

THE HISTORY OF  
THE SOVIET BLOC  
1945–1991

*A Chronology*

PART II  
1953–1968

THIRD ENLARGED EDITION

EDITED BY  
CSABA BÉKÉS

Cold War History Research Center  
Budapest

2022

# **The History of the Soviet Bloc 1945–1991**

## **A CHRONOLOGY**

### **PART II**

**1953–1968**

**Third enlarged edition**

**Edited by**  
**Csaba BÉKÉS**

Corvinus University of Budapest; Centre for Social Sciences, Institute for Political Science;  
Cold War History Research Center, Budapest

#### **Associate editors**

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#### **Contributors**

Babak ARZANI, Oleksandra BABII, Lucia BAJNAI, Giovanni BALDININI, Ádám  
BALOGH, Diego BENEDETTI, Martyna BOJARSKA, Shira BORZAK, Florian BRINK,  
Vanessa BUFFRY, Clara CALVARUSO, David CATALAN, Susan COOPER, Sonya  
COWELL, Lauren CRYSTAL, Laura CSEKE, Botond CSELLE, Péter DARÁK, Nico  
DEGENKOLB, Kati DEPETRILLO, Emanuele DI BELLO, Nemanja DUKIC, Jordan  
EDWARDS-ZINGER, Jacob FEYGIN, Helen FORTESCUE-POOLE, Lilla FÖDÖS,  
Katarina GABIKOVA, Kristyna GABIKOVA, Bakoglu GAMZE, Evelina GELEZINYTE,  
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NAGY, Réka KRIZMANICS, Andrej KROKOS, Gréta LEHŐCZ, Sára LAFFERTON, Marja  
LAHTINEN, Joseph LARSEN, András Máté LÁZÁR, Tam LE, Karina LEGRADI, Zsófia  
MADÁCSI, Sita MAGFIRA, Cynthia MANCHA, Mike MANTZAVINOS, Paulina  
MAZIARSKA, Csaba Zsolt MÁRTON, Anikó MÉSZÁROS, Dorina MOLNÁR, Ganbold  
MUNGUNSHAGAI, Viktor NAGY, Mária Boglárka NÉMETHY, Tímea OKOS, Balázs  
OLTVÖLGYI, Jennifer OTTERSON, Hannah O’SULLIVAN, Roland PAPP, Freya Marshall  
PAYNE, Julia PIEZA, Orsolya PÓSFAL, Eugen POVOROZNIUC, Dominika  
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Giorgia SACCHERI, Bobbie SCHOEMAKER, Lili SIKLÓS, Tereza STARÁ, Anett SZÜCS,  
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Khanh TRAN, Natalia Soto TRUJILLO, Işık Gülşen TÜRKEN, Dóra VERESS, Aniello VERDE, Zita Bettina VASAS, Patrick Stephen WAGER, Jonathon WOODRUFF, Maciek ZAWADA, Julian Maxim ZELL, Kristóf ZSIDI

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At the Cold War History Research Center, we have been working on an extensive chronology of the Soviet Bloc for a number of years. By 2017 we published Parts 1–5, and by 2021 a second enlarged edition of Parts 1–5 was put out. This is the first piece of the third enlarged edition series, covering the period 1953–1968.

The entries were compiled based on mainly secondary sources so far, nevertheless, we are determined to further improve and continuously extend the chronology by including information from archival documents in the years to come. We used documents from the Open Society Archives in Budapest already for earlier updated editions, and in this part, we incorporated a huge number of sources from OSA. The material of the former research section of Radio Free Europe provides invaluable insight into the history of the Soviet Bloc countries, nevertheless, as in the RFE reports the information often comes from confidential sources, including accounts of refugees, the entries with an (OSA) code should be treated with due precaution.

The chronology also presents data dealing with Austria, Finland and Yugoslavia. Although these countries were obviously not part of the Soviet Bloc, we still wanted to involve them since they maintained special relations with the Soviet Union and its Eastern European allies.

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Third enlarged edition

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## 1953

### **Hungary – 1953 (HC)**

According to the Hungarian Central Statistical Office, the industry achieved 101.3% of the planned production. The national income increased by 12%. Investment grew by 3%. The socialist sector is 32% of the entire economy. The population of Hungary is 9,632,055. The working population is divided by professions: industry: 938,700, construction: 295,100, agriculture: 1,934,000, transportation and communication of information: 217,300, trade: 236,600, other: 727,300. The working population is divided by sectors as: state: 77.6%, cooperative farms: 18.7%, private: 3.7%. Livestock (in thousands): cows: 2,236, horses: 681, swine: 4,977, sheep: 1,637. Transportation: public roads: 28,733 km, railroads: 10,272 km (electrified railroads: 347 km), number of engines: 2,655, railcars: 266, passenger trains: 6,079, freighter trains: 64,817, number of air routes: 18, length of air routes: 4040 km. Healthcare: number of doctors: 13,322 (13.8/ 10,000 citizens), number of hospital beds: 57 540 (59.7/ 10 000 citizens). Education: kindergartens: 2,245 (kindergarten teachers: 4,038, children: 131,873), primary schools: 6,108 (teachers: 43,108, students: 1,203,346), secondary schools: 427 (teachers: 6,970, students: 164,410), universities and colleges: 33 (professors: 5,409, students: 53,330), vocation school professional teachers: 1,402, students: 45,472. Number of cinemas: 2,752, shows: 539,000. Radio subscribers: 1,079,600. Books published: 3,071 in 510,000,000 copies. Hungarian minority in Yugoslavia: 502,175.

The Hungarian Popular Union of Romania is abolished; the Hungarian Publishing House in Czechoslovakia is established; in 1956 it merges with the Tatran Publishing House; the Hungarian regional theater is founded in Komarno, Slovakia; Hungarian secondary schools are opened in Beregszász and Nagydobrony (Transcarpathia); Hungarian theaters are opened in Temesvár and Szatmárnémeti.

### **Romania / Yugoslavia – 1953 (OSA)**

Negovanovici, a Yugoslavian prisoner died in confinement in a Romanian prison this year. Also reportedly in Romanian custody is Drusevici, a Yugoslavian who used to run the tic-tac restaurant in Bucharest. Their reason for arrest is unclear.

### **Romania – 1953 (OSA)**

The Picoloni theatre visited the industrial town of Hunedoara for a period of twenty days. This was followed by the army theatre visiting the town twice. The town was known for supply shortages, ethnic tensions, and low morality among workers.

### **Romania – 1953 (OSA)**

The Romanian government arrested a large number of resistance fighters. This crippled the organisation though it still functions in the Romanian mountains. It is reportedly a great worry to the Romanian authorities.

### **Romania – 1953 (OSA)**

Guerrilla groups several times attacked mountaineers within the Fagaras region of Romania. It is reported that they stole shoes, money, and any other objects of value that the mountaineers were travelling with.

**Romania – 1953 (OSA)**

Work on a new metallurgical plant in the Pitesti region of Romania officially restarted after a halt on all work in 1948. The plant was initially started in 1942 based originally on German plans.

**Romania – 1953 (OSA)**

Olteanu replaced Bojezowsky as the director of Calan's "Victoria," a plant in Romania. Bojezowsky had been in the job since 1952. A majority of the 2,500 workers lived outside of Calan.

**Romania – 1953 (PIR)**

The Hungarian Popular Union, founded in **August 1934** and previously under Romanian Communist Party control, dissolves itself.

**Romania – 1953 (RUR)**

Gheorghe Gheorghiu Dej is named president of the Council of Ministers.

**Romania – 1953 (RUR)**

After the death of Stalin, the first economic disputes between Romania and other Eastern European countries occur. Romania initiates new course policy of increasing the agricultural products available in the domestic economy to prevent any popular unrest.

**East Germany – 1953 (OSA)**

In early 1953, the East German government halted the payment of state subsidies to the Protestant Church.

**January****East Germany – January – April, 1953 (HWD)**

Political pressure is brought to bear on the church, mainly of the Lutheran church (80% of the population belong to the Lutheran church this time). Between January and April 1953 the Ministry for State Security arrests about 50 clergymen, deacons and civil supporters.

**Poland – January–June 1953, (OSA)**

The Polish Government has been purging the Polish Merchant Marine: in the first 6 months of 1953 around 200 people have been purged from the merchant marine.

**Hungary / US – January, 1953 (HC)**

In Hungary nationwide demonstrations are organized to protest against the execution of the Rosenbergs, who are accused of leaking nuclear secrets in the US.

**Hungary – January, 1953 (HC)**

*Állami áruház* ("State store"), a film directed by Viktor Gertler, is first shown.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria / Italy / Macedonia (Yugoslavia) – January 1953 (OSA)**

Colonel Arsa MILATOVIC reached Rome in order to win the collaboration of VMRO (Macedonian Revolutionary Organization). This was part of the efforts to fight the Bulgarian Cominformists aiming at detaching Macedonia from Yugoslavia.

**Yugoslavia / Burma – January, 1953 (RYN)**

A Yugoslav delegation takes part in the first Asian Socialist Conference, held in Rangoon.

**Soviet Union (Estonia) – January, 1953 (OSA)**

Two separate court processes in Estonia find guilty two men who “violated sacred socialist property”. Their crimes included embezzlement, forgery and theft, and they were sentenced to three years in prison and one year in a corrective camp respectively.

**East Germany / France – January, 1953 (OSA)**

According to the anti-Communist news source *Figaro*, Madame Marie-Claude Vaillant-Couturier and her husband and member of the French Communist Party (PCF) M. Ginsburger (known as Pierre Villon), travel to East Berlin to acquire information about the Marty-Tillon affair.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – January, 1953 (OSA)**

Reports from refugees to West Berlin state that the new East German army is silently taking form in secrecy – partly disguised as police instruction. Continental newspapers speak of a large manoeuvre ground near the border with Poland, where up to 50,000 troops have been marched in. The Army Group North has three divisions and full-service units, with plans to expand to up to 24 divisions by late 1953. These developments take place with Soviet support, and “Intelligence reports say that the Soviet Army officials have turned over 200 T34 and T43 tanks to them [...] for training”, and “that Soviet liaison officers are streaming in”.

**East Germany – Late January, 1953 (OSA)**

The number of Jewish citizens arrested in East Germany in the preceding weeks is estimated at 700 to 800. Reasons given for the arrests by SED (Sozialistische Einheitspartei Deutschlands) authorities include the individuals’ being “Western-oriented” and “capitalist collaborators”.

**Czechoslovakia – January 1, 1953 (KCA)**

In a broadcast, President Klement Gottwald warns that industrial production is lagging, that there is food scarcity, and that the Five-Year plan is behind schedule.

**East Germany – January 1, 1953 (OSA)**

According to an American report, many East German teachers flee to the West. The escape of the teaching personnel causes deep troubles in the mechanism of the communist East Germany.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – January 1, 1953 (OSA)**

The Soviet Union ships 7500 tons of butter to the citizens of the German Democratic Republic. The shipment is made in two turns, the first batch arriving on December 29, 1953.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – January 1, 1953 (OSA)**

The participants of an assembly in the East German city of Saal threaten with an immediate strike, if the Soviet army does not stop its vile acts towards women. The communist functionary is chased out by the crowd attending the assembly.

**France / East Germany / Soviet Union / UK / USA – January 1, 1953 (OSA)**

Vasily Chuikov, Commander-in-Chief of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany sends his second letter to the USA, France, and the United Kingdom, warning these countries to pull back their spies from East Germany. According to Chuikov, his team discovered a spy network three

months ago upon which he immediately notified the spies' country of origin per letter. Each of the concerned countries claim that the "network" is not performing illegal operations.

#### **Hungary – January 1, 1953 (OSA)**

A mine worker named Lajos Vradik recounts how he and 16 of his coworkers were saved by the Hungarian government when they were trapped in a mine located in Szuhakálló. All the workers were sent on a vacation to Gályatető after being rescued.

#### **Hungary – January 1, 1953 (OSA)**

The workers in the foundry of the Dej Shipyard have exceeded the yearly quota production of 1952 by 36 train wagons.

#### **Hungary / Soviet Union / China – January 1, 1953 (OSA)**

Different diplomatic bodies in Hungary make a visit to the Hungarian Presidential Council. Kiselyov Soviet ambassador, Hu En Tsev Chinese ambassador, and leaders from all Hungarian representational bodies are present at a meeting with István Dobi, President of the Presidential Council. Vice presidents István Kovács and Dániel Nagy are also in attendance, alongside secretary Piroska Szabó.

#### **Hungary / Soviet Union / China / Czechoslovakia / Poland / Albania / Romania – January 1, 1953 (OSA)**

The Soviet Union and other communist republics give their New Year's greetings to Hungary. András Fejkov, a Stakhanovite miner, instructs the Hungarian population to work hard in the coming year. Guo Moruo, government official of the People's Republic of China greets the Hungarian government. In his speech, he urges for the strengthening of the friendship between the Hungarian and the Chinese people. Ruzsena Holla, a Czechoslovak weaver expresses her pride towards the Hungarian women's work. A Polish worker cheers on the friendship between Hungary and Poland. Albanian worker Sotir Totoni wishes Hungary a fruitful New Year. A Romanian laborer sends his brotherly love towards the people of Hungary.

#### **Romania / Soviet Union – January 1, 1953 (OSA)**

On December 30, the Romanian Worker's Party of the Romanian People's Republic holds a gathering to commemorate the 5th anniversary of the Republic's formation. Emil Bodnara, army general, thanks the Soviet Union and Stalin for their help.

#### **Czechoslovakia – January 2, 1953 (OSA)**

Klement Gottwald, leader of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia admits in his New Year's radio speech that the country's heavy industry did not fulfill the yearly quota, and that there is a serious food shortage, leading to low morale within the population.

#### **East Germany / West Germany – January 2, 1953 (OSA)**

Protests ensue on New Year's Eve on the side of the borders, making objections against the division of the country.

#### **Hungary / East Germany / West Germany – January 2, 1953 (OSA)**

East German police officer Helmuth Just is murdered on the night of December 30. According to a Hungarian newspaper, the perpetrators escaped to West Germany.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – January 2, 1953 (OSA)**

Mátyás Rákosi had wished Stalin a happy birthday on December 18, 1952. The leader of the Soviet Union now expressed his gratitude for this gesture per telegram.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – January 2, 1953 (OSA)**

The Hungarian Producer's Cooperatives starts incorporating new technological advancements designed by the Soviet Union.

**Hungary – January 2, 1953 (OSA)**

According to a Hungarian report, the workers of a cutting tools factory at an unnamed location in Hungary have exceeded the given quotas of 1952 by a large margin -János Barányi fulfilled the quota by 173 %, Ferenc Szilágyi by 178 %, and Imre Gonda by 168 %. The factory as a whole achieved a 107,5 % of the quota.

**Hungary – January 2, 1953 (OSA)**

The food market situation was not improving on the eve of Christmas of 1952 in the capital. The price increase was lasting even longer, and more food items disappeared from the shop window. There were many signs of sparing with the white flour: the white bread could be marketed only 3 days after it had been baked, the state-run bakeries did not make buns (only croissants) for the same price because it required less flour to be made. The official (lower) price of eggs was terminated, while they were provided on the farmers' cooperative market for a higher price. In the case of potatoes, they were available for a lower official price, but were of very low quality. Besides, the public supply authorities thought it not important to secure fat or oil at Christmas of 1952, these were available only at farmers' cooperative markets at a higher price. There was a shortage of winter legumes in both groceries and farmers' cooperative markets. However, despite the shortages, the groceries and delicatessens provided coffee and tea.

**Hungary – January 2, 1953 (OSA)**

A great number of Budapest street (public) telephones are out of order and are not properly functioning in the capital.

