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**THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
WILL BE GUIDED IN ALL ITS ACTIVITY
BY THE MARXIST-LENINIST GENERAL
LINE OF THE PARTY**

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*Speech delivered at the First Session of
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MEHMET SHEHU



Comrade Deputies!

First and foremost I feel it my duty to thank you sincerely for the great confidence you have shown by charging me with the great responsibility of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. I assure you, Comrade Deputies, my comrades and I, members of the new Government which is being formed at this Session of the People's Assembly, guided by the Party and its teachings, will blend all our efforts and abilities to carry out the program of the Party to complete the building of socialist society and to loyally defend the freedom and independence of our Homeland, the lofty interests of the people and of socialism.

The period of the Sixth Legislature of the People's Assembly which has

just come to an end, has been a period of great efforts and untiring work on the part of the Party, the People's Power, and the working masses, to carry out the tasks of historic importance set by the 5th Party Congress. This period has been characterized by an impulsive development of the forces of production, by the further improvement of the socialist relations of production, by profound ideological transformation in the concepts and consciousness of men. During this period we have achieved important successes in further revolutionizing the People's Power, in deepening and applying the line of the masses, in strengthening the direct control by the working class, in intensifying the struggle to uproot manifestations of bureaucracy; the struggle against the blemishes of bourgeois and revisionist ideology, against backward customs and religious beliefs, the struggle to form the new man with a Marxist-Leninist materialist world outlook.

The great successes which our country has achieved during the period of the Sixth Legislature of the People's Assembly are, as always, due to the correct leadership of the Party in the whole life of the country, and to the efforts and struggle of the working class, the cooperative peasantry, and the people's intelligentsia, who have exerted all their mental and physical energies for the great cause of socialism, for the all-round strengthening of our Homeland.

The September 20 elections to the People's Assembly, as well as to the other organs of State power, and people's courts of justice, are a mighty testimony to the high level of political consciousness of our people, to their boundless love for and confidence in the Party of Labor and the dictatorship of the proletariat, to their determination to fight to the end with multiplied strength for the complete and final triumph of the socialist road in Albania.

By taking part to a man in the elec-

tions of last September 20 and by casting their votes one hundred percent for the candidates of the Democratic Front, our people have demonstrated to the whole world how deep lie the roots of their monolithic unity round the Party. The unparalleled results of this ballot, under conditions of real socialist democracy, are a colossal victory of the line of our Party. They show the strength of our unity, the will of our people to march ahead along the road of socialism, along the road illuminated for us by Marxism-Leninism. Faced with this steel-like unity, no foreign imperialist or revisionist attempts against socialist Albania will ever succeed. If foreign enemies underestimate the strength of this unity, so much the worse for them.

Comrade Deputies!

It is well known that the current year is the last of the 4th five-year plan. Although the final figures on the reali-

zation of plan have not yet been worked out, we can reach preliminary conclusions on the realization of the 4th five-year plan.

For the five years of the 4th five-year plan taken together, the planned targets for total industrial production and for investments have been reached in 4 years and 7 months, and 4 years and 4 months respectively.

The distinctive characteristic of the development of our industry during the 4th five-year period is the rapid increase of industrial production and the structural improvement of industry on the basis of the priority given to the production of the means of production. Total industrial production in 1969 was 70% higher than in 1965, as against 50 to 54% set by the 5th Party Congress and the People's Assembly for 1970. Thus, the level of total industrial production set for 1970 was achieved as far back as 1968, since in that year it was already 50% higher than in 1965. The

targets set for 1970 in total industrial production in the chromium, copper, ferro-nickel and building materials industries, were reached as far back as 1968, those of the petroleum, coal, electrical, machine-making, light and foodstuffs industries, were reached in 1969.

As against the 6,8⁰/₀ average annual increase of industrial production during the 3rd five-year plan and 8,7⁰/₀ average annual increase target set for the 4th five-year plan, the actual average annual increase of production during the 4th five-year period has been 12,7⁰/₀. This is a relatively high and satisfactory index of the rate of development of industrial production under our conditions. The planned targets for production of the means of production during the 4th five-year period have been overfulfilled, rising by an average annual rate of increase of over 15⁰/₀, as against 10,8⁰/₀ set by plan. This has brought about a greater increase of the specific weight of the production of the means

of production within the general framework of industrial production than was envisaged.

The application of the directives of the Party has brought about the discovery of new deposits of useful minerals: petroleum, natural gas, and coal in our country, a good many of which has already been brought into use, and the economic value of their products has been increased by processing them in the country.

While giving priority to the development of the production of the means of production within the general framework of industrial production, our Party and Government have, at the same time, devoted their attention and concern to increasing the production of consumer goods with a view to meeting the growing needs of the people. Thus, in 1970, as compared with 1965, the production of consumer goods marked an increase of 55% as against the 33 to 38% which had been planned or an ave-

rage annual rate of 9,1% as against 6,3%.

