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News BackgroundYUGOSLAV PAPER ATTACKS "GREATER BULGARIAN CHAUVINISM"-OBJECTIVITY OF RADIO MOSCOW PRAISED -

50 Munich, August 11 (Stankovic) -- The Soviet "impartial attitude" toward the Macedonian problem as compared to the "Greater Bulgarian chauvinistic falsifications" maintained by "some" of the Bulgarian Communist leaders, is stressed by the Skoplje daily "Nova Makedonija" of August 9.

Writing under the title "From The Candid Greater Bulgarian Standpoint" Hristo Andonovski repeated the old Yugoslav accusation against the "Kalaydzhievites" in Bulgaria (Hristo Kalaydzhiev, member of the BPC Central Committee) who have attempted to prove that "the Macedonians were Bulgarians" and who "have deprived the Macedonians living in Bulgaria of their nationality".

The Andonovski article appeared in connection with the Bulgarian interpretation of the Macedonian "Ilinden Uprising" (Ilinden means "St. Elijah Day" when on August 2 1903, an anti-Turkish uprising broke out in Macedonia). Both Bulgarian newspapers and Radio Sofia devoted articles and programs to the Ilinden uprising using it, as Andonovski put it, for the spreading of the "Greater Bulgarian chauvinistic theses". Said Andonovski:

"In the course of last several years in the neighboring Bulgaria all anniversaries of the birth or death of the Macedonian revolutionaries and all the significant dates of the Macedonian history have been systematically exploited in order to prove that the Macedonian people are only a section of the Bulgarian nation". Andonovski called special attention to the August 2 Radio Sofia broadcast in Macedonian by Bozhidar Bozhikov, member of the leadership of the Macedonian cultural-artistic association in Bulgaria. According to the Yugoslav publicist "Bozhikov, similar to a great number of his predecessors -- the Kalaydzhievites and others -- did nothing but only extolled the Greater Bulgarian chauvinism in connection with Macedonia".

Andonovski continued: "Similar to Encho Staikov (a Politburo member -- Ed.) Bozhikov overbid even many Bulgarian historians by openly claiming that 'the majority of the (Ilinden) rioters in Macedonia were Bulgarians'..."

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Macedonia and Victory of Socialism

However, Andonovski thinks that Bozhikov's "strangest claim" was when he stated that "the Macedonian problem will be solved in a just manner when socialism becomes victorious in the whole world, including the Balkans". Such an attitude of the Bulgarian leaders, Andonovski added, "is only aimed at camouflaging the suffocation of the Macedonian national development in Bulgaria, at ignoring the existence of the Macedonians in Bulgaria, at ignoring the apparent reality -- the existence of the Macedonian People's Republic -- which is a proof that the Macedonian problem in Yugoslavia has been correctly solved 'although socialism has not yet been victorious in the whole world...'"

Why, asked the Yugoslav publicist, "must one wait to see the victory of socialism in the whole world if the Bulgarian leader have claimed that in their country socialism has been victorious for the past 15 years? And why in the course of these 15 years has the Bulgarian Communist Party deprived the Macedonians in Bulgaria of their national rights. Even the Bulgarian monarchy had not dared openly to deprive the Macedonians in Bulgaria of the minimal rights -- to call themselves Macedonians -- as is the case now in Bulgaria..."

Radio Moscow and Radio Sofia

Andonovski quoted "Pirinsko Delo" of July 30 and "Rabotnicheskoe Delo" (no date mentioned) which demonstrated their "rapacious Greater Bulgarian aspirations" toward Macedonia. "It is a lie", the Yugoslav publicist added, "that the Bulgarian Communist Party has always maintained a correct attitude toward the national-liberation tendency of the Macedonian people and the Macedonian leaders... If the Bulgarian CP has a correct attitude, why is it now making efforts to persuade the Macedonians that they are Bulgarians? This is only an empty demagoguery because the real facts tell something quite different. It is enough to mention only the Tenth Plenary Session of the BCP Central Committee, under the leadership of Georgy Dimitrov, in August 1946 which passed a decision in connection with the solution of the Macedonian problem which is completely different from the present attitude of the Bulgarian leaders..."

In this connection Andonovski continued: "While this year the Ilinden anniversary was used once again for the falsification of the history of the Macedonian nation, it is worth noting the impartial attitude of Radio Moscow toward the Macedonian problem. In its August 2 broadcast devoted to the Ilinden Uprising, Radio Moscow stressed the national-liberation struggle of the Macedonian people in the course of World War Two together with the other Yugoslav peoples. This attitude of Radio Moscow is diametrically

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opposed to the attitude maintained by the Bulgarian leaders..."

Accusing, in the conclusion, the "chauvinist blindness of certain Bulgarian leaders and pseudo-historians", Andonovski said: "The repetition in the Bulgarian press and radio of the Greater Bulgarian attitude toward the Macedonian question is only helping the resuscitated Greater Bulgarian chauvinism which has now put on itself 'socialist' and 'internationalist' clothing."

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