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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Fejes Discusses Modifications of Penal Code

24000003 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech

17 Sep 87 p 3

[Interview With CSSR Prosecutor General Dr Jan Fejes by Karel Walter: "Providing More Certainties, Consolidating Rule of Order"]

[Text] On 2 September, the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party discussed the political-legal concepts of the measures designed to increase the effectiveness of the struggle against criminality and recommended in the spirit of those concepts to formulate appropriate legislative modifications. We discussed the objectives of the penal policy with the CSSR Procurator General, Dr Jan Fejes.

[Question] What is the task of the penal code in the current stage of the development of our society?

[Answer] First of all, it is a component of the total mechanism of management which is being fundamentally changed in connection with the strategy for accelerating socio-economic development. The penal code cannot remain apart from the new developments. After all, crime as the most serious form of illegal activity hampers, and often causes considerable disruption of, the development of society in the political, economic and cultural spheres.

[Question] Crime has been a long-standing problem. Should not ways to increase the effectiveness of the penal code have been sought before now?

[Answer] The legislative process to modify the penal code has been going on already for several years. Even though penal policy is most distinctly expressed in the penal code, it is closely linked also to other areas of the law. The current, already considerably specific formulation of the legislative modifications to fight crime are closely linked to the draft law on state enterprise, laws on agricultural and nonagricultural cooperatives, manufacturing, consumer, and residential cooperatives, and to other measures.

[Question] The connection between the penal code and the law on state enterprise, for example, is not immediately obvious to everyone....

[Answer] I can understand that. The connection is undoubtedly clearer when making a comparison with the law on the fight against alcoholism, for example. But even the law on state enterprise, by increasing the stake of the working people in the results of production, will lead to better economic management and protection of property from pilferage, etc. The draft laws that pertain

to the national economy attest to the significance of the directing and organizational role of the law in our society and at the same time its significance as a deterrent to criminal activities.

[Question] Are experiences of other countries also reflected in the modifications of the penal code?

[Answer] We take part in United Nations conferences that deal with the fight against crime, we study everything that is progressive—for example matters of punishment by imprisonment. We follow closely the deliberations on the restructuring of the penal law in the Soviet Union which is to be fundamental and we can say all-encompassing, as is the restructuring of the entire legal mechanism.

[Question] Where will the changes in our penal law have the most impact?

[Answer] Certain less dangerous antisocial acts, which until now have been dealt with by the courts, will be transferred to the jurisdiction of the national committees or to other administrative and economic agencies. These will be mostly misdemeanors, but also some felonies.

[Question] The misdemeanor law, which is to be abolished, applies among other things to enriching oneself at the expense of property in socialist as well as private ownership. Proceedings before a court of law convey a sense of seriousness. Could the planned measures lead to opposite views?

[Answer] Let us look at this question in a specific way. The dividing line between a petty offense, a misdemeanor and a felony is determined primarily by the amount of damage caused. In principle one cannot object to that. But is the dividing line that was established in 1969 (adoption of the misdemeanor law) appropriate to the current realistic value content? After all, wages, prices, etc. have changed. And the law stagnated. The new arrangement will increase in the eyes of the public the importance of the national committees and agencies active in criminal proceedings.

[Question] Most misdemeanors and some felonies then will be classified as petty offenses. But does the current method of dealing with petty offenses carry the necessary authority in our society?

[Answer] Prosecution of petty offenses will carry the full authority of the socialist rule of law. The current petty offense law (No 60/1961 Laws of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic) does not fulfill either by its wording of the factual substance of petty offenses or by the type and severity of criminal sanctions the necessary deterrent and educational function. It has to be changed fundamentally. Authority is not given merely by the fact that the illegal act is dealt with by an administrative agency or by the courts. Without doubt the severity of

the punishment has its own importance. Many a guilty citizen, who until now could be given a maximum fine of Kcs 500 for committing a petty offense, merely shrugged his shoulders.

[Question] What kind of sentence will it be possible to impose for a petty offense under the planned modifications?

[Answer] The option to waive punishment will be retained. Punishment will consist of reprimands, fines, injunctions and forfeitures. And as a safeguard appropriate restrictions with the aim of having the culprit lead the honest life of a working person will be established, as well as attachment of property.

[Question] What restrictions could those be, for example?

[Answer] Prohibition to visit taverns for those who are inclined to consume too much alcohol, similarly prohibition to attend sports events for those who are inclined to unruly behavior in the stadiums, etc. Severe punishment threatens those who defy such prohibitions.

[Question] And what will be the amount of fines for petty offenses?

[Answer] It will be strictly differentiated according to the nature and severity of the petty offense up to Kcs 1,000, but could be as high as Kcs 20,000.

[Question] Is that sufficient punishment for acts that previously could be punished even by imprisonment?

[Answer] Imprisonment is and will remain the criminal sanction in those cases where socialist society cannot do without it, where perpetrators of serious criminal acts and the protection of a successful development of society practically demand its imposition. To exclude it in those cases where this society can manage without is entirely in the spirit of socialist humanism.

[Question] Can you give us a specific example?

[Answer] Typical is the relatively frequent criminal offense of drunkenness in transportation. Hitherto, proceedings have been instituted against a driver who consumed an alcoholic beverage prior or during his trip, drove a motor vehicle, and whose blood contained alcohol in the amount of about one per thousand. Experts in the health care field are calling for a stricter look at the driver under the influence of alcohol, and they have their reasons. Our practice of giving a conditionally suspended jail sentence generally does not adequately fulfill the educational and deterrent task. We are therefore in favor of not placing such a driver on trial. But it should be possible to give him a fine—up to Kcs 5,000 would be best—and forbid him to drive a motor

vehicle for 2 years. It will be, I think, much more of a lesson in simplified and swifter proceedings than has been the case thus far. For the one punished as well as for other drivers.

[Question] And what if it is not?

[Answer] If such an act is repeated, then it will become a felony and treated with more severity, which in any case will deprive the perpetrator for a considerable length of time of the opportunity to further endanger the lives, health and property of our citizens....

[Question] Which other felonies also will be treated as petty offenses?

[Answer] There will be about 15 of them. For example, unauthorized undertakings of moonlighters who, though it is not permitted, nevertheless go to work where adequate services are not available. Until now, we have prosecuted them under the same provision of the penal code as offenders who use a shop of a socialist organization as a cover for illegally enriching themselves, who improperly use functions assigned to them for their own profit, etc.

We are also taking a more lenient view of an offender who made unauthorized use of somebody else's motor vehicle, and who is a driver in a socialist organization otherwise attending properly to his duties, if he caused only minor damage. He cannot be, after all, compared to vandals who force their way into a privately-owned parked car, steal it and often also damage it.

[Question] Now we come to crime against property. What kind of protection will there be against it?

[Answer] As far as the intensity of protection is concerned, there will be no distinction made between socialist property and private property. The determining criterion will be the amount of damage caused. Thus for example in the case of a theft, embezzlement, etc., if the damage does not exceed Kcs 300, it should be considered a petty offense punishable by a fine of up to Kcs 3,000. Fines in the same amount are proposed for damage of up to Kcs 1,000 which was caused by negligence, if that negligence indicates an irresponsible attitude toward someone else's property. For greater damage, up to Kcs 1,500 if caused by a deliberate act, and up to Kcs 10,000 if caused by negligence, it will be possible to impose fines of up to Kcs 10,000.

[Question] Since we are talking about pecuniary compensation—will there be a change also in the fines for felonies?

[Answer] It has been proposed that they be doubled. That means to Kcs 1,000 and up to Kcs 100,000.

[Question] Will these modifications extend also to crimes against the republic?

[Answer] The moral and political development and the state of our society make it possible. To be specific, we are talking about agitation, abuse of religious functions, and slandering the state which belongs to the worldwide socialist community system and its representatives, possibly others as well. Those acts which, although they may have the formal characteristics of such crimes under Chapter 1 of the penal code but at the same time do not present the degree of danger of a felony, will be prosecuted as petty offenses.

[Question] How will the objectivity of judging petty offenses and their circumstances which will determine the severity of punishment be guaranteed?

[Answer] The proceedings will be carried out strictly according to the administrative rules, with only such exceptions as will be determined by the statute on petty offenses and other statutes. A much more precise definition of a number of terms in the planned penal code, a precise differentiation of the amount of fines and other types of punishment or, if need be, protective measures according to the character and the degree of danger posed by the offense, etc., will help to deepen socialist adherence to the letter of the law in dealing with petty offenses. The prosecutor's office will also help make certain that the law is adhered to in this area by providing supervision.

[Question] Even so—will decisions be sufficiently competent and free from local influences?

[Answer] National committees at the basic level will continue to deal with only petty unlawful acts, both deliberate or caused by negligence. Serious offenses will be dealt with by district national committees, regional national committees and municipal national committees of the No 1 category. These will be primarily the petty offenses which hitherto have been classified as misdemeanors or felonies. Regional national committees will be empowered to accept supplementary measures as well. The proceedings dealing with such offenses always require the establishment of an administrative commission whose secretary will be a member of the national committee with a university law degree.

It is assumed that agencies of the National Security Corps will continue to take care of petty offenses against the safety and smooth running of highway traffic. Petty offenses (currently misdemeanors) against labor discipline may be judged as a breach of labor discipline under the statute on labor.

[Question] Will block fines be retained?

[Answer] Yes—to deal with less serious petty offenses, if the offense has been properly investigated, persuasion does not suffice, and the accused is willing to pay the fine. If the matter is not resolved in the block proceedings, the administrative agency will be able to impose punishment without any further action by issuing an

order. An order can be contested, the decision made in the proceedings appealed. That, too, will ensure that the procedures and decisions of administrative agencies (commissions) follow the law.

[Question] What do you expect from the modifications?

[Answer] A substantial reduction in the number of petty offenses, strengthening of legal certainties, consolidation of the rule of order in enterprises and workplaces, as well as a substantial reduction and containment of felonies to which we shall be able to pay more attention.

[Question] When will the modifications and new measures go into effect?

[Answer] We have been discussing new procedures in the penal policy whose realization will require a lot of work yet. The final form depends on discussions in our legislative bodies. And these will not be the only changes. Others are being considered within the framework of drafting the new constitution. We also expect that between the adoption of the changes and the day when they go into effect sufficiently long time will have elapsed for every citizen to become thoroughly familiar with them.

Thank you for talking with us.

12605

HUNGARY

Political Need for Community Spirit, Associations Stressed

25000437 Budapest MUNKÁ in Hungarian
No 5, 1987 pp 14-15

[Article by Istvan Lazar]

[Text] My first example is 15 years old. In one of our well-known provincial cities some young graduates wished to organize a club. They had already found a locale—a basement that could be neatly furnished. However, before they could take the first step, even such a trivial one as clearing out the odds and ends that had accumulated over decades, the city's party committee thwarted them. Subsequently, barely a year or two later, because of the perceived dangerous stagnation of local community life, the same party committee urged the establishment of a cultural club. It offered an available space and a prepared program, but the club did not come into existence for a long time. Those who only a little earlier had been rebuffed were certainly not about to spring into action just for the calling.

I shall mention another example or even a series of examples to evidence the condition in which I found community life in Hungarian villages, also some 15 years ago when, as a sociologist, I surveyed the town of my birth in the greater Sarospatak region. In the small

settlements of Bodrogkoz, Hegyalja, and Hegykoz, the residents lacked a suitable place or forum for spending their leisure time and publicly discussing their communal endeavors. What did exist was annoyingly formal. I also heard from them that in one of the localities, the re-election of the Protestant elders almost led to a bloody confrontation, to the point that it became necessary for the higher church authorities to intervene. Church members and laymen in the village familiar with the root causes of the incident were convinced that repressed feelings had found an outlet, that this was the only way in which the community impulse and endeavors—which at one time had enjoyed several outlets and possibilities for fulfillment—could be expressed.

Where did we go wrong? How did it happen that, for instance, already in the 1950's the gratifying manifestations of community life had come virtually to a complete halt and the new social order involving essentially the dedication and promotion of collectivist concepts in practice led to so much opposition?

Only a partial answer can be provided to these broad questions. The policy that had tried to build up post-haste the still untried socialist society in its impatience gave hardly any thought to transformation of the existing community forms from within, to solving the problem internally. The distrust directed at things inherited from the past and the unceasing, often openly brutal, pressure made impossible the harmonious development of new community forms.

The inventory of losses was extensive: The village book and farmers' clubs, workers' choral and theater ensembles, numerous lay and religious associations, the numerous loose associational forms either went by the board or became transformed in such a way that their founders and former members no longer felt, could no longer feel, that these were their own organizations.

The numerous sources of community effort dried up or survived in watered-down versions, paths became invisible recesses whereas those new communities—such as agricultural cooperatives for example—which had come completely or almost entirely into being on the basis of a new socialized economy, organized their activities in such a way that they retained something from the "previous era" or suffered the pain of starting practically from scratch.

For a while it did not become clearly evident that among the many scarcities of numerous designated social items the community was one. The fact that the promised and longed-for material improvement, the promised and longed-for freedom flowing from democratization were not realized either helped to mask this social vacuum.

Within the noted procedures I shall not detail separately the metamorphosis, or rather transformation by others, of the fate of the growing trade unions impacting on the broadest masses. Obviously, they could not openly retain

their former role with the development of the people's republic in the wake of nationalizations and other fundamental social-economic-political changes. The evolution of their new, excessively restricted, role, that is, one of being given arbitrary assignments, did not become evident until later when, seeking the causes of the 1956 tragedy, it was realized that a significant role had to be recognized for these trade unions.

Erasing the consequence of the dramatic 1956 events and the efforts of the consolidation era, as well as its agonies, distracted our attention to some extent, so that we did not notice what we may have lost with the former communities and the lack of new ones. At the same time, compared to scant popularity of the offered communal forms, the power of spontaneous associations became very clear—especially in youth circles—as witness the increasing popularity, to the point of mass hysteria, of beat and then pop ensembles. It took time for such phenomena to become neutralized, partly through sensible accommodation with them and partly through manipulative exploitation of their drawing power.

The perceivable renovation of the churches can also be traced to the efforts of the communities themselves. Occasionally, the historic churches themselves were surprised, embarrassed by the active religious, social, or at times political endeavors of supporting groups, of "basic communities." And the efforts of the minor churches which demand the largest contributions, self-transformation, and abnegation of their members were becoming stronger. The materialists do not exactly view with favor this religious renaissance which, to be sure, while not a mass movement, is nevertheless significant in that it involves many youths of generally low average age keen to make decisions in the face of instinctive urges. On the other hand, we must admit that if it comes to coping with serious social problems, such as the care of the aged, the provision of unavailable nursing care for the sick, or if it is a question of fighting drug addiction, alcoholism, or crime, the granting of assistance to the need in the face of such grievous setbacks is not necessarily a function of ideological compromise, of if it is indeed that, then for burningly practical reasons such opportunism is forgivable.