From all these preliminary returns one can arrive at the conclusion that the targets set by the Party and the People's Assembly regarding the further industrialization of the country during the 4th five-year period have been exceeded, thus making it possible for our industry to play its leading role still better in the whole development of our people's economy and for our country to advance with even more assured and rapid strides towards industrialization.

One of the most important tasks and greatest concerns of the Government during the period we are analyzing has been to implement the directives of the Party and People's Assembly regarding a speedier development of agricultural production, especially of bread grain, which constitutes the main task for agriculture under the five-year plan, as well as regarding a

further intensification of our agriculture.

A very important task for us has been to increase agricultural production, to mitigate the contradiction which exists between the development of industry and that of agriculture, to ensure an advanced, intensive and many-branched agriculture, because agriculture is the base of our socialist economy. As a result of a correct understanding of the essence of this major task, the Party and Government organs and the cooperative peasantry set to work in all earnestness. The level of mechanization was raised, chemical aids and fertilizers were introduced into agriculture, the area under irrigation was increased, broad-scale scientific experimentation was introduced, high-yielding selected seed was provided, and so on. All these measures, together with the successful completion of collectivization even in the remote mountainous zones, now constitute a powerful and stable base

for us to carry the process of building socialism in the countryside further ahead.

Agricultural production in 1969 was 29⁰/₀ above that of 1965, while the production of bread grain during the first 4 years (1966-1969) of the 4th five-year period was realized as planned by the 5th Party Congress and the People's Assembly; in 1970, the production of bread grain is expected to be somewhat below plan.

Within the general framework of agricultural production, the five-year plan will not be realized in full in animal husbandry and in some industrial crops. Nevertheless, the production of milk in 1970 will be 24⁰/₀ higher than in 1965, that of meat — 14⁰/₀ higher, that of sugar beet — 33⁰/₀ higher, of rice — 64⁰/₀ higher, etc., while the production of bread grain in 1970 will be about 74⁰/₀ higher than in 1965.

The period of the 6th Legislature is characterized also by deep revolutio-

nary transformations in the life of our rural areas, transformations which are of decisive importance both for the further development of agriculture and for the progress of the whole of our socialist society. These transformations have affected the concepts, consciousness, and organization of work, as well as the family social and spiritual life of our peasant, freeing him to a considerable extent, from many prejudices, from the individualist mentality, backward customs and habits, religious prejudices and so on.

Good work has been done in our rural areas these last two years as regards the setting up of many social and cultural centers such as nurseries, kindergartens, houses of culture, public bakeries, dining rooms, maternity houses, various branches of handicrafts, etc., which greatly assist in improving life in the countryside.

The successful completion of electrification throughout the rural areas of

our country in record time, is an historic victory of our Party and of our people. Electric reticulation of the countryside paves the way to the further intensification of agriculture, to further qualitative transformations of the life of the peasantry, to the improvement of living conditions and to the further reduction of the gap between the rural and urban areas.

Major successes have been achieved also in the development of the other sectors of our people's economy. The turnover of goods for broad consumption has been increased from year to year, and the planned targets in this field have been exceeded, marking an average annual increase of 7,4% as against 5,3% envisaged by the 4th five-year plan.

The targets of the 4th five-year plan have been achieved and over-fulfilled also in the sphere of raising and improving the living standards of the working people; the life of our people

has continued to improve as a result of the uninterrupted development of socialist production. The targets set in the plan for 1970 in the rise of the real incomes of the people were over-fulfilled in 1969. Our people are better fed and better clothed, and unlimited opportunities are provided for them to attend school and receive education. The average life-span of our man has risen from 38 years prior to liberation to 68 years. National income has increased at an average annual rate of 8,6⁰/₀ as against 8,4⁰/₀ set by plan. Retail prices for many commodities have been lowered, measures have been taken in favor of the agricultural cooperatives, especially, those of the mountainous regions, all kinds of taxes and imposts have been abolished, housing condition are being improved, and so on.

Through their heroic efforts, revolutionary drive and exemplary sense of socialist solidarity, our people overcame in a very short time the serious damage

caused by devastating earthquakes of November 30 in the Dibra and Librazhd districts and April 5 and 8, 1969, in the Berat, Fier, Përmet, Skrapar, Tepelena and Vlora districts.

The further revolutionization of our school and educational system during the period of the 6th Legislature has been an event of major ideological and cultural significance in the life of our country. By putting into practice the directives of our Party and the teachings of Comrade Enver Hoxha, and abiding firmly by the teachings of the classics of Marxism-Leninism regarding the people's education, we have built our new revolutionary school system which aims at educating our younger generation with the Marxist-Leninist materialist world outlook on the basis of a correct combination of lessons with productive labor, physical culture and military training. Our new school system provides wide opportunities for mass education, for making education in the

many different types of secondary schools available to all, for strengthening the working class control of schools, for linking the schools with life, for the all-round educational, political, physical and military training of the youth and the working masses.

