that the time will come when the people will pass judgment on their rulers who lead them astray. We, the Communists, have always opposed, including the time before this war, the policy of force and military decisions directed against the rights of the other people living in this country. We always saw in this an adventurous policy which pushes peace off into a far distance, deepens enmity and can never solve a single one of the basic problems of Israel."

"The people of Israel are not aggressive, they do not want to oppress another people. They want to live in peace and security in their state and country. But their rulers lead them astray, just as in 1956. They tell the people that the policy of force and expansion will lead to peace and security. And look now; the same rulers have now to admit, though indirectly, that this was an adventure which did not bring security to the people.

"Today I want to speak of the future: Where does this lead to? To peace or to the reopening of hostilities? Enormous efforts are now being made in the UNO to find a political solution of the present crisis, a settlement which will prevent renewal of the war, promising two basic necessities: Withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the territories occupied during the June-war and a just peace settlement of the Israeli-Arab conflict.

"We do not close our eyes to the fact that there are powerful factors in this international organization, that endeavour to bring to fall such a political solution. These powers are headed by the Government of the USA, which is known throughout the world as waging war on the heroic people of Vietnam and destroying towns and villages in Northern Vietnam, not for the sake of the freedom and well-being of the South Vietnamese people, as falsely announced, but for the sake of the global war strategy of American imperialism. I am sure that the people of Israel will yet come to know that those whose hands are stained by the blood of the Vietnamese people, never really care for the future, well-being and security of the Israeli people. They speak of peace in the Middle East, as they speak of peace in Southern Asia. Not for the sake of the future of the State of Israel they encourage territorial conquest; they want to press for a reopening of the war, hoping that through the blood and endurance

of both Jews and Arabs, they will succeed to achieve those political aims which the recent war did not achieve, namely the overthrow of the anti-imperialist regimes in the Arab countries and return of the sole rulership of imperialism in our old and renascent Middle East. They are trying here, in our homeland, to kindle the fire of a second Vietnam war.

"We, the Communists, who have opposed this war and supported its cessation from the very beginning, are encouraging with all our might the attempts at finding a political solution of the crisis, and we are against any declaration or armed war action, revanchist calls and repressive acts, from whichever side they come; we call upon the Government, and all responsible forces in Israel to refrain from any action or declaration which may make a political settlement of the crisis more difficult or even impossible."

Emile Habibi then pointed to the voices of common sense and the strengthening of the peace forces in the Arab countries, continuing:-

"We are certain that an official Israeli declaration of the readiness to withdraw from the occupied territories and to seek a just settlement of the Israeli-Arab conflict will bring about a radical change of atmosphere and readiness on the Arab side to arrive at a just and permanent settlement of the conflict in a peaceful manner, taking into account the rights, security and future of Israel, along with the rights of the Arab states and the just national rights of the Arab people of Palestine."

In continuation of his speech, E. Habibi stressed the fact that the Arab peoples denounce chauvinistic, unjust and unrealistic slogans such as had been voiced formerly. He quoted from the declaration of the Communist Party of Jordan, which calls for a just settlement of the crisis by peaceful political means and is opposed to terrorist activity.

"The prospect of a political and just settlement by peaceful means is realistic and sound" - said E. Habibi - "but at the same time the danger of a renewal of the war is growing. The tragic incidents such as the sinking the Israeli destroyer "Eylat" and the destruction of the raffineries at Suez, the costly loss of the lives of young people, both Jews and Arabs, confront the people of Israel and the Arab peoples with the grave danger of a continuation of the present situation and a renewal of bloodshed.

"In this situation it is easy to inflame chauvinistic passions and call for revanchist acts, but where does this lead to? The Minister of Defense hinted at the possibility of intervention by the great powers in case of an outbreak of new hostilities in the Suez Canal zone. Is it not clear that a renewal of hostilities may well endanger world peace and turn this region into a second Vietnam with all its victims and destruction?

"People who seriously desire peace, well-being and security for Israel have to do all in their power to support the efforts made at UNO to arrive at a political settlement of the crisis. But those who wish to accomplish the aims of the imperialists, which the recent war did not achieve, i.e. the overthrow of the anti-imperialist regimes in the Arab countries, presses forward to a renewal of hostilities. I am certain that the people of Israel long for peace and will not consent that their fate is endangered for the sake of the aggressive aims of imperialism in the Middle East.

"From this rostrum we call on the responsible circles in Israel to stop the mad rivalry of dangerous chauvinism, of who is more nationalist-minded, who is more in favour of what is called "the complete homeland" and who is more for annexing the occupied territories, etc. It would be most tragical if this dirty chauvinist atmosphere, after being uprooted from their midst by the Arab peoples, should reign in Israel and overshadow any clear thinking. The hand which stuck a knife in our Comrade, Member of Knesset, Meir Vilner's back, was induced by this atmosphere and is a threat to anyone who opposes, or will in future oppose, the adventurous path of warfare and territorial conquest."