We can also witness the fact that at the very time when there were dogmatic reactions against the spontaneous communities which had more typically characterized the 1950's and perhaps even the 1960's and were now being repressed, there was also destructive pressure exerted on communities and agricultural cooperatives, schools, and factories by a stubborn, consolidating, monopolizing, centralizing trend. The phony rationale and management used for the protection of small local communities has stifled the sources of many growing forces, contributed to the depopulation of villages, and to the dysfunction of small managerial endeavors. In the wake of school districting, for instance, thousands of children have been forced to commute, and it became necessary to build and maintain academic high schools. In the

meantime, family communities have been disintegrating, the countryside has been losing its ability to retain population, and the number of those looking for housing has been rising, as has the number of the uprooted.

We must see at the same time that where, in part as compensation to offset the continued absence of the original activities and facilities, new communities were organized or where old groupings were recreated, such as animal defense leagues, dog- or cat-lovers' clubs, or merely nudist-naturalist groups, one could always see how weak our experience has been in the formation and management of tolerant, intelligent, democratic community development. It is sad how much cliquish spite, denunciations, and self-serving aggrandizement exist in some associations. Because of that, we would like to unequivocally urge the dynamic vitalization of community life in the second half of the 1980's. May one hope that these are merely growing pains which one should fight, not with renewed repression, but precisely the opposite, with the further development of community forms?

The political leaders have openly acknowledged and often declared that the maintenance of joint understanding or its creation or recreation has become difficult under our conditions, that groups with members cannot conceive of it without the involvement of their communities. In this connection, today many old and new community forms are burgeoning. The trade unions have again become reinforced in several roles. But actually the GMK and VGMK may also be categorized as communities, and the worker representative enterprise councils themselves are also organizing communities. Accordingly, we may now observe community activities, planning, and problem-solving at innumerable locations.

As far as I am concerned, it is especially important that, for instance, those associations involved in protecting and beautifying cities, and especially self-organized groups which are volunteering for a greater, more dynamic role in protecting the environment should have greater importance so that we may witness a new dimension of human, citizenship, and community responsibilities. Are we satisfied or not? They groups also assist and pressure the leadership in the interest of better planning and more consistent approaches to all social issues. Unfortunately, given the pressing economic difficulties and involvement with numerous priority goals, policy has nowhere in the world rightly recognized yet how strongly global social interest—the very survival of the human race!—dictates a new mode of thinking and action, as does the self-destructive arms race and the consumption drive.

Today, especially among the inexperienced minority sections, thoroughly aired and creative ideas and goals have openly taken shape, and it is possible that they will soon blast a path into the future. Perhaps we can conceptualize the essence of these in the sense that instead of "man's self-fulfillment" we should give

increasing importance to "man's self-preservation." Instead of "environmental modification" we should stress the continued maintenance of the environment's functioning capacity. And should such recognition come into being, then we must perceive in that today's spontaneous initiating role of small communities.

2662/6662

POLAND

Local Reports of PZPR Voivodship Plenums

POP Weak Points Viewed

26000740a Lodz GLOS ROBOTNICZY in Polish
30 Jun 87 p 1,2

[Article by Krystyna Majda and Mariusz Jakubek: "Actively the Source of Party Strength—Piotrkow PZPR Voivodship Committee Plenum"]

[Text] The Basic Party Organizations, or POPs, determine what the work atmosphere will be like. They are the focal point of public observation, and they often ease the tensions and feelings in the communities in which they operate. Yesterday, at a plenary session of the PZPR voivodship committee in Piotrkow Trybunalski, there was debate over the POPs, and their role and rank stemming from the resolutions of the Tenth Party Congress and the Fourth PZPR Central Committee Plenum. Jozef Baryla, central committee secretary and member of the Politburo, attended, along with Tadeusz Nowakowski, chairman of the Voivodship People's Council (WRN), and Mieczyslaw Szulc, the local voivodship governor. Invitations had also been extended to 50 first secretaries of the POPs of various groups and communities.

Stanislaw Kolasa, first secretary of the PZPR voivodship committee, opened the meeting, emphasizing, among other things, that this plenary session was a prelude to broad discussion on how the points of the Fourth Central Committee Plenum should be implemented.

Tadeusz Szarlej, voivodship committee secretary, presented the voivodship committee's executive board paper, which served as the basis for a discussion, which was broken down into three groups with specific thematic orientations.

The party organization in Piotrkow Trybunalski Voivodship has more than 38,500 members, more than half of whom are blue collar workers and peasants. There are still some POPs trying to meet the present high requirements, and they are not always successful in taking advantage of their privileges. Among the party members working in the factories, we can note changes in the way of operating visible in the fact that more and more

frequently they are becoming the promoters and instigators of progress, and they support inventors and innovators. It is such action that is helping to implement the second stage of the economic reform.

The POPs reluctance to take advantage of their privileges in carrying out personnel policy is a weakness in some of them. This came out of the research and control that had been conducted by the Voivodship Control and Review Commission, or WKKR. At yesterday's meeting, Włodzimierz Szewczyński, chairman of the WKKR, discussed the findings and emphasized that despite the shortcomings and improprieties found, most of the POPs are working better and better.

The deliberations in the three theme groups permitted discussion of the overall work of the POPs in all communities. Group I was chaired by Secretary Tadeusz Szarlej. It analyzed the problems of work within the party in the realm of education, public health, culture, the courts, and administration. Group II was chaired by Voivodship Committee Secretary Cezary Gniatkowski. It took up party activity in areas such as industry, commerce, crafts and trades, bureaus, transportation, and the municipal economy. Group III was chaired by Voivodship Committee Secretary Stanisław Boczek. It analyzed problems of work within the party in the rural community.

Reform Demands Stressed

26000740a Bydgoszcz GAZETA POMORSKA in Polish
3 Jul 87 p 1, 2

[Article: "Reform Requires Decisive Efforts—Torun PZPR Voivodship Committee Plenum"]

[Text] General discussion throughout society concerning the tenets of the second stage of economic reform has entered a decisive stage. Yesterday the PZPR Voivodship Committee in Torun made an assessment of past discussion in the region and took up the question of defining the voivodship economy's role in the second stage of the reform. Members of the central party leadership from the voivodship and a wide range of political and economic activists also attended the voivodship committee plenum.

The opening address was given by Zenon Dramiński, member of the Central Committee and First Secretary of the Voivodship Committee. His remarks included the following statement:

"The party devotes special attention to the functioning of the economy. At the Tenth Party Congress it emphasized that the economic reform was basic means of progress in the economy. It is presently necessary to accelerate the quality of the reform and to build an effective, modern economy. Therefore it is essential to leave behind methods involving small steps and to take decisive action. The reform is more than a merely economic issue, however. It calls for far-reaching

changes in values in the public mind. It also requires changes in the system of running the country. Members of the PZPR and brother political parties should support qualitative changes in the economy. The current plenum's task is to sum up the past course of social discussion concerning the proposals and create the possibility for a joint consideration of the place of Torun Voivodship's economy in the second stage of the reform."

Voivodship Committee Secretary Andrzej Wietrzykowski presented the address opening the discussion. He emphasized that working people are waiting for decisive action to accelerate an improvement in the socioeconomic situation. The economy of Torun Voivodship has made moderate progress during the past few years. We should not take lightly the need to evaluate the way we have come, but it is more important to look forward. The implementation of the second stage provides the opportunity for normal operation of the economy, without rationing, lines, or special privileges and exemptions. The "Hypotheses" present certain proposals with variants. There are not variants to the reform. These are variants in terms of the various economic instruments. As to the rate of the reform process, there is no answer other than that it must happen as quickly as possible.

The course of the public discussion in Torun Voivodship authorizes us to make this statement. The discussion of the hypotheses was approached seriously and honestly. The voivodship committee received many ideas and opinions that had been duly considered. A number of constructive proposals were made, proposals showing concern for finding the best solutions. There was much justified criticism of economic policy. The common line of these discussions was general support for the directions presented in the "Hypotheses." We can also say that the reform has the most supporters right "at the bottom," among the rank and file workers, as well as "at the top." The forces most interested in progress are generally those people who have more to gain than to lose, most often young people who are critical, who find reality disappointing, and have great aspirations. The people who are a threat to the reform are those who loudly support progress in thought but act badly, conservatively, schematically.

The next speaker reviewed assessments of the various sectors of the "Hypotheses" formulated in the course of discussions with the public, answering certain accusations, postulates, and proposals. Without denying, for example, the need for central reform, we should notice the phenomenon of greater incompetence on our own part, shortcomings in decisions made at the top which "cause interference." There are nonetheless many enterprises in the voivodship which are doing well despite the interference and are taking advantage of the possibilities the reform has provided and is providing. What is interfering with the others and keeping them from obtaining similar effects?

A. Wietrzykowski emphasized that it is also worth noting the current in the discussion pointing up the areas overlooked in the "Hypotheses." The investment sphere is one of them. Investment policy, after all, is being carried out inconsistently under the conditions of the reform. There is a repetition of old mistakes in beginning new investments at all cost, allowing overcommitment on the investment front, and permitting deadline violations and cost overruns. Despite various attempts at investment discipline, Torun Voivodship has nothing to be proud of either. Future intentions in the investment area are not clear. The housing problem is tied very strongly to investment policy. Despite frequent promises and the recognition improvement in housing conditions as one of the major goals of development, it is difficult to notice that we are coming any closer to a solution, and for the society, improved housing conditions are one of the main criteria of the effectiveness of the reform.

Governor Stanislaw Trokowski then presented the economic situation in Torun Voivodship. He spoke about the results the economy had achieved during the first 5 months of this year. These results show the economic trends and make it possible to forecast the results for this year. The mastery of the recession in industrial production is worth emphasizing. These are measurable effects of inspiring action conducted by the voivodship party echelon. As a result, sold production over the 5-month period was 10.1 percent higher than during a comparable period in 1986. This is a far better figure than the national average. The food industry accounts for the greatest share of production growth. Export also showed substantial growth. Here the electric machine industry production played the largest role. There are real possibilities for exceeding the annual plan targets, and in the event the chemical and textile industries make up for their arrears, Torun Voivodship may take first place in the country in terms of production results.

The voivodship's agriculture is suffering from adverse weather conditions, which may have an influence on the size of yields, but it is estimated that the results of wholesale procurement of livestock will be better than last year's, and wholesale milk procurement will remain at the same level. The construction and installation enterprises are continuing to make up for the delays caused by the winter. During the first 5 months 710 apartments have been signed over for use in socialized construction. This is 44 more than a year ago. There are real opportunities for reaching the targets for the whole year, and even for exceeding them. Most of this year's investment tasks should be accomplished. The wide range of volunteer projects are worth emphasizing. The value of these projects will exceed 1.2 billion zlotys this year.

Then the deliberations were broken into four problem groups. The first group, which was chaired by Marian Zenkiewicz, met to discuss "The Economic Reform a Factor to Accelerate the Inculcation of Technical Progress and Improved Quality of Work." The subject of

the deliberations of the second group, which was headed by Jerzy Kokorzycki, was "Liberating People's Initiative a Condition to Attaining the Goals of the Second Stage of the Economic Reform." The third group, headed by Bogdan Derwich, took up the theme "Qualitative Acceleration of the Economy a Condition to Stabilization." The fourth group, led by Eugeniusz Greskowiak, considered problems related to the theme "Modern Organizational Structures a Guarantee to Exploiting Production Factors."

After the couple of hours the problem groups held in discussion that was rich in critical comment, observations, and suggestions, the chairs of these groups presented synthesized reports at the general meeting.

"The discussion in our group was emotional," Marian Zenkiewicz, of the first group said. "Ten people took the floor. We consider the hypotheses of the second stage of the reform to be correct in their content, particularly those relating to scientific and technical progress. The group's proposal is to improve the system of information concerning new technical solutions made by individuals. The contributions of local rural authors of improvements and innovations should also be utilized more widely, particularly those related to improvements in machinery and equipment for agriculture."

Members of the second group, which was directed by Jerzy Kokorzycki, did not focus on the obvious issues, about which they expressed approval. The subject of the discussion concerned some controversial issues. Speaking about personnel policy, they emphasized the need to establish stable criteria for assessing the predispositions of employees to allow for promoting the best. Here there were nine people taking the floor.

The only instrument for balancing the economy must be something other than price increases. This would by all accounts be an adverse phenomenon that would remove from the market the groups least well off. The participants to the discussion of the third group, headed by Bogdan Derwich, devoted a great deal of attention to this issue. There was a discussion of regulations and intermediaries (to keep them or eliminate them), but no consensus was reached on this matter.

In giving a report of the results of the debate in the fourth group, its chair, Eugeniusz Grzeskowiak, stated that a total of 13 people had expressed themselves. They had called for declaring the duplication law illegal. They also came out in favor of choosing the second variant of the reform, but they also called for expanding forms of general economic education, to keep the public's awareness up to date with reality.

On the commission's authorization of the resolutions and suggestions, Andrzej Wietrzykowski, the group's presider, proposed that a special appendix be attached to the voivodship committee's position paper as reported during the plenum, to reflect the postulates, suggestions,

and proposals gleaned from the general and group discussions. He also proposed that detailed information on all the individual presentations made on particular issues at the plenum be appended to the document. The proposal was adopted.

"Our discussion is summed up in the position of the party voivodship echelon on the hypotheses of the second stage of the economic reform as formulated a moment ago," Zenon Draminski, first secretary of the voivodship committee, said. "A frequent weak point of our discussions is the fact that in saying 'no,' we are unable to find any place for proposing our own constructive concept. Here at today's meeting we are not prejudging the shape of the second stage of the reform, but we are closer to the goal."

POP Role Emphasized

26000740a Poznan GAZETA POZNANSKA in Polish
30 Jun 87 p 1, 2

[Article by J. Wizerkaniuk: "Time of Reform Requires Increased POP Activity—Leszno PZPR Voivodship Committee Plenum"]

[Text] The Leszno party organization in recent years has bolstered its position in many important areas of the region's sociopolitical and economic life, but in order to face the tasks related to the implementation of the economic reform, still more decisive efforts will be needed, along with greater initiative at all organizational levels of the party, and especially in its basic organizations in the towns and rural areas. The plenary meeting of the PZPR Voivodship Committee held yesterday in Leszno, was devoted to these problems, the tasks of the voivodship party organization stemming from the Fourth Party Central Committee Plenum.

