

L. B E R I A

THE GREAT
INSPIRER
AND ORGANIZER
OF THE VICTORIES
OF COMMUNISM



FOREIGN LANGUAGES PUBLISHING HOUSE

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L. BERIA

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Since the great Lenin, there has been no name in the world so dear to the millions of the working people as that of our great leader, Comrade Stalin.

Comrade Stalin: his name is uttered with glowing affection by working people in all countries of the world. It signifies the realization of their age-old hopes and dreams.

Comrade Stalin: his name is uttered with fervent gratitude by the working masses of the People's Democracies, who have entered upon the building of Socialism; it is cherished by the workers and peasants of China, who have cast off the yoke of colonial oppression. Comrade Stalin: his name inspires the working people of Europe and America in their struggle against capital; it inspires the peoples of the oppressed colonial and semicolonial countries in their just struggle for national freedom and independence.

Comrade Stalin's entire life has been bound up with the struggle for the creation and consolidation of the Bolshevik Party—for the victory of the proletarian revolution—for the interests of the working people—for the triumph of Communism.

Comrade Stalin's life and work are so majestic, so many-sided, that years of study will be required for their proper illumination.

Comrade Stalin's activities, in whatever sphere, are imbued with a great creative mastery of theory, going hand in hand with tremendous organizing ability, with the capacity to inspire the Party and the millions of the work-

ing people with one united will, to direct their energies towards the fulfilment of the key tasks, to point the right path for the Party and lead it to victory.

The socialist system, as we know, differs basically from all other, earlier social systems. This difference holds true also of the manner in which it is brought into being. Whereas the economic content of all earlier social systems took shape as a result of spontaneous processes, Socialism can be built only by conscious action of the masses, following a scientific plan. Noting the peculiar difficulties of the task of building Socialism, Lenin declared:

"It was not difficult to drive out the tsar—that required only a few days. It was not very difficult to drive out the landlords—that was done in a few months. Nor was it very difficult to drive out the capitalists.

"But it is incomparably more difficult to abolish classes; we still have the division into workers and peasants. . . .

"Everybody must work according to a common plan, on common land, in common mills and factories and under common management. Is it easy to bring this about? You see that it is not as easy as driving out the tsar, the landlords and the capitalists." (V. I. Lenin, *Selected Works*, Moscow 1947, Vol. II, p. 668.)

The Stalin age is the age of construction of the new, socialist society. In circumstances entirely new to history, circumstances demanding the solution of the most intricate problems, both of theory and of practice, to ensure the building of Socialism, Comrade Stalin's genius rose in its grandeur before the peoples of our land—before advanced and progressive humanity the world over.

The name of Comrade Stalin takes its place beside the names of the world's greatest men of genius—Marx, En-

gels, Lenin. The creation of scientific Socialism: this mankind owes to Marx and Engels. The victory of the proletarian revolution, and the creation of the Soviet social and state system: this mankind owes to Lenin and to his faithful disciple, Comrade Stalin. The victory of Socialism in the U.S.S.R., and the salvation of human civilization from the onslaught of fascist barbarism: such is mankind's debt to Comrade Stalin.

I

In Lenin's lifetime, from the days of the preparation period which preceded the creation of the Bolshevik Party, Comrade Stalin, guided by Lenin, came forward as Lenin's closest disciple, his most faithful follower, as, after Lenin, our Party's greatest theoretician, organizer, and Party builder.

Of all Lenin's contemporaries, none grasped and set forth so completely as Stalin the true grandeur that was Lenin's, the historic significance of his role as creator of the proletarian Party of the new type.

"My knowledge of Lenin's revolutionary activities since the end of the 'nineties," Comrade Stalin has said, "and especially after 1901, after the appearance of *Iskra*, had convinced me that in Lenin we had a man of extraordinary calibre. I did not regard him as a mere leader of the Party, but as its actual founder, for he alone understood the inner essence and urgent needs of our Party. When I compared him with the other leaders of our Party, it always seemed to me that he was head and shoulders above his colleagues—Plekhanov, Martov, Axelrod and the others; that, compared with them, Lenin was not just one of the leaders, but a leader of the highest rank, a mountain eagle, who knew no fear in the struggle, and who bold-

ly led the Party forward along the unexplored paths of the Russian revolutionary movement." (J. V. Stalin, *On Lenin*, Moscow 1946, p. 40.)

