

USSR

X RUSS - KHRUSHCHEV'S DEFENSE OF CPSU PROGRAMME

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Research and Evaluation will extract the more important passages from speeches at the current Soviet Plenum on agriculture as speech material becomes available in the CNR.

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In the opening speech at the plenum, Nikita Khrushchev began with a defense of the new CPSU program with its emphasis on building a strong material-technical base for Communism. Taking an indirect slap at the Chinese CP, he attacked "enemies of scientific Communism" who opposed the Soviet stress on the production of material wealth for the people. He asserted that the development of production forces of the "entire system" is the main obstacle to "imperialist aggression" and that "we are proceeding on a Leninist course, and this course is supported by the world Communism movement and all progressive mankind".

Following are passages from Khrushchev's defense of the new CPSU program:

Among numerous foreign comments on the new CPSU program is that which doubts whether the program is correct in placing special stress on production of material wealth for the people. Individual critics of our Party program attempt to depict Soviet Communists almost as people who are inclined to depict Communism as a table groaning under tasty dishes.

Such reproaches addressed to Communists and Marxist-Leninists are not new. Occupying idealist positions, the enemies of scientific Communism have always attempted to ridicule and slander the sober approach of Marxist-Leninists to the urgent needs of the people - to the satisfaction of their material needs.

Our enemies have been and are attempting to portray the solicitude of Communists for the peoples well-being in a vulgar and most distorted form. Marxist-Leninists have always exposed and waged a resolute struggle against such attacks on Communism.

Why is our Party linking the building of Communism with achievement of an abundance of material and cultural wealth? Are we not lowering the role of Communist awareness as a cup of abundance accessible to all wherein they will be able completely to satisfy their material and spiritual requirements? For us -- for all Marxist-Leninists -- (it?) means the complete social equality of all members of society, high awareness, the abundance of material and spiritual wealth, and a happy and secure life for all working people. The preaching of equality in the spirit of the first Christian communities with their low standard of living and asceticism is alien to scientific Communism. Communism cannot be depicted as a table laid with empty plates and occupied by highly conscious and completely equal people. To

invite people to such Communism is tantamount to inviting people to eat soup with a fork. This would be a caricature of Communism...

Marx and Engels said: "People who develop their material production and material relations also change with their thinking and the products of their thinking with this reality. It is not consciousness that determines life but life that determines consciousness." (Works, Vol.III, page 25)...

It is precisely due to the gigantic development of production forces of the Soviet Union and the entire socialist system that contemporary imperialism is forced to take account of the worldwide socialist camp and the real might of socialism. As the entire worldwide progressive community universally admits, this might of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries constitutes the main obstacle in the way of the unleashing of imperialist aggression - to the unleashing of another world war. Slogans alone are not enough for a successful struggle against imperialism. One must also have actual possibilities of waging this struggle victoriously. Among these possibilities, the material forces of construction of Communism in our country are tantamount to fulfillment of our international duty to all revolutionary forces of the world. We are proceeding on the Leninist course, and this course is supported by the world Communism movement and all progressive mankind...

I should also like to again stress the exceptional importance of the Leninist principle of material incentives for the cause of Communist construction. It would be fundamentally wrong to see a certain "concession" to bourgeois ideology in this principle. This principle of socialism has nothing in common with the capitalist race for profits. There is an abyss between socialist distribution according to work and the bourgeois cult of the "golden calf" and between the capitalist race for profits and the socialist principle of higher pay for more effective work. It is also completely erroneous to oppose material stimuli to moral ones and material incentives to ideological-educational work. V.I.Lenin taught that one can build socialism and bring millions of people to Communism "not directly as a result of enthusiasm but by means of enthusiasm born of the great revolution, personal interest, personal incentives, profit and loss consideration..." (Tass ellipsis) (Works, Vol. 33, page 36)...

Enthusiasm must be combined with the Leninist principle of the material interest of the mass of workers in the development of society's productive forces and must be based on it.

From this it follows that ideological-educational work, the development of moral stimuli and the strengthening of material stimuli and material interest are indissolubly interlinked, and that moral and material stimuli mutually consolidate each other and are directed toward the same aim. Pitting them against each other could only harm the cause.