**Hungary – January 2, 1953 (OSA)**

There are some criticisms and remarks on RFE and other public broadcasters. A housewife who lived until November 10, 1952, in Budapest reports her opinion about RFE. She complains that RFE, when it sets its programs and program policy, should consider the fact that listening to its programs is forbidden in Hungary, and can hardly be found on a radio device and goes with much adjustment. The RFE ought to let its listeners know about the schedule of programs in order to decide whether it is worth struggling with setting the frequency. She believes that students listening to the RFE have accepted their situation and are not waiting for liberation operations from the West. They rather expect from RFE what the Iron Curtain isolates them from: keeping up with technological development mentally, getting to know the free European culture and enlightenment. In spite of this, RFE intends to present a 10-15 minute long program which reminds the students of a qualitative American propaganda channel.

**Hungary – January 3, 1953 (REV)**

Lieutenant General Gábor Péter, Commander of the State Protection Authority (ÁVH), and his wife are arrested on charges of spying and Zionist relations. Several other high-ranking ÁVH officers are arrested in the next few days.

### **Hungary – January 3, 1953 (OSA)**

In July 1952, the harvesting in the Hanság Sofkhoz was hampered due to the shortage of manpower. The management was forced to call in soldiers and students to get some assistance with the work. The soldiers worked free of charge, while the students received some compensation. However, the scythes were blunt, so the workers had to use their own working tools. Then, the leader of the brigades pointed out that every harvested ear of wheat is a blow on western imperialists who are aiming to sabotage the work and burn down the crop. One of the soldiers confirmed that they took this job out of hatred against imperialists and out of love towards the people's republic. The harvesting ended with fairly poor results.

### **Poland / France / Soviet Union – January 3, 1953 (OSA)**

*Paris Populaire* reported on forced labor statistics in Poland. In 1948 there were two forced labor camps with 5,700 prisoners, by the summer of 1951 there were 30 with about 50,000 prisoners and in October 1952 there were 175 camps with 180,000 prisoners. The development of these work camps is spearheaded by orders from the USSR and has led to a 40% increase in production in the Eastern bloc countries.

### **Poland / Czechoslovakia – January 3, 1953 (OSA)**

Poland strengthens security measures along the Polish-Czechoslovakian border by breaking it up into 'belts' guarded by patrols.

### **Poland – January 4, 1953 (PSN)**

The rationing system is abandoned but the price of commodities increases. It is also decided that agricultural products not designated for delivery and surpluses could be sold at prices agreed upon by the buyer and seller.

### **Poland – January 4, 1953 (OSA)**

The methods of recruiting new UB agents and confidence in Poland during the period of September and October 1952 is recorded. Testimonies are given by agents and informants recruited by the offices of the UB of the secrecy and the fear of being followed after escaping

### **Poland / Italy – January 4, 1953 (OSA)**

The report provides further news on the shipping agents of the Polish mercantile Marine in Italy, listing the sub-agents and agents working for the ship. Names, addresses and roles of the members are listed.

### **Hungary – January 5, 1953 (OSA)**

For the accommodation of the ÁVH (State Protection Authority) unit, a barrack was established in 1952, near to the Hanság electricity plant in Sopron. The border guard detachment organised a dramatic manhunt after two man-smugglers in the spring of 1952. The order said that the criminals must be caught or if they cannot be stopped, then they can be shot down. The workers completing a night service are equipped with multicolour rockets in order to be able to signal whether they have spotted a border violation, a border crosser with a weapon or whether they are in need of help. However, the manhunt was fruitless.

### **Hungary – January 5, 1953 (OSA)**

A 17-year-old apprentice reports about the fuel availability and discrimination against the kulaks in Alsószölnök after escaping to Austria. He notes that every family has the possibility of obtaining a small quantity of firewood from the village forest on the condition that they cut the same quantity for the village authorities. The exact day and time are regulated, and the

cutting is possible only in the presence of the forester. Though the permission contains the cutting of trees, in reality the residents are allowed to collect twigs and dry sticks. A case which occurred in January of 1952 confirms that an ÁVH member can force people referred to as kulaks to cut off firewood for free of charge for them. Coal could be bought only by ÁVH members and policemen, while the civil inhabitants could not obtain fuel even on the black market owing to the shortage.

#### **Poland – January 5, 1953 (OSA)**

A decree has been passed by the Polish Government authorizing peasants to sell their surplus products to free markets in towns. The markets are run in a way that only representatives of state shops or cooperatives can buy products first, and only later is the public admitted. Most of the products are therefore sold to the government.

#### **Poland – January 5, 1953 (OSA)**

*Paris Franco-Tireur* published information about the Polish Council of Ministers' abolishing rationing with a decree. The end of rationing has led to price increases, yet salaries and pensions have also increased.

#### **Poland – January 5, 1953 (OSA)**

An RFE report lists personal data of more than fifty deputies in the new Polish Parliament, the fourth in the series. Personal information, political views, academic and working history are included.

#### **Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – January 6, 1953 (PVC)**

Bulgaria sends a note to Yugoslavia protesting the maltreatment of the embassy's employees in Belgrade.

#### **Hungary – January 6, 1953 (OSA)**

It is rumoured from summer of 1952 until Christmas of this year that ÁVH (State Protection Authority) will grant the right to the mother of Cardinal Mindszenty to visit him in the prison of Vác. Allegedly, she finds him in excellent health. However, it is difficult to judge if this news is real, or a propaganda item spread by Communist circles.

#### **Hungary / Switzerland – January 6, 1953 (OSA)**

A Hungarian couple who left Hungary for Switzerland give an account of mid-December 1952 prices. They say that an increase in basic food items can be observed such as bread, fat, eggs since November 1952.

#### **Hungary – January 6, 1953 (OSA)**

The Hungarian authorities regularly prevent deportees from receiving medicines posted from foreign countries. The recipients have to present various documents (doctor's certificate) to prove that they are really in need of these medications. If someone can prove their need, then in order to obtain the package free of duty, they have to confirm their certificate of poverty. If they cannot, the products will be used for "public purposes." In addition, containers of tinned foods are frequently confiscated by the Hungarian Custom authorities stating that authorities cannot control the content of tinned foods.

#### **Hungary – January 6, 1953 (OSA)**

The MÁV (Hungarian State Railways) administration of Debrecen orders that the payment of fines by the employees should the engines consume more than the normal fuel ration. It is well-



known from the Hungarian press that deductions are made from workers' wages for substandard production. However, this was the first time when this measure was extended to railway employees. This measure may be particularly cruel in winter when many unpredictable difficulties arise frequently.

#### **Hungary – January 6, 1953 (OSA)**

Fire breaks out in the Gyapjúmosó and the Finomposztó factories in Budapest. The fire destroys two foreign-made textile machines in the woollen-clothes factories. According to the fireman the accident was caused by a short circuit.

#### **Hungary – January 6, 1953 (OSA)**

Károly Sebes, archivist of Debrecen, is deported together with his family. Their deportation is justified by authorities by the fact that his high school student son, Zoltán Sebes, wrote his "antidemocratic opinion" in one of his school papers. He wrote that the Russian soldiers provided them canned food, bread on the day of liberation which felt good as they had been starving for days. However, he did not include in his writing that her mother and sister were desecrated by Russian soldiers on the day of liberation. He finished his paper with the sentences that the most delightful moment was when the Russian soldiers left their house. The Sebes family have been deported due to the denunciation of the school principal.

#### **Poland – January 6, 1953 (OSA)**

The report provides information about the arrest and death of the businessman Majda, owner of a leather shop in Lodz and shot by the UB for being accused of buying foreign currency. Majda's wife had been told that her husband had committed suicide after incarceration. It is also mentioned that the couple's children were entrusted to relatives after their mother was also imprisoned.

#### **East Germany / UK – January 7, 1953 (OSA)**

The foreign edition of a British newspaper, the *Continental Daily Mail*, publishes an editorial commenting on anti-Semitic statements made by the East German newspaper *Neues Deutschland*. The latter allegedly ascribes recent acts of 'sabotage,' [...] to 'Jewish agents of the imperialist Powers.'

#### **Hungary – January 7, 1953 (OSA)**

Among the workers of "Egyesült Izzó" (a Budapest located factory) somebody writes on the board of "Latecomers" the name of President-elect Eisenhower. It became a notorious event and after a while ÁVH (State Protection Authority) units also investigate the scene.

#### **Hungary – January 7, 1953 (OSA)**

Budapest citizens boycott the newly established and Communists-sponsored "Fire Tree Feast". It has been created to replace the Christian Christmas. However, the majority of the residents of Budapest express a passive resistance by celebrating the Christian fest at home in family circles.

#### **Hungary – January 7, 1953 (OSA)**

The Christmas Fair of 1952 ends with an unfavorable result for the nationalised shops in Budapest. In shopping, the turnover was lower than usual and consumers concentrated on food (notwithstanding the very steep prices) rather than clothing. The large unsold stocks in state-run shops are likely to incur their obligation of penalty payment which threatens the end-of-year premium for those in senior positions. Besides, the Christmas Fair of 1952 was the first

when the retail shops could not market their products. On the Eve of Christmas, the regime wiped out the remnants of still existing independent retail trade.

#### **Hungary – January 7, 1953 (OSA)**

A 20-year-old high school student who escaped to Austria in July 1952 describes the routine and circumstances in the state-run Vörösmarty Mihály High School's Boarding House located in Szentgotthárd (city at the Hungarian-Austrian border). The residential area of the boarding school is situated on the second floor and consists of only one room designated for the accommodation of 25 students. The parents of the students are required to pay the fee for keeping agricultural products per month. The parents hand in several agricultural products, while their children receive only cabbage, potatoes and beans in their meals. Where the other food items got is unknown. The students receive three meals a day. The bedroom is used as a dining room as well.

#### **Hungary – January 7, 1953 (OSA)**

A 28-year-old police clerk who escaped to Austria in 1952, shares information on the fuel procurement situation in 1951 in Hungary. He says that the workers could obtain fuel by reaching out to the competent employee of TŰKER (Fuel and Building Materials Trading Company) in 1951. The applicants have to fill out a questionnaire relating to their personal data, the number of relatives and rooms and then how much fuel they need. There is no quantity limitation. The price of the fuel is deducted from the salary of workers in instalments over a 10-month period. However, it is important to highlight that the workers many times did not receive the ordered fuel punctually, so it could happen that the fuel ordered in 1951 was delivered from March 1952 meaning they had to endure the winter without fuel. From 1952, quantity limitations were introduced for the workers. There was no limit for Communist Party members.

#### **Poland – January 7, 1953 (OSA)**

The Polish military authorities did not release young men finishing their military service instead extending their service for another 6 months. The prolongation of military service spurred some panic in the public about a possible upcoming conflict, yet many peasants note that soldiers are helping in harvesting on state farms and kolkhozes.

#### **Poland – January 7, 1953 (OSA)**

The report gives a glimpse on the subject of morality in Poland in relation to the spread of prostitution, illegal but at the time widespread. Details are provided on prices and meeting places, often hotels. The report provides the source's point of view, which describes the decline in morality in Poland since the end of the German occupation, also linking it to the increased commitment of parents that often left more free time for their daughters. Prostitution with secret service agents is also mentioned.

#### **Poland / Soviet Union – January 7, 1953 (OSA)**

Soviets are allegedly robbing Poland through the lack of transport of excellent Polish goods, specifically canned meat produced in Lodz. The source states that the Russians would exchange these commodities with fresh meat for further manufacturing yet the trucks were emptied and the boxes produced in Poland were not put up for sale to favor the Russian ones instead.

#### **Romania – January 7, 1953 (PIR)**

Transportation, sale, purchasing and milling regime for agricultural products become subjects of collectivization.

**Romania – January 7, 1953 (OSA)**

Romanian industrialists from Brasov are either forced to labor camps or are imprisoned in the name of class struggle.

**Romania – January 7, 1953 (OSA)**

Former communist minister of justice Patrascanu is expected to be subjected to trial in Bucharest, in the process of the months-long purge inside the Communist Party.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – January 7, 1953 (KCA)**

Washington announces that in order to alleviate the effects of the severe drought in Yugoslavia, during the summer of 1952, it has offered a grant of \$20 million to the country to enable it to import more foodstuffs.

**Hungary – January 8, 1953 (OSA)**

A 42-year-old fireman went with his family to Germany from Budapest in November 1952. He recalls his personal observations and experiences about everyday life in Hungary before his leaving. Amid the many troubles and nuisances of their gloomy and joyless existence, most citizens look to the West for help and encouragement.

**Hungary – January 8, 1953 (OSA)**

The Official Monitor (Magyar Közlöny) did not renew their subscription of the Western diplomatic missions in Budapest which had expired on December 31, 1952. From January 1, 1953, only the official agencies, enterprises, and factories of the state are allowed to subscribe for Official Monitor.

**Yugoslavia / Vatican – January 8, 1953 (KCA)**

Belgrade issues an official statement announcing that Prime Minister Josip Broz Tito has invited the Roman Catholic Bishops to "regularize relations between the State and the Roman Catholic Church within the framework of the constitution and in connection with the breaking-off of diplomatic relations with the Vatican." It is reported that during the meeting the bishops present a list of complaints to Tito about the treatment of the Catholic Church in Yugoslavia and that they stress that they cannot conclude agreements without the approval of the Vatican. At the same time, they do agree upon the appointment of a joint-commission to report on Church-State relations.

**Hungary / France / Yugoslavia – January 9, 1953 (OSA)**

Seventy-two Hungarian refugees are allowed to go to France from Yugoslavia.

**Hungary – January 9, 1953 (OSA)**

In August 1952, the Construction Trust company started to build a housing project in the city of Győr. However, there is a severe shortage of manpower, therefore concessions have been made to acquire the needed labour force, such as workers determining the length of the time they desire to work for, farm workers working for the winter season and other labourers leaving the company after this project has been finished. Moreover, the company has been forced to employ the "bottom" of the working class rejected by other enterprises, unskilled class-alien who cannot get other employment, or irresponsible youngsters. The attitudes among workers are "non-cooperation" and "hostility." That is why the construction of buildings lags behind schedule.

**Hungary – January 9, 1953 (OSA)**

In December 1952, the Hungarian Government made the observation that tobacco plays a very important factor in international trade. Therefore, they decide to modernise the tobacco industry by applying new methods of production and planning and to increase its yearly production. A new innovation will be the establishment of the Higher Institute for Tobacco. Graduates of chemical faculty will be admitted to this educational institute where they will be taught both theoretical and practical aspects of tobacco cultivation and manufacturing.

**Hungary – January 9, 1953 (OSA)**

The insurance organisation of the Hungarian Railways will increase the insurance fee from 3.8% to 4.1% for its members from 1953. The amount to be paid in case of the sickness of one of its members will be decreased by 8% from 1953.

**Hungary – January 9, 1953 (OSA)**

A 26-year-old clerk who had lived all his life in the city of Kazincbarcika tells how the elementary school in the city of Kazincbarcika functions. Elek Veres reports how the previous principal perceived the position. He wanted to improve in his work life through communism. He had spies everywhere. He forbade students from participating in worship in the Church. Moreover, he mandated every teacher to attend Russian language classes in the afternoon because he wanted to introduce Russian language classes for the pupils.

**Poland – January 9, 1953 (OSA)**

In a letter dated the 5th of November 1952, the increasing price of the medicine “Rimifon” in Poland is reported. It underlined the essentiality of this medicament to cure pulmonary TB which was at the time circulating among farmer’s children in the north of the province of Bialystok.

**Poland / Italy – January 9, 1953 (OSA)**

A trade deal between Poland and Italy is discussed for extension until 1955. Poland wants the trade deal to be extended without any changes yet more negotiations are taking place.

**Poland / Italy – January 9, 1953 (OSA)**

Between the end of May and the beginning of June 1952, the decision was taken to no longer delegate a commission at the Fiat works was taken by the Polish Ministry of Heavy Industry. Following the arrival in October 1952 of two delegates in Turin, the men are described as difficult to contact and very frightened.