From the very outset of his revolutionary activities, Comrade Stalin unfalteringly took his stand under the Leninist banner, participating, as Lenin's true and loyal follower, in the great work of all-round preparation for the creation of a truly revolutionary Marxist party in Russia. He contributed invaluable to Lenin's development of the foundations—ideological, organizational, political, and theoretical—of the Marxist Party.

In the fight to organize the victory of the October Revolution, in the fight against traitors and capitulators of every breed, Comrade Stalin stood shoulder to shoulder with his great teacher, Lenin, at the head of the Bolshevik fighting staff—the Central Committee of the Party.

Through the difficult years of civil war, Lenin and Stalin guided the Party and the state, the Red Army and the entire national defence.

The transition to peaceful labour, to restoration of the national economy after the Civil War, presented enormous difficulties, requiring a new exertion of all the energies of the Bolshevik Party; and these difficulties were multiplied by the bitter and malicious attacks launched against Lenin's policy by that traitorous pack: Trotsky, Kamenev, Zinoviev, Bukharin, and their associates.

Together with Lenin, in those days, Comrade Stalin organized the Party forces in the struggle for Lenin's Party line, and successfully upheld Party unity.

One of Comrade Stalin's outstanding services lies in his vast labours, under Lenin's guidance, towards the establishment and consolidation of the non-Russian Soviet Republics and the establishment of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

On Lenin's proposal, the Central Committee of the

Party elected Comrade Stalin as its General Secretary. Since April 3, 1922, Comrade Stalin has served continuously in this post, the highest in our Party.

And when in January 1924 the Bolshevik Party, the peoples of the U.S.S.R., the working people of all the world, suffered their great loss; when Lenin, the Party's founder, leader, and teacher, died, the Party rallied in serried ranks around Comrade Stalin, to follow him along Lenin's path and shatter the enemies of Leninism.

In its difficult and arduous progress, through bitter class struggle, to the victory of Socialism, our Party, under the leadership of Comrade Stalin, beat down the innumerable attacks of the foes of Leninism, smashed all opportunist groupings, of whatever trend, and cleansed its ranks of doubters, opportunists, capitulators, and traitors.

In this struggle, our Party's strength lay in its mastery of Leninism; and its mastery of Leninism, the keenest of all weapons, the Party owes to Comrade Stalin.

II

Comrade Stalin successfully defended Leninism against its enemies; he generalized the experience gained in the class struggle of the proletariat during the dictatorship of the proletariat, and the experience of the period of the victory of Socialism in the U.S.S.R.; he developed and advanced Marxist-Leninist theory in every sphere.

Comrade Stalin's classic work, *The Foundations of Leninism*, armed Communists with the weapon of Marxist-Leninist theory on such questions as the proletarian revolution, the dictatorship of the proletariat, the victory of Socialism in one country, the national liberation movement in the colonial and semicolonial countries, etc.

Demonstrating and further developing the teachings

of Leninism, along the lines Lenin himself had indicated, Comrade Stalin worked out the principles of the socialist industrialization of the country, which, when accomplished, made possible the historic achievement of collectivization of agriculture—a victory equal, in its consequences, to the revolution of October 1917.

Comrade Stalin has demonstrated, by profound theoretical analysis, the necessity for consolidation of the state under the dictatorship of the proletariat. He has founded the teaching on the Socialist State, thereby eliminating a former gap in the Marxist theory of the state. He has given theoretical basis and further development to Lenin's thesis on the superiority of the Soviet social and state system as compared with any and every non-Soviet social system. He has revealed the sources of the strength of the Soviet State, analyzed and elucidated the laws governing the coexistence and the struggle of the two systems—socialist and capitalist—in the world arena.

Comrade Stalin has developed Lenin's teachings on the Party. He has presented a profound and detailed analysis of the specific features of the Bolshevik Party, as a party of a new type; has explained the vital role of the Party during the dictatorship of the proletariat and the building of Socialism, and outlined methods for the development, ideological training, and political tempering of Party cadres. He has analyzed and explained the question of the relationship between the Party's political line and its organizational tasks; the importance of training the masses in the spirit of revolutionary vigilance; the role of self-criticism in the life of the Party.

Self-criticism is a permanently functioning weapon of Bolshevism—an inalienable constituent of the Party's very nature, of its revolutionary spirit.