The period of the 6th Legislature has witnessed a further increase of the defensive potential of our Homeland on the basis of a further improvement of political and military training, of military organization, and of carrying out the line of the masses in the defence of our Homeland by making every citizen a good soldier as Lenin instructs.

The principled and consistent struggle our People's Republic has waged on the international arena against imperialism and revisionism, in support of the revolutionary struggle of peoples and in defence of real peace has brought about the continual strengthening of the international position and the enhancement of the authority of our country.

These are, in brief, some of the principal results attained in our work during the past legislature. These results constitute a powerful basis for the accomplishment of the great tasks which lie before us in the coming five-year period 1971-75. Relying on the successes and achievements attained, we have all the possibilities to attain still great successes and achievements during the coming five-year period.

Comrade Deputies!

Allow me to present the composition of our new Government. Having taken into account the opinion of our Party Central Committee, I propose that the composition of the new Government should be as follows:

Deputy-Chairman of the Council of Ministers **Adil Çarçani,**

Deputy-Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Minister of National Defence **Beqir Balluku,**

Deputy-Chairman of the Council of
Ministers **Spiro Koleka,**

Deputy-Chairman of the Council of
Ministers **Xhafer Spahiu,**

Chairman of the State Planning
Commission **Abdyl Këllezi,**

Minister of Internal Affairs **Kadri
Hasbiu,**

Minister for Foreign Affairs **Nesti
Nase,**

Minister of Industry and Mines
Koço Theodhosi,

Minister of Agriculture **Piro Dod-
biba,**

Minister of Education and Culture
Thoma Deljana,

Minister of Construction **Shinasi
Dragoti,**

Minister of Commerce **Kiço Ngjela,**

Minister of Communication **Milo
Qirko,**

Minister of Finance **Aleks Verli,**

Minister of Health **Llambi Ziçishti,**

Minister without portfolio **Sulejman
Baholli.**

Comrade Deputies!

The new Government, just as the preceding one, will make every effort in all its activity, both in the sphere of internal and foreign affairs, to be guided by the Marxist-Leninist general line of our Party.

In the field of internal policy, the aim of our Government is to ensure an all-round strengthening of the economy and all the other sectors in the direction of the complete construction of socialist society, through the rapid development of the productive forces of the country, by raising to a still higher quantitative and qualitative level both industrial and agricultural production, and on this basis, to raise and further improve the well-being of the working masses and the defensive power of our Homeland.

Parallel with carrying out this basic task, every effort will be made for the further improvement of the socialist relations of production, the deepening of

the socialist revolution in the field of ideology and culture, for the strengthening of the People's Power, and the steeling of the unity of the people round the Party and the Government.

The Government will consistently carry out the Party line regarding the further and continuous revolutionization of the State power by fighting any manifestation of bureaucracy and deepening the line of the masses, by improving the method and style of work of the State and economic organs to implement in full our socialist democracy, and to apply the great principle of democratic centralism as it should be done. It will take all the necessary steps to continually implement the principle of self-reliance, and will see to it that our advance along socialist lines will lead to the gradual narrowing of the essential differences between town and the countryside, between agriculture and industry, between manual and mental work.

In line with the teachings of our

Party, our new Government will take a firm stand of class struggle, strengthening the organs of the dictatorship of the proletariat, carefully watching for, forestalling, and suppressing the activity of the class enemies, to defend the interests of the working class, the people, and socialism.

As always, the Council of Ministers will devote particular attention to strengthening the defensive power of our Homeland. In this direction our work will be centered on achieving a radical improvement in the quality of military training of the effective of the army and the reservists, as well as of the whole armed people, in line with the principles of the military art of the People's war, so that the defensive power of our country will become stronger and stronger and that we shall be better able to cope with any danger that may come to our country from abroad, from either the aggressive forces of NATO or the aggressive forces of the Warsaw Treaty,

or any possible enemy. The organs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and especially the organs of State Security, should further improve their work in order to respond as they should to the tasks of the times.

In the field of its foreign policy, the aim of our Government is first and foremost, by implementing the general line of our Party in this sphere, to ensure, our independence and national sovereignty against any eventual danger from outside from whatever direction this danger may come, from the imperialists or the revisionists; to consolidate the international positions of our country, to strengthen our friendship with the peoples, first of all with the great Chinese people, to support the liberation struggles of people and revolution, to unmask and oppose the diabolical designs of the U.S. imperialists and Soviet revisionists, to render its modest contribution to the maintenance of real peace.

Comrade Deputies, we are now drawing up the 5th five-year plan for the economic and cultural development of the country for the 1971-75 period. We have not yet fixed the final targets of the coming five-year plan. But we have everything that we need, all the possibilities — material, psychological and organizational — for drawing up a realizable and mobilizing plan.