**Poland / Sweden – January 9, 1953 (OSA)**

The document recounts a joke that appeared in a Swedish newspaper concerning the government and the leadership of Poland.

**Romania / China – January 9, 1953 (PIR)**

Romania and China sign an accord for technical and scientific collaboration in Beijing.

**Czechoslovakia – January 10, 1953 (KCA)**

In a speech, Prime Minister Antonin Zapotocky confirms that a number of retired civil servants and other “unproductive persons” are being removed from Prague to new homes on the Polish and Hungarian frontiers. Their apartments are to be taken over by workers actively engaged in production.

**Hungary – January 10, 1953 (HC)**

Decree 2/1953 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces the abolition of income and property taxes.

**Poland – January 10, 1953 (OSA)**

The document reports an alleged traffic incident involving a tram which had several workers from Katowice on board. Details on the dynamics of the incident are provided. According to the source, this incident was not reported in the local newspapers. It is also mentioned that another incident had occurred a few days earlier in the same area, also not reported by local newspapers.

**Poland – January 10, 1953 (OSA)**

The document provides information on the Radio Free Europe Munich which was believed to be the most jammed station in Poland according to an informant. It is also affirmed that the other stations were installed in Warsaw and in the area of Modlin - Jablonna.

**Poland – January 10, 1953 (OSA)**

It is reported that during December 1952, Poland was experiencing a shortage of pepper and medicine, particularly due to the high demand of laurel leaves. A letter also specified the necessity of medicines, Vitamin B12 and Rimifon for other people in need.

**Bulgaria – January 12, 1953 (OSA)**

Until 1952, the Nozharovo State Farm was a forced labor camp and most of the camp personnel maintained a respective position after the conversion.

**Bulgaria – January 12, 1953 (OSA)**

The State commercial enterprise “Rasnoiznos” of Sofia offered 20,000 tonnes of naphtha at the price of \$25/1,000 kg on the foreign markets. The naphtha comes from the recently discovered oil well in Bulgaria and would be loaded to Burgas through a pipeline of the Standard Oil Company at a rate of 3,000 tonnes a day.

**Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – January 12, 1953 (OSA)**

Restaurant “Sevastopol”, located on Pozitano Street about 150 metres from the Justice Palace, is a place frequented by Yugoslav emigrants in Sofia. Even though the restaurant is supposed to give help to the emigrants through Red Cross Coupons, visitors still have to pay their own money. Everyone tries to prove themselves as veteran anti-Titoists by talking about their hatred for the leader during mealtimes. They are terrified of the Bulgarian authorities since they had previously been associated with the Tito regime. Thus, they want to prove their loyalty in the restaurant under the knowledge that their conversations are being closely monitored by the State Security.

**Bulgaria – January 12, 1953 (OSA)**

Three members were expelled from the farming cooperative in the Balgarin village in Harmanli district during 1952. Slavov Deloho contributed more than any other member of the Agrarian Party and requested to keep one plough for his personal use. His refusal to renounce this plough led to his expulsion from the village. Similarly, Petrov Stanko also refused to give up his farmyard of more than 2 acres of land and was expelled. Another case was Stoyanov Kolin, a bricklayer. He preferred to do outside work, where he was paid 30 Leva a day, in contrast to the meagre earning of 2 Leva a day for work on the farming cooperative. The land would eventually return to the expellees after the harvest, but they would be in very poor conditions.

Last summer, four members left the farming cooperative voluntarily due to the low salary of 2 Leva a day, not enough for them to feed their families. They applied for the release from the cooperative and left their fields in the possession of the cooperative. They would recover their fields in three years' time if they were lucky, but for now, they feel pleased because they have managed to get out safely.

#### **Poland / West Germany – January 12, 1953 (OSA)**

It is here reported that on the 3rd of January 1953 at the Polish frontier, two Polish citizens, Wanda Weber and Jan Home introduced themselves as spies of an espionage Centre in Munich. The two spies requested to be allowed into Poland.

#### **Poland – January 12, 1953 (OSA)**

A brief description of some distinguished people in the cultural and literary salons in Poland. In Warsaw, authors use their works to win the favour of the communist regime or the population. Rumours about writers have the power to ruin careers. For example, the poet Tuwim and his supposed deep melancholy has led him to give speeches about suicide. On the other hand, writers such as Slonimski, Garczynski and Iwaskiewicz enjoy much importance within the Communist Party but are hated by the public.

#### **Soviet Union / Austria / U.S. – January 12, 1953 (CWC)**

The U.S. sends a note to the Soviet Union proposing that a meeting of deputies be held to discuss an Austrian peace treaty. It also reminds the Soviet Union that on **December 20, 1952**, the U.N. passed a resolution encouraging the big four to finish negotiating an Austrian peace treaty.

#### **Yugoslavia – January 12, 1953 (PLC)**

The Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia is proclaimed in a law modifying the Yugoslav constitution.

#### **Bulgaria / Italy – January 13, 1953 (OSA)**

Ivan Spssov is the Bulgarian Commercial Attaché in Rome. He was sent to Monfalconne to strike a deal with the local shipyards with regards to the repair work done on the Bulgarian ship "Bulgaria." He proposed that the repair work will be compensated by the importation of Bulgarian eggs to Italy for an equal value. After staying in Monfalconne, he returned to Rome and left for Sofia to attend a meeting set up by the Ministry of Foreign Trade to gather all Bulgarian commercial attaches abroad. However, after the conference ended, he had not retired to Rome. Rumours are that he was dismissed because of the "egg deal" he struck with the Italian shipyards, as Bulgarian is unable to supply them.

#### **Bulgaria – January 13, 1953 (OSA)**

The ship "Shipka", which hit a mine during the war and sank outside the gulf of Stalin, was brought to the surface after four years of salvage work, costing several hundred million of Leva. The ship was damaged in the number two hold, but luckily the engines were unaffected after the explosion. The government's intention is to rebuild the ship and reintegrate her into the national mercantile marine. It is rumoured that the ship will be sent to the Italian shipyard for repair, after the completion of the repair of the "Bulgaria." The "Shipka" will probably be converted for use of naphtha.

### **Bulgaria – January 13, 1953 (OSA)**

During the elections for the National Councils in communities and districts, there was an emphasis on the improvement in the commercial and economic life and in living standards. The Bulgarian Communist Party's Politburo claimed that to facilitate the construction of socialism in the country, all resources must be mobilised. Farmers are expected to have active participation in the process, specifically by giving up some of the products to place at the state's disposal. The yearly income of the members of agricultural kolkhozes is published in the press to be between 5,500 Leva. However, as they are living in the most fruitful area of Bulgaria, the average annual income of the farmers is estimated to be between 4,000 and 4,500 Leva. These figures do not reach the living standard of 10 years ago and cannot cover their necessary living expenses, which stood at 7,000 Leva for food consumption per year. Similarly, the industrial workers' living standards also decreased as compared to 1934. In 1934, an industrial worker could feed his four family members, which is impossible today given his monthly salary of 400 to 500 Leva.

### **Bulgaria – January 13, 1953 (OSA)**

Some commodity prices in Bulgaria are reported by an escaped Bulgarian farmer. A bag of cement weighing 50kg is being sold at 56 Leva. A bag of flour of the same weight is sold at 144 Leva. 8kg of bread is priced at 1.60 Leva. A portion of beans cost 2.40 Leva. A bottle of Vodka can be obtained for 30 Leva. Moreover, the government buys commodities from farmers and sells them at higher prices on the market. For instance, the Government bought grapes for 0,70 Leva and sold them for 1,70 Leva per kg.

### **Bulgaria / Turkey- January 13, 1953 (OSA)**

There has been a revival in trading between Bulgaria and Turkey. Prior to 1944, the two countries had a widely developed trade, but things came to a standstill when the Communists took control. In the last ten days of 1952, several goods were transported from Bulgaria to Istanbul, including salted fish, rags, and shelled hazelnuts. The Bulgarians also inquired about Turkish cotton prices. Following a trip of Bulgarian Minister Chobanov Yordan to Turkey, commercial negotiations with Turkey are rumoured to be underway.

### **Bulgaria / Turkey – January 13, 1953 (OSA)**

From 1947 to 1950, when collectivisation was forced upon the farmers of most Bulgarian villages, Turkish inhabited villages in the Ludogorie (former Deli Orman) were spared from the process under the assumption that the Turks would leave anyway. In later years, the Turks' resistance prevented the government from establishing kolkhozes, the Ludogorie (former Deli Orman) localities lacked collective farms. When the Turks left in 1950 and 1951, their properties were sold to the highest bidders. That was the case in the Paydushko Village, where the 30 Turkish ethnic families were replaced by 15 Bulgarian families, who came to the area in the aim of avoiding working in a kolkhoz. They were able to work on the land they had secured from the Turks and did not have to join a kolkhoz. Paydushko Village is not the only example of "kolkhoz-evasion" which is widespread in many Turkish villages of the Deli Orman region.

### **Bulgaria – January 13, 1953 (OSA)**

"Glaven Zatvor" prison is in the suburb of Sofia, near the sugar plant "Zaharna Fabrika." The prison is closely guarded by personnel who are armed with automatic pistols and hand-grenades. The prison holds an inmate population of between five and six thousand, divided into eight departments with each containing 200 cells. The prisoners are served 300 grams of bread a day, a few scraps of meat once a week, and virtually no fruits. Medical attention is practically not available. Methods are employed to crack the nerves of prisoners, such as keeping those

waiting for execution in separate cells or placing prisoners in the same cells as the most condemned inmates of the prison.

**Bulgaria / Turkey – January 13, 1953 (OSA)**

A White Russian who came to Turkey via Bulgaria recounts his stay in the Militia headquarters at Tutrakan. The militia headquarters is a two-story brick building painted in yellow and is very old. The ground and top floors are used for militia personnel, while the basement is used to confine those arrested in 3 by 4 metres cells, serving the purpose of temporary incarceration.

**Bulgaria / USA – January 13, 1953 (OSA)**

American jazz and dancing are considered regressive by the Bulgarian Communists, and it is not advisable to listen or dance to such music. Bulgarian dance orchestras are not allowed to play American jazz. Thus, in a dance in the Probuda club, which is a Soviet-Bulgarian propaganda library, the orchestra plays music resembling American jazz. However, a group of 20 Communists burst into the room, drag the couple who are dancing to the music outside and flog them mercilessly. There are other clubs in the city that permit dancing for 30 minutes in an evening, which is preceded by propaganda speeches and followed by time for Bulgarian and Soviet music. There is little gaiety in the atmosphere in the nightclubs since everyone fears for the presence of spies.

**Bulgaria / Turkey – January 13, 1953 (OSA)**

Bulgarian guards are reported to open fire on a group of Turkish farmers who are settling a dispute near the border. The military protocol meetings conducted by Bulgarian and Turkish officers decide that the incident was unintentional. The Bulgarians disclose that the incident occurred as a result of a bullet going astray during the target-shooting practice of a guard unit, which caused no injuries to the Turkish side. Another incident is the kidnapping of the nine-year-old girl Takal Djemile, who was cutting wood near the border. She was released to Turkey two days later with her cart and two horses. She said that she had been beaten and investigated by the Bulgarian authorities. The Bulgarian authorities claimed that they had mistaken her for cutting wood on the Bulgarian side.

**Bulgaria – January 13, 1953 (OSA)**

Despite the Communist government of Sofia's effort to increase participation in the recent elections, the Bulgarian population distinctly expresses their indifference toward the election of the worker's deputies to the People's Councils. The government has to use the army to encourage people to fulfil their obligations as electors. The militia visits every peasant house and invites the peasants to vote. The terror of the army serves its purpose and the population is forced to go to the polls and vote. Their indifference to the elections stems from the fact that their opinions do not matter as the result will be considered a "brilliant victory" for the Communist candidates.

**Bulgaria / Turkey – January 13, 1953 (OSA)**

The Bulgarians take advantage of nature to harm neighbouring countries. On one occasion, heavy rains wash land mines near the Turkish-Bulgarian border to Turkey and injured Turkish peasants. On another occasion, they place mines into hollow tree trunks, which they know will be washed downstream during the floods toward Greece. Greek villagers are harmed when they cut the trunks into firewood, as six villagers are killed and two are seriously wounded.



**Bulgaria – January 13, 1953 (OSA)**

Interviews with officers and crew members of the Ship “Bulgaria” reveals what life is like on board. The “Bulgaria” is composed of 45 crew members, all Bulgarian with the exception of a fanatic Communist American. The conditions on board are considerably tough, with the workers having to work more than eight hours per day. The food does not vary and alcohol or sweets are not available. The average monthly salary of a sailor and an officer is 450-480 and 550-830 Leva per month respectively. This income is insufficient to make ends meet for the whole family. To make additional income, they buy goods in one country and sell them in another. Medicines are bought for the treatment of tuberculosis, a widespread disease in the Bulgarian population. Their purchase in Italy is limited as they are not paid in full and the remaining income is paid to their families back home. The crew members have to attend political indoctrination courses such as the history of the Communist party or the fight for socialism. Only 5 to 6 of the crew are Communist Party members. The crew members avoid compromising with one another or having a conflict with the political commissars. They are very eager to exchange their thoughts with foreigners and enjoy all the amenities in the town, which is a stark contrast from their own country.

**Poland – January 13, 1953 (OSA)**

According to the Communist paper “Paese Sera” in January 1953, the Polish Archbishop Wyszynski had started a route for Rome to receive the Red Hat by the Pope. Different opinions on the visit to Rome are provided.

**Soviet Union – January 13, 1953 (KCA/REV)**

The *Tass* Agency and Moscow radio issue an announcement alleging that nine doctors and specialists, six of who are of Jewish origin, have caused the death of two Soviet leaders and plotted to kill others. All men are said to have confessed and were described as “paid agents” of the British and U.S. The announcement is accompanied by Soviet press attacks on the Western powers, Zionism, the State of Israel and on the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee in the U.S. Dr. Lidiya Timashuk, who ‘revealed’ the plot, receives the Order of Lenin on **January 21**.

**Yugoslavia – January 13, 1953 (KCA)**

Both Houses of the Yugoslav National Assembly adopt the new Yugoslav Constitution. Notable changes include the creation of the office of the President of the Republic and the abolition of the Cabinet and its super session by a Federal Executive Council as the supreme executive organ of government.

**Yugoslavia / Vatican – January 13, 1953 (KCA)**

The Osservatore Romano of the Vatican publishes the text of a note it sent to the Yugoslav Government accusing Yugoslavia of trying to eradicate all religious ideas and institutions.

**Bulgaria / Turkey – January 14, 1953 (OSA)**

A letter sent by Turkish ethnics to relatives in Turkey describes the horrible living conditions of independent farmers in Bulgaria. The drought in Western Bulgaria causes the ruins of many crops including maize, oats, beans, rye, potatoes, and other spring crops. Farmers have to carry water in buckets over many miles to water their crops. However, the authorities do not care about the weather conditions and demand the delivery quotas as in usual years, which cannot be met by independent farmers. The farmer Hadzhiolu Ibrahim, who has to bear the conditions, points out that he has no hope whatsoever in the future and indulges himself in alcohol. He dreams that the Turkish armies will liberate Bulgaria and free him from his plights.

**Bulgaria / Turkey / Yugoslavia – January 14, 1953 (OSA)**

Labour conditions on state farm “Nozharovo” are described by Yugoslav immigrants who came to Turkey via Bulgaria. Water is only available for 15 minutes in the morning. The food allowances are meagre and of poor quality, which includes tasteless vegetables, olives, and 300g of bread. After evening meals, the workers are subjected to propaganda speeches, which are also prevalent on the farms from the numerous loudspeakers available. On Sunday, the workers are not allowed to rest but instead have to spend time washing clothes and doing other jobs. Many workers do not possess identification documents, which means that they are not permitted to travel short distances to the nearby villages to buy some fruits. They never complain for fear of being transferred to forced labour camps where conditions are described as intolerable. The camp authorities often encourage the workers to voice their criticisms, but none do so given the risks.