"I should say, comrades," Comrade Stalin has declared, "that self-criticism is as essential to us as air,

as water. I should say that without it, without self-criticism, our Party could not advance, could not bring to light our ulcers, could not eliminate our shortcomings. And our shortcomings are many. That we must admit, honestly and openly.

"The slogan of self-criticism cannot be considered a new one. This slogan is inherent in the very foundation of the Bolshevik Party, It is inherent in the foundation of the regime of the dictatorship of the proletariat. Inasmuch as our country is a land of the dictatorship of the proletariat, and the dictatorship is directed by one Party, the Party of Communists, which does not and cannot share power with other parties—is it not clear that we must ourselves expose and correct our mistakes, if we are to advance? Is it not clear that there is no one else to expose and correct them for us? Is it not clear, comrades, that self-criticism must be one of the most effective of the forces promoting our development?" (J. V. Stalin, *Collected Works*, Russ. ed., Vol. 11, p. 29.)

In the *History of the C.P.S.U.(B.)*, *Short Course*, Comrade Stalin sums up and generalizes the course of development and the entire experience of the Bolshevik Party, its glorious progress through history. Comrade Stalin's conclusions, set forth in the final pages of the *History of the C.P.S.U.(B.)*, represent a further development of the Marxist-Leninist teaching on the Party of the working class, a militant guide to action for our Party, for the Communist and truly Marxist parties, in their struggle for the victory of Communism.

Comrade Stalin has developed Lenin's thesis on the international significance of the Great October Socialist Revolution in Russia and of the victory of socialist construction in the U.S.S.R., and has demonstrated the oneness of national and international aims in the revolution-

ary struggle of the proletariat. Comrade Stalin has exposed contemporary Social-Democratism as the ideological support of capitalism, has demonstrated that "*It is impossible to put an end to capitalism without putting an end to Social-Democratism in the labour movement.*" (J. V. Stalin, *Problems of Leninism*, Moscow 1947, p. 205.)

Comrade Stalin's presentation of the tasks of the Communist parties, set forth in the article, "The International Situation and the Tasks of the Communist Parties," remains to this day the Communists' program of action.

The tasks of the Communist parties, Comrade Stalin pointed out in that article, are:

"1. To turn to the utmost account all contradictions, of whatever nature, in the camp of the bourgeoisie, with a view to demoralizing and weakening its forces and consolidating the position of the proletariat.

"2. To map out concrete forms and means of rapprochement between the working class of the advanced countries and the national revolutionary movement in the colonies and dependent countries, with a view to according every possible support to this movement against the common foe—against imperialism.

"3. To advance and carry to victory the struggle for trade union unity, remembering that this struggle represents the surest means of winning the millions of the working class. . . .

"4. To map out concrete forms and means of rapprochement between the working class and the small peasantry, crushed by the bureaucratic machine of the bourgeois state and by the robber prices set by the omnipotent trusts—remembering that a contest to win the small peasantry stands on the order of the day for parties advancing towards the dictatorship of the proletariat.

"5. To support the Soviet State and frustrate imperialism's schemes of intervention against the Soviet Union,

remembering that the Soviet Union is the stronghold of the revolutionary movement in all countries—that the defence and consolidation of the Soviet Union means acceleration of the victory of the working class over the bourgeoisie the world over.” (J. V. Stalin, *Collected Works*, Russ. ed., Vol. 7, pp. 57-58.)

Under the leadership of Lenin and Stalin, the international communist movement grew and strengthened. The young Communist parties became mass parties of the working class, and trained up in their ranks staunch cadres of communist fighters. During the years of war against the hitlerite invaders, these communist fighters consistently defended their countries' national interests and the vital interests of the masses of the working people. Since the war, they have led in the defence of peace and national independence for the peoples.

Comrade Stalin, as the leader of our Party, has rendered historic service to the peoples of our country, to all humanity, in the wise leadership which secured the victory of Socialism in the U.S.S.R. and the victory of the Soviet people in the Patriotic War.

These victories stand out as turning points in the course of history, determining the entire further development of human society.

III

In less than a quarter of a century of peaceful socialist construction, the heroic labour of our working class and of the entire toiling people, led by the Bolshevik Party and its leader, Comrade Stalin, transformed the U.S.S.R. from a backward agrarian country into an industrial country, with collective agriculture—a mighty socialist power.

Through the vast expanses of the U.S.S.R., great new

cities sprang up, new plants and factories, electric power stations, state farms, machine and tractor stations, collective farms. In every part of the land, new schools, vocational schools, universities, colleges, theatres, clubs, libraries were opened.

