ALBANIAN ECONOMIC DELEGATION VISITS CHINA

An important Albanian economic delegation arrived in Peking June 16th, and was met by Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien and a group of high ranking officials in foreign trade, foreign affairs, state planning, etc.

The Albanian delegation was led by Adil Carcani, a member of the Political Bureau of the Party of Labor and First Vice-Premier, and Petro Dode, a Vice-Premier and Chairman of the State Planning Commission. Also part of the delegation were Rahman Hanku, Minister of Construction; Behar Shtylla, Albania's Ambassador in Peking; and Theohar Fundo, trade advisor of the Albanian Embassy.

After a warm reception at the Peking airport, the delegation was taken to meet with Premier Chou En-lai at a hospital, where they had an "important conversation."

The following day the delegation held business talks with Chinese officials headed by Li Hsien-nien. That evening a banquet was given by Li Hsien-nien in honor of the Albanian delegation. Attending the banquet were other important Party and State leaders, including Yao Wen-yuan, Wu Kuei-hsien, and Wang Chen.

LI HSIEN-NIEN'S REMARKS

Speaking at the banquet, Li Hsien-nien praised the Albanian people for their brilliant achievements in socialist revolution and socialist construction under the correct leadership of Enver Hoxha and the Party of Labor. He said (in part):

A thriving revolutionary atmosphere prevails throughout your land. Over the past few years you have launched the movement for socialist revolutionization, and taken measures to simplify administration and transfer cadres to lower levels, which will give a powerful impetus to your development.

You have actively supported revolutionary struggles around the world, firmly combatting the aggression and hegemonism of the two super-powers. In particular, you have waged a tit-for-tat struggle against the economic blockade, political blackmail, military pressure and subversion and sabotage by Soviet social-imperialism.

PREPARE VS. WAR

The Chinese people, under the correct leadership of Chairman Mao, have won enormous victories in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, and have smashed the two bourgeois headquarters of Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao. The Chinese people follow the principle of independence, self-reliance, hard struggle, diligence and frugality in building the country, and we are striving to grasp revolution, promote production and other work, and preparedness against war.

We are confidently fighting to realise the strategic task put forward by Premier Chou En-lai at the 4th National People's Congress, i.e. to accomplish the comprehensive modernization of agriculture, industry, national defense and science and technology before the end of the century, so that our national economy will be advancing in the front ranks of the world.

The current international situation is characterized by great turmoil and chaos. The danger of a new world war is growing. Imperialism is the source of war. We must heighten our vigilance and get prepared.

Our two parties, two states, and two peoples of China and Albania will always remain united, fight shoulder to shoulder, and be victorious together.

ADIL CARCANI'S REMARKS

In his speech in reply, Adil Carcani made the following remarks (in part):

The people of the world consider People's China to be the firm and powerful supporter of their struggles for national and social emancipation, progress and prosperity, against imperialism, social-imperialism, hegemonism, neo-colonialism and reaction.

The friendship between the Albanian and Chinese people is unbreakable and eternal. We rejoice at the great victories achieved by the Chinese people.

Immediately after we landed on your soil today, we were received by Comrade Chou En-lai, with whom we had a most important conversation which is unforgetable for us. This is another demonstration of the very close relations between us.

The two imperialist super-powers—the U.S. and the Soviet Union—are the biggest and most vicious enemies of mankind. They are suffering serious defeats, and are desperately fighting for their lives. We are proud to be fighting in the same trenches as the Chinese people.

INTERNAL CLASS STRUGGLE

Our frienship brings joy to our friends, and fear to those who tried to break up this friendship. The Albanian people are working hard to carry out fully the tasks of the 5th Five-Year Plan, and to prepare for the 6th plan which will start next year.

Our Party is leading an acute class struggle nationally and internationally against the pressure, blackmail and conspiracies of the enemies both at home and abroad. We are also carrying out struggle against bureaucracy, which is part of the class struggle against manifestations of bourgeois-revisionism, to strengthen Marxist-Leninist education of the working people, and to further consolidate the dictatorship of the proletariat.

(From the nature and timing of the delegation, it would appear that the purpose of the visit is to map out new projects to be built in Albania with the assistance of China during the coming (6th) 5-Year Plan, 1976-1980.) □

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will never be intimated by threats, blackmail, and force. They will defend and consolidate their victories, and rebuild their country with the same spirit of patriotism and revolutionary persistence.

After their shameful defeats, Ford and Kissinger wanted to give courage to the other satellites of U.S. imperialism who are quite nervous and worried. But they have mis-calculated. These bandit-like acts show that U.S. imperialism cannot live without aggression. These acts are not a sign of strength, but of their weakness. □

SHORT ITEMS OF INTEREST

** Silk worm cultivation is developing in over half the districts of Albania. In Shkodra, Elbasan, Mat, Berat, Gjirokastra special groves of mulberry and oak trees have been grown for production of silk cocoons. There is a silk factory in Shkorda.

** Over 46,500 new savings bank accounts have been opened up in 1974, and the amount of savings on deposit is now four times as much as 1960. This is true of farm workers as well as city workers.

** The University and other Institutes graduated this year 1,843 new cadres, who are ready to take their jobs in the work force. They include 296 doctors, 252 engineers, 352 agronomists and other agricultural experts, as well as many working in the cultural field.

** At the end of 1974 the population of Albania was estimated at 2,377,600. The natural growth rate for the year was 2.34%, one of the highest rates in Europe.

** Radioactive isotopes are now being used widely in Albania as a result of research work at the Institute of Nuclear Physics. Radiation is used in the production of special seed strains, vaccines, fertilizers, and as tracers in hydrological work, underground water and sea bed studies, etc.

** Since mid-June work has been under way on a draft of the economic plan for 1976. Workers and farmers throughout the country have already begun to discuss their ideas for next year.

** The 7th Plenum of the Central Committee of the Albanian Party of Labor took place May 26 to 29, under the chairmanship of Enver Hoxha, First Secretary. The main report was delivered by Haki Toska on the further strengthening of the economy.

** Ismail Kadare and Llazar Siliqi, well-known Albanian writers, visited Sweden during May and were invited to speak at many meetings organized in several cities by the Sweden-Albania Friendship Association and by the "October" Bookshops.

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