Guests including POP secretaries from the places of employment and the rural community, and members of the Central Committee: Jozef Kolesniczenko, chairman of the Bonikowo RSP, and Edward Raburski, of the Leszno PKP junction, also attended the plenum, which was chaired by Stanislaw Sawicki, first secretary of the party's Voivodship Committee. Stanislaw Gabrielski, the director of the Central Committee's Political Organizing Department, was also present.

The report of the executive board of the voivodship committee, which voivodship committee secretary Henryk Kaliszewski read at the plenum, stated: "We think that increased activity on the part of all members of party organizations is the simplest source of reserves to be found in our party operations. All party organizations and echelons must undertake appropriate action in this realm. Sad to say that there is still lack of understanding in the minds of functioning activists and members of party organizations as to how important individual party tasks are as an instrument in awakening this active stance and discipline. Within the POPs there is still a lack of general trust that any issues stemming from

party resolutions may serve as party tasks, because the audit which the WKKR made in 51 party organizations shows that there were only 35 percent in which all members had individual tasks, while in 25 percent of the organizations such tasks were undertaken only by the activists' group. There were also instances in which this was even limited to the leadership. On the other hand, in nearly 40 percent of the organizations monitored, no tasks at all were assigned.

In the many-faceted discussion, people returned to the content and statements of the executive board's report.

The resolution adopted at the end of yesterday's meeting emphasized the main directions of action aimed at the activation of the work of the basic party organizations and at adapting them to current economic and sociopolitical requirements.

Fourth Plenum Resolutions Discussed

26000740a Kielce SLOWO LUDU in Polish
4-5 Jul 87 p 1, 2

[Article: "Party's Strength Depends on POP Work—Radom PZPR Voivodship Committee Plenum Attended by Central Committee Secretary Henryk Bednarski"]

[Excerpts] It is an undisputable fact that the party's strength depends on the proper inspiring work of the basic party organizations, the POPs. This is why it is so important constantly to increase in their moral authority, initiative, independence, and responsibility. And it was this very role and tasks of the POPs in the life of the Radom party organization and action groups in the light of the resolutions of the Fourth Party Plenum that was discussed at the fifth plenary meeting of the PZPR Voivodship Committee in Radom.

Henryk Bednarski, PZPR Central Committee secretary; Henryk Bednarski, deputy chairman of the CKKR; and Marian Kot, director of the Central Committee's Office of Letters and Inspections, attended the session in the hall of the RZPS Radoskor Basic Vocational School on Daleka Street, in addition to members of the voivodship committee and the board of the WKKR, along with representatives of the Radom echelon of central party bodies.

Bogdan Prus, first secretary of the voivodship committee, presided.

Among his opening remarks, he said the following:

"Little more than a month has gone by since the Fourth Party Plenum, which took up the expanded role of the POPs in the country's sociopolitical and economic life." Today we want to assess the situation taking place in the voivodship organization and to describe the tasks facing our echelon, the local groups, and the POPs. These tasks should aim at further clear progress in the realm of effectiveness in ideological, political, and economic

work. We held consultations earlier with the secretaries of the lowest echelons and at more than 100 POP meetings on the issues of this session and draft documents. We also availed ourselves of the contributions of discussions prior to the Fourth Central Committee Plenum and of the suggestions and comments gleaned from the reviews which the WKKR and the voivodship committee problem commissions made of the activity of the 19 echelons and 243 POPs, as well as the opinions of the POP first secretaries expressed in questionnaires. The voivodship committee's executive board also analyzed the statistics and the class component and distribution in the voivodship party ranks, as well as the activity of the ROPP to improve POP work. We therefore have a wealth of material allowing us to set the proper course."

The plenum passed a resolution on increasing the role of the POPs in sociopolitical and economic life of the voivodship. In this document the voivodship committee also calls on the WKKR and commissions at the lowest level to step up monitoring to counteract any evils that exist and to be strict in calling those guilty to account.

"We were once again convinced how essential and extremely important all sorts of signs are concerning the smallest but also basic units of the party are. We are convinced that today's plenum will be a strong encouragement for all party members to act," the first secretary said in closing. "During the discussions many valuable new observations were made, and they should certainly be used in the work of both the POPs and the echelons."

The plenum closed with the singing of the Internationale.

Response to Grievances Assessed

26000740a Katowice TRUBYNA ROBOTNICZA in
Polish 10 Jul 87 p 1, 2

[Article by Jan Szwarc: "Using Party Responsibility to Combat Abuses Against People—Czestochowa PZPR Voivodship Committee Plenum Assesses Way to Handle Citizen Grievances, Charges, and Intervention"]

[Text] Between 1984 and 1986, 10,000 citizens approached the voivodship party office in Czestochowa with various issues and complaints. The number of them demonstrates the instances of public dissatisfaction with the way economic units and institutions handled citizens' private affairs. The problems of improving the activity of the echelons and party organization in reviewing the remarks, complaints, and suggestions of citizens were the subject of the voivodship committee plenum in Czestochowa on 9 July. Jerzy Sypek, first secretary of the voivodship committee, chaired the deliberations, which were attended by Politbureau members Zofia Stepień and Alfred Miodowicz.

In his address, Włodzimierz Zak, chairman of the PZPR Voivodship Committee's Complaints, Letters, and Interventions Commission, emphasized that the plenum theme was related to the resolutions of the Tenth Party

Congress and the Fourth Central Committee Plenum at Ursus, because for the first time in party history there had been an effort to collect remarks, suggestions, and postulates on the subject of POP work.

For several years receiving and reviewing grievances and complaints had been one of the criteria for evaluating the administration, the management of places of employment and institutions. In recognizing that nothing is more painful than injustice against people, a person's sense of having been wrongfully treated and having no recourse, while hearing that we are living under a system of social justice, the party is interested in becoming familiar with the reasons for citizen dissatisfaction and the filing of complaints. During this time of economic reform and the reform in social relations, which is aimed at making life easier, we must establish the factors which are interfering with the reform. This information may also be derived from an analysis of the subjects of the complaints coming to the party.

The voivodship echelon in Czestochowa enjoys people's trust, as shown by the fact that most of the complaints coming from the voivodship are addressed to the voivodship echelon itself, because the authors of the complaints think that their complaints will be handled properly on the spot, without the need for action on the part of central authorities. Despite citizens' great faith in the voivodship echelon, self-satisfaction is not in order, because there are numerous cases in which the basic party organizations are not working very well in this area. There is no involvement on the part of party members or entire POPs in the struggle against various sorts of impropriety in their workplaces, institutions, or places of residence. They are not eager to resolve private matters, but sent the parties away to seek help from units at a higher level, because it has become customary to wait for instructions, and if none such exist, it is easier to avoid making a decision.

In the organizations and echelons people say: "We do not have many complaints here, and those we have we handle right away, so why record them?" The Complaints, Letters, and Interventions Commission session held on the road showed meanwhile that no complaints register had even been set up at the town council in Myszkow or the gmina council in Wreczyca Wielka. On the other hand, at the gmina committees visited in Zarki, Koziegłowice, and Niegowa and in five Myszkow places of employment, the complaints registers were being handled properly. Even where the registers are established, some things are not being handled properly. For example, at the WPEC the commission learned that in 1986 only three complaints were received concerning the enterprise's activity, but several hundred complaints concerning heating were filed with other institutions. The voivodship party committee alone received 80 of them.

This June members of the voivodship party committee and local activists' groups accepted complaints and suggestions in 17 towns and parishes. A wealth of material was collected, and many annoying problems were

resolved, but the main thing was that interest in the issue of filing complaints was increased. There is an effort to broaden citizens' legal consciousness, because there are instances where people come to the committee with a complaint, when the citizen has been refused satisfaction in all relevant instances of the court system. There are 500 PZPR members working in the voivodship Commission on Suggestions, Complaints, and Signs from the Population, in the quick response group, and in commissions at the lowest level. Such commissions have also been set up in 23 plants, such as the Welnopol ZPC, Stradom CZPL, Wartex ZPW, and the Konięcpolski Fiberboard Plants. These commissions are taking on a decisive struggle against ills, but the basic party organizations are still the weakest in responding to complaints. At this level there is no cooperation with the IRCh, trade unions, people's councils, and PRON units. The voivodship echelon examined with PRON and ZUS the situation of pensioners and retired persons. Along with WPZZ and neighborhood committees, we examined the results of establishing real town government (UM) housing resources in Czeszochowa.

There was a more forthright effort in combatting instances of indifference or delays in handling complaints in the government administrative bodies. For example, POP No 7 at the voivodship office (UW) made a thorough analysis of the activity of the office's Department of Surveying and Land Management. On the other hand, there is not the proper supervision and coordination of the operation of the voivodship office's municipal services, and the party organization has not taken up this problem. There has been no response to statements from residents whose building was not remodelled, and the complaint of a citizen whose apartment was flooded was ignored until the town echelon intervened. The speaker asked where the POP was, especially since many complaints repeatedly mention the same names of people who ignore complaints of citizens, and these people are still employed and still careless in doing their work. Why are there delays in the city office's handling of private matters, and why do people in this office exploit the citizen's ignorance and lack of familiarity with the regulations rather than instructing the citizen and resolving the problems quickly in proper fashion?

The Tenth Party Congress charged us with improving the work of the administration. The POPs must undertake appropriate action to see that the bureaucracy handles problems rather than ignoring them and seek ways to help the citizens rather than proving them wrong.

There is an urgent need for party organizations and echelons to work to counteract various sorts of impropriety. It is particularly at the lower levels of management that people tend to think in strategic categories, saying "We should combat drunkenness in the plants," instead of saying "We are charging the directors with the absolute and automatic firing of anyone who violates the sobriety requirement." Elsewhere, for example, at the

PKS in Czeszochowa, there is the charge that the station is dirty, and the establishment of a schedule, without providing information about why nobody has been called to account concerning custodial duties. At the City Supply and Wholesale Cooperative in Czeszochowa, there was no party organization, because its chairman managed to get himself an illegal pension increase. The party organizations did not respond to continual complaints about alcohol abuse by employees and management at the Polgal plants. Nothing was done until the voivodship echelon put a stop to it.

The speaker proposed that the phrases "energetic steps should be taken to" and "further progress was made" be eliminated from the vocabulary of the activists' groups. After mistakes and shortcomings are detected, they must be overcome. From the presentation of the current situation, the plenum can make a diagnosis and select the best way to correct the situation.

Fifteen people took part in the discussion, and in their presentations they listed the actions their party organizations, plants, institutions, and social organizations were taking to improve the quality of their work in responding to citizen complaints and suggestions. For example, Wiesław Fryszkiewicz, voivodship district attorney, pointed out the need to increase the society's legal consciousness, which would greatly reduce the number of complaints. Jerzy Masłowski, first secretary of the party city committee in Czeszochowa, told about organizational efforts undertaken at the Municipal Economy Enterprise resulting in a reduced number of complaints about the work of that enterprise. Overall this year complaints to the party city committee are down by 17 percent. At the B. Bierut Steel Mill, according to Waldemar Kamiński, on the basis of the provisions of the plenary sessions of the central committee and voivodship committee, a system has been worked out for handling employee complaints. A decision was made to have "party days," during which members of the factory executive committee and mill management would hold talks with employees right at their work stations and ask them for their comments and suggestions. A workers group was also created to make a systematic examination of worker attitudes to resolve possible conflicts.

In his presentation summing up the session, Alfred Miodowicz, member of the Politbureau and chairman of the OPZZ, emphasized the wisdom of having the voivodship committee plenum take up the subject in the desire to combat the insensitivity to citizen problems and difficulties, which is rather common in our country. Because nearly all the complaints concern failure to adhere to legal regulations and the principles of social justice, bureaucrats and employees of plants and offices guilty of such behavior should be fired. A. Miodowicz mentioned the provisions of the Politbureau's last session that talked about the failure to implement the Tenth Party Congress' resolutions on housing construction. He also pointed out the need to resolve most citizen matters

on the spot where the dissatisfaction has occurred, rather than referring them to central authorities, which is testimony to a decline in citizens' trust of local officials.

In its resolution, the voivodship committee plenum made a favorable assessment of the position of the Voivodship Committee's Commission on Suggestions, Complaints, and Signs from the Population and said it was necessary to publicize the practice of receiving complaints from interested parties at their place of employment and residence, to make known the sources of information on measures to be taken on concrete matters, and to organize POP work so that they can handle matters that are the subject of complaints. The document emphasizes the consistency in the party organizations' issuing warnings and the need for stronger disciplinary measure against those managers and administrators in offices, plants, and institutions whose action provokes many justified complaints. There was a call for

a fundamental improvement in the discipline of executing resolutions and calling to account those people entrusted with tasks. All party members should inspire others to action aimed at eliminating the causes and sources of complaints. It is also necessary to further the public's education on their legal rights.

In the organizational section, the plenum decided on a change in the position of director of the voivodship party committee's Department of Science and Culture. Zbyszek Jedrzejewski was thanked for his past service, and Janusz Pok, inspector of education and moral development at the city office in Czestochowa, was named to fill the position.

In closing the voivodship committee plenum, Alfred Miodowicz, accompanied by voivodship committee first secretary Jerzy Sypek, visited young people on vacation at the scouting center in Kokotek.

10790

POLAND

Radom Governor Rates Dual Military, Civilian Roles

26000783a Warsaw ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI in
Polish 13 Aug 87 p 3

[Interview with Radom Voivodship Governor Col Engineer Aloyzy Wojciechowski by Lt Col Ireneusz Tulowiecki: "I Do Not Regret the Choice," date and place not mentioned]

[Text] [Question] Five of the present voivodship governors are men in uniform. Col Tulowiecki, you have this position in Radom Voivodship. What sort of voivodship is it?

[Answer] To be brief, it is average. With a population of 700,000, we are 13th nationwide, and our 7,005 square kilometers make us 14th in terms of area. In terms of local administrative bodies, we are in the lead. We have 63 councils, and this is a very great many. Industry is interesting, unique sometimes. For example, we are the only producer of sewing machines and telephones. Factories like "Radoskor," the Gerlach plants known for 160 years, the very popular Radom paper factory, and a cement plant are all in our voivodship. The largest hard coal electric plant operates in our area and produces 2,600 megawatts. This is as much as the entire Polish power industry had before the war. Above all, however, we are the largest orchard in Europe. We have 40,000 hectares of apple trees alone. Last year we had half a ton of fruit. We have developed our processing base. For example, we built a new Hortex plant in Przysuza, and 90 percent of its production goes for export. The rest of agriculture is dispersed. There are few state farms, but 110,000 private farms.

[Question] This is the 6th year of your term. It is unlikely many of your peers can boast such position and experience, especially since it started during a time of martial law.