**Bulgaria – January 14, 1953 (OSA)**

A Turkish ethnic escapee recounts his experience working in the road construction at Kniajovo in 1948-1949. His duty was to level earth, pave the road with large stones and fill gaps with gravel. Work was calculated in norms, in which one man had to level 24 square metres of road a day or pave 36 square metres with stones. In total, they completed 8 to 10 kilometres of road during the period. Those who refused to do overtime were incarcerated in a concrete building for up to 45 hours, where there was no food. 10 men were imprisoned together in a small cell. The working day started at 5.00 a.m and extended to 8.00 p.m. Even though the food stayed the same and was of poor quality, the workers never went hungry. Fruits and cheese were unknown.

**Bulgaria – January 14, 1953 (OSA)**

At the State Farm Nozharevo, the food is insufficient and the prices are high. A worker has to spend 65% of his salary on food, even though his appetite is never satisfied. Thus, his income is insufficient to feed his family and his wife has to work in order to make ends meet.

**Bulgaria / Turkey / Soviet Union (Armenia) – January 14, 1953 (OSA)**

The Bulgarian Hospital in Istanbul is located on the northwestern outskirts of Istanbul. The institute is not a private organisation but is managed by local Bulgarian authorities and is controlled by the Istanbul Bulgarian consulate. The hospital staff (nurses and attendants) are Armenian, while the doctors and director are Bulgarian. Clientele of the hospitals consists of local minorities and employees of satellite countries and other Communist offices. The hospital displays no propaganda even though it is managed by Bulgarian authorities.

**Bulgaria / Turkey – January 14, 1953 (OSA)**

A 20-year-old elementary school graduate Turkish ethnic from Liubichevo village who escaped from Bulgaria recounts his experience living in the country. He worked as a farm-hand shepherd and in the past three years, he was hired as a baker’s apprentice. He was content in his situation, in which he pointed out that he liked his new job, his new surroundings, and his boss. Given his little education, he could not have made a better living. However, he was dismissed for economic reasons and was later hired as a qualified baker with a monthly income of 9500 Leva. He decided to emigrate to Turkey because his brother had emigrated there, leaving him with nothing and no one in Bulgaria. He gave up his job and sold all his property to apply for a visa. However, after he handed in his papers, the Turkish-Bulgarian border closed. As he was unemployed, he could not wait for a long period of time and ultimately managed to escape to Turkey successfully.

**Bulgaria – January 14, 1953 (OSA)**

A prisoner sent on a mission sees artillery installations near Malashevtsi village. The cannons are arranged in four lines and pointed southwards. They are carefully guarded by six soldiers, who prevent passersby from approaching the guns. Aircraft are constantly flying low and arriving at a field near the prison. His report is confirmed as a new airfield has been constructed in the vicinity of the villages of Kumaritsa, Miroviane, and Katina.

**Poland / Vatican – January 14, 1953 (OSA)**

Archbishop Stefan Wyszynski will not attend the Roman Consistory after sending a telegram to explain that his abstention is not due to a refusal by the Polish government. It is possible that the Bishop fears he would not be able to return to Poland afterward, thus cancelling his visit.

**Romania – January 14, 1953 (PIR)**

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Romanian Workers' Party (PMR) debates the measures to be taken for the development of the activity of the Plowmen's Front, the Union of Democratic Women, the Hungarian Popular Union and the committees of national minorities.

**Romania / Argentina – January 14, 1953 (OSA)**

The usual shipment of the Argentine Republic hides to Constanta was delayed, as the last shipment was held back in Buenos Aires. In exchange, Romania transported glass windows to Argentina.

**Romania / Bulgaria – January 14, 1953 (OSA)**

Rumors from Sofia claim that a new monetary reform is due to be introduced, the third such reform since the establishment of the Communist regime. The bills are said to be printed in Moscow.

**Yugoslavia / Vatican – January 14, 1953 (ACY)**

The Vatican's answer together with the Yugoslav Government's original note announcing a break in diplomatic relations is published by L'Osservatore Romano, refusing the charges of interference in Church-State relations.

**Yugoslavia – January 14, 1953 (PVC)**

The National Assembly elects Marshal Tito President of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia.

**Bulgaria / Soviet Union – January 15, 1953 (OSA)**

The state enterprise "Yaitzekoop" is in charge of the collection and conservation of eggs and selling them to state food stores. They have branches in every city and supervise the egg supply for the domestic and foreign markets, where Bulgarian eggs are exported to the USSR and other satellite countries. It was recently discovered that millions of eggs have become rotten and have to be thrown out in several cities. Rumours were that these eggs were sabotaged because they were destined for the USSR.

**Bulgaria / Turkey – January 15, 1953 (OSA)**

A Turkish ethnic escapee cites economic rather than political reasons for his escape from Liubichevo Village in Bulgaria. He could not find a job as a baker. After his brother's emigration to Turkey he had to stay with his relatives, with whom he did not get along. Afterwards, he applied for an emigration visa, but the border was closed on the 8th November

1951, making it virtually impossible for him to cross into Turkey. After receiving his brother's encouraging letters about the good living conditions in Turkey, he decided to escape.

#### **Bulgaria – January 15, 1953 (OSA)**

There has been a rise in the arrests of Bulgarian youth in an attempt to eliminate any threats to the government. For instance, a group of Bulgarian youngsters who were plotting to blow up the Georgi Dimitrov Mausoleum was discovered and brought to trial. The most severe punishment is the death sentence, while the others received imprisonment or hard labour.

#### **Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – January 15, 1953 (OSA)**

The Communist secret police arrests a group of children, the oldest of whom was 16, on grounds of attack to the militia. The children claim that they were going to steal militia arms and uniforms to help them escape to Yugoslavia. Their life in Bulgaria had become too unbearable as their parents were so poor to feed their own children.

#### **Bulgaria / Soviet Union – January 15, 1953 (OSA)**

The Bulgarian Minister of National Education, Yanev Demir, led a delegation of school directors and teachers from all over the country to visit Moscow in November 1952 to receive precise instructions on the communisation of the Bulgarian youth. The Sovietization policy of the Bulgarian Communist Government dates back to September 1944, which manifests in the “integral application of the Soviet teaching in Bulgarian.” However, this method of teaching proves difficult to adopt in Bulgaria, as the youth are recalcitrant to the progressive Soviet pedagogy. Yanev Demir is put in charge of implanting the integral system of Soviet teaching and the communisation of the Bulgarian youth. If he fails, he might risk his position. However, this process is a long-term work, which requires the translation and adaptation of many Soviet scholastic manuals and the assimilation of Soviet science by the youth. The Bulgarian authorities must select those students capable of completing this task.

#### **Bulgaria – January 15, 1953 (OSA)**

A 25-year-old Turkish escapee from Paydushko village in Bulgaria describes his native village in the Deli Orman region. The village holds 150 houses with a population of 650 people. The village is self-sufficient and is spared from collectivization, but it still suffers from heavy taxes and nared deliveries. The schoolhouse is a one-story building with two classrooms as well as the village cooperative store and the office of the village president. The village Mosque is poorly in need of repair. The other buildings in the village consist of sunbaked bricks and thatched roofs. The village's main problem is the water system, which is inaccessible to those who live on the far side of the village. The village has no electricity.

#### **Bulgaria – January 15, 1953 (OSA)**

Deportations of unwanted elements from Sofia have never stopped as the Communist government brands them as “enemies of the people.” These unwanted elements include “bourgeois” and working class circles. The “bourgeois” are given 6 to 24 hours notice of their expulsion before militia trucks come and take them to Sofia station, where they will be transported to a provincial town or village to take up residence. The working class families are also deported on grounds that they can provide employment to newly built factories. The deportees' conditions are horrendous, as they have no quarters to live in upon arrival and no heating system available. The majority of deportees are allocated to the Dobroudja district.

**Poland / Switzerland / Soviet Union – January 15, 1953 (OSA)**

The economic trade between Switzerland and Poland is not considered satisfying for the Swiss economy. Only a third of the coal expected in 1952 was delivered and the import of textile and watches, companies of primary importance in Switzerland has been considerably reduced by Poland. The Swiss economy had a deep interest in maintaining the transactions with other countries, especially those which could become independent thanks to their production. The preceding years were characterised by a high production of beef and corn, especially for the black market. Production however has been slowed down by the authorities, leading to an increase in prices, yet the wages were not enough to support the families. The Polish economic situation is judged by a UN official to be one of poverty and dependence on the state and the power of the USSR.

**Bulgaria / Turkey – January 16, 1953 (OSA)**

The village of Hitrino, district Kolarovgrad, plays an important role in the economic life of the Indogorie area (former Deli Orman) due to its favourable placement, both on the railroad and highway. The majority of inhabitants there are ethnic Turks, despite the exodus of 154,000 Turks from Bulgaria in the past. Hitrino is a commercial centre, having large stores and branches of several banks and serving as the centre for livestock sale.

**Bulgaria – January 16, 1953 (OSA)**

In order to procure more funds, the Communist Government has attempted to make life insurance popular among the Bulgarian peasants. “Flying brigades” are now travelling nationwide and giving special attention to peasant groups. Often, the peasant is lured into signing a contract after hearing its advantages, only to discover later that one is forced to make monthly payments for his entire family. This policy is predicted to end in failure given the hostile reaction of the peasants to the “brigades” of the State Insurance Institute.

**Bulgaria – January 16, 1953 (OSA)**

There has been a rise in the flight of refugees from Soviet Germany and Eastern Europe, reaching a rate of 2,000 a day. This has sparked fear of a Red Purge against Jews in Eastern Europe. Due to the fear that Communist agents under the cloak of refugees are seeking to enter overseas countries, most parts of the free world restrict refugees’ resettlement.

**Poland / U.S. – January 16, 1953 (PSN)**

The Polish Government sends the U.S. a note of protest about training centers for intelligence agents located in West Germany. The Polish note states that intercepted agents had attempted to pass at least \$1 million of American taxpayer money to various officials.

**Poland / East Germany – January 16, 1953 (OSA)**

Reports from refugees moving through the Polish-East-German border describe obstacles involving an invisible cable laid between Zittau and Goerlitz train tracks which is connected to alarms that go off if one touches it.

**Poland / Czechoslovakia – January 16, 1953 (OSA)**

Czechoslovak officers have been noticed wearing their national uniforms in Krakow and Wroclaw. These officers are temporarily attached to Polish military units and such exchanges of Polish officers in Czechoslovakia have also been spotted suggesting a wider plan regarding gradual unification of the Eastern bloc countries armies.

**Poland – January 16, 1953 (OSA)**

PUWP Central Committee secretary, Dworakowski, is reported to have been entrusted to organize the trial against former Communist leader Gomulka.

**Bulgaria / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – January 17, 1953 (OSA)**

The mistakes of the Sovietisation process in Russia are being repeated in satellite countries. The puppet states must follow in the footsteps of the Soviets, from industrialisation to purges, from collectivization to sport. The satellite countries have to earn their achievement the “hard way.” Mass hunger and arrests, followed by purges, have increased. The mistakes the Russians made in collectivising land are enforced upon the Yugoslavian people.

**Bulgaria – January 17, 1953 (OSA)**

The opera “Delians” which was first performed on the 12th October 1952, receives harsh criticism for not adhering to Communist ideology. The opera discusses “liberty” and widely uses the attitudes and vocabularies of the capitalist world. However, “Delians” is well-received by the public. The opera’s unorthodox message has led to the purges of officials within the rank of KNIK (Committee for Science, Arts, and Culture).

The Operetta "Deliana" Makes poor Blood among the Communist Big Shots:

**Hungary – January 17, 1953 (KCA)**

An official communiqué announces the arrest of Lajos Stoeckler, President of the Hungarian Jewish community. Officials reportedly found he had substantial amounts of American and Swiss currency.

**Bulgaria – January 18-20, 1953 (KCA)**

Another espionage trial takes place in Sofia in which 10 defendants are charged with conspiring to overthrow the regime by force. The principle defendant, Todor Christov receives the death sentence while the other nine are sentenced to prison sentences ranging from 18 months to 20 years.

**Yugoslavia / Turkey – January 19-25, 1953 (PVC)**

Turkish Foreign Minister Fuad Köprülü visits Yugoslavia.

**Poland – January 19, 1953 (OSA)**

The Communists Polish writers hold great importance in the French press. In 1952, the sale of these newspapers was banned by the French authorities. However, it was impossible to prohibit the creation of new Polish - language underground newspapers, often by the same writers and the analysis of the same topics. A list of the Polish - language newspapers circulating in France as of June 1953 is provided together with a brief description of the subjects covered.

**Bulgaria / Turkey – January 20, 1953 (OSA)**

The informant resides at the Republika Hotel at Sofia and was not permitted to leave. Despite this prohibition, he and his friend went to Vitosa, about 20 km South of Sofia, and met a group of people who are making a propaganda newsreel. They were recorded in the footage, which was confirmed by the informant when he went to the Republik Cinema and saw himself in the pictures. When he and his mother attempted to escape to the Turkish border, they were returned since he had been recognised from the propaganda newsreel. Afterward, he was detained in a prison in Sofia and was interrogated 6 times in total. In each interrogation, the informant went through the same procedures and questions, which made him deduct that the interrogations were registered and recorded with a microphone.

**Bulgaria – January 20, 1953 (OSA)**

Preliminary constructions at Obzor have started to prepare for the railroad construction on the Stato Crehovo-Burgas line. None of the bridges have been completed, but some smaller bridges (vodostok) have been set up with cement pipes underneath to prevent the rails from being flooded. A small power-house was erected with power lines to supply lightning for the construction. An 8-km-long road was built to merge the tunnel with the highway at a point in the Obzor section.

**Bulgaria / Greece / Turkey / Yugoslavia – January 20, 1953 (OSA)**

The prison of Malshevtsi is located on the outskirts of the Bulgarian capital. The prison's capacity is 200 people, who are refugees seeking asylum in Bulgaria. All those who escape to Bulgaria from foreign countries are taken to the prison for interrogation, with those arousing no suspicions being transferred to Sofia political police central prison. The refugees come from Greece, Turkey, and Yugoslavia, with the majority of political prisoners being Communist Yugoslavs. So far, no prisoners have complained of being ill-treated and the food is good enough.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – January 20, 1953 (HC)**

The Soviet Government announces that Hungary has paid its reparations. The amount of reparation payments was significantly reduced over the years.

**Hungary – January 20, 1953 (HC)**

The Central Statistics Office publishes the economic achievements of the 1952 plan. Investment has increased by 23.2%, industrial production by 23.6%, heavy industrial production by 33.3%, light industrial production by 10.5%, food production by 16%. The proportion of the socialist sector within agriculture has increased from 25% to 37%.

**Poland – January 20, 1953 (OSA)**

The Central Committee of the Polish Communist Party has appointed a special Commission to safeguard and save Polish railways. A report on the state of the railways pointed out serious technical defects that need fixing and the Central Committee also wishes to enforce more political education for railway workers.

**Poland – January 20, 1953 (OSA)**

Three Catholic priests in Krakow are arrested under accusations of espionage. Their names are: Father Boleslaw Przybyszewski, Father Wit Barzycki and Father Jan Pochopien.

**Poland – January 21–27, 1953 (KCA)**

Four priests and three civilians are tried before a military court in Cracow on charges of espionage for the U.S. Intelligence Service. It is reported that all of the accused plead guilty. Three men are sentenced to death, and the rest to terms of imprisonment ranging from six years to life.