In drawing up the coming five-year plan we are guided, as always, by the great principles of our Party and by the economic laws of socialism. By applying the law of proportional development of the various branches of economy, we will rapidly develop the productive forces both in the field of industry as well as in that of agriculture, so that our people's economy will march forward on both feet. On the front of industrial production, priority will be given to the production of the means of production on the basis of the establishment of powerful industrial projects, especially, for

processing the raw material found in the country. But, at the same time and parallel with the development of the production of the means of production, we will attach special attention to the development by all manner of means, of the production of broad consumption goods as well. The industrialization of the country will forge ahead not only by building major combines, plants, and factories, but also by building medium and minor ones, as well as simple and even very simple workshops, which will eventually turn gradually from simple into complex, and from small to large factories.

During the coming five-year period, the fundamental objective on the agricultural production front, as the Party Central Committee and Comrade Enver Hoxha have repeatedly stressed, will be to ensure the food grain in the country under any conditions. Besides this, parallel with the rapid development of the production of field crops, animal hus-

bandry and fruit growing will also be developed. These three branches of agricultural production will be developed in as harmonious a way as possible, so as to increase total agricultural production in order to meet the needs of the population for consumption, as well as the needs of industry and exports for agricultural products. The development of agricultural production will make a big leap forward, even greater than it made during the preceding five-year period, and this will be achieved through a more profound intensification of agriculture, and by organizing production on a more completely scientific basis.

Our Party and Government will take effective measures to increase to an even higher level the mechanization of agricultural processes, to raise the use of chemical means in agriculture, especially by doubling the production of chemical fertilizers, will ensure selected high-yielding seeds, will invest more

funds to bring larger areas of land under irrigation, especially in the dry regions of the South. Animal husbandry will undergo qualitative changes especially as regards its structure, by a significant development in the increase of cows and their milk production. In fruit growing we will go over to planting large blocks of fruit trees of selected high yielding varieties of good quality, especially in the hilly and mountainous regions, not only to meet the local needs for fruit, but also those of export.

An important role in the development of the productive forces, in the industrialization of the country and in the mechanization of agriculture will be played by construction which will be on a much wider scale than during any other five-year period, both as regards the number of projects, as well as their size. Works as big as the metallurgical combine, the Fierza Hydro-electric Power-plant or the plant for the deep pro-

cessing of oil, have never before been built in our country.

On the basis of the all-round development of our productive forces and social production another step forward will be made in the raising of the cultural and material well-being of the people, a further steady increase of the incomes of the town workers and cooperative peasants will be ensured, the conditions of life will be improved and life will become more beautiful.

During the coming five-year period, the revolutionization of our schools will be further intensified and our new school system will be applied on a wider scale, culture and art will be developed and the health of the people will be improved.

All these transformations in the structure and superstructure of our socialist society will speed up the process of our advance towards the complete construction of our socialist society.

The main factors in achieving these objectives are the leadership of our Party, the sweat and creative genius of our people, and our economic, political, organizational and military strength. The internal factor is the main and decisive factor in building socialism.

But side by side with the mobilization of our internal forces and possibilities to attain the objectives of our coming five-year plan, we enjoy the aid of our loyal and mighty ally, the People's Republic of China. As you know, the Government Economic Delegation of our country which recently paid a visit to the People's Republic of China concluded important agreements on long-term, interest-free credits which the People's Republic of China will accord to the People's Republic of Albania during the 1971-1975 period. This is a great assistance and if we add to it the long-term, interest-free credit which the People's Republic of China gave us in 1968 to be used during the same five-year

period, the total aid given by the People's Republic of China is a powerful factor for the 5th five-year plan from the viewpoint both of quantity and quality and structure; the main part of this aid will be used to increase the productive capacity of our country.

Allow me, Comrade Deputies, from this high rostrum of the People's Assembly, on behalf of our People's Assembly, of our people, our Party, and our Government, to express our deepest gratitude to the great Chinese people, to the glorious Communist Party of China and to the highly esteemed friend of the Albanian people, the great Marxist-Leninist, Comrade Mao Tsetung, for this generous, fraternal and profoundly internationalist aid. We will use this aid with the greatest care and in a most rational and useful way. This powerful assistance given to our country by People's China, is a further expression of the great, unbreakable friendship between our two peoples, our two Parties and

Governments, which is being consolidated and steeled with every passing day.

Thus, we now have all the possibilities to draw up a five-year plan of solid objectives, of great and mobilizing tasks. We are confident that the coming five-year plan will be more majestic than any of the preceding ones, both as regards its magnitude and its accomplishment.

Comrade Deputies!

With such marvellous prospects ahead, it is our duty to muster all our forces, all our capacities and internal availabilities, and in a lofty revolutionary spirit, with an unceasing impetus and mass heroism at work, to materialize the figures that will be set for the five-year plan and turn them into concrete deeds. In order to attain this objective we must take a series of important measures.