On the conclusion of the Patriotic War, the Soviet State regained its prewar level in both industry and agriculture in remarkably short time. As early as 1948, the prewar level was exceeded by the national economy as a whole, total industrial output amounting to 118 per cent, and the national income to 116 per cent, of the 1940 figures.

The targets set in the postwar five-year plan are being successfully carried out in every sphere: industry, rail and water transport, agriculture, cultural development, health protection, and advancement of the material welfare of the working people.

The rapid growth of the national economy has considerably increased the share of the U.S.S.R. in world industrial output; and the Soviet Union today occupies second place in the world in total industrial output, and likewise in output of such vital production as pig iron, steel, coal, electric power, tractors, harvester combines, automobile trucks, and cement.

Our Soviet industry can manufacture any and every type of machinery, machine tools, instruments, of whatever complexity. It can manufacture every type of industrial production required by the national economy and by the population. The economic independence of the U.S.S.R. in relation to the capitalist countries is thus reliably guaranteed.

Only as a result of the farsighted Stalinist policy of industrialization, as a result of the founding and development, on the basis of industrialization, of such branches of production as the metallurgical, chemical,

and precise machinery and instrument industries, was the Soviet Union enabled to attain its swift solution of the problem of production of atomic energy.

Our socialist countryside, numbering over 246,000 collective farms and 4,540 state farms, constitutes a mechanized agriculture conducted on the largest scale in the world, an agriculture more fully equipped with modern machinery than that of any other country.

"It may be said without exaggeration that from the standpoint of the technique of production, from the standpoint of the degree of saturation of industry and agriculture with new machinery, our country is more advanced than any other country, where the old machinery acts as a fetter on production and hampers the introduction of modern technique." (J. V. Stalin, *Problems of Leninism*, Moscow 1947, p. 607.)

In this saturation of the entire socialist national economy of the U.S.S.R. with modern machinery lies one of the most important achievements of socialist construction.

A second, and equally important, achievement lies in the development of new trained cadres, of men and women who have mastered the secrets of this modern machinery, who are capable of exploiting it to the greatest possible advantage and of further developing and improving it.

The creation and training of a great army of Soviet intellectuals, the tremendous advancement of the cultural level of the working class and the peasantry, required the accomplishment of a cultural revolution in our country. And this cultural revolution was accomplished by the Bolshevik Party, under Comrade Stalin's leadership.

The victory of the socialist system in all spheres of the national economy of the U.S.S.R. has made it possible in our country to build up, for the first time in

human history, a new, socialist economy, "which knows neither crises nor unemployment, which knows neither poverty nor ruin, and which provides our citizens with every opportunity to lead a prosperous and cultured life." (J. V. Stalin, *Problems of Leninism*, Moscow 1947, p. 543.)

The U.S.S.R. is the first and, as yet, the only country in the world in which all exploiting classes have been eliminated. The victory of Socialism in the U.S.S.R. brings new spirit to the working class of the capitalist countries, strengthens the confidence of the proletariat in its own might, its confidence in the victory of Socialism throughout the world.

One of the greatest attainments of Socialism lies in the brotherly cooperation of nations within the multinational Socialist State—a cooperation such as human history has never before witnessed.

Within the friendly family of equal nations that forms the U.S.S.R., the Russian people is the most outstanding.

It was the Russian working class, led by the Party of Lenin and Stalin, that bore the chief burden in the struggle for the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

It was the Russian people that formed the vanguard among the peoples of the U.S.S.R. in the struggle for the victory of socialist construction. It was the Russian people to whom the other peoples of our country looked for example in the industrialization of the country, in the collectivization of agriculture, in the building of the new, socialist life.

During the Great Patriotic War the Russian people, clear-minded, staunch, and patient of understood hardships, earned universal recognition among all our peoples as the leading force of the Soviet Union.

Comrade Stalin has emphasized that the "confidence which the Russian people displayed in the Soviet Gov-

ernment proved to be the decisive factor which ensured our historic victory over the enemy of mankind, over fascism." (J. V. Stalin, *On the Great Patriotic War of the Soviet Union*, Moscow 1946, p. 201.)

As a result of the brotherly cooperation among the peoples organized by Comrade Stalin—cooperation under the Soviet system, based on mutual economic, political, and military aid within a single federal state—the peoples of the U.S.S.R. have undergone fundamental change. Out of the ruins of the old bourgeois nations, new, socialist nations have developed and matured in the U.S.S.R.