**Bulgaria / Hungary / Turkey – January 22, 1953, (OSA)**

Yordan Chobanov made a number of unexplained trips throughout Turkey and meetings with the Hungarian vice-consul in Istanbul were assumed, although there was no evidence of it.

**Poland / Vatican – January 22, 1953 (OSA)**

The Vatican informed the Polish Catholic Episcopate that it is willing to recognize the incorporation of former German territories (given to Poland at the Potsdam summit meeting in

1945) as part of Poland, however, only tacitly and ‘de facto’ but not juridically. Though the Vatican cannot make this announcement publicly, it authorized the Polish Primate, Wyszynski to extend his responsibility over the former German zones.

**Romania / Italy – January 22, 1953 (OSA)**

The Italian–Romanian commercial agreement signed in 1950 was prolonged until the end of 1953.

**Czechoslovakia / France – January 23, 1953 (KCA)**

The French Foreign Ministry announces that the Czechoslovak military attaché in Paris is considered to be a *persona non grata* and is recalled. The Czechoslovak Government issues the recall of the French military attaché in Prague and of two attaches at the French Embassy.

**Hungary – January 23, 1953 (HC)**

The Council of Ministers announces that the Hungarian Television Corporation will be established.

**Poland – January 23, 1953 (PSN)**

Four Catholic priests and three laymen are tried for having ties with the Polish émigré political council and intelligence service.

**Poland / Finland – January 23, 1953 (OSA)**

The Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs has signed a new commercial agreement with Poland. The trade deal involves Finnish exports for 14 million dollars against imports from Poland worth 28 million dollars.

**Romania January 24, 1953 (PIR)**

The Grand National Assembly elects a new Presidium and Petru Groza as President. A new Council of Ministers is also elected, while the Supreme Tribunal appoints the new general prosecutor.

**Poland – January 27, 1953 (OSA)**

Theatres are tasked with educating the people of the communist spirit and doctrine. In Warsaw, after the destruction of all the theatres in 1944, the Teatr Miasta Warszawy was built, followed by other national theatres which are all property of the regime. In 1953 two theatres, elected by the communist regime who has monopolised the theatrical plays. The importance of travelling theatres and their propagandistic task in the countryside is also examined. However, technical difficulties has provoked impatience in the artists, thus influencing the success of the performances.

**Soviet Union (Estonia) — January 27, 1953 (OSA)**

Two Estonians have been sentenced to imprisonment of 10 years for undermining Soviet trade. They were accused of having bought cattle from kolkhoz peasants and having sold their meat. The court speaks of parasitic behavior against the Socialist Society. This is the first sentence to be made public for more than a year.

**Soviet Union / Austria / U.S. – January 27, 1953 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union responds to an American note dated **January 12**, which called for a meeting of the deputies with regards to an Austrian peace treaty. The Soviet Union states that it is willing to resume negotiations only if the Western powers withdraw an abbreviated treaty presented in



**March 1952.** The Soviets also reject the **December 20, 1952** UN resolution on Austria as illegitimate.

**Soviet Bloc / U.S. – January 27, 1953 (LBC)**

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles on US foreign policy: the “captive” peoples of Eastern Europe “can count on us”. According to Dulles, the arrests and trials in Eastern Europe are signs of the Soviet Union’s weakness.

**Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – January 28, 1953 (PVC)**

Replying to the Bulgarian note of **January 6**, Yugoslavia sends a note to Bulgaria protesting the maltreatment of and insults against the Yugoslav diplomats in Sofia. Bulgaria denies the charges.

**Bulgaria – January 28, 1953 (OSA)**

A Bulgarian refugee describes how life was before and after Communists, the ticket system and other restrictions.

**Czechoslovakia – January 28, 1953 (OSA)**

The farmers resist collectivisation by sabotage. In Bohdanovice the stocks of forage are set on fire; in village Dlhá a hand grenade is thrown into the room of a JZD meeting. Nobody is punished.

**Czechoslovakia – January 28, 1953 (OSA)**

According to a Czechoslovakian immigrant, the general political opinion of the Czech people is anti-communist. The people are expecting a revolution induced by the West, not by local resistance.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – January 28, 1953 (OSA)**

The metal and mechanical enterprises, which produce items destined for the Soviet Union, do not keep their delivery contracts. A commission is established and a Russian commissar is detailed to press the enterprises to deliver their products punctually.

**Poland / Vatican – January 28, 1953 (KCA)**

The *Osservatore Romano* rejects negative insinuations made against the Vatican during the trial.

**Czechoslovakia – January 29, 1953 (OSA)**

After their death sentences, the prisoners spend days in prison without knowledge of their executions. The night before their executions, prisoners can say goodbye to their families. The executions take place before 6 am.

**Czechoslovakia – January 29, 1953 (OSA)**

A movie director Jiří Frejka, whose father Ludvík Frejka was executed, commits suicide. The actor Jiří Plachý falls from the window accidentally.

**Czechoslovakia – January 29, 1953 (OSA)**

The river Bělá (meaning white) goes through several industrial centers and is thus very polluted. It is used for the spa area in Bílina in Slovakia though. Regulation of the river usage would improve the conditions, but it has never been introduced.

**Czechoslovakia – January 29, 1953 (OSA)**

An artisan Vilém Našťák refuses collectivisation demands, is arrested, and loses his company. He never comes back home.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – January 29, 1953 (OSA)**

Cultural life in Czechoslovakia is governed by the Communist Party. Books, theatre, plays, and movies spread communist propaganda. They are mostly made in the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 29, 1953 (CWC)**

The U.S. rejects Soviet preconditions for negotiations.

**Czechoslovakia – January 30, 1953 (OSA)**

Five former members of the boy scout organisation are charged with high treason and sentenced to long terms of imprisonment at Klatovy.

**Czechoslovakia – January 30, 1953 (OSA)**

Late deliveries and bad weather conditions result in all the independent farmers in Budměřice being arrested for not fulfilling the prescribed quotas.

**Czechoslovakia – January 30, 1953 (OSA)**

The prior of the cloister in Teplá Tíň is imprisoned and never comes back. The cloister is closed, its library removed, and turned into houses for Communist officers.

**Czechoslovakia – January 30, 1953 (OSA)**

In Bílina there are only eight buildings completed for Communist officials. To speed up the construction, the soldiers and locals have to take part in the brigade work.

**Czechoslovakia – January 30, 1953 (OSA)**

The students at a new Agricultural school at Klatovy must take the lead in the local pioneer youth organisation. After matriculation, the students are directed to brigade work at Šumava.

**Hungary – January 30, 1953 (OSA)**

25-30 railway cars of potatoes are transported to Józsefváros railway station but are not stored in a closed room. A great quantity (5-6 wagons) freezes due to the mismanagement of the food.

**Bulgaria – January 31, 1953, (OSA)**

A manager of a grain store was charged with embezzling half a million Levas, representing the cost of grain missing from the store. The man told his sister (one of the judges) that he is innocent but cannot stand against the torture and accepted his death sentence. He was shot shortly after the trial.

**Czechoslovakia – January 31, 1953 (KCA)**

The Czechoslovak Government announces a complete reorganization of the governance system. Under the new system, a Government Presidium consisting of Prime Minister Zapotocký and nine Vice-premiers is formed. A number of Cabinet changes are also announced.

**Czechoslovakia – January 31, 1953 (OSA)**

KABLO enterprise's physician Adolf Adler is supposed to confirm the illness of workers, but he often refuses to do so. The workers must work even if they are ill.

### **Hungary – January 31, 1953 (OSA)**

Between July 1951 and May 1952, it was observed that four ships had been built in the Ganz Shipyards for sea and river traffic. The first vessel built was “Budapest” in 1934, then it was followed by three further ships: “Szeged” built in 1936, “Debrecen” and “Tisza” built in 1937. The last three versions of the ship show the development of this kind of ship building. “Tisza” was built for the Soviet Union.

## **February**

### **East Germany – February, 1953 (OSA)**

The VVN (“league of the former political persecutes by the Nazis”) is summarily dissolved by a resolution of its Central Board in East Berlin, and simultaneously substituted by the newly founded *Komitee der Antifaschisten Widerstandskämpfer* (Committee of Anti-Fascist Resistance Fighters).

### **Poland – February, 1953 (OSA)**

Reportedly around 500 soldiers have been stationed in the free harbor of Gdynia tightening controls around the port and ensuring Soviet dominance around the area. The Gdynia port is being converted into a Soviet port.

### **Poland / Argentina – February, 1953 (OSA)**

A new Poland-Argentina commercial agreement is signed for two years.

### **Romania – February, 1953 (OSA)**

At this time there were approximately 12,000 political prisoners, men and women, at the Ghencea concentration camp run by the Romanian government. The location had previously served as a Nazi concentration camp during their occupation. A majority of said prisoners reportedly did not stand trial.

### **Hungary – February 2, 1953 (HC)**

The Presidential Council elects Béla Kovács as Minister of Justice. The former Minister of Justice, Gyula Décsi is arrested.

### **Yugoslavia / Greece – February 3–8, 1953 (PVC)**

The Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs visits Yugoslavia.

### **Czechoslovakia – February 4, 1953 (OSA)**

The Czechoslovakian State Forestry enterprise is reorganised. However, the reorganisation of the whole system does not prove successful.

### **Hungary – February 4, 1953 (OSA)**

The Hungarian press is already reporting on the danger of floods. The Csongrád county’s region is always among the first areas to be flooded. This year the Tisza River has already flooded the neighbouring settlements. The level of the water is increasing.

### **Czechoslovakia – February 5, 1953 (OSA)**

An unknown aircraft drops bombs between Zlín and Mýdlovary. Two of the missiles explode.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – February 5, 1953 (OSA)**

Uranium is found in Krkonoše mountains on the north of Bohemia. The search is directed by Soviet experts.

**Czechoslovakia – February 5, 1953 (OSA)**

The Czechoslovakian government abolishes deliveries in kind to employees of the food industry.

**Czechoslovakia / West German – February 5, 1953 (OSA)**

Members of the Czechoslovakian Border Guards cross the barbed wire obstacles and try to obtain information from West German citizens. The most frequently desired object the guards request is a newspaper containing reports about the Slánský trial.

**Hungary – February 5, 1953 (OSA)**

Description of the construction works of Metro 2. It emphasises that a special air raid shelter is being built in Budapest at the Kossuth Lajos square, in connection with the metro construction work. At this specific place the work is done 29.75 metres underground. The other nuclear shelter can be found 10 metres underground at Blaha Lujza square.

**Hungary – February 5, 1953 (OSA)**

The Communists are trying to put more emphasis on civilian marriage as it fits excellently into their anti-religious ideology and practice. The Communist Party urges young people to keep away from religious services and to get married at the Communist Party's headquarters. These kinds of weddings are held in the evening and the couple have to dress in an everyday working style to show that they are not part of the bourgeoisie.

**Hungary / Romania – February 5, 1953 (PIR)**

Romania and Hungary upgrade diplomatic relations to the embassy level.

**Romania / France – February 5, 1953 (OSA)**

Ion Dranceanu was appointed as Romania's Minister of Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary to France. He had been a member of the Communist Party of Romania since 1945 and holds a degree in ancient law.

**Romania – February 5, 1953 (PIR)**

Iuliu Maniu, president of PNR (1926-1933, 1937-1947), dies in the Sighet prison.

**Czechoslovakia – February 6, 1953 (OSA)**

At every Czechoslovakian University there is a compulsory military training every week. It lasts the whole day in the presence of a high military officer.

**Czechoslovakia – February 6, 1953 (OSA)**

The first newspaper articles about other members of the so-called Slánský gang appears. It may indicate that the trial with Husák and Novomenský will soon begin.

**Hungary – February 6, 1953 (OSA)**

A 26-year-old clerk from the city of Sajókazinc reports on the circumstances in the Herbolya coal mine in which he was working until his escape. He says that the Soviet made "Donbass" combines are sent to the collieries with the view to obtain a substantial increase of production. Allegedly, the Herbolya mine is the only place in which the machines are applicable. However,

the operation of the combines are difficult and dangerous, and the miners do not like the machines. According to the workers, the manpower needed for the equipment and operation of the combines would be enough to produce more than the machines are capable of. Still, the regime enforces their use for purely propagandistic reasons in the interest of the Soviet "brother."

#### **Hungary – February 6, 1953 (OSA)**

The parish Vaskeresztes have mainly Roman Catholic inhabitants in 1952. Who, despite the Communist oppression, have been raising their children in Roman Catholic style. The Communist leadership are trying to counterbalance this Catholic dedication by appointing a "peace priest" to be the parson. The secular priest enjoys the state's support and receives a salary from the state, so the believers are relieved from the obligation of payment of church tax. His speeches lack every religious basis; instead he reads announcements. He calls upon the disciples to fulfil their delivery obligation to that state, and to trust and pray for the Soviet intentions for peace. Only a few parishioners came to the confession and communion because no one trusts that the priest will hold the confessional secret.

#### **Hungary – February 6, 1953 (OSA)**

The report describes the frequency of traffic accidents by illustrating two traffic accidents in 1953.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Bulgaria – February 7, 1953 (OSA)**

A ship made in Komárno shipyards in Slovakia following a Bulgarian order is defective. Therefore, Bulgarians refuse to accept it and the construction experts are accused of sabotage.

#### **East Germany – February 7, 1953 (OSA)**

Secondary school educators are the victims of mass purges in the GDR. 1400 teachers were dismissed in December, 1952 alone, and over 2000 resigned.

#### **East Germany / Soviet Union – February 7, 1953 (OSA)**

East German Minister President Otto Grotewohl requests "the Soviets to authorize that the chief commander of the Soviet armed forces in East Germany be a marshal and not only a general as he was so far".

#### **Hungary – February 7, 1953 (OSA)**

Coal shortages in Budapest factories and offices. In the United Incandescent and Electrical Company, the showers will not provide warm water because of the coal shortage until 31st March. In the main building of the Hungarian National Bank, the central heating has been limited to begin at 10-12 Celsius. The cause is that the Bank did not receive the ordered coal quantity for the heating period on time.

#### **Poland – February 7, 1953 (OSA)**

The report gives information on the theatres in Poland. The first part of the report provides details on the spectacles and the repertoire. The names of some actors expected to participate are included, including Ludwik Solski, Leszczynski. Despite this, there is a low turnout in theatrical performances in various Polish cities. The repertoire is based on the needs of the public with requests for works of the great Polish and foreign classics. However, the program is communist propaganda dominated. At the end the report highlights the arrival of a famous theatre company on November 4th, 1952, which performed at the "Teatr Polski" in Warsaw under the direction of Strelcow.

**Romania – February 7, 1953 (PIR)**

The Plowmen's Front dissolves itself as a party; its members are absorbed into PMR.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – February 7, 1953 (OSA)**

The Yugoslavia Government delivered their concern to the Bulgarian Ministry for Foreign Affairs about the anti-Yugoslav campaign conducted by Bulgaria Government. In the note, Yugoslav Government also emphasised the importance of the Yugoslav diplomatic representative in Bulgaria to receive equal rights as the Bulgarian representative in Yugoslavia.

**Hungary – February 8, 1953 (HC/KCA)**

The Presidential Council dismisses Zoltán Vas as head of the State Planning Office and István Szirmai as head of the Hungarian Radio Office.

**Hungary – February 8, 1953 (HC)**

Decree 6/1953 by the Council of Ministers announces that the family allowance will be regulated. Decree 7/1953 states that mothers, pregnant women and children will be protected. Decree 8/1953 states that citizens without children are required to pay a special tax (4% of their income).

**Hungary – February 9, 1953 (OSA)**

The daily routine of firemen in Szombathely. The fire-brigade is called out several times to extinguish fires affecting the crops. Sabotage is suspected, but police investigation leads to nothing. In one of the cases, it is found that the fire was caused by a tractor's exhaust since it was assembled in a very negligent way. The peasants were delighted because it was the producer cooperative's wheat which had been burnt down.