Above all, we should consistently apply the line of the masses in all our production, State and social activities

as a revolutionary method which invigorates and advances our work, as a guarantee of the rooting out of any manifestation of bureaucracy for the development of socialist democracy, for the strengthening of the dictatorship of the proletariat, for the successful accomplishment of all the tasks of the plan for the economic and cultural development of the country.

We are taking steps to further improve the methodology of planning. In general and basically, the existing methodology of planning our people's economy is correct but there is always room for improvement.

The measures that are being taken to further improve the methodology of planning, aim at a fuller application of the line of the masses in planning our people's economy, and at a further development of the movement of the initiatives of the masses and cadres in the sphere of creative production, so that, with the means and funds provided by

the State and on the basis of the mobilization and rational use of our internal reserves as well, we may get the maximum economic effect in the shortest possible time, with the minimum expense, in line with the principle «more, faster, better and cheaper». On the other hand, the further improvement of the methodology of planning aims at stimulating the people and demanding of them, of the cadres at the center and at the base and of the laboring masses, to get a thorough grasp of the economic laws of socialism, and to plan on the basis of these laws, because only in this way can our planning be continually raised to a higher level from the point of view of Marxist-Leninist science.

The economic and cultural development of our country will always take place on the basis of a unified State plan. The unified State plan is an expression of the correct combination of socialist democracy with proletarian centralism, an expression of the prac-

tical application of the principle of democratic centralism which is the basis on which the dictatorship of the proletariat in our country always rests.

We will take steps also to further improve the method and style in our work of State and economic management, in compliance with the teachings of our Party aiming at continually enforcing the discipline of the plan, proletarian discipline at work.

Proletarian discipline at work is closely connected with the consciousness of people, with the organization of work and with the check-up and rendering account about the accomplishment of tasks. Therefore, we should work even harder and better, both in raising and tempering the consciousness of people, in continually improving the organization of work and in enforcing accounting and check-up everywhere, for everything, in raising the sense of responsibility of our workers, as our Party teaches us.

Just as we should not permit manifestations of bureaucracy and slackening of the control by the working class to be hidden behind the implementation of centralism, neither should we permit manifestations of disintegration, irresponsibility and slackening of State control to be hidden behind the implementation of democracy. Both run counter to the teachings of the Party to strengthen the dictatorship of the proletariat.

There can be no socialism without accounting and check-up. Far from counterposing, sidetracking or replacing each other, the State control and working class control should vigorously uphold and supplement each other, because both of them are of a proletarian nature and pursue the same objective — the strengthening of the dictatorship of the proletariat under the leadership of the Party.

In this connection we should bear well in mind the teaching of Lenin who said: «. . . **accounting and check-up eve-**

rywhere, general and universal accounting and check-up on the amount of work done and the distribution of products — this is the essence of the socialist transformation, now that the political domination of the proletariat has been established and rendered secure.» And on the basis of this great teaching of Lenin, we must continually strengthen accounting and check-up, that is, we must intensify both State control by making the workers and peasants render account to the cadres and the respective state and economic organs, as well as the direct control by the working class by making the cadres and State and economic organs render account to the respective workers and peasant collectives.

Under the present conditions the need is felt for a further improvement also of the system of supplying our economic enterprises with materials and equipment. We must construct a better system of supplying materials and equip-

ment so as to overcome obstacles and difficulties and ensure uninterrupted and rhythmical supplies to the economic enterprises, always relying on the unified State plan and on proletarian discipline for the carrying out of competencies within the framework of democratic centralism. In this way the productive activity of our enterprises will be raised further and the principle of self-reliance will find an even more concrete expression.

A series of other measures like those of strengthening the organization and equipment of State transport, for a more rational utilisation, especially of railway transport; of the allround strengthening of our trade organs and the service they give, in both urban and rural areas; measures to put the new school system into effect as completely as possible, to further improve the health services, communal and other services; the struggle to continually improve the living conditions of the working class and all

the working masses; to raise the indices of the quality of production and to prevent waste; a further extension and better organization of scientific research work to assist the development of the technological and scientific revolution and the present and prospective economic and cultural development of the country, are some of the most important tasks facing the State and economic organs in their efforts to fulfil the targets of the coming five-year plan.

In order to fulfil the tasks of the coming five-year plan with success, we should wage a more serious battle against manifestations of wrong tendencies and concepts which hamper us in our work and prevent us from forging ahead. There still exist pronounced manifestations of the concept «the State has plenty, the Government has ample funds», and in many cases there is a tendency to demand everything from the State, turning a blind eye to the real internal availabilities which exist

within the enterprise itself or the district to carry out the job relying on their own resources without the need of asking for additional funds and other means from the State. We should discard this concept and raise the banner of the concept of using the funds and availabilities provided by the State with a sparing hand, so that the minimum expenditure may yield the maximum economic effect. We should intensify our efforts to prevent waste, to strengthen proletarian discipline at work and to safeguard socialist property like the apple of our eye.