[Answer] This is the first time there has been martial law since the founding of our socialist state, so I had no models. In addition, I was not very familiar with the voivodship. How could I be? The same is true of working of the state administration. I had to learn all these things. Later a great deal happened in a short time. The laws on the people's councils changed. Another system of administration had to be introduced into the local economy. During this time there were elections to the Sejm and the people's councils. Then PRON came into being, and the new trade unions began to operate. All this was bound to produce experience, especially since I was entrusted with such great responsibilities. As chairman of the Voivodship Defense Committee, I was entrusted with military functions, and as an executive body of the people's council, with civil duties. I serve in both of these capacities today. At that time this forced me to alter my mind set and way of operating.

[Question] The Ninth Party Congress certainly must have had an impact too. You were a delegate to it.

[Answer] I was an extraordinary delegate from the army at it. By the Tenth Party Congress I came as voivodship governor. Both of them taught me a great deal.

[Question] How does it feel to become voivodship governor?

[Answer] The nomination came as a great surprise to me. I did not expect it, especially since it was so good for me to be working in the voivodship. I had an interesting position. I accepted the nomination as an order, simply as a soldier would. I did not ask: Why me? Why in this voivodship? For how long? I did not ask these questions during the talks of 14 December 1941. But then, after all, nobody knew now the situation would develop. But a soldier does not choose his place.

[Question] So it was a period with plenty of new problems. What was the most important one at the time? Was there sufficient skill during this difficult time?

[Answer] Without false modesty I can say that I have a great deal of military experience. In 1948 I graduated from the tank school in Poznan. And I have been active in the party, the PPR at first, since 1946, so I also have a great deal of party and organizational experience. During these 40 some years I have held different positions of service. This was also why I knew where to begin working in the present position too. During the first few days, the trains for Kozienice were the most important matter. The gravity of the situation was increased by the fact that the electric power plant had coal for only a day and a half. Remember that this was December, and so it was cold, below freezing. In addition, it was just before Christmas. The shops were nearly empty. You had to think about supply, about commerce. That was the second thing. The next thing was the whole municipal infrastructure before winter: the problem of heating, water, road conditions, and transportation. These problems had to be resolved immediately. There were plenty of difficulties, even just with the basic element, coal. Everyone knows how some of the mines were operating at that time.

[Question] We know from experience that the problems were resolved. What is the executive apparatus of the voivodship governor?

[Answer] Seemingly large, 26 departments in the voivodship office. I myself run several directly, including the departments of planning, finance, personnel, management, internal affairs, and auditing and control. The rest are under three deputy governors. They include the departments of culture, education, public health, industry, construction, and commerce. Therefore the machinery appears large, but the problems are also extensive and important. After all, there are enterprises directly subordinate to the deputy governors as well, all the

general construction enterprises, reclamation enterprises, and all the state farms and mechanized farm service enterprises (POM). This in addition to the above-mentioned 63 administrative units within our borders.

[Question] The effective handling of all these matters must require that a governor have the right working style.

[Answer] My way of working has changed during these 6 years. At the beginning I adopted a somewhat military style, which I changed as time went by, because not all military methods transfer well to the civilian area. For example, in the military a commander usually makes his decisions independently. Here consultations are necessary, although the voivodship governor ultimately bears responsibility for decisions, particularly inasmuch as he plays a dual role, one as the executive of the people's council and the other as the local government representative. Another thing about style is that I am not in favor of long briefings, meetings, or so-called "sit downs." I try not to call supervisors in, but set up teleconferencing instead. Besides that, I spend a great deal of time in the field.

[Question] How often?

[Answer] At least two or three times a week. Mostly in the gminas, plants, and schools. I drop in everywhere, in shops, the health service, the preschools.

[Question] That must be a military habit.

[Answer] Well, that is just something about me, a predisposition I have. Although I realize that this is not any sort of audit. It is simply that my visiting a parish, a town, or an office gets people moving. In talks with people I hear the problems bothering them, problems that a voivodship governor might never learn about in any other way. I also use what are called civilian tribunals in the voivodship.

[Question] I never heard such a term before. What does it involve?

[Answer] We have comprehensive monitoring, for example, of the parish offices. We audit all the issues included in the plan. After such an audit, once the report is finished, we inform the residents that the governor is coming to the parish and that all interested citizens are invited to meet with him. During such a meeting I show them the report from the audit, and then I listen to their assessment of the audit and the result. Each person can have his say about the audit and about other matters concerning the parish. The statements and questions during such tribunals vary. The assessments are sometimes extreme, but they also provide certain suggestions. Citizen attendance at these meetings is very great.

[Question] That is one rather interesting form of work for a governor. And others?

[Answer] If need be, there are also briefings. There are also accountings of tasks carried out, a little like in the army. Some people think that I am bound too much by principle, that I adhere too rigidly to certain notions, but I think that we can discuss things while we are planning the assignments, but once we approve a plan we must carry it out absolutely, without stopping to reconsider whether we can eliminate some parts of it. I am open to discussion before a decision is made, but I stand on principle while it is being carried out.

[Question] Do many [parish] administrators change?

[Answer] Each year there is a turnover of 25 percent. I replace one-fifth of them. The rest resign on their own. They find a better job, one with better pay and less responsibility, and therefore less stress. Alongside this, we have no housing in the parishes for the administrators, and today this is an extremely important factor. The turnover in personnel is therefore great.

[Question] What sort of problems are being presently worked on in the voivodship?

[Answer] First, the construction of a hospital complex with 1,100 beds. The investment is necessary and at the same time very capital-intensive. This cannot be done in 2 or 3 years. The next thing is the theatre. We are finishing its construction. The next thing is that we have begun to build an electric power plant in Radom. This is the to be or not to be of housing. The next installation, a huge investment, is a sewage treatment plant. Next, the Radom railway stations, which we have undertaken. We still see a great deal to be done, but it is not possible to do everything at once. Although in addition we are turning out new neighborhoods, and along with them the schools, clinics, and libraries that were forgotten in the plans for them somewhere along the line, still people are aggravated over the fact that it is taking too long, and I am personally aggravated too. Because of this I am not fully satisfied with what I am doing.

[Question] Colonel, what do you consider to have been your greatest success as governor?

[Answer] There have been several. First, we have the prospects for housing construction. The construction of the electric power plant gives rise to this. There would be no housing without it. The construction of thermal plants has no meaning for this construction. It was not easy to introduce investments of 20 billion into the plans and find a contractor. The investment, which is being carried out by Beton-Stal, is going very well, although it is not without problems. But housing construction is more than the problem of heat and power. There are also the problems of water and sewers. But we have just about resolved these three things. The second great issue is culture. Never has so much been done on behalf of culture as in the last period. Here are examples: We completely remodelled the Kochanowski museum in Czarny Las. We are finishing the theatre in Radom. We

made a Skansen museum in a Radom village. We set up a very nice House of Culture in Zwolen. Radom and the voivodship have a great many landmarks and many objects of culture related to modern history and times past. We are taking great care with all of them. They are of concern to us, although we cannot do everything at once. We are therefore surprised by some criticism on this subject in the press, in *ZYCIE WARSZAWY*, for example. The third thing is public health. We are extremely pleased with the completion of construction of the voivodship hospital.

[Question] What has not been satisfying?

[Answer] We have still not fully resolved the environmental health problem. For example, the Koziencice thermal electric plant, which is poisoning our forest. The rivers are getting worse and worse. We are thinking about this. We are doing what we can, but we are employing half-way measure, and even they are costing us a good deal.

[Question] Is there cooperation with neighboring voivodships?

[Answer] Of course. The greatest cooperation is with Kielce Voivodship, which is entirely understandable. Certain institutions operating in two or three voivodships have their headquarters in Kielce. Take, for example, the PKS, CPN, Regional Directorate of Public Roads, House of the Book (Dom Ksiazki), and Fishing Center (Centrala Rybna). This came into being after the last administrative division took place.

[Question] Does a governor know how his superiors judge his work?

[Answer] I am convinced that the rating is high. This is shown by the fact that I am part of the governors' senate, the body that advises the premier. There are 14 governors on it. I am now serving my second term on it, and this is undoubtedly proof of great trust. During various sorts of meetings, superiors convey their approval for the achievements of the voivodship. This is therefore testimony to my work too.

[Question] Col Wojciechowski, perhaps in closing you will say something about the principles by which you are guided in life, something about yourself personally, about your family.

[Answer] First of all, people have to be trusted. Second, you cannot do everything yourself. Next, do not take responsibility away from others. I learned this from life, and I will say a few words about it. I am of Poznan stock. I was born 60 years ago in Zbaszyn. From age 14 I

worked hard during the occupation. After the liberation I went into the military and at the same time entered ZWM. I did my secondary diploma under the accelerated program. Then I went into the tank school, graduating in 3 years and later becoming assistant to the school's commandant. From there I was transferred to the Main Political Administration. During the stormy 1950's I left at my own request and, after passing the entrance examinations, began studying at the Military Technical Academy. After an internship in a line unit, I returned to Warsaw, to the tank technical administration. Then in the Tank-Truck Service I served in various positions, right up to deputy to the chief of the service. From there I was given the position of governor of Radom Voivodship. My wife is a specialist in Polish language and literature. My daughter is in journalism, and my son-in-law is an scientist at the Agricultural Academy. Because of the children and grandchildren, among other things, we did not move from Warsaw to Radom, especially since we do not know how much longer I will be governor. You could say that I have had a rich life, although both my military career and the road to my present position have been rather strange. I do not regret having decided to become governor, having agreed to these duties, although I was given the choice.

[Interviewer] Thank you for the interview.

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New Helicopter Model Planned

26000783c Koszalin GLOS POMORZA in Polish
27 Jul 87 p 2

[Article: "Five Thousand Mi-2s From Swidnik"]

[Text] The country's only helicopter plant, WSK, in Swidnik near Lublin, released the 5,000th Mi-2 helicopter produced there. The Mi-2 has been produced at Swidnik on a Soviet license for 22 years now in different versions with constant modifications to modernize it.

Let us remember that the Kania is also being currently produced alongside the Mi-2 helicopter. The Kania is a fundamentally modernized version of it with engines and flight instruments produced in the West. The prize-winning Sokol is also in production. It received a gold medal at the recent Poznan International Fair and is the first Polish helicopter of our own design to enter serial production. At the same time, the Swidnice designers are working on another model, and the scaled-down flying model is already finished. This will be a small four-place executive and training helicopter and will have a turbine engine.

10790

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Rail Construction Modernization Planned *23000001 East Berlin SIGNAL UND SCHIENE* *in German No 5, 1987 (signed to press 7 Aug 87)* *pp 161-162*

[Article by Horst Jaensch, Vice President for Engineering, State Railway Construction Administration: "Basic Principles for Scientific-Technical Development in German State Railway Construction until 1990"]

[Text] In accordance with the decisions made at the XIth Party Congress of the SED, and within the framework of goal-oriented continuation of the proven program of unity between economic and social policy, the strategic task assigned for the construction sector of the German State Railway consists of ensuring the stability and ready availability of track systems. In order to achieve decisive improvements with regard to stabilizing the railway network, the Politburo of the SED Central Committee has conferred and decided on extensive corrective measures. Now it is important to adopt the following procedures:

- Systematic preparation and broad application of key technologies;
- Increasing internal production of efficiency-related equipment and robots;
- Optimum utilization of highly efficient fixed assets in the form of construction machines and microcomputer technology;
- Broad and rapid implementation of new scientific-technical solutions without delay.

These efforts are designed to guarantee a tangible performance boost for the construction sector of the German State Railway, and not only to ensure complete fulfillment of scheduled and budgeted performance goals for meeting needs with regard to quantity, requirements, and quality, but also to exceed those goals. This obligatory definition of goals has also been adapted to the scientific-technical development of the construction sector of the German State Railway. Ambitious goals include:

- High economic yields through science and technology;
- Optimum utilization of available investments;
- Efficiency measures and modernization of existing capacities; and
- Training railway construction personnel to master new job assignments, methods, and conditions.

The central orientation for scientific-technical development in the construction sector of the German State Railway until 1990 derives from the necessity to stabilize the network. This involves all activities, both in the individual building trades for track laying and related foundation construction, and for bridge building, as well as for industrial production of switches and concrete ties

and repair of track-laying machines. Project planning, as well as construction preparation and execution, are equally affected, including all related questions having to do with mechanization and the production of efficiency-related equipment and materials.

Performance Requirements Related to the National Economy

Based on the new conditions, the President of the Board of Directors for State Railway Construction (Rbbd) issued the order in 1986 to work out a concept for science and technology in the Rbbd until 1990. This basic strategic orientation has been confirmed since then, and places primary emphasis on the following performance requirements and goals:

- Broad-based implementation of key technologies through the use of microcomputer technology, robotics, and computer aided technologies;
- Concentration of scientific-technical work on the primary processes, while at the same time improving working and living conditions organizing work scientifically;
- Increasing the quality, availability, and reliability of existing fixed assets in the form of machines, equipment, and systems through targeted modernization, maintenance, and regeneration;
- Implementation of complex efficiency programs and partial automation of entire lines of special equipment, primarily using self-manufactured equipment and materials for increased efficiency;
- Ensuring self-production of software products and a decisive increase in the manufacture of equipment and materials that will increase efficiency.

Efforts will be made to achieve the following goals for the individual areas involving solutions for scientific-technical tasks:

- Decreasing cost-price by 1.5 - 2.0 percent;
- Production time savings by 5 percent;
- Material & energy savings by 1.5 percent;
- Releasing manpower by 0.5 percent;
- Increasing the production of equipment & materials to increase efficiency by 5 percent.

In addition to these factors, we also intend to implement the following by 1990:

- The production of 506 industrial robots (primarily in the area of rail braking technology);
- Introduction of 146 industrial robots in our own area; and
- Development of 190 CAD/CAM workstations.

Main Directions for Scientific and Technical Development

For track laying and related foundation construction, the major emphasis involves optimum utilization of the high performance-technology available to the construction and systems sector of the German State Railway, including other mechanization as well as material supply and disposal capacities, while adhering to the philosophy of efficient operation and construction, while keeping the lines running. Principle considerations include:

- Planning and introducing solutions involving computer aided production planning, implementation, and control in order to maintain control of currently existing options for developing technical sequences for individual track-laying task groups and related foundation construction operating independently. These efforts entail complex technological processes for concentrated construction, as well as maintenance, and involving both reconstruction and new construction in terms of construction engineering and management in the overall interest of the German State Railroad;
- Creating the prerequisites for maintaining high performance, coupled with short construction times, as well as achieving peak performance and converting the best methods and experience into lasting accomplishments. In order to achieve optimum utilization of social working faculties, it is necessary not to view construction peaks one-sidedly, but rather to clarify with respect to these goals all questions involving transportation, transshipment, and warehousing (TTW) procedures, supply and material removal, as well as working and living conditions, in order to minimize adverse influences on operating conditions and reduce production consumption;
- Step by step, and without wasting time and causing undesirable difficulties, to implement efficiency programs for a whole series of sub-processes involved in track laying and related foundation construction in order to adapt them to conditions related to the introduction of high-performance technology. This includes, for instance, questions involving the removal of material from old beds and excavated materials, the handling of small iron fittings, the supply, disposal, and evaluation of concrete ties, installation and expansion of overpasses and systems for draining the rail grade area, as well as creating the preconditions for introducing alternative mechanization for crane equipment used in rebuilding switches.