And in these new, socialist nations the mighty creative powers of the Russian people, the inexhaustible creative forces of all the peoples of the U.S.S.R., have found unlimited scope for application and development.

The non-Russian republics of the Soviet Union now have great, new-built centres of socialist industry; state and collective farms, equipped with the most modern machinery; an educational network of 78,000 elementary and secondary schools (figure does not include R.S.F.S.R.), teaching in the languages of the different nationalities; hundreds of colleges, universities, and scientific research institutes, hundreds of theatres of the different nationalities.

The flourishing national republics of the Soviet Union, their prosperity and progress, stand out in striking contrast to the situation in various states bordering upon the U.S.S.R.

Let us take, say, the Azerbaijan and Uzbek Soviet Republics; and, of the states bordering upon the U.S.S.R., Iran and Turkey. We cannot, of course, in the present pamphlet, go beyond a few brief comparisons of representative economic and cultural indices.

The peoples of Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan, as we know, have long since driven out their former exploiters:

khans, beks, and beys, merchants and capitalists. It is now the working people of these republics, through the finest of their sons and daughters, who conduct affairs of state, who manage plants, factories, and collective farms, schools, colleges, and universities. The working people of Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan, like all the peoples of the Soviet Land, have long been free from the yoke of exploitation, from the horrors of pauperdom, hunger, and unemployment. Their material and cultural standards rise with every passing year.

The peoples of Iran and Turkey remain to this day under the heel of landlord khans, capitalists, and foreign enslavers.

Under Soviet rule, the Azerbaijan and Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republics have been transformed from backward, agrarian lands into industrial republics, with highly developed industry as the leading factor in their national economies.

Iran and Turkey remain backward, agrarian countries, with primitive agriculture as the foundation of their entire national economies. It should be noted, further, that two-thirds of the peasants in Iran own no land; and 62 per cent of the country's arable land belongs to landed proprietors. In Turkey, likewise, the overwhelming majority of the peasants own no land, and work on the landed estates.

Before the establishment of Soviet power, 90 per cent of the population of Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan were illiterate. By 1946, illiteracy in these republics had been entirely eliminated. In Iran today, some 85 per cent of the population is illiterate; in Turkey, some 66 per cent. In almost 70 per cent of the villages in the Turkish countryside, there are no schools.

The Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic has 19 institutions of higher learning, with a student body of

29,000. That makes one institution of higher learning for every 163,000 of the population. Iran has only five institutions of higher learning, with a student body of about 4,500: one institution of higher learning for every 3,400,000 of the population.

The Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic has 36 institutions of higher learning, with a student body of 38,000, making one institution of higher learning for every 175,000 of the population. In Turkey, there are 10 institutions of higher learning, with a student body of about 11,000: one institution of higher learning for every 1,950,000 of the population.

In the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic there are 13 theatres and 2,100 clubhouses and palaces of culture; in the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic—23 theatres and 3,011 clubhouses and palaces of culture. Both republics have built up cinema-producing industries of their own. In Iran and Turkey, there are but a few privately-owned theatres, barely eking out a miserable existence. Neither of these countries has a cinema-producing industry of its own, and little but Hollywood trash is shown on their cinema screens.

In the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic there are 5,902 physicians: one for every 525 of the population; in Iran, 1,500 physicians, or one for every 11,333 of the population. In the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic there are 6,612 physicians, or one for every 953 of the population; in Turkey, 2,181 physicians, or one for every 8,941 of the population. If we take hospital accommodation, we find: in the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic, one hospital bed for every 183 of the population; in Iran, one for every 3,400; in the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic, one for every 186, and in Turkey one for every 1,466.

In the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic, 48 towns and settlements have water piping systems. In Iran, not

a single town has water piping—not even Teheran, the Iranian capital, which, incidentally, lacks sewerage as well. This, it may be remarked in passing, has been used to advantage by a certain foreign embassy, which, having a small piping system on its own grounds, has organized the sale of water to the residents of the capital.

Agriculture in the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic is equipped with over 5,000 tractors, 600 harvester combines, and 77,000 tractor-drawn implements and other agricultural machines. In Iran, the chief implements of agriculture remain the wooden plough, "omach," and the still more primitive wooden "azal."