We should raise aloft the banner of a general drive with all our might for an unlimited development of the creative practical spirit, to turn out with our own efforts and by all manner of means, more, better and more useful products for society. The right combination of the revolutionary drive of our Party, of the masses and cadres, with the practical creative spirit to save, build, produ-

ce, serve, and study — this is what we need, this is what we should concentrate our attention on, this is the Leninist style of building socialism.

The practical spirit should be deeply implanted in all our workers, especially, our specialists and intelligentsia, among whom there is a pronounced tendency to expect everything from the State and from imports for even the slightest thing outside the plan. On many occasions requests are addressed to us to secure from abroad even quite simple things which can easily be produced in our factories and workshops in every district, just by utilizing the means about the factory, plant, or the district.

Our duty is to seize on the revolutionary impulse of the masses and the cadres, an impulse which exists and which is developing continuously, and correlate it with the practical spirit so that we may succeed in producing and building for the benefit of the collective,

for the benefit of society with even the simplest means at hand, surmounting all obstacles, so that our social production may develop in its complexity and by every fruitful form or method: from large-scale to small and very small scale production, from large-scale to small and very small scale construction, from complex to simple and very simple services. This is of colossal importance, for, as Marx has put it: **«every step of the practical movement is worth more than a dozen programs».**

If the practical movement bursts forth as Marx says, and as our Party demands, if we accompany the revolutionary drive, which is not lacking, with the practical movement at every level and branch of social production, in order to cultivate the practical spirit in the Marxist-Leninist sense of the term, then our technological and scientific revolution will burst forth in an even more incontainable manner, our style in work will truly assume the stamp of Leni-

nism, and no problem will be insoluble for us.

Of course, our practical, creative and revolutionary spirit has nothing whatsoever to do with narrow practicism. Our revolutionary practical, creative spirit is inspired by the Marxist-Leninist ideology and springs from the scientific concept of overcoming every obstacle and accomplishing every task that leads to the construction of socialism and communism. It opens up prospects for development, while practicism is mere routine of empirical backwardness which is characterized by ideological sterility and is divested of any scientific concept, remains without perspective and degenerates into subjectivism.

We must overcome any bureaucratic obstacles and raise to a still higher level the creative initiatives of the working masses and cadres, channeling these initiatives towards the concrete implementation of the principle of self-

reliance. The practical application of this orientation requires from the organs of the Party, of the Government and of economy as well as from the Trade Union organizations, that they carry out profound ideological work to persuade and bring home to every worker, peasant, and cadre, that they should get a thorough grasp of the revolutionary essence of the practical spirit in solving problems, in improving the organization of work and in carrying out the principle of relying on their own efforts, applying this principle concretely in the field of work where material values are produced, and making each worker and cadre a fiery militant for the utilization with the greatest economic effect of the existing productive capacities of the working time, materials and raw materials, and, on the other hand, to utilize every product and raw material found in the country, every scrap or remnant from large-scale production, in order to produce something

useful and profitable for society. This is how we should channel the creative initiatives on to the road of self-reliance.

In addition to what I have just said, we should see to it that there is never a day when we are without reserves in any link of social production. Where there are reserves, where reserves exist, we should preserve them like the apple of our eye, and renew in due time the part we are obliged to use, and continually add to them by our own efforts. Where there are no reserves, where they have not yet been accumulated, we should create them ourselves through our thinking, with our hands and our sweat.

We are confident that by taking up the work in all earnestness to carry out the major tasks that await us, by applying the correct line of our Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha's teachings, the development of our forces of production will burst out with an even more incontainable impulse from the large-

scale production at the metallurgical plant to the production of needles from the odds and ends leftover from large-scale production, that education and culture will march ahead along the path mapped out by our Party, the life of our workers will become more and more beautiful every passing day, that our socialist bastion will become ever stronger and the Marxist-Leninist banner will always fly high, proud and unvanquished.

Comrade Deputies!

Thanks to its revolutionary foreign policy, today the People's Republic of Albania enjoys a higher international authority and prestige than ever before, its international positions are stronger than ever. Through its stand and struggle, it has won the hearts of many friends throughout the world. In defiance of the feverish efforts and hopes of our enemies, the Khrushchevite revisionists and their lackeys, to isolate it,

to conquer it and oblige it to capitulate, the People's Republic of Albania has stood unflinching, has defeated the ruthless blockade by the imperialists and revisionists, is widening the circle of its many friends in the world and is marching ever forward. It is they who are being isolated by the people's hatred and not we. It is they, the revisionists, who have plunged into crisis and degeneration and are becoming weaker and weaker, while we are becoming stronger every year and every day in both the internal context and the international arena, because they, the revisionists, like the imperialist, are counter-revolutionaries while we are revolutionaries, and time works in favor of revolution.