E. Habibi reminded the Knesset of the outcome of the Suez crisis in 1956 and said that those who started the war on June 5th erred in their estimate that the relation of forces in the world had changed for the benefit of imperialism and its policy of force. The contrary is true; and the June war has again proved that imperialism has no longer the power to turn back the wheel of history.

E. Habibi then went on to say: "In these days we, together with all progressive mankind, celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, the founding of the first socialist state in the world, the Soviet Union. The exploitators and people's oppressors then

tried to strangle this revolution hostile to them; but they failed. The October Revolution changed the world. In our epoch the working class, the banner-bearer of socialism, stands in the centre of development. Capitalism is no longer the sole and universal ruler. Imperialism has ceased to be the absolute power.

"Adventurous politicians merely close their eyes to the existence of the Soviet Union, slander her and do not listen to her advice. The Socialist October State is the truest friends of all peoples, including the peoples of Israel and of the Arab countries. During the recent crisis, too, after the breaking off of diplomatic relations, the head of the Soviet Government, Alexei Kossygin, again stated on June 19th, at the UNO-Assembly:

"During the 50 years of existence of the Soviet Union she has honoured every nation, great or small. Every nation has the right to establish its own national and independent state. This is one of the main principles in the Soviet Union's policy. This is what directed our standpoint towards Israel as a state, when, in 1947, we supported the resolutions of the United Nations to establish two independent states, a Jewish one and an Arab one, on the territory of Palestine, which then was a British colony. In accordance with these principles, the Soviet Union established diplomatic relations with Israel."

"Honourable Knesset, the friendship with the Soviet Union is a necessity for Israel. An official Israeli policy which will consent to a just political settlement of the present crisis and the Israeli-Arab conflict, will win the friendship and support of the great socialist power. This serves the true interests of Israel and will lead her out of the isolation in the Middle East and the world.

"Our opinion is that Jews and Arabs have already spilled enough blood and are longing for peace, freedom, security and a calm life. Peace has to come! There are realistic prospects for attaining peace. The peoples will never pardon those who will cause the loss of this historic chance."

THE ECONOMIC DEPRESSION

Excerpts of an article by Tamar GUSHANSKI
(ZO HADEREKH - 2.10.1967)

In an interview with economic correspondents in Jerusalem, the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Zeev SHARF, declared not long ago: "We are at the beginning of the end of the economic regression but we cannot foresee how much time this regression will take." (HA'ARETZ, 20.9.67) It was the first explicit declaration uttered by the acting Minister of Finance on a change in the economic policy of the Government from a policy of moderation to a policy of economic stimulation.

REGRESSION

When in 1965 the first signs of the economic depression were obvious (decline in investments and rise in unemployment), the Government adopted a policy of acceleration of the crisis. This so-called deflationary policy is accepted in capitalist countries because acceleration of the crisis forces the economy to eliminate the crisis in a shorter time and thus come to a speedier recovery. The acceleration of the crisis by means of reducing state investments, tightening the yoke of taxes, and freezing of wages enables the Government even in a capitalist country, to prevent the collapse of the economy as a whole, in consequence of the crisis and even to exploit the latter for its own benefit. Thus, the Government of Israel, used the economic crisis in order to reduce the trade deficit. Different incentives were given to export, which was thereby increased somewhat, whilst imports decreased greatly owing to the reduction in the import of equipment and machinery. The state policy of accelerating the crisis, which was nicknamed "moderation", made the year 1966 the culminating point in the economic crisis.

In the same year the investments declined approximately by half in comparison with 1965, whilst the number of unemployed rose to one hundred thousand (Had the Government applied a different policy, the economic crisis would also have been broken, but possibly, at a later period.)

When in December 1966, the budget for the year 1967/68 was presented to parliament, it was evident that the Government had decided to adopt an anti-deflationary policy - namely

to adopt measures which might help the economy to overcome the economic crisis. Thus the Minister of Finance, SAPIR, declared "we do not maintain that this budget is a regression from moderation" but he admitted in a subsequent sentence that the Government were worried that the economy might become paralysed as a result of the moderation.

Among the steps on which the Government then decided was an amendment to the law of stimulating capital investment, stipulating that capitalists need invest only 20% of the cost of investment whilst the other 80% would be in the form of grants and loans from the state treasury. Moreover, the Government decided to put into operation on a broader scale construction works, road building and other public works which would in a certain measure alleviate unemployment..