Agriculture in the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic is equipped with over 24,000 tractors, 1,500 harvester combines, and 280,000 tractor-drawn implements and other agricultural machines. In Turkey, the chief implement for the cultivation of the soil remains the primitive wooden "karasaban." One "karasaban" to two households; one plough to sixteen households; one agricultural machine to 220 households—such is the proportion in the Turkish countryside.

These brief comparisons clearly illustrate the economic and cultural growth attained by the non-Russian republics of the Soviet Union as a result of the Leninist-Stalinist national policy, as a result of Comrade Stalin's fatherly solicitude for the advancement of the peoples of our multinational Soviet State.

The victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution; our Soviet social and state system; the victory of Socialism in the U.S.S.R., attained under the leadership of Comrade Stalin: such are the foundations of the unparalleled upswing in economic and cultural life achieved by all the peoples of the U.S.S.R., which today, under the leadership of the working class and the Bolshevik Party, are laying the road to Communism.

IV

In the last war, the most bitter, the most difficult, of all wars ever experienced by our Motherland, all the Soviet people had new occasion to appreciate the wisdom, the farsightedness, of the policy that has been pursued by the Bolshevik Party under the leadership of Comrade Stalin, the continuer of Lenin's cause: the policy of industrialization of the country and collectivization of agriculture, the policy of building up the armed forces of the Socialist State and heightening the vigilance of the Party and the people against the schemes of all enemies of the Soviet State.

The Great Patriotic War brought out with new force the true greatness that is Stalin's. In the very first days of the war, when mortal peril threatened our Motherland, when the Red Army, in face of the savage onslaught of the Hitler hordes, was retiring from Soviet towns and villages—in those difficult days, Comrade Stalin took the helm in the State Committee of Defence and assumed command of the country's armed forces; in those days, he inspired the peoples of the U.S.S.R. with faith in the victory of our just cause, and rallied them, under Lenin's banner, to crush the foe and gain victory.

Comrade Stalin not only guided, but participated directly in the planning of all major fighting operations of the Red Army; in the elaboration of measures to secure the front the necessary reinforcements, arms, ammunition, and food supplies; in the organization of assistance to beleaguered Leningrad, Sevastopol, Odessa, the Caucasus, Stalingrad. Measures of gigantic scope had to be worked out, in the war years, to shift our war and civil industry to the East, and organize production at the new industrial sites. Measures had to be taken to evacuate the workers of the shifted plants and factories, and

to secure them housing and supplies; to secure the proper work of the railways; to increase sown areas in the East; to stiffen labour discipline in plants and factories, state farms and collective farms; to supply the working people with food and manufactured goods.

The entire activities of our Party and the Soviet State were directed by Comrade Stalin. His genius and foresight; his swift capacity to perceive, to grasp the essence, of approaching events, to distinguish the specific features of each stage of the war; his skill in focussing and directing the forces of the Party and the people towards the accomplishment of the main, the decisive tasks; his unconquerable will, his firmness and persistence in the realization of adopted decisions—all these brought our state to victory over the enemy.

In the battles of the Great Patriotic War, it was the military genius of Comrade Stalin, author of the Soviet military science, that led our Soviet Army to victory.

The Soviet forces, under the leadership of Comrade Stalin, routed the Germans on the approaches to Moscow, at Stalingrad, in the Caucasus, at Orel and Kursk, around Leningrad; they struck the unparalleled blow of January 1945, which crushed the German defences along a front of 1,200 kilometres, from the Baltic Sea to the Carpathians; they took Berlin. These are but a few examples of the supremacy of the Stalinist strategy, tactics, and art of military operations in modern warfare.

In those grim wartime years of trial, the Soviet people came to feel more than ever before their kinship with their beloved leader, Comrade Stalin. More clearly, more distinctly than ever, they distinguished in Comrade Stalin the traits of his great teacher, Lenin. They saw that our army and our nation were being led against the savage enemy by a tried and experienced leader, like Lenin—fearless in battle and merciless towards the enemies of the

people; like Lenin—free from all semblance of panic; like Lenin—wise and fearless in deciding complex problems; like Lenin—clear and definite, upright and honest; loving his people as Lenin did.

The Soviet people, in selfless struggle, not only maintained their own freedom and independence, but saved European civilization from the fascist barbarians.

