

CN 352

X/13 C/S - 1ST ADD- BELGIAN PARTY'S OPEN LETTER (CN 351) XXX DEMOCRACY

"WE HAVE SUPPORTED THE PROPOSAL OF THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY FOR A MEETING OF COMMUNIST AND WORKERS PARTIES FROM ALL OVER EUROPE.

"WE BEG YOU TO CONSIDER THAT THE CAUSE OF SOCIALISM AND PEACE WILL BE DEPRIVED OF IMPORTANT FORCES, IF THE LABOR CLASSES OF WESTERN EUROPE, IN PARTICULAR, CANNOT FIND IN THE POLICY OF YOUR PARTY A CLEAR REASON TO SUPPORT YOU IN THE OTHERWISE VALUABLE INITIATIVES YOU ARE TAKING FOR PEACE.

"WE DO NOT CONSIDER THE PRESENT TIDALWAVE OF BOURGEOIS PROPAGANDA AGAINST SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AND IN PARTICULAR AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION A NECESSARY EVIL.

"IN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, HOWEVER, YOU HAVE GIVEN THE IMPRESSION, THROUGH YOUR ACTIONS, THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO HOPE FOR A DISMANTLING OF MILITARY BLOCS. WE ARE WELL PLACED TO TELL YOU THAT SUCH PRACTICES WILL STRENGTHEN THE NATO ULTRAS AND ALL THEIR SUPPORTERS.

"THESE ARE THEN THE CONSIDERATIONS WHICH WE DEEMED IT NECESSARY TO INFORM YOU ABOUT WITHOUT DELAY. WE WERE CONVINCED THAT AFTER THE MEETINGS OF CIERNA AND BRATISLAVA, THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES HAD PROVED THEIR ABILITY TO SOLVE THEIR DIFFERENCES OF OPINION ACCORDING TO NORMS OF NEGOTIATION OF A HIGHER TYPE. WE CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHY YOU HAVE NOW CHOSEN SUCH A CHANGE OF COURSE AND WE WISH THAT YOU WOULD GIVE THE LABOR MOVEMENT THE CONVINCING EXPLANATIONS TO WHICH IT HAS THE RIGHT.

"WE ARE OF THE OPINION THAT THE SOONER YOU WITHDRAW YOUR TROOPS FROM CZECHOSLOVAK TERRITORY, THE BETTER IT WILL BE.

"AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED, WE ARE DETERMINED TO CONTINUE OUR FIGHT AGAINST THE REACTIONARY FORCES IN OUR COUNTRY, WHICH SUPPORT THE AMERICAN AGGRESSION IN VIETNAM AND WHOM WE DENY EVERY RIGHT TO PRESENT THEMSELVES AS CHAMPIONS OF DEMOCRACY AND OF THE SOVEREIGNTY OF PEOPLES AND OF PEACE.

"THE POLITBURO

"COMMUNIST PARTY OF BELGIUM

"BRUSSELS, 21 AUGUST 1968."

FOS/ O 2138/68 AUG 22.

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