The present session of the People's Assembly is being held at a time when the international situation is becoming more and more favorable for the peoples' struggle for freedom and independence, for the revolution and socialism.

Today, U.S. imperialism and the capitalist system in general, are experiencing one of their greatest political, economic and military crises. Deep and irreconcilable contradictions are eroding the alliances of the United States of America with its partners. The countries where the revisionist cliques are in power, caught up in disintegration and degeneration, are permeated today with many manifestations of opposition to the feverish attempts of the Soviet revisionist clique to enslave the peoples of these countries.

In spite of the major antagonistic contradictions that exist between them, the U.S. imperialists and the Soviet revisionists, faced with their grave international situation, are making every effort to consolidate their counter-revolutionary collusion for the suppression of the anti-imperialist struggles of the peoples, to destroy socialism and to sabotage revolution and to dominate the world.

But the schemes and plots hatched up within the framework of the reactionary Soviet and U.S. alliance will be frustrated by the united strength of the people. Confronting them are all the freedom-loving peoples and revolutionary forces of the world. In this anti-imperialist and anti-revisionist alignment there stands, strong and unbreakable, the great People's China of Mao Tsetung. Today, the People's Republic of China has become the most powerful and unconquerable citadel of revolution and socialism in the world, in which the national-liberation, anti-imperialist and anti-revisionist movements of the peoples of the world find their reliable, sincere and powerful support. The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution multiplied the forces of the great Chinese people, swept the broad highway to socialism, clear of the revisionist and counter-revolutionary forces headed by Liu Shao-chi. The authority of the People's Republic of China in the inter-

national arena is continually on the rise, and, today, without People's China no important international problem can be solved. The attempts of the U.S. imperialists and Soviet revisionists to «encircle China» have failed and will continue to fail in the future, too: no force in the world can conquer the revolutionary consciousness and military and economic potential of 800,000,000 — strong China, guided by the great Marxist-Leninist ideas of Chairman Mao Tsetung.

The U.S. imperialists failed in their armed struggle to conquer the heroic Vietnamese people. The myth of the «invincibility» of the U.S. army was buried once and for all in the jungles of Vietnam. Now, Nixon and the Soviet revisionists are making frantic efforts to achieve at the conference table what they failed to achieve on the battle field. But the heroic Vietnamese people have enough revolutionary experience to keep them from falling into such perfidious traps and, in the final

analysis, the fate of war will be decided, not around the conference table, but on the field of battle on Vietnamese soil.

In line with their aggressive policy, and implementing the Nixon «doctrine» of making Asians fight Asians, the U.S. imperialists extended their armed aggression even further in Indochina, intensified their military campaign against the Laotian people, and launched their barbarous attack on the Cambodian people, supporting the Lon Nol clique against the legitimate representative of the Cambodian State, Prince Narodom Sihanouk.

As it has always done, the People's Republic of Albania will support the just war of the peoples of Indochina to the end, and will mercilessly expose any imperialist-revisionist plot against these fraternal people, who are fighting with exemplary heroism for their freedom and independence.

U.S. imperialism and Soviet social-

imperialism are leaving no stone unturned to extinguish the anti-imperialist movement of the Arab people, to strangle the heroic fight of the Palestinian people and to get their hands on the great riches of this region and its important strategic positions. By setting in motion «Roger's plan», and backed by the Soviet revisionists, the U.S. imperialists reckoned to split the unity of the Arab peoples, to put them against one another, with a view to sabotaging their just struggle and, in this way, to realize their own counter-revolutionary objectives in the Middle East more easily. But we are convinced that the Arab peoples with a glorious past of civilization and battles for freedom, will not be misled by the anti-Arab schemes and conspiracies of these two big imperialist Powers, and will carry their just struggle through to the end.

With a great patriotic spirit, the brave Palestinian people are fighting arms in hand to regain their homeland,

wrested from them by Israeli gangsters, to defend their honor and dignity as a nation, to build a free and democratic Palestine on the soil of their forefathers. Their armed struggle constitutes an important liberation factor in the Middle East. It is a great example of inspiration for all the other Arab peoples and a serious obstacle to the realization of the U.S. Soviet schemes in this area. The bloody Jordanian fascist outrage against the Palestinian Fedayeen was the outcome of the U.S. — Soviet plot to extinguish the Palestinian struggle, to remove this stumbling block from their conspiratorial imperialist path. But heroic resistance of the Fedayeen, the blood they shed in the streets of Aman and on Palestinian soil were not in vain; this bloodshed frustrated the fascist conspiracy in Jordan and strengthened the foundations of the Palestinian revolution which has now won the hearts of all the peace-loving peoples of the world.

The Albanian people and their Government, loyal and sincere friends of the Arab peoples, have stood and will always stand by their side in their just cause, and will support to the last their struggle against the imperialist-zionist aggression.