All these goals must be implemented based more and more on the principle of overall responsibility for the end product—new or reconstructed stable track systems with high availability over a load-dependent period of time without limitation, and achieved not only in the construction sector, but also in the systems sector of the State Railway. In this context, we have to view all tasks

related to changing the strategy for qualitative improvement rail and switch support ties. The strategy of the State Railway is designed to:

- Introduce concrete ties that are adapted to increased track loads on overloaded tracks and that will reduce the foundation load (BS 78); - Use a concrete tie with bed plate and only two tie bolts for less heavily loaded tracks (BS65 with offset); and
- Change over from wood to concrete so that switch ties will be concrete.

Independent of the introduction of this strategy, the construction sector of the State Railway is confronted with the task of producing 900,000 concrete ties annually and installing them to stabilize the track network of the State Railway. With regard to scientific and technical development, this means:

- Creating the necessary prerequisites for the earliest possible start-up of mass production of the BS 78 using a robot-aided manufacturing line;
- Solving problems related to developing the offset BS 65 and introducing these procedures swiftly into mass production;
- Completion of development for a concrete tie for switches according to the specifications of the Uniform Technical Specifications (UTS) for Concrete, plus preparations for production start-up during the period covered by the next five-year plan.

In the course of all these measures, at the same time it is important not to disregard the need to complete mechanization programs, as well as to continue maintenance programs for rebuilt and new construction. In this process, development, design, robot production and production of efficiency-related equipment, project planning, investment planning, and not the least, the solution to problems related to all TTW-processes associated with these factors, involve all operations, plants, and aspects associated with railway construction. Furthermore, it will be necessary that the scientific-technical capacities of all sectors of the State Railway and both Traffic and Construction Systems contribute to performing these tasks.

In the area of route electrification, the main concern is accelerating efficiency measures for production planning, organization and implementation, while maintaining proven foundation solutions, that is drill, piling, and on-site mixed concrete foundations. This involves placing major emphasis on implementation and comprehensive execution of:

- Computer aided project and production planning;
- Maintenance of concentrated foundation sequences for each section of track in the form of continuous production; and
- Concentrated application of capacity and machines with fewer construction peaks.

In addition to these factors, there are also a series of basic questions to be solved, such as working out long-term, stable construction programs and coordinating foundation efforts with other construction procedures. So far as scientific-technical work is concerned, additional efforts must be oriented towards:

- Optimum introduction of square concrete masts, together with the used of efficient special foundations until we have entirely mastered complicated TTW processes;
- Replacement of all the generally expensive block and special design foundations with efficient piling or bore foundations;
- Reduction of the range of stressed concrete masts, including square concrete masts, in order to make the technical sequence and TTW processes more efficient; as well as
- Replacement of non-socialist special equipment currently being used to build bore and piling foundations, since this equipment requires export credits.

With the implementation of these goals, we must also achieve essential improvement in overall efforts for preplanning, execution, and calculation, based on characteristic and normative values that still must be worked out.

In the immediate past, needs for renewal and reconstruction have been left unmet; in order to correct this problem in the medium term, it is necessary to create conditions conducive to efficient railway bridge rehabilitation. This affects both steel and masonry bridge construction and still has a substantial influence on related construction operations. While maintaining existing design solutions, these efforts involve improving the integration of these procedures into the program of network stabilization through a tangible reduction in disassembly and assembly times, as well as developing and mobilizing efficient construction teams for reconstruction projects. In order to implement this goal, such tasks as the following must be solved and introduced:

- Generation of definite coordination between new track network construction programs and bridge construction procedures in order to concentrate energy and materials;
- Efficiency measures and increased mechanization for restoration and demolition work by applying new engineering procedures for masonry bridges, viaducts in particular;
- Expansion of the assortment of manufactured parts for partial and complete frames, as well as abutments, support walls, and bridgehead construction, including related calculations using the Uniform Engineering Specifications for Concrete;
- Adaptation of the selection of steel superstructures in Uniform Series II Generation based on anticipated spans; and
- Increased effectiveness of prefabrication for steel and

masonry bridge construction, introduction of efficiency programs for TTW processes, and increase scope of application for the construction method using reinforced earth for support structures and abutments.

Parallel to and on an equal par with standard primary construction trades already cited, the scientific-technical development in railway construction includes industrial production and project planning, which constitute a necessary prerequisite for other activities. Within the framework of industrial production, that is switch manufacturing, fabrication of materials for increasing track-laying efficiency and shunting technology, and maintenance of track-laying machines, construction machines, and equipment (production of concrete ties and fabrication of steel bridges has already been mentioned), the following decisive preconditions must be achieved in order to increase the degree of efficiency represented by the construction sector of the German State Railway for the stabilization of track systems:

- High quality, wear-resistance switching designs must be made available for State Railway track systems in order to accommodate higher operating loads;
- Technical track braking equipment must be manufactured in sufficient quantities to meet the operating needs of the State Railway;
- In order to ensure that the construction and systems sectors of the State Railway can perform their assigned tasks, it is necessary to guarantee optimum availability of machines, equipment, and systems according to an accepted maintenance system;
- The required conditions for mutual fulfillment of governmental agreements between the GDR, the USSR, and the other CEMA states for further mechanization of the construction sector of the State Railway must be guaranteed;
- Development and production of robotic equipment for the specific conditions required by the construction sector of the State Railway with all its varied needs is to be secured;
- Production of materials and equipment needed for increased efficiency is to be implemented to create a fully functioning system that is attuned to the decentralized capacities represented by construction mechanization for track laying and construction management.

Project-planning strategies must be directed toward the introduction of CAD technology in order to ensure conditions that

- Will considerably decrease necessary project planning effort;
- Will provide for the anticipated and unequivocally necessary project planning sequence;
- Will be able to implement current, specifically necessary situations with regard to short-term adjustments or modified project planning.

The transition to CAD-oriented working methods is to be accelerated with all available means and to be implemented as a complex within existing structural systems.

The solution for these stated goals not only requires the concentrated application of scientific-technical potential in the construction sector. In implementing these tasks, it is also important to integrate the existing potential in university and tradeschool staffs, activities in the operating sector of the Chamber for Technology, and not in the least, the power of the innovation movement.

13127

HUNGARY

Role of County Councils in Economic Reorganization Discussed

25000014 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian
6 Oct 87 p 4

[Article by Katalin Szikora and Andras Szentkiralyi: "Presidential Working Session in Parliament—The Councils' Chances of Managing Business," under the rubric "The Councils' Forum"]

[Text] Chairmen of the several county councils held a working session last Friday in the Parliament building. Karoly Grosz, president of the Council of Ministers opened the meeting and deputy president Istvan Horvath acted as moderator.

Timely problems of council management were the topic of discussion following the prime minister's opening remarks. National Planning Council [OTH] chairman Laszlo Marothy expressed his opinions, and deputy finance minister Laszlo Bekesi informed council chairmen of new management tasks.

The regular monthly meeting of the council chairmen was preceded by a particularly important session of Parliament during which the representatives adopted the government's work program. The program confronts the counties with several new situations. Therefore it was no coincidence that the meeting evaluated the new conditions affecting council management, that the head of the government addressed the meeting and that the OTH chairman and the deputy finance minister having jurisdiction discussed the implementation of the plan. Because of the significance of this issue, today's Council's Forum deals exclusively with this subject and presents the ideas conveyed by Marothy and Bekesi.

Marothy discussed the chances of fulfilling this year's plan and the conditions that attend the preparation of next year's people's economy plan. He shared his concerns with the county council chairmen and stressed the achievements, conditions and tasks of council management. He stated that "compared to the economy as a whole, the past two years were more successful because

the backward areas of Hungary experienced development. These were linked to regional tasks related to structural transformation. In order to reestablish the economic balance, central government support of counties was reduced by 6 billion forints over the past two years. At the same time, however, revenues collected by councils have substantially increased, the bulk of which was spent by the councils for developmental purposes."

It is noteworthy that the number of residential dwellings constructed coincides with the planned levels. The conditions of grade school and high school education have shown levels of improvement higher than anticipated, and the drinking water supply has expanded. In areas where the consumer service infrastructure was inadequate, such as in the counties of Borsod, Szabolcs, Bekes and Pest, developmental efforts to upgrade the basic services has accelerated.

Reduced State Contributions

Marothy outlined further tasks that lay ahead for the councils during the stabilization period. Central government resources for regional development and for council management will be reduced in the coming years. This will make the fulfillment of both operational and developmental needs more difficult. Relative to county medium range plans, central government support will be reduced by 10 percent, and within that, central government contributions for developmental purposes will be reduced by 35 percent. It is expected that these reductions will adversely affect all municipalities and councils.

It is for this reason that councils must formulate local operational and developmental policies that are different from earlier conceptions, but which nevertheless tend to moderate the tensions of everyday life, and endeavour to achieve a balance in service provisions between urban and non-urban areas.

There are a number of diverse tasks to be resolved with respect to continued full employment. County councils must strengthen their continuous cooperation with business organizations to enable them to forecast workforce mobility, and to prepare for providing new employment for displaced workers. Existing local governmental service activities must be increased. In the interest of creating new jobs, county governments must think in terms of increasing the number of small organizations which could absorb the workforce released from other places. The government will in the near future render decisions concerning an increase in the permissible number of hires by small tradesmen, and about the size of privately owned resort boarding homes in order to enhance tourism.

Unified Planning Conception

Workforce planning must be modernized. What the OTH, the government and at the councils have today is inappropriate. Unless there exists a unified workforce

planning conception applicable at all levels, the negative consequences of the lack of planning will be borne by the national economy. They will retard the dynamics of the economy, in addition to creating individual concerns.

Concerning the supply of residential dwellings, Marothy said that in the coming year greater sociopolitical benefits must be provided to residential construction firms and to those who purchase dwellings—especially to those with large families. These benefits will offset the burdens placed upon the population. The government is preparing a new residential dwelling policy.

The present system by which residential dwellings are being provided must be modernized so as to increase the certainty of being able to secure a dwelling, and to permit the evolution of a situation in which the opportunity to acquire a dwelling and the use of dwellings corresponds with the social welfare conditions of individual families. We must provide incentives to increase the number of entrepreneurs who build and renew residential dwellings. This is the foundation concept for the residential dwelling policy, including the management of state-owned dwellings.

Modernization of Governmental Functions

Long-range regional development plans will not change. National and county-level medium-range programs for the development of backward regions must continue. Although at a pace slower than projected, the resolution of supply problems in the most backward regions, and with respect to basic infrastructural supplies, the reduction of qualitative differences between regions continues.

The government intends to impart a sound rationale for its activities, functions and organizations. Paralleling, and in conjunction with this endeavor, the functions and organization of councils must be streamlined. It would be inconceivable to detail only the central government's role. The most important consideration is to increase the economic independence of councils and to strengthen democratic decision-making forums.

Marothy concluded his remarks by discussing the partnership between councils and the OTH, and the need for continuous dialog and joint planning.

Deputy finance minister Bekesi conveyed a sense of the people's economy's financial processes. He emphasized that subsidies, exemptions, benefits and other budgetary expenses that benefit counties and municipalities must be reduced. This includes basic budgetary allotments for political subdivisions.

The Indebtedness of Councils

Concerning the public management of political subdivisions by councils, Bekesi viewed this year's performance as laden with contradictions and tensions. Bekesi specifically called attention to the extraordinary increase in the

indebtedness of councils. "In the form of loans and bonds, within a single year the level of indebtedness has increased by four billion forints. We understand that there is a need to borrow in order to complete on-going investment projects and to fulfill promises made to the people. It would seem appropriate, nevertheless, to borrow within rational limits. If for no other reason: If the present rate of increase in indebtedness continues, it threatens with danger not only in 1989, but also during the Eighth 5-Year Plan. The possibility of repaying the debts will consistently decrease."

In his analysis of the coming year's financial opportunities Bekesi stated that based on constant prices, funds available to councils will increase by 5 percent—200 billion forints more than in 1987. At the same time however, next year's combined council budget will be about 15 billion forints less than what was available during the Seventh 5-Year Plan. The greatest cuts may be expected in investment funds. In spite of all this, however, the government does not intend to change the basic principles enunciated in the Seventh 5-Year Plan. Councils will continue to have full authority over the disposition of funds they can acquire in 1987.

Next year, of course, those other opportunities projected in the Seventh 5-Year Plan must also be worked on. In any event, the government plans to provide councils with the equivalent of a 3 percent wage increase in the basic services areas, i.e. health-care, social welfare and education.

The Difference and Central Support

"All wage increases stemming from tax and price reforms and from the new aggregate wage calculation will be transferred from the central government to the councils, for distribution under the full authority of the councils. Every institution must implement this change—schools, hospitals and other institutions," according to Bekesi. "I emphasize this fact because we are aware of some councils who plan to spend these funds for other purposes. This will be out of question. The increase in wages must be implemented consistently, and will be fully enforced!"

Bekesi continued by saying that the most important task of the coming weeks is preparation for the introduction of the new tax system and the provision of adequate information to taxpayers. "We must keep our promise that the cost of tax operations at the county level will be proportionate with the central apparatus, and that we will provide adequate incentives for county councils so as to be interested in administering that apparatus. It would be desirable that at least 60 taxpayer information offices be organized in cities and large municipalities in addition to those at county seats. These offices should be located in the offices of local councils."

Bekesi stressed that there was no change in taxes related to residential dwellings, to buildings that serve as residential dwellings, and to structures that serve purposes other than those of residential dwelling. Similarly the contributions for area developmental purposes remain unchanged. Concerning the latter, Bekesi said that "previous decisions for the duration of the Seventh 5-Year Plan have been affirmed. Accordingly, in due consideration of comments emanating from the general public, the individual councils will decide whether to implement or to abandon their earlier commitments. In any event, it is the achievement of goals that counts!"