In vain do the instigators of new war pour forth their muddy torrents of anti-Soviet slander. No lies can efface from the memories of the millions the world over the great liberating role of the Soviet Union and its armies in the war against hitlerite Germany and imperialist Japan.

Progressive men and women in all lands clearly realize the decisive role of the Soviet Union in the rout of hitlerite Germany. They understand perfectly the fate that lay in store for the peoples of Europe, had fascist Germany conquered in the war.

Only recently, newspapers abroad published a letter written by Professor J. D. Bernal, a prominent British scientist who has been expelled from the Council of the British Association for the Advancement of Science for criticizing the policy of the British Government. Noting that the Soviet people were Britain's ally a few years ago, Professor Bernal writes:

"But for the sacrifices of the Soviet Union, which were far heavier than ours, all decent scientists here would now be in concentration camps or dead."

An important part in the success of socialist construction in the U.S.S.R., and in the victory gained by the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War, belongs to the farseeing Stalinist foreign policy of the Soviet Government. From the first hours of Soviet rule this policy has been, as it remains today, a consistent policy of peace; a policy aimed to expose aggressors and warmongers—to

secure peaceful socialist construction in the U.S.S.R.—to promote the struggle for peace throughout the world, and to support peoples which have become victims of aggression, peoples fighting for national independence.

At the present time, when the American and British imperialists are preparing new world war, and danger once more threatens the freedom-loving peoples, threatens civilization and culture—at the present time the eyes of all advanced and progressive humanity, the eyes of hundreds of millions of the common people in all parts of the world, turn to Comrade Stalin, inspirer and organizer of the incalculable forces of the camp of peace, the camp of democracy.

In the struggle for peace the forces of the anti-imperialist camp, the forces of peace, democracy, and Socialism, have grown and strengthened. This is manifest in the increasing might of the Soviet Union; in the political and economic consolidation of the People's Democracies: Poland, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Albania, and their achievements in the building of Socialism; in the establishment of the German Democratic Republic. The growing strength of the camp of peace and democracy is manifest, further, in the historic victory of the Chinese People's Republic, gained by the Chinese people under their glorious leader, Mao Tse-tung.

The increasing strength and influence of the Communist parties of France and Italy, and of the Communist parties in other countries; the growing democratic movement in the capitalist countries; the tremendous scope and spread of the movement of peace supporters—all this testifies to the rising strength of the democratic camp.

No terroristic reprisals against democratic organizations, no persecution of peace supporters, can help the Anglo-American imperialists to halt the universal peace movement of the peoples which is growing and spreading

in all countries of the world. The ranks of the democratic camp are not to be disrupted by the treachery of that Anglo-American hireling, Tito, and his fascist band, who have sold their country into bondage to the British and American imperialists.

With firm and confident step, the Soviet people are advancing towards Communism. A mighty new upswing is taking place today in all branches of the national economy of the U.S.S.R.

There is no power on earth which could turn the Soviet people from their road: the road mapped out by Lenin and Stalin.

* * *

Comrade Stalin stands firmly at the helm, leading and guiding the nation's struggle for the victory of Communism. Our leader's genius goes hand in hand with simplicity and modesty, with rare personal charm; his implacability towards enemies of Communism, with delicate tact and fatherly solicitude for our people. Incomparable lucidity of thought, quiet majesty of character, contempt and impatience of all noisy to-do, of all that is calculated on purely external effect—such are his inherent traits.

Comrade Stalin's entire life and work stand forth as a great and inspiring model of loyalty to Leninism, of boundless love for Lenin; as a model of selfless service to the working class and all the toiling people, to the cause of liberating humanity from exploitation and oppression.

Comrade Stalin's glorious seventieth birthday has been an outstanding event in the life of the Soviet people. In a new upsurge of patriotism, the working people of our country express their heartfelt gratitude, their boundless love for their great leader and teacher, Joseph Visarionovich Stalin. New achievements of free and joyous socialist labour in every sphere of socialist construction—

such is our people's tribute to the architect and inspirer of our victories.

The working masses of the People's Democracies mark Comrade Stalin's seventieth birthday by a new rise of labour enthusiasm, tightening their ranks in the struggle for Socialism.

Millions of fighters for peace and democracy throughout the world rally in ever closer ranks around Comrade Stalin, as around their battle standard.

On this memorable day, the words of greeting to our leader sound with new force in the world's every tongue and dialect: Glory to Comrade Stalin!

On to new victories, under the leadership of the great Stalin!