THE BEGINNING OF DEPRESSION

What was the background of this change in the economic policy of the Government? Now seven months after the discussions in the Knesset on the 1967/68 budget, and five months after the enforcement of the budget, the background has become more evident. The change in the policy of the Government was due to the transition of the Israeli economy from crisis to depression on the one hand and from military preparation to the war of 5th of June on the other hand.

THE EFFECT OF WAR

No doubt, when the present budget (1967/68) was prepared the Government ministers had already knowledge about the war schemes though had not yet fixed the date of war. These schemes induced the economic leadership of the country even more to look for means to increase the military strength of Israel on the one hand and improve its economic situation on the other hand.

When the present budget was presented to the Knesset, it was evident that it was an inflationary budget, namely a budget which would be partly financed not by real income but by the issue of additional banknotes. Owing to the war, the military expenditure greatly increased the economic depression rendered it impossible to anticipate a pronounced increase in income. Hence the Government undertook to finance the deficit resulting from its expenditure. In addition, the capital flow to the country also increased either through grants and loans from imperialist powers or donations and the issue of bonds from the United Jewish Appeal and similar bodies.

But until last month¹ owing to the war and its after effects, the State financing of the deficit and the flow of capital into the country were not accompanied by symptoms of recovery of the economy.

During the period of preparation for war and the actual war, workers' incomes dropped markedly. Those who were enlisted did not receive their full wages or incomes, and those who continued to work ceased to receive bonuses or payment for additional hours of work. Immediately after the war, a Defence Loan was imposed on the wage earners, at a rate of half their monthly salary which, though declared as voluntary was in fact an additional tax.

As a result of the drop in workers' income, consumption did not increase (except of fruit and vegetables the prices of which did not rise this year), but this did not halt the development of depression towards a decrease in the stock in trade.

Another reason which caused continuation in the drop in the purchases of industrial products was a incertainty in the future owing to the continuation of tension even after the war.

If even after the war the number of employed in war industry and the investments in military and semi-military objectives increased (roads, arms-industry and airfields) it may be concluded that the war not only failed to extricate the Israeli economy from economic depression but even curbed the development of the depression towards economic animation and awakening.

As regards the long range effects of the war, the Israeli economy and Israeli workers will continue to feel the influence of the war for many years.

It is well known that when war is over recovery of economy emerges to the fore - owing to the need to overcome the backwardness in the manufacture of civil needs and owing to rehabilitate what was devastated. But in Israel, just after the end of battles we did not witness such development because the Israeli economy did not move to peaceful footing.

The War of the 5th June was over but was not finished, Now when large areas of the neighbouring countries are occupied by Israel, when the expenditure of the state administra-

tion in such areas increased, when the armament process continues in a rapid pace, it may be said that from economic point of view war continues. Even Z. Sharf admitted in the Knesset in 11.9, that the occupied areas are an additional yoke on the Israeli economy.

It is therefore imperative to take into consideration the huge military expenditure for war preparation and its conduction.

What was the price of the Six-Days-War. Up till now no appraisal of the "cost" of the war was published. Minister Sapir said that the war cost was many hundreds of million dollars(*). Minister Sharf said in the Knesset that 50 million Israeli Liras allotted for Defence needs in the scope of the additional budget are a part of an account and not a final one and not even the beginning of its end.

DISCHARGE OF THE ACCOUNT

Everybody admits that even in normal days the defence budget is like a grindstone on the neck of the Israeli economy. Not long ago the report of the Institute for Strategic Teaching in London stated that the meight of military expenditure in Israel in the national income is one of the greatest in the world. Even in official Israeli statements the same admission may be found.

During deliberation in the Knesset on December 1966, the Minister of Finance said that "the continuous diligence on the defence of the state is a costly yoke which almost always collides with economic considerations and changes them." The Minister of Commerce and Industry said in the Knesset on 11.9 this year that "the preparation for war and war itself did cost huge sums of Israeli Pounds and Dollars and we shall be obliged to discharge the old accounts for a long time" and

(* The last crisis did cost Israel many hundred thousands of dollars, declared P. Sapir, Minister of Finance, in a speech before five hundreds Jewish capitalists in New York. The Jewish capitalists held a conference devoted to the cause of purchasing Israeli bonds. On that occasion it was stated that from the beginning of the year bonds amounting to 171 million dollars were purchased in the United States and Canada. Whilst Sapir called to millionaires to donate for Israel, the American International Bank had already decided to grant to the Bank of Industrial Development in Israel a loan of 15 million dollar.

added "the needs of defence did not decrease after the victory".

Such admissions do only corroborate the assumption that the expenditure of the aggressive war of 5th June will be reflected for a long time to come in the economic life of Israel.