Speaking of county council finances, Bekesi said that from among the significant revenue sources heretofore enjoyed by councils, city and municipal contributions and wage taxes will be discontinued, and the sales tax will be reduced. These are being replaced by personal income taxes. "Our goal is that personal income tax revenues become revenues for councils. This, however, cannot be directly accomplished in 1988, because we do not have the necessary data for each area. Accordingly, in 1988, the personal income taxes collected will revert to the local councils through the central government, according to the number of inhabitants under the various councils' jurisdictions. In the event the tax revenues collected are insufficient to cover potential shortages—i.e. possible drops in the present level of revenues to be discontinued in 1988—central subsidies will make up the difference.

Questions Raised by the Council Chairmen

Considering the above, next year the revenue structure of councils will undergo a change. This means first of all that the central government's share of local contributions will decrease to approximately 50 percent, while local revenues based on direct individual contributions will increase from 10 percent to 30 percent.

Responding to a question by Csongrad County Council chairman Jozsef Papdi regarding expectations with respect to the authority of councils to borrow money and to float bonds, Bekesi said that "no decision has yet been reached in regards to next year's credit policies. One thing appears as certain, however: There will be no change with respect to interest rates and to sources of credit that may be utilized. We would like to provide a moderate increase in the number of available credit sources, but even an expansion of this nature would fall short by far of existing council needs. Concerning bond issues: there no longer will be a maximum limit on the interest payable on bonds. It is expected that the removal of this ceiling will encourage competition in the bond market."

Another issue raised by the Csongrad County chairman pertained to the desirability of participation by councils in various entrepreneurial undertakings. Bekesi's response was as follows: "We are very much opposed to county investments in risky enterprises. This concern is

underscored by today's very difficult situation. The counties' primary expense object should be the development of the infrastructure and the operation of various service delivery systems that are needed by the people. The situation is different, of course, when a council 'saves funds' for the fulfillment of a multi-year long range plan. In such instances local councils must plan to obtain a return on their money. But under no circumstances should investments be made in an irresponsible manner."

Nograd County chairman Miklos Devcsics expressed his belief that county councils should oversee the security of local council financial management practices. "This idea is justified," Bekesi said, "but the conditions for such oversight do not exist, just as the conditions for central government oversight of county finances do not exist. We must recognize that county council interference in the regulation of local council planning is unavoidable. Our intent nevertheless remains the same, and we recommend that related changes should place minimum burden on local councils."

More Sophisticated Legislative Activities

Bacs-Kiskun County chairman Istvan Gajdocsi inquired about the outcome of a review of the so-called non-productive sphere. Within that he wanted to find out how these findings affect the economic management of councils. Bekesi replied that "the review of the council structure, and the reduction of unnecessary parallel activities served the purpose of reducing public expenditures. While it is recognized that in this area some necessary steps should be taken, the concrete results are meager. The basic principle is that the utilization of savings in wages should correspond with reductions in personnel at the councils. In places where such reductions do not take place by the middle of next year, the central government will require the implementation of reductions according to its own plans, and the resultant savings also will have to be utilized as directed by the central government."

Bekesi concluded by saying that "the government is preparing to present its next budget to the fall session of the National Assembly in a form different from the one used before. The changed format became necessary because the present Parliament is far more sophisticated than its predecessors, and is 'hungry' for information supported by facts. I am also convinced that this same kind of sophistication exists at the county level. For this reason, all information must be shared with county and local councils, and full background briefings must be provided even with respect to the most difficult, most sensitive issues."

The segment concerning timely issues pertaining to the financial management of councils, and attended by the chairmen of county councils, adjourned following closing remarks of Deputy Prime Minister Horvath.

12995

Last Minute Rescues: 'Bankruptcies Without Bankruptcy'

25000006 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian
17 Oct 87 p 5

[Interview with deputy finance minister Gyula Csaky:
"The Case of Bankruptcies Without Bankruptcy—The
Life Jacket Arrives on Time"]

[Text] The discontinuation of uneconomical production is an important part of the government's stabilization program. Loss operations must be either reorganized so that they produce marketable products, or they must be shut down. A uniform procedure for reorganization and bankruptcy proceedings already provides a legal basis for the modernization of the economy. But so far reorganization played the predominant role: during the past year there were only two liquidations. Will the procedures applied to loss operations change in the framework of stabilization? Will the bankruptcy law fulfill its mission? We asked these questions from deputy finance minister Gyula Csaky.

[Question] The revival of bankruptcy proceedings represents a critique of the past. Yet the previous year's actual experience shows that these proceedings are seldom used. Why is that so?

Few Changes

[Answer] Until now, the settlement of losses, or of operating fund shortages at enterprises was the state's business. Enterprises frequently assumed the uninvolved bystander's attitude in this process. In contrast, the introduction of bankruptcy proceedings represents a substantial step forward, because it enables the resolution of insolvency problems within the economy. The settlement of the financial problems of loss operations heavily drained the central treasury. This was one of several reasons for having to increase fund withdrawals from enterprises. Since the enactment of the bankruptcy law it is no longer necessary for the central government to pay for losses, and it was possible to expand the number of rules and regulations that are more favorable to enterprises. Accelerated write-offs, tax benefits, a modified administrative order for the mandatory replenishment of operating funds all served to increase the number of available action choices for profitable enterprises and to expand their developmental resources. Nevertheless the system designed to deal with insolvency does not function as anticipated. Last year far fewer enterprises than expected struggled with insolvency problems. Suddenly we discovered that there were no enterprises to be liquidated.

[Question] Considering the present state of the economy, this appears to be a curious change in fortunes.

[Answer] Indeed. We counted on 200-300 deficit enterprises per year. The apparatus for reorganization and liquidation was also built on this premise. But even today there are certain factors which continue to shield losses, and thus the enterprises do not become insolvent.

[Question] What are these factors?

[Answer] The number of operating units is small compared to Hungary's total production volume. Large enterprises continue to make up the majority of business organizations. Steps aiming for administrative decentralization were not overly successful. During the past two years state intervention achieved some results only by changing the financial stake of enterprises. As a result of the preferential system some 100 new business organizations were created, but this did not significantly change the fact that the total number of businesses is small.

The disadvantage of having a large enterprise structure is that under that structure one cannot distinguish subordinate units within enterprises that constitute loss operations from those that are profitable. Liberal credit practices also helped enterprises delay insolvency. Commercial banks are willing to take risks, because in the end the risks do not materialize. If in the end a business becomes truly insolvent the banks can instantly recover their funds. The need to export and the related system of preferences also enable enterprises to conceal their failures. And then I could mention the attitude of "today it's me, tomorrow it's you," which prompts a substantial part of the enterprises to pursue lax collection practices. Taken together, all this produced a situation in which significantly fewer enterprises were subject to bankruptcy proceedings than expected.

Large Amounts

[Question] It appears that not all is well in the area of reorganization. Theoretically speaking, the financial problems of business organizations may be settled with the help of central funds only once every three years. In reality, however, in some instances reorganization takes place more frequently. There are instances in which reorganization takes place following several years of loss operation. This is significantly more costly than providing financial assistance at the time when troubles begin.

[Answer] The law permits state reorganization of enterprises under four circumstances: non-performance on private contracts that create international obligations, defense considerations, long-term, large-scale employment problems, and individual decisions by the cabinet based on the merits of a given situation. Reorganization, however, does not result in structural change. It merely settles the accumulated losses. Thus reorganization takes place more frequently because the economic conditions remain unchanged and the losses regenerate themselves. This is particularly so with respect to cooperatives. For

this reason it is not our goal to use the means of reorganization in cases where we do not see an assurance for recovery following the settlement of losses.

[Question] Yet you deem the 2 billion forint pool available for reorganization to be insufficient.

[Answer] The budget earmarks 3 billion forints for purposes of reorganization. Although we were forced to reduce these funds by one billion, we can make up the reduction by floating treasury certificates and bonds. But, as I said, our goal is not to fully exhaust these funds, and I must add, the Ministry of Finance does not at all view the funds available for this purpose as inadequate.

[Question] How many businesses will have their losses and shortages in operating funds settled this year?

[Answer] At present, five organizations are in the process of government-ordered reorganization. Based on Ministry of Finance determinations, proceedings had been initiated in two additional cases. In addition to these, we paid out six-to-eight hundred million forints for the reorganization of cooperatives. We audited 100 cooperatives which experienced shortages in operating funds—we initiated liquidation proceedings against two of those. Six cooperatives are trying to reestablish themselves by rescheduling their obligations, the rest will be reorganized. Note, however, that these instances included losses suffered as a result of last year's draught. In the future we will treat separately the losses suffered as a result of natural disasters from those caused by mismanagement. The two kinds of losses will not be viewed or treated the same way.

[Question] Business organizations subject to frequent reorganization and unable to recover even after several reorganizations, would require more serious intervention, such as restructuring. On the other hand, the employees of firms being liquidated complain that the period of uncertainty is protracted, and that they are unable to predict their future. Could these concerns be attributed to the inflexibility of governmental intervention?

[Answer] Under no circumstances. It is the government's responsibility to see to it that the "rules of the game" are abided by and to find solutions to economic difficulties. We can only offer help—we cannot tell what should be done. It is apparent that the frequently reorganized deficit cooperatives are struggling with a shortage of capital, or they are cultivating bad lands. In these areas

one must examine whether these cooperatives are suitable for large-scale production. Nevertheless the size of specialized cooperatives, small cooperatives and private businesses is to be determined locally.

As a Result of Insolvency

Liquidation can indeed be a lengthy process. Within one year fifty liquidation proceedings were initiated—this is the number of cases dealt with by the state authority in charge of liquidation. Of these fifty instances only two required intervention in response to insolvency. In cases where accounts receivable are uncollectable, or where needs cannot be satisfied, liquidation can become an extended process. And incidentally, it is not easy to reestablish appropriate new economic conditions in the wake of liquidation. An entrepreneur would be needed—with capital if possible—one who is willing to commit funds into the remaining buildings and equipment. All this cannot come about as a result of governmental action.

There Is No Real Disturbance

[Question] Many things will change next year. Will the new regulations speed up these processes? Is it conceivable that the bankruptcy law will be invoked more frequently?

[Answer] The future economic environment will be built on the logic of the bankruptcy law which went into effect prematurely. The deactivation of the system of subsidies and benefits will not only alleviate the state budget, but will also enable us to clearly distinguish viable firms from badly managed businesses. Reduced purchasing power can produce a balance between supply and demand. The sharper focus can force enterprises to collect on their accounts receivable, thereby increasing financial discipline. (Smaller organizations frequently experience an inability to pay salaries and wages, thus they cannot afford to show leniency toward their insolvent business partners. Large enterprises have not yet experienced real disturbances of this kind. The life jacket is always thrown to them in time.) If decentralization continues, large enterprises will not be able to afford the maintenance of partial loss operations. Although one cannot establish an accurate prognosis, all signs indicate that the badly managed firms will indeed become insolvent. The overwhelming majority, of course, will have to settle its financial problems without relying on bankruptcy provisions. Appropriate forms of action have been developed for these purposes also. At the same time, however, a far greater number of enterprises will be thrust into situations that trigger bankruptcy proceedings. Accordingly, as the new regulatory system itself accelerates the economic processes, the role of liquidation will increase.

12995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Long-Range Forecast of Nation Summed Up *24000378b Prague PRACE in Czech 22 Jun 87 p 2*

[First paragraph is PRACE introduction]

[Text] PRAGUE (CTK). The long-range forecast of the development of the CSSR till the year 2010 was the topic of a press conference held yesterday in Prague. Valtr Komarek, director of the Prognostic Institute of the CZAS spoke with reporters and answered their questions.

The long-range forecast is based not only on economic, but also on social, health and other factors. The decisive element of any further development appears to be the measure of success of economic and political reconstruction, particularly of its structural aspects, of changes the in management system and of newly-devised relations between the plan and the socialist market.

Comparison with other industrially developed countries indicates the necessity to curtail the traditional branches in the interest of highly productive modern highly industry, capable to attain favorable export prices, creating thus means for import. Machine-tool industry, special chemicals, biotechnology and best quality consumer goods production could particularly profit from the highly qualified working force and industrial tradition in Czechoslovakia. This trend corresponds with internal needs as well as with the objective trends of the worldwide and socialist work distribution as well.

12707

Construction Industry Gets Unfavorable Evaluation *24000378c Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech 5 Jun 87 p 3*

[Article by Eng Lubomir Parik; first paragraph is MLADA FRONTA introduction]

[Text] I read with interest the article of architect Vaclav Kralicek and, as a construction engineer, I have to admit that in many respects he is right. I believe that the present unfavorable conditions in the mass prefabricated housing construction are the result of an unhealthy inertia, a satisfaction with the attained level on the one hand and of an insufficient effort to further improve the quality on the other hand. This unfortunate phenomenon is not only particular to the construction industry, but to most of the branches of our present socialist economy as well.

Nobody in our country will argue that without prefabricated housing we would have ever been able to fulfill the gigantic task of housing construction imposed on us in the fifties.

What is, however, startling and completely wrong is the fact that after the initially successful fulfillment of the housing construction plan, further development of quality stagnated and that after almost 30 years, the prefabricated construction did not bring any significant progress, neither in technical, nor in esthetic quality of the housing projects. It might be true that the building industry managed to eliminate leakages into the gaps between the panels, as well as moisture penetration into the panels and that unreliable insulations made from chaff concrete or pressed chaff boards were discontinued. Experiments were made with single-layer external panels made from ceramals concrete, cinder pellets, hollow bricks, gas, silicates etc. Other materials were developed and used, such as three-layer panels with a gradually reinforced polystyrene plate, or new models of partitions, apartment cores, windows, doors and floor coverings. One of the worst technical and technological defects—badly sealed roof jackets—is still not satisfactorily removed. Equally detrimental was the fact that the introduced volume typification, originally accepted even by architects as the most rational process of design and production, has not been markedly modified and, consequently, uniformity ensued.

The volume typification, together with insufficient modification and variety of styles was at the root of the persistently bad quality of urbanistic and architectonic achievements. The grey, soft facade are at the origin of the so-called "grey plague"—in a country with important production of ceramic facing tiles for durable, high-quality tiling for prefabs, that are exported abroad.

All this results from the lack of proper profitability calculations in the housing construction; they would certainly reveal this deceptive process. All the hitherto-performed rationalization measures only brought unilateral profit to the monopolized, competitionless production and had no influence whatsoever on the building investments' costs reduction. This is not socialist construction entrepreneurship but a state-managed operation.

It is a pity that it took 12 years to accept, last year, the proposal to use parametric prices for the evaluation of building production in the capital investment. This proposal could already have disclosed a long time ago not only the marked differences in the technologies of monolithic, prefabricated constructions, but also the differences between the assembled, possibly combined frames and the large-surface panels.