**Hungary – February 9, 1953 (OSA)**

At one of the ministerial conferences of the government in the Spring of 1953, it is decided that some of the hotels are to be renovated, refurbished and returned to their original designs. Among these hotels are the Palace, Royal, Metropol and Park hotels.

**Poland – February 9, 1953 (PSN)**

The Polish Council of State issues a decree announcing that church appointments would have to have prior approval from state authorities and that the state could remove clergymen from their posts.

**Poland – February 9, 1953 (OSA)**

The Polish government approves a decree which allows the state to name the titulars to the episcopal sees, the parishes and all ecclesiastical posts.

**Soviet Union (Estonia) — February 9, 1953 (OSA)**

The Estonian press published two separate court reports, regarding violations of socialist property, indicating that cases of forgery and embezzlement are a common phenomenon and that the authorities attempt to establish deterrent examples. A bookkeeper in Tallin, who forged salary lists and embezzled large sums of money was sentenced to 20 years in a corrective camp. Two chairmen and three accountants of the same company also received sentences in corrective camps, for not noticing the instances of fraud. Furthermore, two men were convicted to 10 years in prison for being involved with private trade.

**Hungary – February 10, 1953 (OSA)**

Until 13 December 1952, the prices were in substantial accordance with previous reports containing similar price lists.

**Hungary – February 10, 1953 (OSA)**

There are negotiations held regarding the reform of the rental system with the Common Hungarian Property Manager in 1953. Since the nationalisation of the tenement houses, the question of transformation of the current rent prices is on the agenda. The Common Hungarian Property Manager is led only with one purpose which is to increase the incomes of the state.

**Hungary – February 10, 1953 (OSA)**

Based on the decree issued by the Council of Ministers it is ruled that 30% of the available alcohol stocks for 1953 are to be reserved for the armed forces. As a consequence of the decree, the quantity of the alcoholic beverages to be publicly consumed will decrease substantially in the year of 1953. The opening hours of the liquor stores will be limited and the prices of the alcoholic beverages for the public will go up by 25% from 1st January 1953.

**Hungary – February 10, 1953 (OSA)**

In the Red Star Tractor Factory, cheating is a norm which is continuously occurring. The brigade on the night shift achieved its excellent result by taking out the finished pieces of a tractor and putting back faulty tractor pieces in their places. However, no one filed a complaint against the brigades because the leadership of the Factory wanted to keep the production statistics high.

**Hungary – February 10, 1953 (OSA)**

In 1953, a ministerial decree introduces the so-called accounting check system. This system reduces cash expenditures in purchases for state enterprises and communities, thus simultaneously reducing money circulation.

**Hungary – February 10, 1953 (OSA)**

The Ministry for Local Industry announces a competition to solve the question of accumulating waste. The waste should be handled according to health and economic regulations. It is prescribed that a way should be found through which the industrially valuable material may be extracted from the waste.

**Romania – February 10, 1953 (PIR)**

The Institute for Economic Research of the Romanian Academy is founded.

**Soviet Union / Israel – February 10, 1953 (PLC)**

The Soviet Union ends all diplomatic relations with Israel following an attack on its Embassy in Tel Aviv.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany / Netherlands – February 11, 1953 (OSA)**

Czechoslovakian refugees in Valka camp in Nuremberg organise help for the flood-stricken people in the Netherlands. This action was launched under the slogan: Refugees who have lost everything including their home country, give help to those who are more in need.

**Romania – February 12, 1953 (OSA)**

A Postal Circular was released specifying restrictions for parcels sent into Romania from abroad. Among the specifications was a weight limit of 2 kilograms.

**Soviet Union – February 12, 1953 (OSA)**

Smuggling and black market trading of goods from the West can be found within many crews of the Soviet Danube Shipping Company. Although smuggling is observed among all the ships, the Soviets have better chances of success.

**Bulgaria – February 13, 1953 (KCA)**

A law for the regulation of the stay of Bulgarian citizens abroad is promulgated in Sofia, stating that “Bulgarian citizens who leave the country without permission of the competent authorities, as well as citizens who, having left the country with permission, fail to return when their permitted stay abroad has expired, will be treated as traitors and punished by death”.

**Czechoslovakia / USA – February 13, 1953 (OSA)**

According to the opinion of several Slovakian labourers, the idea of a united Europe is a good solution for the tense situation between West and East. However, they accuse the United States of dangerous imperialism.

**Czechoslovakia – February 13, 1953 (OSA)**

Members of Czech Border Guards test a new type of rocket for illuminating the terrain during the night.

**Czechoslovakia – February 13, 1953 (OSA)**

In a publication “We are building socialism” Minister Páter Plojhar praises the Communist Party for achieving success in the field of nationalism.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany – February 13, 1953 (OSA)**

In the Czecho-Bavarian border zone there are new installations to avoid escapes to the West. The improvement of the closed borders includes devices illuminating the area when a detection wire is constructed.

**Finland / Nordic Council – February 13, 1953 (NCP)**

The first meeting of the Nordic Council is held in Copenhagen. Finland, which has received an invitation to join, is prevented from taking part in the meeting because of the political pressure from the Soviet Union.

**Hungary – February 13, 1953 (HC)**

The Council of Ministers announces that the Economics Institute, established on **September 9, 1949**, will be closed.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – February 13, 1953 (OSA)**

Following the note of protest from the Yugoslav Government dated on February 7, 1953, three Bulgarian diplomats declared persona non-grata and left Belgrade to Sofia. Moreover, staff of Bulgarian Embassy at Belgrade and the Yugoslav Embassy at Sofia will be equally reduced.

**East Germany – February 15, 1953 (OSA)**

The East German government requires all ecclesiastical properties to be declared by this date; expectations in the Vatican are that this property will be promptly requisitioned and nationalized by the government authorities.



**Poland – February 15, 1953 (OSA)**

The auxiliary Bishop of Krakow, Stanislaw Rospond is arrested on alleged grounds of anti-state activities.

**Bulgaria – February 16, 1953, (OSA)**

The Bulgarian Government stresses the importance of production and work, yet to get a job while not being a member of the Communist party takes months. The central preference on industrialization is still contractional.

**Czechoslovakia – February 16, 1953 (OSA)**

The copper mines near Broumov in the north of Bohemia are reopened.

**Czechoslovakia – February 16, 1953 (OSA)**

In Jail in Liberec there is a special section for former artisans and businessmen who perform forced labour.

**Czechoslovakia – February 18, 1953 (OSA)**

At the Malacky Castle there is a training course for the members of the Border Guards. They are mainly trained in shooting and throwing hand grenades.

**Czechoslovakia – February 18, 1953 (OSA)**

As a punishment for trying to escape across the border, prisoner Paleček is sentenced to one year imprisonment in the Jáchymov uranium mines.

**Poland / Czechoslovakia / Switzerland – February 18, 1953 (OSA)**

Local news on the agitation of the League of Satellites Countries in Bern about the alleged circulation of sensitive information. Mutual confidence was lacking, particularly in the legation of Czechoslovakia. Several officials have received anonymous letters inviting them to seek asylum in Switzerland and a fake newspaper "Rude Pravo" in Prague containing anti - Communist articles. It also stresses the friendly nature of relations between the Polish and Czechoslovak leagues despite the postponement of some meetings between ministers. The report also stresses the unusual absence of the Czechoslovak Minister in Bern due to the widespread panic over the lack of security and possible espionage in the offices of the satellite countries' leagues in Bern. The second point of the report provides information on an exposition on the life of Polish workers in Bale in December 1952.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany / Netherlands – February 19, 1953 (OSA)**

There is progress in the help of refugees from the Valka camp in Nuremberg for flood-stricken areas of the Netherlands. Czechs and Slovaks are willing to participate in rescue and reconstruction works.

**Romania – February 19, 1953 (PIR)**

The Political Bureau approves the investigation of Ana Pauker and Teohari Georgescu by the organs of the Ministry of State Security.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 20, 1953 (LBC)**

Eisenhower calls on Congress to pass a resolution, which would repudiate "any interpretations or applications," "employment and interpretations" of secret World War II pacts, "which have been perverted to bring about the subjugation of free peoples" and proclaiming that the people who have been subjugated to Soviet despotism shall again enjoy the right of self-determination

within a framework which will sustain peace. Because of Stalin's illness, U.S. Congress postpones discussion of the draft resolution on **March 5**. Deliberation of the draft resolution is postponed indefinitely on **March 10**. Some opponents of the draft want to condemn even the fact that the agreements were made and found the formula of distorting the agreements insufficient.

#### **Czechoslovakia – February 21, 1953 (OSA)**

There is a huge air defence training for all Czechoslovakian citizens.

#### **Czechoslovakia – February 21, 1953 (OSA)**

The biological father of president Klement Gottwald is not known. Gottwald's step-brother profits from his relation to a powerful brother.

#### **Hungary – February 21, 1953 (HC)**

The first edition of *Szabad Hazánkért* ("For our free country"), the literary periodical of the National Army, is published. Chief editor: Gábor Devecseri.

#### **Hungary – February 21, 1953 (OSA)**

ÁVH (State Security Authority) is organising new units to carry out inquiries into railway accidents and severe delays. Recently, the stationmaster of Nagyszentjános was investigated, because a freight train has stayed too long at the station. In another case, the freight train had taken a route from Balassagyarmat to Győr which took 22 days but should have taken 36 hours. As a consequence, the ÁVH units of multiple districts were investigating the case.

#### **Hungary – February 21, 1953 (OSA)**

A migrant is sharing his experiences about the control on travellers that the ÁVH exerted in areas near to the Hungarian border and in the border zones. From 1951-1952, the migrant travelled weekly on the route of Szentgotthárd-Szombathely-Celdömölk and witnessed and experienced the monitoring measures of the ÁVH units on the trains. They controlled only outgoing trains. Once, the unyielding workers were threatened with guns by the ÁVH employees, but then the workers got off the train so no action was taken.

#### **Poland – February 21, 1953 (KCA)**

In a broadcast, the Polish Minister of Agriculture speaks on the development of co-operative farming in Poland, encouraging it.

#### **Yugoslavia – February 21–25, 1953 (PVC)**

The fourth congress of Socialist Alliance of Working People of Yugoslavia, formerly the People's Front is held in Belgrade. In his speech delivered at the congress, Foreign Minister Edvard Kardelj puts the emphasis on the cooperation of progressive forces of the world against both the dynamic imperialism of the Soviet Union and the extensive tendencies of American capitalism.

#### **Soviet Union – February 22, 1953 (KCA)**

Though no official announcement has been made, the first intimation that Marshall Vassili Sokolovsky has succeeded General Shtemenko as Chief of Staff of the Soviet Army is given when Sokolovsky was described as Chief of Army Staff in invitations for a Soviet Army Day reception.

**Czechoslovakia – February 23, 1953 (OSA)**

Regulation works on the Danube river bank go slowly due to lack of finances.

**Soviet Union / Finland / Poland / Czechoslovakia – February 23, 1953 (OSA)**

A new Triangle Trade Agreement is signed between Finland and the USSR. Under the terms of the agreement Polish and Czechoslovakian exports are also linked to the agreement.

**Czechoslovakia – February 24, 1953 (OSA)**

The former Communist officers Vlk, Hlinkomaz and Musil are held in the Prague prison in Karlovo náměstí.

**Hungary / West Germany / USA – February 24, 1953 (OSA)**

A 32-year-old man from Fertőhomok located at the Hungarian border claims that the people in the city of Fertőhomok are more and more interested in a United Europe. They think that the rearmament of West-Germany will lead to the achievement of that goal. They believe that this movement will bring the liberation of the Hungarians and that the Americans can play a leading role in this movement.

**Hungary – February 24, 1953 (OSA)**

A 20-year-old steel-caster worked in the agricultural machine making factory in the city of Mosonmagyaróvár as an apprentice from September 1949 until September 1951. He recalls the Stakhanovite Movement in the factory which was initiated by the leadership of the factory in 1950. The politically trusted workers were picked beforehand and two further auxiliary workers were subordinated to them. The work performance of three of them was dedicated to the selected Stakhanov worker. That is why the Stakhanovites were able to achieve 600-700% work performance. They were later sent to retraining and recruited as civil servants.

**Hungary – February 24, 1953 (OSA)**

On the 26th October 1952 a fireman's ball was organised in Fertőszentmiklós. Only the forbidden Western dance music induces people to dance.

**Romania – February 24, 1953 (OSA)**

A source reports that costs of meals in restaurants have been on the rise while portion sizes have decreased. Eating in restaurants has become a rarity as average salaries hover around 300 to 400 leis a month.

**Romania / France – February 24, 1953 (OSA)**

The Council of Europe recently and unanimously voted on a resolution that reaffirms their confidence in the unity of Europe. A radio message was released as a result in which M. Ernest Pezet spoke directly to the people in what he refers to as "imprisoned states" reassuring them that they have not been forgotten by the West. He is optimistic in his message that they shall regain their liberty.

**Czechoslovakia – February 25, 1953 (OSA)**

Criticism of western radios - all Radio Free Europe broadcasts refer to an early end of Communist government leading to more arrests.

**Czechoslovakia – February 25, 1953 (OSA)**

A teacher in Čihošť uses his position to get information from children. By this manipulation he denounces local priests Papež and Toufar, who are later tortured to death. Also due to his denunciation, the collection of funds for the renovation of the local church is halted.

**Czechoslovakia – February 25, 1953 (OSA)**

StB (State Security) in Bratislava apply a new method on how to fight escapes abroad. StB agents contact people suspected of intending to escape and offer their help. Lately, the refugees-to-be are arrested.

**Czechoslovakia – February 25, 1953 (OSA)**

In various towns in Czechoslovakia the letter “E” is painted on walls; it stands for Eisenhower.

**Czechoslovakia – February 25, 1953 (OSA)**

In Bratislava a rumour circulates that the former secretary general of the KSS Štefan Raš'ovanský has died in a Slovakian prison.

**Hungary – February 25, 1953 (OSA)**

A 47-year-old man reports the poor sanitary conditions in the Pig Production Factory in the city of Magyaróvár. The sows are crowded with eight to ten piglets in each very small pen. Workers at the factory have completely forgotten about the construction of the vents. Due to these conditions, the pigs are constantly wet from the humid air. As a result, in March 1952, typhus fever and erysipelas broke out in the factory and 500 pre-calving sows died.

**Hungary – February 25, 1953 (OSA)**

A 28-year-old worker who worked in the factory of TŰKER from 1949 until 1952 discusses their union election. The union committee of TŰKER was elected in March 1952. The workers knew very well that even if they were elected, they could make progress in the party. At that time the workers could not come forward with their complaints, otherwise they were arrested. Later, the members of the union committee were elected and celebrated at an inauguration ceremony.

**Hungary / UK – February 25, 1953 (OSA)**

The Executive Committee of the Hungarian Section of the European Movement held its fourth General Assembly on 5 February 1952 in Paris. Auer Paul, President of the Hungarian Section of the European Movement gave a short summary of the great progress achieved in 1952 concerning the unification of Europe. He also mentioned that the Congress in London of the Commission of Central and Eastern Europe of the European Movement was the greatest event of the Movement, since the Congress had adopted important resolutions. One of them sated “Europe cannot remain half free, half bound in slavery.”

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 25, 1953 (LBC)**

Eisenhower announces that he is willing to meet with Stalin for the sake of maintaining international peace. According to Secretary of State Dulles, the President is not planning to meet Stalin but even if they did meet, Eisenhower would not employ the policy of appeasement.

**Yugoslavia / Greece / Turkey – February 25, 1953 (KCA)**

Greece, Turkey and Yugoslavia sign a treaty of friendship and cooperation in Athens. The treaty provides for close co-operation in the political, defense, economic, and cultural spheres.