The need for dischargeing the "account" of war and military expenditure which did not lesson after the end of war is reflected in the economic policy by the Government today.

GOVERNMENT STIMULATIONS

It may be inferred from the last declarations of Z. Sharf who is acting now in the name of the Minister of Finance that the Government will continue to adopt inflationary policy of causing money to flow to the economic administration in order to stir its wheels.

In the additional budget presented to the Knesset for first reading on 11.9 was included a sum of 472 million Israeli Pounds for financing the deficit and only IL 50 million on account of the rise of incomes due to Defence Loan.

Such deficit is in addition to the deficit included already in the original budget of the year 1967/68.

In his speech before journalists in Jerusalem on 19.9 this year Z. Sharf admitted that the policy of deficit finances did not lead to strengthening of economic activity (on the causes thereof see above) and stated, moreover, that the Government will continue this policy. According to Z. Sharf the Government stimulations shall be expressed by the following means:

- Lowering of the interest rate;
- Cancellation of Dollar linked loans granted to investors;
- Establishment of a company for financing investments in industry which shall be in practice a company for "nationalization" of debts of industrial enterprises;
- Cancellation of Immigrants-Absorption-Loan from the beginning of the coming budget year;
- Lowering of taxes on durable products in order to increase the demand therefor.

EFFECT OF GOVERNMENT STEPS

By policy of deficit and the steps for increasing the demand of articles and investments which shall lead in their turn to the decrease of unemployment the Government strives to achieve some purposes:

- a) To finance the war expenditures and the armament race;
- b) To stir the wheels of economy in order to ensure income from excise and income taxes, which may secure an additional source for financing the the defence expenditures;
- c) To create a calm atmosphere for investments for the coming millionaires conference in April 1968;
- d) To start in the amelioration of the economic situation for the election of 1969.

Such steps of the Government might entail in the short range to the development of the depression to an economic awakening and animation, but in the long range they will aggravate only the illness of the economy. The large military expenditures, development of the armament industry, finance of deficit - all that will undermine the economic base and lead our country to tighter dependence on foreign capital.

The tighter dependence on international capital has farreaching effects on the economy and regime in Israel. Even the leaders of "Ma'arakh" (the government's central party - transl.) understand this. As regards the millionaires conference held not long ago in Jerusalem, two articles by Ma'arakh leaders appeared, which contained warnings as to the growing interference of foreign capital in the economic life of Israel. Y. wrote in "Davar" of 13.9 on the statements of the millionaires that their advices are the sort of advices such millionaires give to their governments too. Such advices are characteristic of capitalists of a certain class colouring who are the protagonists of free initiative.

In these days wrote Abraham Ered in "Hapoel Hatzair" No. 52, on the "aid" of the foreign capitalists: "But if such aid is conditioned for the Israeli citizens, and what kind of social regime they have to adopt and what aconomic plan they have to choose by outside dictate, I presume, that we shall not agree to that" (the "but" is unquestionably, that of Ered. In fact this "aid" is always accompanied by dictate).

Without denying any possibility of a certain alleviation on a short range, of the economic crisis it may be stated that as long as the official policy based on armament race, dependence on foreign capital and finance policy of deficit, the Israeli economy will never be extricated from the labyrinth of its fundamental problems.

CELEBRATIONS OF THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE
GREAT SOCIALIST OCTOBER REVOLUTION
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More than 30 festive public meetings and celebrations were held in different towns of Israel, organized by the Communist Party of Israel. All these meetings and celebrations were well-attended, most of them much more than foreseen by their organizers.

ACTIONS OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE HEROIC PEOPLE OF
VIETNAM
=====

At the 21st of October, the world-wide day of solidarity with the heroic people of Vietnam, a demonstration, organized by the Young Communist League of Israel was held before the building of the United States' Embassy in Tel-Aviv. Banner-bearers with banners, protesting against US intervention in Vietnam, stood for a long hour before the building. Many of the passersby in the Yarkon Street, where the Embassy is situated, expressed their solidarity with the people of Vietnam and their horror against the US interventionists' atrocities.

Well-attended protest meetings against US intervention in Vietnam and the barbarious bombing of towns and villages in the DRV were held in Tel-Aviv, Haifa, Nazareth and other towns.

On October 21st, a special meeting of the Israeli Council for Peace, under the chairmanship of Y. MAYUS, with actions of solidarity with the heroic Vietnamese people at its agenda, took place in Tel-Aviv. The meeting was addressed by representatives of all parties, participating in the Council for Peace, among them representatives of Government-parties, such as MAPAM and Ahduth-Ha'avoda. In the name of the Communist Party of Israel, comrades Wold EHRlich and Ruth LUBITZ took the floor.

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