The introduction of parametric prices based on precisely defined profitable and technical parameters of products, will clearly indicate these differences; and should the monopolized position of the construction production be abolished, the investors and the developers will be able to choose the veritably most economical solutions. The innovations can be best realized in connection with the aging of production facilities in the panel factories. It is advantageous to combine the lower-grade innovations

with the changing of moulds in a cycle of 3-5 years. This is the period to inaugurate new types of volume of the building structures. The best period for higher grade innovations with interventions in construction systems is 12-15 years; within that time, entire production lines in panel factories must be changed and modernized.

In view of the deep-rooted abuse, this process will most certainly be rather difficult. It is well worth while though to adopt it, as it will be to the advantage of everybody and help the rehabilitation of our construction industry. The author of the article "Why Does the Society Pay Architects?" will get then his answer and the transfer of realization projects to building enterprises will not annoy him. It only means that the responsibility for the preparation of the state-of-the art quality of the development projects has been well divided. If the concept studies and the initial projects reach the desired level, nothing can really happen to the detriment of architectural creation.

12707

Selling Alcohol to Juveniles Criticized

24000378a Prague SVOBODNE SLOVO in Czech
10 Jun 87 p 3

[Text] The law enforcement authorities investigated during the past year altogether 12,886 criminal cases committed by 15,548 children and juveniles. One of the principal causes of the criminal acts—of 19 percent of them in this case—was already almost traditionally alcohol. It goes without saying that all employees of the restaurant sector are well acquainted with law No 120 which prohibits the sale of alcohol to all citizens under the age of 18. In the course of 1986 however, out of the 834 controls made by the police, 804 were "successful"; and this in spite of the fact that in all bars, restaurants and hotels, displayed notices warn car drivers, juveniles and persons already "under the influence" about the futility of their yearning for alcoholic beverages. Here, unfortunately, the proverb about the greyness of theory and greenness of practice can be applied. It is no secret either that certain people working in the restaurant trade are by no means enemies of fast and easily earned money. A lower criminality rate, especially among young people, is in the interest of the whole society. But in the same society, there are specialists able to figure out that the culprits who sell alcohol to juveniles will soon recover the penalty imposed. And we are not even mentioning here the damage caused to health and—some might be surprised—to the morale and character as well. The profit from the sale of alcoholic beverages made by various organizations is indeed included in the capital accumulation plan, which must be fulfilled and even surpassed. It is therefore irrelevant to whom these beverages were sold.

It is repeated all the time that, as far as alcohol consumption is concerned, whether hard liquor or beer and wine, Czechoslovakia is way up there in statistics both in

Europe and the world at large. Warnings from doctors, sociologists, youth union officials, even ordinary citizens, abound. Alcohol is involved in 33 percent of adult and 19 percent of juvenile crimes. Make room for youth?! 12707

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Protestant Synod Discusses Controversial Issues

West German Analysis of Synod

23000014a Bonn INFORMATIONEN in German
2 Oct 87 pp 10-12

[Article: "Synod of the Protestant Church in the GDR Met at Goerlitz"; first paragraph is INFORMATIONEN introduction]

[Text] The Synod of the Association of Protestant Churches in the GDR, which convened from 18 through 22 September 1987 at Goerlitz (Bezirk Dresden), came out for more encounter opportunities involving people of other countries and for strengthening the majority position occupied by GDR citizens. As representatives of the 8 land churches the 60 synod participants came out for an open identification of problems in the GDR and for an improvement in relations with people in eastern Europe in the document entitled "Declarations Pertaining to the Question of Peace," which they adopted. The synod proceedings were reported in detail by the EVANGELISCHE PRESSEDIENST (EPD), which is published at Frankfurt am Main; in contrast, the synod meeting at Goerlitz was paid only little attention by GDR media.

In the basic portion of the document previous renunciations of the "spirit, logic, and practice of deterrents" were confirmed. It was, thus, stressed that the "spirit of deterrents" tends to raise one's own security to the level of a false idol, in support of which one is ready to sacrifice people by the millions and to gamble with life on this planet.

With respect to "the logic of deterrents," it is said, among others, that it was seeking its own security by spreading fear and by keeping the poor countries dependent "so that they would not disrupt the balance of the rich." With respect to the "practice of deterrents" it was, in the final analysis, emphasized that it was already killing today through hunger and misery and was leading to a militarization of life and thought from the kindergarten and school level through the world economy and science level.

The peace presentation—which was adopted by the synod participants without opposing votes but with three abstentions—called armed service an "adventure" during which those in the armed services must consider "how and whether their service is used to reduce and prevent force and serves toward establishing an international order of peace and justice." A refusal to serve in

the armed forces or perform any military service is designated in the text as an "expression of the affirmation of faith, leading to the path of peace."

The deputy chairman of the Federation of Churches, Manfred Stolpe, took a position on this topic, which had been discussed by the Protestant Church in the GDR for years repeatedly, and pointed out that anyone who refuses to perform unarmed military service in the GDR would still have to count on being the subject of criminal prosecution. He had proposed to the responsible authorities in the GDR that they utilize the available readiness to serve on the part of these young people in the civilian sector, for example, by instituting substitute service in the health and social sphere.

The peace paper of the synod also addressed the duty of the state to assure rights and peace; this is said today to no longer be possible to accomplish through a security system which is based on intimidation. What is desirable, moreover, is a system of joint security based on the building of confidence. Only within the framework of such a concept is military defense preparedness said to be still justifiable.

As a consequence of this view, the synod pleaded for strengthening the coming of age of GDR citizens through the provision of appropriate information, as well as through open and public discussion. In this regard, it is literally stated:

"Because smoldering conflicts in one society also endanger peace for others, we want to address the problems in our country openly, to search for their causes, and to contribute toward overcoming them."

A plea was also made for peace education in the parental home, in the kindergarten, in the school, and in society and for a renunciation of hostile rhetoric "against everyone." Moreover, the relationship toward people in eastern Europe should be improved. Because a "predatory handling" of nature threatens peace and the life of future generations, the text finally also calls for a lifestyle which "does justice to our natural environment and has a future."

In another resolution, the synod participants came out for more legal guarantees, as well as additional and less puzzling legal regulations pertaining to travel possibilities for GDR citizens. In this connection, they expressed the anticipation that the exchange of publications, journals, and information material will undergo across-border expansion.

This resolution further states that "legal guarantees and legal clarity" are essential to secure the cooperation of citizens, toward which end they must be familiar with their rights and obligations; internal resolutions and measures, which are unknown to the individual and, therefore, not understood by him, are said to lead to dissatisfaction and to induce speculation.

The participants of the synod addressed a plea to the Conference of Church Managements in the GDR in the resolution asking them to come to an agreement with the Protestant churches in the Federal Republic of Germany as to how the churches of both German states could contribute to "systematically overcoming existing differences."

In two additional resolutions the synod dealt with the problem of foreigners in the GDR, as well as taking a position on the question of disarmament and arms control. In the first resolution an appeal was addressed to the state and to society in general not to make contacts by foreigners with churches and communities more difficult or to prevent it, because this is said to lead to uncertainty and fears among those involved. It was pointed out that the number of foreigners who are studying in the GDR and who are undergoing professional training has increased substantially over the past years. This has allegedly led to conflicts, fears, and condemnation among the population—and has occasionally led even to animosity against foreigners.

In the second resolution the agreement of both world powers about the dismantling of intermediate-range missiles was welcomed. The synod thus felt encouraged to renew its appeal for a complete termination of all nuclear weapons tests.

On the other hand, the synod did not see itself in a position, "at this point in time," to formally announce a "renunciation in the practice and principle of differentiation." This motion had played a great role in the synod discussions and had been supported in numerous presentations by members of congregations.

At the synod Erfurt provost Heino Falcke had made himself their advocate. In the debate he called for an "open discussion of problems and conflicts in the society of the GDR." In his opinion it is necessary for the current process of a "controlled opening" toward the outside be followed by opening and openness toward the inside. The GDR would have to learn—Falcke said an EPD report says—to discuss its problems frankly under conditions of world openness. Falcke said:

"We cannot serve the reputation of socialism by spreading the mantle of silence over its weaknesses and shortcomings."

In terms of concrete steps the motion proposed the following, among others:

- i. the complete reestablishment of visa-free travel between Poland and the GDR;
- ii. legally guaranteed freedom of travel to Western countries;
- iii. abolition of entry prohibitions even for former GDR citizens based on political reasons;

iv. introduction of mandatory justification where travel permission has been denied.

According to Falcke, the response to the motion which had already been discussed in the spring of 1987 at the Berlin-Brandenburg Synod shows "that this truly touches a sore spot in our society." The more progress is made with respect to the relaxation of tensions and the more normal conversations and visits in the East and in the West would become, "the more monstrously does the wall appear in the political landscape."

According to EPD reports, the discussion with respect to this motion was "controversially conducted." Motion opponents criticized primarily the timing of such a debate, particularly since the GDR leadership currently found itself in a process of domestic and foreign policy openings. It was also said to be problematic, according to a participant in the synod, if the delimitation policy with its principle of deterrent and its deadly consequences were to be raised to the same level.

These reasons obviously contributed toward preventing the motion made by Falcke from becoming the foundation of a resolution. In a letter to the proposers of the motion the members of the synod justified their position primarily by saying that the GDR was currently pursuing a policy of opening which would overcome the delimitation problem.

In the consultations conducted by the synod it had reportedly become clear "how people suffer very much from the consequences of boundaries and delimitations of the most varied types, how they have suffered wounds, and how very much they desire changes." The synod suggested that the dispatchers of proposals be invited to a seminar on the topic of "Delimitation and Opening" which is supposed to be held in January 1988.

Discussion of Church-State Problems

*23000014a Schwerin MECKLENBURGISCHE
KIRCHENZEITUNG in German 27 Sep 87 p 1*

[Article by Marion Wulf: "From the Session of the Federal Synod in Goerlitz—Problem Areas Are Being Discussed"]

[Text] The problem areas in church-state relations have not essentially changed. This evaluation is reached in the report of the Conference of Protestant Church Managements which was handed to the Federal Synod which met in Goerlitz from 18 through 20 September.

The report says that there are unchanged fundamental questions in the area of education and enlightenment, thus raising the question as to whether the concept of "communist education" perhaps includes the totality of the ideology of Marxism-Leninism and, thus, excludes ideological coexistence from the beginning. "Are Christian parents generally desired in the creation of parental subcommittees and parental activists?" was the question.

With respect to individual cases which have become known and which it was possible to discuss with state authorities, there were almost always individual solutions. Nevertheless, a determination of the principal questions at a responsible level was said to be necessary now as before.

In the area of military service questions it was determined that construction units continue to be committed to civilian projects. However, this does not provide answers to the basic questions of military service refusal on the grounds of conscience. If "civil military replacement service in the civilian sector" were to become possible, the discussion on this point could be eased, the conference emphasized. The fundamentals of good togetherness in society include equal rights and equal respect, the conference report further states. This would be something "the individual could experience with respect to the decision covering requests for visitor travel and in responding to petitions."

The conference particularly emphasized the changed conduct of the media in the GDR. Church life is said to be gaining increasing consideration in the media and collaborators and congregations would have to be prepared to be addressed. In view of the general information practice it is still often the experience that only positive facts are reported unilaterally which absolutely do not always correspond with personal impressions. This tends to undermine confidence, promote resignation, and is said to give rise to rumors. "In our efforts to achieve a truthfulness which would serve coexistence, we, as Christians, must not grow tired in this society," states the report read by church president Natho.

On 21 May, the governing body of the Conference of Protestant Church Managements had the opportunity to present to the state secretary for church affairs "that which has been repeatedly validated by congregations and synods." In the conversation the chairman of the conference welcomed the disarmament proposals made by General Secretary Gorbachev. The conference expects that the agreement to dismantle intermediate-range missiles in Europe would come to pass this year. This would be a beginning which would have to be followed by additional steps in disarmament.

Confidence between those who govern was said to be the prerequisite in foreign policy for real steps toward disarmament, just as much as, in internal policy, taking mature citizens seriously is the prerequisite for their cooperation. In the meantime, the state secretary for church affairs has announced the possibilities for four information discussions dealing with questions of education, law, and military service, as reported by the conference in its report.

The conference found that it has thus far not been possible to "awaken a broad interest among the congregations" with respect to the conciliatory process for peace, justice, and preservation of the environment. On

this point the synod had available a status report produced by the coordination group which it had created. In cooperation with the preparatory group an appeal bearing the title "An Aspiration Learns To Walk—Justice for People, Peace for Nations, Liberation of the Environment—Go Along!" was worked up for the GDR-wide ecumenical congress to be held in 1988. This appeal is to appear shortly.

Church Paper on Debates, Resolutions

23000014a *Schwerin MECKLENBURGISCHE
KIRCHENZEITUNG in German 4 Oct 87 p 2*

[Article: "To Promote Peace Without Violence"]

[Text] "No man and no state may place security and freedom over those of others and make hostages of those people who are supposed to guarantee this freedom and security." This sentence is contained in the declaration entitled "Confessions in Questions of Peace" which was adopted by the Synod of the Protestant Churches in the GDR at its session in Goerlitz this year from 18 to 22 September. At the Erfurt session of the synod in 1986 the attempt to reach a resolution on this topic had failed. The currently available text was adopted almost unanimously following intensive and committed debate. Particular questions in the discussion were raised by the paragraph in which the refusal to perform military service in armed components of the army was designated as an expression of obedience to one's faith. Some participants in the synod demanded a still more decisive expression in this direction according to which this was not only a question of a decision of conscience, but a question of faith and subsequent consequences, whereas others reminded those present that most of the Christian youths perform armed service and were in need of pastoral services more than ever before. The declaration then further states that the spirit of deterrents tended to raise security to the level of an idol for which one was prepared to sacrifice millions of people and to gamble on the power of the stronger side, not only in the East-West conflict but also in the conflict between North and South. Despite all ethical protests and sensible views, the logic of deterrents is said to lead to an arms race to enable each side to feel at least strong enough to be able to retaliate. The practice of deterrents is said to provide military security considerations a priority to the creation of a just coexistence of man. In the second portion the resolution then states: "War must no longer be a means of policy. The duty of the state to see to rights and peace can no longer be handled today by a security system which is based on deterrents." This is why the church is for a violence-free promotion and securing of peace. "Every Christian who is faced with the question of having to perform military service must check whether his decision can be reconciled with the gospel of peace. Whoever as a Christian today joins into the adventure of performing service in an army with a weapon in hand must consider whether and how he thus contributes to the reduction and prevention of violence and to the establishment of an international order of peace and

justice. The church sees the decision on the part of Christians to refuse to perform armed military service or military service at all as an expression of obedience to their faith which leads to the path of peace."