The naval fleets of U.S. imperialism and of Soviet social imperialism in the Mediterranean are there to carry out the gunboat policy of these two imperialist Powers to dominate the peoples of this region by force. Faced with this menacing situation, it is the duty of all the progressive-minded people and forces of the Mediterranean region to increase their vigilance and to unmask and oppose the Soviet-U.S. plots and to force the withdrawal of these two aggressive fleets from the Mediterranean.

The events of these recent years show that the Soviet revisionists are becoming ever more reckless, more aggressive and more perfidious, in carrying out their counter-revolutionary

intentions. The fascist aggression launched against the fraternal Czechoslovak people by the armed forces of the Soviet Union and its lackeys in the name of the Warsaw Treaty, marked the ultimate transition of the Soviet revisionist clique to social-imperialism. The tragedy of the Czechoslovak people openly demonstrated the degeneration of the Warsaw Treaty into an aggressive treaty in the hands of the Soviet social imperialists, just as NATO is an aggressive treaty in the hands of the U.S. imperialists. That is why the People's Republic of Albania did not hesitate to take the historic decision of withdrawing from this treaty. Through this decision we defended the freedom and independence of our Homeland and, at the same time, we warned the peoples where the revisionist cliques are in power of the danger which this aggressive treaty constitutes for them.

The Soviet revisionists are raising a great hue and cry about the so-called

«European Security». This is another major conspiracy against the freedom and independence of the European peoples and peace in the world. Our Government has stressed, and stresses with force, that European security cannot be achieved apart from international security and general peace. The main objective of the Soviet revisionists in this matter is to preserve intact the status quo of the present situation in Europe, to perpetuate the hegemonistic and dominating positions of the two Great Powers in their own spheres of influence, to create relative calm in Europe in order to enable the two Great Powers to have their hands free so that they may concentrate their military forces in Asia and in other regions of the world and, first and foremost, against the People's Republic of China.

Likewise, the Treaty between the Soviet Union and West Germany which was signed recently constitutes a dangerous conspiracy against the freedom

of the European peoples, above all, it involves a sell-out of the interests of the German Democratic Republic. We have denounced and continue to denounce this Treaty, and we have been and continue to be in favor of the signing of the peace treaty with Germany by all the countries which participated in the anti-fascist war.

These, in general, are our attitudes on certain important international issues. We will proceed along this path, the path illuminated by our Party with its correct Marxist-Leninist line.

The great victories of the People's Republic of Albania in the international arena testify to the correctness and effectiveness of its foreign policy and serve to consolidate its international positions and the cause of real peace and of the revolution in the world. The People's Republic of Albania today maintains and develops diplomatic relations with 48 States, trades with a large number of different States and participates

at a series of international organizations.

The relations of fraternal friendship, close and sincere collaboration, and mutual aid, between the People's Republic of Albania and the People's Republic of China, based on the immortal principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, have been established and are being continually strengthened in all fields. They are a great and brilliant example of how relations should be built between socialist countries, regardless of the size of their territory and the number of their populations. Our Government has firmly supported and will always support the revolutionary foreign policy of the People's Republic of China, its just struggle to free Taiwan, its right to occupy its lawful place in the United Nations Organization and in all other international organizations, and will expose the anti-Chinese plots and activities of the U.S. imperialists, the Soviet revisionists and their lackeys.

Just as in the past, our country will develop relations of fraternal friendship, collaboration, and mutual aid, with the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the Republic of South Vietnam, as well as with the People's Democratic Republic of Korea. We will further develop our friendly relations with the Socialist Republic of Rumania.

The People's Republic of Albania will strive to maintain friendly and correct relations with all the countries with which it has diplomatic relations. Especially with the neighboring countries we will concern ourselves about establishing and maintaining correct, normal relations of good neighbourliness, on the basis of the principles of equality, mutual respect, non-violation of integrity and sovereignty, non-interference in one another's internal affairs and of mutual advantage.

Our State is in favor of establishing and extending relations with all the freedom-loving States of the world on

the basis of well-known principles and norms that govern relations between sovereign States.

In the days to come too, the Government of the People's Republic of Albania will continue to pursue the same principled and revolutionary foreign policy as heretofore, in defence of the lofty interests of our Homeland and our people, of the liberation struggles and revolution in the world, of genuine peace and international security.

Comrade Deputies, this, in general outline, is the course our Government will follow. And we are confident that we will achieve success and victories along this course, because we are guided by our glorious Party which is based firmly on Marxist-Leninist ideology, because we have an heroic people who do not flinch before difficulties but forge triumphantly ahead in building socialism, holding the pick in one hand and the rifle in the other and the book in their pocket, because we have a relati-

vely powerful economic base, we have built an unbreakable defensive power for our Homeland, and we have many and powerful friends all over the world. Justice is on our side and time is in our favor, therefore, we will triumph on our road.

Long live our heroic people, the builders of socialism!

Long live our glorious Party and its Central Committee headed by Comrade Enver Hoxha!

Long live the People's Republic of Albania!