**Czechoslovakia – February 26, 1953 (OSA)**

People of Brno gather around the foundation stone of the Masaryk monument to commemorate memorable days. To avoid this, the Communists erect a wooden platform above the foundation stone.

**Czechoslovakia – February 26, 1953 (OSA)**

The city of Žďár in Moravia will have the largest machine industry in Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia – February 26, 1953 (OSA)**

In 1951 the first workshop of the new screw factory in Moravské Budějovice was completed. In 1952, a new factory building was under construction. In Kyjov a screw factory is also being built.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – February 26, 1953 (OSA)**

A three-day congress of farmers begins in Leipzig, with the aim of accelerating collectivization in Eastern Germany. Delegates were owners of small farms and those in collectives, chosen by the Farmers Mutual Aid Association (VDGB) and by the German Democratic Peasants Party (DBP), as well as guest delegations from the Soviet Union and satellite states.

**Hungary – February 26, 1953 (OSA)**

György Kardos, head of the University of Construction Industry passes away.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – Feb 26, 1953 (OSA)**

According to a Hungarian source, in the first half of the previous year 36000 workplace accidents occurred in Yugoslavia. Of these, 457 resulted in the death of workers. In the beginning of this year, there were a total of 130000 workers who became disabled during the fulfillment of their jobs. In 1951, due to workplace accidents a total of 27 million workdays were lost, that is on average 86000 workers were absent from their jobs.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – February 26, 1953 (OSA)**

About 70% of the raw materials in Czechoslovakia are imported from the Soviet Union.

**Hungary – February 27-28, 1953 (HC)**

A national meeting of artists is organized in Budapest in order to discuss the questions of contemporary art.

**Bulgaria – February 27, 1953, (OSA)**

Bulgaria increased the customs and import duties to double or more on parcels from the Western countries, so the articles (esp. clothing, cosmetical products) became more expensive on the open market.

**Czechoslovakia – February 27, 1953 (OSA)**

A new airport is built for the industrial area in Gottwaldov. An old airport in former Zlín was previously used by Bat'a enterprise and it no longer suits to the requirements.

**Czechoslovakia – February 27, 1953 (OSA)**

In Prague – Strahov there is a jamming station. In January 1953, a few members of the station may have been arrested.

**Czechoslovakia – February 27, 1953 (OSA)**

There was a strike in Antonín Zápotocký enterprise in Brno which took place before Christmas in 1951.

**Czechoslovakia – February 27, 1953 (OSA)**

New machine shops are built by the road leading from Uherský Brod to Nivnice.

**Hungary / Turkey / Soviet Union– February 27, 1953 (OSA)**

Hungarian press announced that Hungary fulfilled her war reparation payments to the Soviet Union on 20 January 1952. The Hungarian commercial attaché's office sent a letter of good wishes to the Turkish businessmen trading with Hungary. The letter declared that after Hungary has fulfilled clauses of the armistice and peace agreements by which she has to indemnify the Soviet Union for damages done during World War Two, Hungary's growing industry is able now to satisfy demands from her foreign buyers like Turkey, and Hungary is looking forward to increase her trade with Turkey which "always was and always will be a most welcome buyer of Hungarian goods."

**Hungary / Korea – February 27, 1953 (OSA)**

The population of Korea welcomes the Hungarian medics sent there to provide help to the war-torn country.

**Soviet Union —February 27, 1953 (OSA)**

Following a decision of the Vatican, the General of Assumptionists appointed Father Georges Bissonnette, who previously attended a course of the American information service, the new chaplain of the Catholic church of the American Embassy in Moscow. Father Bissonnette, after acquiring his Soviet visa, is to visit Rome in order to receive a briefing from the Vatican State Secretariate, before his departure to the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / Vatican / USA – February 27, 1953 (OSA)**

Father Georges Bissonnette (previously Father Gervasious Quenard), was appointed as the new Catholic chaplain of the American Embassy in Moscow, following a Vatican proposal.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – February 27, 1953 (HWC)**

The Foreign Office's Desk Officer for Yugoslavia, J. Olivar Wright proposes a new policy towards Yugoslavia suggesting that in view of Tito's imminent visit, the British might "try and cultivate in him some talent for compromise." This is one of the rare examples of such a note rising from the bottom of the bureaucracy to the very top that is endorsed by both the Foreign Secretary and the Prime Minister.

**Bulgaria – February 28, 1953 (OSA)**

A plane belonging to TABSO air transport company flying from Sofia to the Soviet Union had a defect and hit a hilltop, coming down in flames. Avoiding critics and concerns neither the press nor the radio did mention any information about the accident at the time.

**Hungary – February 28, 1953 (OSA)**

The 18th congress of the Hungarian trade unions is held. Social Democratic leadership is mentioned as enemy number one, and Stakhanovite work ethic is set as a goal. In total, there are 1771000 members among the Hungarian trade unions, 250000 people amongst them in leadership positions.

**Soviet Union — February 28, 1953 (OSA)**

Several cases of fraud by State shipping firm “Soyusposyltorg” were accounted for, by the complaining letters of workers sent to the Soviet State Trade Union. The firm, that supposedly should regulate the shipment of materials and other objects, delivered damaged goods or no shipments at all. The firm gave back partial refunding or no compensation for the lost items while responding with vague and threatening statements to the people that registered complaints.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – February 28, 1953 (OSA)**

The Soviet Union starts providing help in running the Hungarian railway transport.

**March****Hungary – March, 1953 (REV)**

The Budapest Military Court passes sentences in the so-called Farkasfa conspiracy. József Bekes, Péter Wrangel, Ferenc Sipos, János Sipos and Lajos Bicsák are sentenced to death for spying and conspiracy against the state. Over 70 people in the Vas County village are arrested in the case. Ten are executed and several die of torture during interrogation.

**Poland / Vatican – March, 1953 (OSA)**

The Polish Communist Government appears to have increased repression of the Catholic Church. Following the disappearance and imprisonment of Archbishop Adamski in 1952, there appears to be increased surveillance of the Cardinal of Poland, Stefan Wyszyński. There are concerns of more actions against Wyszyński who was reproached for adopting the Vatican’s stance.

**Yugoslavia / Burma / U.N. – March, 1953 (RYN)**

Yugoslavia supports Burma's complaint against Nationalist Chinese aggression in the U.N. The step enhances Belgrade's prestige in Rangoon.  
ce on former German territories annexed by Poland.

**East Germany – Late March, 1953 (OSA)**

New checkpoints to control traffic between sectors of Berlin were erected by order of the East Berlin Police (VoPo). As early as Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> of March, that is, prior to the completion of such checkpoints, the VoPo began thorough inspections of the documentation and belongings of those crossing the Soviet sector border.

**East Germany / Poland – March–April, 1953 (OSA)**

Following pressures from the West German and West Berlin press, and possibly also from Soviet unease, “The German–Polish Society for Peace and Good Neighborliness”, which had had costly support from the East German propaganda apparatus, was dissolved by the Department of Propaganda and Agitation in the Central Committee of the SED. Its functions were transferred to the recently founded “Organization for Cultural Relations with Other Countries”.

**East Germany – March–May, 1953 (OSA)**

An increase in the number of sabotages to East German factories is reported. These sometimes cause production to be halted in full. In these months, damage was sustained by over 250

machines in GDR tractor stations, as well as by over 30 edifices deliberately set on fire in cooperatives in Mecklenburg and Saxony. Moreover, explosives were put in the Krupp-Gruson works in Magdeburg and fires set in a gasoline factory in Boehlen.

**East Germany – March 2, 1953 (OSA)**

East German Bishop Dibelius holds a speech in East Berlin, to commemorate a pastor arrested by the government. He urges the believers to pray for the man and emphasizes that faith is stronger than suffering.

**East Germany / Poland / Soviet Union – March 2, 1953 (OSA)**

The East German, the Polish, and the Soviet government come to an agreement in regard to the city of Stettin. The city and its harbor will be deemed as a free area, no trade ships will be allowed to enter. The Soviet Eastern fleet will be stationed in the Stettin harbor instead of Riga.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – March 2, 1953 (OSA)**

The National Labor Alliance, an anti-Soviet organization created by Russian emigrants, reports that in the past year they were able to spread 11 300000 propaganda books and pamphlets among Soviet soldiers stationed in Eastern Germany. Amongst the instructions found in the booklets are tips on how to print anti-communist leaflets and how to change the headlines of official Soviet newspapers.

**East Germany / West Germany / Netherlands – March 2, 1953 (OSA)**

Dutch citizens send 5000 tons of clothes and other warm materials to Eastern German refugees.

**East Germany / West Germany – March 2, 1953 (OSA)**

The influx of East German migrants is becoming an increasing problem for West Germany. Most of the refugees were not facing direct danger as of yet, but were afraid that their fate would soon take a turn for the worse if they remain. They are also afraid of a strict Iron Curtain dividing the country, which would make their escape more difficult in the future.

**Hungary – March 2, 1953 (REV)**

Over 1,600 Category C recruits are sent to labor service in construction brigades. The number of men on Army labor service reaches 10,000.

**Hungary – March 2, 1953 (OSA)**

A report regarding the former commander Molnar, of the prison in Jászberény. He is well-known for his repelling character. He would attack the prisoners intensely. Ultimately, he was discharged from his position for his extreme cruelty toward the prisoners.

**Hungary / Turkey – March 2, 1953 (OSA)**

A Turkish businessman has made several visits (in 1946, earlier in 1949) to Hungary before, as he had been a buyer of Goldberger textile factory for over 10 years. He is usually shown around, however, in September 1949 when he was on a business trip in Budapest, he met with representatives of the Hungarian Foreign Trade state enterprise and “Hunagrotex” directors who prevented him from touring the factory. The justification was that “ he would disturb the steady production.”

**Hungary / UK / Malaysia – March 2, 1953 (KCA / OSA)**

The Hungarian government offers to exchange Edgar Sanders, a British citizen living in Hungary accused of espionage, for Lee Meng, a Malaysian citizen of Chinese origin bearing



arms against the British, who was sentenced to 13 years imprisonment in 1950. Churchill announces to the House of Commons that the Hungarian Government has proposed a prisoner exchange. The British government, however, has trouble accepting the exchange since going through with the deal might give incentive to other communist entities to hold British citizens abroad as ransom. The UK refuses the offer.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 2, 1953 (CWC)**

Vishinsky attacks the U.S. for blocking a Korean peace resolution at the U.N. General Assembly.

**East Germany / USA – March 3, 1953 (OSA)**

An American newspaper reports that intellectuals living in Eastern Germany are now also victims of politically motivated purges.

**East Germany / West Germany – March 3, 1953 (OSA)**

On this day, 5000 refugees arrive in West Berlin, breaking the previous daily record of 3500. In February of this year alone, 41000 refugees were registered by the authorities. Among this group are 16000 agricultural workers, and 594 Volkspolizei agents.

**Hungary – March 3, 1953 (OSA)**

Life in 1953 in Budapest. Budapest can be regarded as a nice city in the eyes of a foreigner. There are no ruins on the streets and there are many parks and playgrounds. However, the people seem unkempt and one cannot often buy soup in the shops. Moreover, the citizens are physically worn out due to their work. Central issues are the famine. The deportations in Budapest and outside of Budapest are continuous. Families are torn apart, and children remain alone and on the streets. The expellees have a very hard life. Religious life has been strengthened, while social life has been shortened because the people are so exhausted.

**Hungary – March 3, 1953 (OSA)**

A travelling salesman reports about the transfer of prisoners between June and August 1952. A list of prisoners transferred from Jászberény prison to Oroszlány soft coal mines. The prisoners were persuaded into accepting their “spontaneous” transfer by promises of better conditions and reduction of their prison terms, should they manage to achieve the stakhanovite level of production.

**Hungary – March 3, 1953 (OSA)**

A 32-year-old waiter reports his own experiences and observations he made between 22 March and 3 July 1952. The penitentiary of Márianosztra is described where men who are sentenced to terms longer than five years are held. Formerly, this penitentiary was reserved for female prisoners, but in 1949 they were moved to another prison near Kalocsa. The prisoners work in a carpet-weaving shop in the prison, as well as in a nearby quarry.

**Hungary – March 3, 1953 (OSA)**

The Communist Party in Hungary wants their members to come from the Workers Cadre; bourgeoisie, small landowners, artisans and intellectuals are not welcome. However, a lot of Jews were able to get Party membership, although very few had a worker’s background. It is assumed that the Jews whose shops were nationalised and who consequently were compelled to take up manual jobs in the factories thus becoming “workers” and were given preferential treatment, e.g. by getting better jobs. In many cases not because they were Jews but because of

their better cultural background. This led to growing anti-semitism among the Christian labourers.

**Poland – March 3, 1953 (OSA)**

The Polish government takes more anti-religious measures. Archbishop Wyszynski is deemed a Nazi collaborator.

**Hungary – March 4, 1953 (OSA)**

Report on the housing situation in Budapest. The informant lives with her family in the 15th district of Budapest. Their house is small: one floor, composed of two rooms, one kitchen and a small courtyard. Each room was 4 x 4 metres long, but in one of the rooms lived four members of the family, while in the other room lived the old owner of the house. The neighbour was an old barber who became obsessed with the Communist Party.

**Hungary / East Germany – March 4, 1953 (OSA)**

Report describing the procedure of immigration to Eastern Germany. A 30-year-old man from Gara whose parents have already been deported to Eastern Germany decided to emigrate to Eastern Germany as he cannot earn his living in Hungary. However, he could not acquire a move-in permit, so he went to the Embassy of the German Democratic Republic in Budapest and requested his emigration to Eastern Germany. Since regular deportations had ceased, he had to wait in the Office of Labor Reserves's gathering camp between February and July 1952 to have enough emigrants which was not until the 12th August 1952.

**Hungary – March 4, 1953 (OSA)**

In March 1952 in the city of Szolnok, the railway repair shop tried out an innovation to save 2 centimetres of felt. The shortening of the felt caused the melting of ball bearings in 32 cases. The innovation was dropped immediately. The loss of the company per wagon was 4500 HUF.

**Romania / Turkey – March 4, 1953 (PIR)**

The declaration of the government of R.P.R. regarding the inclusion of Turkey into the North Atlantic Pact protests the transformation of Turkey into a basis of direct aggression against R.P.R. and all the countries on the shores of the Black Sea.

**Czechoslovakia – March 5, 1953 (OSA)**

Sport in Czechoslovakia is under a huge sovietisation and collectivisation, directed by the regime.

**Czechoslovakia / Belgium / West Germany – March 5, 1953 (OSA)**

The youngest refugees from the Válka camp in West Germany are invited by the Belgian Catholic Charity Organisation for a five month long recreation holiday in Belgium. The recreation for 25 Czechoslovakian children will start on the 1st May 1953.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – March 5, 1953 (KGD/HWD)**

Stalin's death provokes mourning throughout the GDR. The GDR leadership is shocked, as the new leadership of the Soviet Union (Georgy Malenkov, Lavrentiy Beria, Vyacheslav Molotov) demand a change of direction in East Germany and a break with the hard-line policy there. Wilhelm Zaisser and Rudolf Herrnstadt force a more flexible policy on the Politburo of the SED as well as the replacement of Walter Ulbricht.

**Hungary / Austria – March 5, 1953 (OSA)**

In early December it was observed that a young woman and man were having drinks together in two bars. They were followed by two men who were actually from the police and detained the youth. The young man realised since he had identification and a labour card, was employed by a State Construction Firm as an unskilled labourer. However, the young woman was taken to the Major because she was not employed by any firm. She had to explain there that she was unable to do manual work and did not get a job in other fields (as she was descended from an aristocratic family). After that the Major offered a job to the woman to be Communist guard looking for people receiving their income from unknown sources, otherwise she will be interned for loafing. The lady asked for time to think and during those few days escaped the country to Austria.