In the third sector the congregations are requested to make the 10 steps identified by the synod into specifics and to augment them. Thus, it is said: "Because the disparagement of the other side increases the readiness for violence we wish to forego hostile rhetoric against everyone.... Because only a state in which mature citizens can share responsibility can promote the peace process in the world effectively we wish to see to it that the maturity of the citizens is strengthened through appropriate information, open and public discussion.... Because we must learn to settle our conflicts with peaceful means we want to begin with peace education at home and support peace education at the kindergarten level, at the school level, and in society...."

Cross-Border Reconciliation

Unexpectedly broad space was taken up by the motion made by provost Dr Falcke from Erfurt who took up a motion on the "renunciation of the practice and principle of delimitation," which had already been dealt with by the Berlin-Brandenburg Synod earlier and which was presented to the Federal Synod. The topic of this motion was also dealt with by 214 proposals which had been submitted to the presidium of the synod during recent months. The motion states: "The most recent Soviet peace proposals specifically include the necessary promotion of encounters and agreements involving people of varying states and societal orders." It further states that the development which has become discernible in our country requires a push on the part of the church. Literally, the motion then states: "Whoever rejects the principle of deterrents must also call for removal of limitations which hinder the dialogue. Only in this manner can peace policy become truly credible and irreversible." Further, the motion contains special demands for travel possibilities and states in conclusion: "The renunciation of the practice and principles of delineation and commitment for this demand can help to guide our life out of narrowed perspectives." For his part, provost Falcke provided lengthy justification for his motion. He felt that the motion concerned the totality of our church in the GDR and, thus, should be presented to the Federal Synod. He spoke of the fact that the present policy was in need of critical assistance and then listed the experience of people in everyday life: "Delimitation by a society which always knows what is right causes the withering of the readiness and capability to assume coresponsibility in many people, particularly in our young people, before it has been able to develop. They have ideas, but they soon note that it is better not to implement them; they have questions, but they find that they are not asked. They wish to test alternatives, but they are faced by brick walls. And then they unlearn the having of ideas, the asking of questions, and the testing of what is new." Here, an opening is urgently

needed. Dr Falcke, however, also stressed that the testimony primarily pertained to ourselves before we could make it applicable externally. "Only that renunciation which impacts on our own fears of contacts, our own callousnesses and defense mechanisms can bring about peace, open doors, and establish relationships."

The synod did not adopt this motion; instead, it agreed to dispatch a letter to those who had made presentations to it on these matters. The synod justified its decision as follows: "The fact that the GDR is currently pursuing a policy of openings, which is intended to overcome delimitations, has become more clearly discernible than was the case at the time of the Berlin-Brandenburg Synod in April. Although there are yet many experiences which contradict this development, a formal renunciation of the practices and principles of delimitation is not appropriate at this time.

"What is to be said biblically, however, must clearly result from that which we say and have to offer on the basis of positive statements for peace taken from the gospel, for cross-border reconciliation, and intrasocietal agreement."

The synod also emphasizes that a continuing dialogue involving all people is inevitable and lists a series of questions in this regard.

Moreover, the synod decided to invite the originators of various presentations on this topic to attend a seminar on the addressed questions, preferably before January 1988. The presidium of the synod was charged with making appropriate preparations.

Synod Theme for 1988: "To Live as a Congregation"

During the past year, the synod decided that consideration is needed to see what is hindering the effectivity of the gospel today and what promotes it. These questions are to be pursued by the synod at one of its future meetings. Extensive preparations toward this end were carried out. It transpired during this phase that the question focused on in Erfurt was hardly suitable for processing by a synod to the extent that resolution-type work results were anticipated. It was said to be unrealistic that the commissions and work groups could present a total church analysis of the controversial development in our congregations which might facilitate an overview and, thus, a consultation leading to new congregational concepts. The synod should, moreover, consider the missionary aspects of the gospel in order to work up action models for the congregations. The synod accepted this proposal and established the theme for the 1988 synod as follows: "To Live as Congregations." In this regard the following goals are described: Specific congregational situations should be better observed. Problems involved in the life of congregations and churches are to be recognized and identified and solutions are to be sought jointly. The community of the

church in the federation must be made fruitful for work in the congregations. The congregation situations should be considered in the light of the following questions: What do the congregations consider to be helpful and what do they feel is detrimental? Consideration is also to be given as to whether and in what manner the congregation members at the location of the next synod next year can be involved in work dealing with this topic.

During the meeting of the synod at Goerlitz, the results of the conversations between Foreign Minister Shevardnadze of the Soviet Union and Secretary of State Schultz of the United States became known. The synod gratefully welcomed the fact that after several years of constant rearmament a first step toward disarmament has become possible with the agreement to dismantle intermediate-range missiles. The synod hopes that an agreement of contractual rules will be signed and that future negotiations will lead to results which will permit the people to breathe more easily. "Through this development the synod sees itself encouraged to renew its appeal for complete termination of all nuclear weapons tests," a resolution of the synod states.

Resolution Calling for Civil Rights

*23000014a Jena GLAUBE UND HEIMAT in German
4 Oct 87 p 2*

[Article by Dr Gottfried Mueller: "Everything in Its Own Time—Resolutions of the GDR Church Synod at Goerlitz"]

[Text] Like a creed, the Protestant church in the GDR clearly rejected the spirit, logic, and practice of deterrents in the political and military arena. During its most recent session 2 weeks ago in Goerlitz, the synod of the GDR church federation (see GLAUBE UND HEIMAT, No 39) approved a document entitled "Confessions on the Question of Peace." In the document Christians in our country are given orientation aid as to how they may specifically accomplish the fundamental rejection in word and deed.

In the nuclear age, in which wars have become unsuitable as political means, the synod expresses itself in favor of getting from a system of mutual deterrents to a concept of "mutual security." It is based on the building of confidence and regulates conflicts not with military means, but rather with political means. In so doing, the church stands for "violence-free promotion and security of peace," as the document states. It further states: "Every Christian who is faced with the question of having to perform military service must test whether his decision is reconcilable with the gospel of peace. Whoever undertakes the adventure of serving in an army with weapon in hand as a Christian today must consider whether and how this serves the reduction of tensions and prevention of violence and the establishment of an international order of peace and justice. The church sees

the decision by Christians to refuse to perform armed services or military service at all as an expression of obedience to their faith which leads to the path of peace."

In a listing of practical steps the synod supports a number of disarmament proposals as they have been produced by the countries of the Warsaw Pact and by neutral countries in international discussions in recent years. It cautions that hostile language against anyone should be desisted from and supports the societal coreponsibility of citizens based on comprehensive information and public discussion. Expanded travel and encounter possibilities across borders are said to be contributing factors to the dismantling of enemy images.

As can be seen from a position taken by the synod on the so-called conciliatory process, the questions of justice, peace, and preservation of the environment will also play a significant role in the future life of the GDR churches. The document emphatically welcomed the intention published in a status report of carrying out an ecumenical gathering of Christians and churches in the GDR in 1988. The synod is to deal with these problems in preparation for appropriate meetings at an ecumenical European and worldwide level.

The synod could not decide to make the problem topic of "delimitation" a subject of an additional "renunciation" following the rejection of the deterrents system which took place with priority. Such a church position had been demanded in approximately 200 submissions, the texts of which had already been presented to a land synod in the spring of 1987 where it had been referred to committees for long-term action. In a letter addressed to those who sent in the proposals, the church synod let it be seen that it will not permit itself to be forced into the role of a permanent nay-sayer and that it does not find the parallel nature of "deterrents" and "delimitation" in concept and substance to be appropriate. Primarily, the synod considers such a "renunciation" of delimitation to be inappropriate at a time a "policy of opening, which is supposed to overcome delimitation," can be observed. The synod invites those who submitted these proposals to attend a seminar on "Delimitation and Opening" to clarify the question at an early time.

The synod permits no doubt to exist that, true to its previous proclamations, it continues to stand for peace-promoting and people-serving dealings with all still-necessary border and other limitations. In another resolution text it recommended that the togetherness of people having various fundamental views not only be regulated across the lines of demarcation of world systems, but also in the GDR according to the method proposed in the document prepared by the SED and the SPD on the "conflict of ideologies and mutual security": "Common convictions to be found, differences to be identified, and directions to be sought in which cooperation becomes possible." The same resolution, which also discusses the cross-border exchange of publications

and the general promotion of travel, gives positive endorsement to a legal system within which the individual mature citizen has comprehensive knowledge of his rights and obligations and in which unpublished directives and procedural rules are renounced.

Text of Peace Resolution

23000014a Schwerin MECKLENBURGISCHE
KIRCHENZEITUNG in German 11 Oct 87 p 2

[Article: "Confessions With Respect to the Question of Peace"]

[Text] At its session in Goerlitz on 18 through 22 September, the Protestant Synod approved an orientation for the actual confession of the creed with respect to the question of peace. Following intensive conversations and thorough preparatory work, this document serves to interpret the 1982 rejection of the spirit, logic, and practice of deterrents. The full text is presented below.

In obedience to God the Trinity we have expressed our rejection of the spirit, logic, and practice of deterrents. For purposes of our confession, orientation, and action this means the following:

I.

We confess: the love of God applies to all men without difference. God stands particularly at the side of the weak and the defeated.

From this it follows that: no man and no state may place his or its security and freedom above that of others and hold those people hostage who are supposed to guarantee his security and freedom. The spirit of deterrents, however, stands in contradiction to the spirit of God.

i. It raises security to a level of idol worship for which one is prepared to sacrifice millions of people and to gamble with life on the planet.

ii. It believes that man is actually capable of inhumanity, of destroying other people en masse.

iii. It compels friend-or-foe thinking in place of understanding and cooperation among people.

iv. It gambles on the power of the stronger, not only in the East-West conflict but also in the North-South conflict.

Because we confess God, the Lord, we contradict the spirit of deterrents.

We are also imprisoned in this spirit. We beg God to liberate us from it.

We confess that God liberates us, through Christ, from the servitude of fear, which is the result of sin. He liberates us from dependency and oppression.

From this it follows that: no man or state may, through threats of using weapons of mass destruction, create fear and dependency relationships in order to, thus, buy his freedom and exercise power.

However, the logic of deterrents stands in contradiction to the conciliatory actions of Christ.

i. Despite all ethical protests and sensible views it forces world armament so that each side can feel at least strong enough to be able to retaliate.

ii. Even in the worst possible case, each side wants to feel secure. It, thus, gambles away the chances for understanding. It destroys that which it claims to be protecting: peace, freedom, and justice.

iii. Each side seeks its own security by spreading fear.

iv. It holds the poor countries in dependency so that they would not disrupt the balances of the rich.

Because we follow Christ we contradict the logic of deterrents. We also succumb to this logic. We ask that Christ lead us on to his path.

We confess: God gives us His justice in Christ. It is His will that it determine the togetherness of man. It is His will that we share with others rather than dominate them. From this it follows that: no man and no state may poison the coexistence of man through the spirit and logic of deterrents, make deterrents a means of policy and, thus, bar the way to justice.

However, the practice of deterrents stands in contradiction to the justice of God.

i. It assigns priority to military security considerations at the expense of creating a just coexistence between man.

ii. It leads to a militarization of the life and thinking of the kindergarten and the school all the way through the world economy and science.

iii. It squanders the material and spiritual treasures of mankind. It exacerbates the exploitation of the poor countries by the industrial nations.

iv. Through hunger and misery it already kills today without a war.

Because we follow the spirit of God we contradict the practice of deterrents. We, too, are entwined in this practice. We ask that God give us as much insight and strength each day as we need.

II.

In a world with weapons of mass destruction there are no more just wars!

War must no longer be a means of policy. The duty of the state to take care of rights and freedom can no longer be carried out today by a security system which is based on deterrents, one in which armies have weapons of mass destruction at their disposal and in which they are in a position of attacking others.

This duty, moreover, demands the development of a system of "mutual security," which is based on the building of confidence. The "mutual security" system clears the political ways for the regulation of conflicts. It includes the development of a structural nonassault capability through disarmament at all levels and rearmament to defensive weapons systems.

The system aims at justice vis-a-vis those nations which have been impoverished. Military defense preparedness can only be justified within the framework of such a concept.

In this situation the church favors nonviolent promotion and security of peace. Every Christian who is faced with the question of rendering military service must test whether his decision can be reconciled with the gospel of peace. Whoever today embarks on the adventure of rendering service to an army with weapon in hand must consider whether and how he thus serves the reduction and prevention of violence and the establishment of an international order of peace and justice. The church sees the decision by Christians to withhold military weapons service or military service in general as an expression of obedience to the faith, leading in the path of peace.

Because we confess God as Lord we are all challenged to show, through clear steps, that commitment, possession, and production of weapons of mass destruction contradict our beliefs. Our practical steps must be as manifold and concrete as the threat to the survival of mankind is also manifold and concrete.

III.

Today, we identify the following exemplary steps and ask the congregations to render these steps more specific and to supplement them.

1. Because the currently anticipated dismantling of intermediate-range missiles is an encouraging beginning of disarmament we support the further dismantling of nuclear weapons, the creation of nuclear-free zones, the prohibition of chemical and biological weapons, the prohibition of any arming of space, the limitation of conventional weapons, and the reduction of troops more than ever before.

2. Because confrontation between the military blocs must be overcome we see our duty as Germans to see to it that peace emanates from German soil.

3. Because disparagement by the other side increases the readiness for violence we wish to abstain from hostile rhetoric aimed at anybody and issue mutual reminders and urge others to do the same.

4. Because all delimitation between people promotes the establishment of enemy images we favor more opportunities for people to meet and make a contribution toward having many people in our country learn to know the citizens of other countries in their environments and with their problems and to better understand them.

5. Because only a state in which mature citizens can share responsibility can truly promote the peace process in the world we want to favor strengthening the maturity of our citizens through the provision of appropriate information, open and public discussion, and a joint search for ways in the future.

6. Because we must learn to resolve our conflicts with peaceful means we wish to begin with peace education at the kindergarten and school level and in society.

7. Because smoldering conflicts in a society also endanger peace in the other society we wish to openly address the problems in our country, search for their causes, and contribute to overcoming them.

8. Because confidence and friendship promote peace we wish to contribute toward the improvement of our relationship with people in eastern Europe, particularly those who live here and work here.

9. Because our current relationship with the poor countries and the unjust world economic order constitutes a constant source of danger and threat to peace we wish to support a just world economic order. We can send a small signal with the implementation of the 2-percent appeal.

10. Because our predatory practices involving nature threaten peace and the life of our children and grandchildren we must adopt a lifestyle which is commensurate to our natural environment and which has a future.

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