**Hungary – March 5, 1953 (OSA)**

In three army barracks in Székesfehérvár, of Nagykanizsa and Miskolc, instructors are trained by Soviet officers for the Freedom Fighters Association, a paramilitary organisation in Hungary. Each training course lasts six months. The report gives a list of the most important training material and subjects.

**Hungary – March 5, 1953 (OSA)**

Report of antisemitic purges in high state offices. After the arrest of István Szirmai, the president of the Hungarian Radio and four further employees with Jewish roots are arrested. The president of the Metallurgical Design Office, Mihály Hámor who is of Jewish descent is also arrested and removed from his position. Hámor's removal made a big sensation since he was a Muscovite and his relation to Rákosi (General Secretary of the Hungarian Workers' Party) was well-known.

**Hungary – March 5, 1953 (OSA)**

The Communist playwright, Szinetár, adapts Gárdonyi's historical novel "Egri Csillagok" for the stage. The outcome of his efforts is a nasty propaganda piece against the Church and the Hungarian aristocracy. This is another instance of the Communist falsification of Hungarian history.

**Hungary – March 5, 1953 (OSA)**

On 6 February 1953, a severe plant explosion caused huge destruction in the cement factory in Lábatlan which is regarded as the biggest cement factory of Hungary. ÁVH (State Protection Authority) closed the areas nearby and started an investigation. Several employees of the factory have been arrested by ÁVH.

**Hungary – March 5, 1953 (OSA)**

The Thirteenth District Soviet in Budapest orders every house which targets shall be placed upon, indicating the direction and the distance of the three nearest water taps.

**Hungary – March 5, 1953 (OSA)**

A tonic for nerves called "Legatin" became the most requested medicine in Budapest in January 1953. According to the statistics of one of the pharmacies of Budapest city centre, 30% more "Legatin" was sold than other painkillers.

**Poland / Italy / Satellite countries – March 5, 1953 (OSA)**

The report provides information on the commercial movements in Trieste, Italy, in September 1952, regarding all satellite countries. Tonnes of both the arriving and the shipping goods are listed.

**Romania / Soviet Union – March 5, 1953 (OSA)**

Constantin Vasilache stakhanovite laborer performs exceedingly well at his job. In a joint venture between the Soviet Union and Romania, he achieved the yearly quota of 1963 within 40 days.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – March 5, 1953 (LBC)**

Iosif Vissarionovich Stalin dies. Eisenhower instructs the State Department for official condolences but omits all references to sympathy toward Stalin or appraisal of his role. The British Government expresses condolences “according to normal diplomatic procedure” on **March 7**. According to Dulles, “The world has been dominated by the malignant power of Stalin” for ten years, but this has ended with the dictator’s death. British Foreign Secretary Eden opines that the West cannot change its cold war policies because of Stalin’s death; preparation must be made for East-West talks if the East does not use them for propaganda purposes.

**East Germany / West Germany/USA - March 6, 1953 (OSA)**

The Americans suggest transporting the great number of East German migrants in West Berlin by airplane, but no concrete plans are made yet.

**Hungary – March 6, 1953 (OSA)**

On 1 February 1953, a short notice appeared in the commercial columns of a local newspaper stating that Hungary and Iran signed a trade agreement. Hungary will export 1,500 tons of sugar to Iran and will receive raw cotton in exchange. The paper adds that there has been a considerable increase in trade between Communist countries and Iran during the past years.

**Hungary – March 6, 1953 (OSA)**

A 23-year-old border official has observed and reported the following case. Soviet soldiers have been having a good time in a hotel in Körmend. Then, they assaulted a Soviet lieutenant who tried to restore order; the officer alerted Hungarian border guards, but they also were beaten back by the enraged Soviets. They surrendered only upon threats of being fought down by the local Soviet soldiers. Then they were arrested and some were sent to Szombathely, while the rest were banned from visiting town.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – March 6, 1953 (OSA)**

Gorosin, a Soviet colonel of the USSR’s prison guard corps, will lead a Hungarian delegation composed of 18 prison officials to the Soviet Union, where they will study Soviet prisons, internment and labour camps for six months.

**Hungary – March 6, 1953 (OSA)**

This report discloses that the new technical university in Veszprém, one of the major cultural achievements of the regime under the “Five Year Plan” is being built with cheap prisoner labour. The conditions of the prisoners vary according to the whim of their guards. In the summer of 1952, some prisoners were moved to the Oroszlány coal mines, where the need for additional manpower is still greater than in the construction industry.

**Hungary – March 6, 1953 (OSA)**

The latest popular democratic invention is the “focal point offices.” The most important state bodies have been declared focal point offices, such as the State Control Centre, the Office of Planning and the Ministry of Defence. According to the decision of the Council of Ministers, only communist party members can work in these offices. Those who are not members of the MDP (Hungarian Workers' Party) must be fired within a certain time limit.

**Hungary / Romania – March 6, 1953 (OSA)**

For around a year and a half, a group of Romanian experts have been staying in Nagykanizsa and at the nearby oil fields to assist the Hungarians in the extraction of oil. They are subjected to thorough investigations conducted by a mixed Soviet-Hungarian committee and sent back to Romania. It is rumoured that the measure was taken to stave off the Romanians' escape to the West.

**Romania – March 6, 1953 (PIR)**

The Council of Ministers of R.P.R. dismisses for serious deviations from the laws, Aurel Vijoli, the President of the Bank of R.P.R., Iacob Alexandrescu and Vasile Modoran, Deputy Ministers of Finance. Anton Moisescu (released from the office of Vice-President of the State Commission for Planification and Deputy Minister of Finance) is appointed President of the Bank. Radu Manescu is named Deputy Minister of Finance, while Emanoil Vinea – removed from the office of General Deputy Director of the Affairs of the Council of Ministers – and Dumitru Fara are appointed Vice-Presidents of the Bank.

**Soviet Union – March 6, 1953 (HC)**

Malenkov is elected as Chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers and Voroshilov the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

**Soviet Union – March 6, 1953 (CWC)**

Molotov is reappointed as Foreign Minister.

**Yugoslavia – March 6–9, 1953 (PVC)**

The sixth Congress of the People's Youth takes place.

**Czechoslovakia – March 7, 1953 (OSA)**

There is a new aircraft factory in Svatý Kříž in Slovakia. However, the construction goes very slowly with many difficulties.

**Czechoslovakia – March 7, 1953 (OSA)**

The fight against absenteeism in Lomnice near Sokolov is made by printing slogans and posters which demonstrate the consequences of missing shifts.

**Czechoslovakia – March 7, 1953 (OSA)**

There is a shortage of photomaterial in Slovakia.

**Czechoslovakia – March 7, 1953 (OSA)**

In Nitra district in Slovakia, the Western broadcast is well audible which leads to its popularity in the region. Many houses there have their own wireless set for listening to the Western broadcasts.

**Czechoslovakia – March 7, 1953 (OSA)**

Three young miners from Jiří pit in Lomnice near Sokolov are sentenced to forced labour for absenteeism.

**East Germany / West Germany – March 7, 1953 (OSA)**

West German radio station Norddeutscher Rundfunk gathers money with the help of civil organisations and artists for West German refugees. The editor of the foreign reports of East German newspaper Tagliche Rundschau escapes to West Berlin.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / Hungary – March 7, 1953 (OSA)**

East Germany notifies the population about Stalin's death with two days of delay. The Hungarian nation also learns about his death on this day.

**Hungary – March 7, 1953 (OSA)**

In the past the city of Pécs was regarded as a nice, silent city. However after the industrialization process of the past years Pécs seems rather like a city of factories. Many farmers have lost their lands in the countryside and are in urgent need of employment. There is a fast work tempo and constant recruitment in the factories.

**Hungary – March 7, 1953 (OSA)**

Prior to the harvest in Mosonszentjános the DISZ (Union of Working Youth) was called upon to organise fire guards against "Imperialist saboteurs" who might set the crops on fire. Another decree came in May 1952 which obliged the youth to arrange a meeting of patriotic guards. Lieutenant Istvá Termák and Corporal Szántó appeared at these gatherings and presented the real aim of the guards. The greatest obligation of the guards was to hand over to the ÁVH (State Protection Authority) those who wanted to escape to the west. They were to watch out for any strangers who come to the village and if they saw them talking with someone, report it immediately to the ÁVH.

**Hungary – March 7, 1953 (OSA)**

A farmer who worked from February to July 1952 in the Hanság Sovkhoz, describes in a report how the subject sovkhos was created. They provide vague information on the plants cultivated there and a list of leading personalities there.

**Hungary – March 7, 1953 (OSA)**

A 32-year-old master weaver, native to Sopron, who lived and worked in his town until he escaped to Austria on the 9th January 1953, reports about the recent developments in Sopron's Jewish population. Starting at the beginning of November 1952 a rumour began to circulate in Sopron that an anti-government plot had been discovered and that a number of Jews had been involved. Directly afterwards another rumour claimed that the Jews were all to be rounded up and deported. Then, quite suddenly on Christmas Eve 1952, nine families from the city were expelled from their homes. The homes were handed over to Communists, while the families were deported.

**Hungary – March 7, 1953 (OSA)**

Since 1950, the engineering school of the Budapest Technical University has been organising evening courses for students who are working in factories. It is a fact that in the beginning only students with a high school diploma could attend the evening courses. However, from the second semester of the academic year in 1952, another system was introduced according to which candidates with a diploma from an elementary school could be admitted to the university.

The only difference made for the latter was that instead of six semesters they had to attend the courses for eight semesters before being able to receive their degree. In addition, the great majority of the students paid no fees, as they were all enrolled members of the Communist Party.

#### **Hungary / Soviet Union / Israel – March 7, 1953 (OSA)**

After the explosion of a bomb at the Soviet Legation in Israel on 12 February 1953, the Soviets brusquely announce severance of the relations and claim that the elementary conditions for the pursuit of normal diplomatic activity are lacking in Israel. It is assumed that as a matter of course, the satellites will follow suit in breaking the diplomatic relations with Israel. A fortnight has elapsed with no definite development along this line, and some Israeli officials think that no steps towards breaking relations are likely to be forthcoming from the Soviet bloc nations who still maintain diplomatic representation in Israel.

#### **Hungary – March 7, 1953 (OSA)**

A 32-year-old waiter sentenced to work in the coal mines of Várpalota. The report portrays his and two other prisoners' dramatic escape in September 1952. Only two of them reached Austria. Their friend lost control of his nerves while running toward a barbed wire fence and was detected and arrested by ÁVH (State Protection Authority) border guards who were carrying out a large-scale raid in the border area.

#### **Hungary – March 7, 1953 (OSA)**

In January 1953, a large quantity of wood fuel was transported to the courtyard of the council from the forestry. The fuel wood was deposited to the elementary school and to a lung care institution for heating purposes. However, after the arrival of the fuel to the courtyard of the council, the heating was terminated in both the elementary school and the lung care institution. Many of the children fell ill at school, and the parents complained to the chairman of the council to investigate the matter. Soon it was found that the secretary of the local MDP (Hungarian Workers' Party) organisation, with the help of trusted party members, stole the fuel and delivered the fuel to his own house.

#### **Soviet Union – March 7, 1953 (REV)**

The new Soviet leadership declares a partial amnesty. It promises to improve living standards and give priority to developing light industry and agriculture. The principle of collective leadership is emphasized.

#### **Soviet Union / Italy – March 7, 1953 (OSA)**

The Ship "Sovietakaja Gavan" reached the port of Genoa on February 12, 1953, returning from the far East. The ship includes 42 crew members and had reached Genoa also in April of 1952. The purpose of the anchorage is to repair the engines, a project that is undertaken by two Italian firms. With the exception of the excursions of small groups of Sailors in the neighboring districts of the port, nothing worthy of note has occurred.

#### **Hungary – March 8, 1953 (HC)**

The Hungarian Parliament announces a law to record "the immortal memory of Stalin".

#### **Poland – March 8, 1953 (PSN)**

The Roman Catholic weekly *Tygodnik Powszechny*, is banned for refusing to publish Stalin's obituary. In July the weekly is reopened under a new leadership.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – March 9, 1953 (OSA)**

Czechoslovakian Professor claimed in 1949 at the state gathering of biologists in Prague that his entire scientific work was a mistake. Since then he works only on a basis around dialectic materialism following Soviet propaganda.

**Czechoslovakia – March 9, 1953 (OSA)**

Miners from coal pits in Sokolov are sent daily to the district hospital with work-related injuries. The security installations in local pits are not in a good condition.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – March 9, 1953 (OSA)**

Many bridges on the railway line Prague – Bohumín – Žilina – Košice are reinforced. It is thought that these constructions have a military motivation and are carried out on Soviet orders.

**Czechoslovakia – March 9, 1953 (OSA)**

There is the resettlement process in Czechoslovakia which moves former business owners and other old pensioners from cities to the countryside. It is claimed that the resettlement takes place to replace unproductive old people with active labourers.

**Czechoslovakia / Poland / Hungary / Soviet Union – March 9, 1953 (OSA)**

The delegation of the State Planning Institute meet in the conference in Užhorod. The coordination of the planning between ČSR, Poland, Hungary and USSR lays down for those sectors of industry, where the interests are common for the four countries. It is believed that the conference takes place so that the USSR can safeguard its position in Hungary.

**Czechoslovakia / USA – March 9, 1953 (OSA)**

Some Czechoslovakian people expect that President Eisenhower's policy will lead to the liberation of Czechoslovakia either by war or peace.

**East Germany / Egypt – March 9, 1953 (OSA)**

Egypt and East Germany sign a trade agreement. The two parties will transport goods to each other worth 54 million German Marks.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – March 9, 1953 (OSA)**

The Volkspolizei of Leipzig is revolting due to bad treatment by the Soviets. The revolt ends because the leadership promises to improve their conditions. In East Berlin, a worker is sentenced to death for smuggling a black board into a university room, demanding prisoners of war to be let free.

**Hungary – March 9, 1953 (OSA)**

It was observed until October 1952 that Csordás or his friend Németh, who are notorious undercover agents, go into a house located in Sopron with many unknown men who are not from the city. Then officials of ÁVH arrive, and later leave with the men in handcuffs. Csordás or Németh never attend these removals. As a consequence, there is an assumption in the neighbourhood that Csordás and Németh have agreed with the ÁVH or are commissioned by the ÁVH to run a human trafficking network whose trap is their house. The two men involved are assumed not only to take the profit of the human trafficking but also share the valuables of the dissidents with the ÁVH officials.



**Hungary – March 9, 1953 (OSA)**

The panic-stricken Budapest Jews assail the Budapest passport office of the ÁVH trying to obtain exit visas. Rumours on the arrests of Péter Gábor and Zoltán Vass are ongoing. A large number of ÁVH officers of Jewish origin have not shown up in their offices during recent weeks. People say that some of them have committed suicide. Since the beginning of January 1953, many employees have been dismissed from Budapest offices. This measure, however, affected both Jews and gentiles.

**Hungary – March 9, 1953 (OSA)**

A 61-year-old man visiting the graveyard regularly has received the following information from the employees of the cemetery. He is told that nearly every day, early in the morning, a truck of political police/blue ÁVH (State Protection Authority), guarded by four to six ÁVH men, transports some 15-16 coffin-shaped boxes to Farkasrét cemetery. After the burial no mark is placed on the graves. The gravediggers know the ÁVH guards very well since they are never changed and come so often.

**Hungary / Austria – March 9, 1953 (OSA)**

In the summer of 1952, a young man in Budapest inherited a house in Vienna. After the official announcement arrived informing him of the event, a Hungarian official visited him and told him that he would not be able to do anything with his inheritance, only to pay an inheritance tax. Moreover, he was threatened into signing a paper which transfers all rights for the house, through the lawyer in Vienna, to the World Council of Hungarians.

**Hungary – March 9, 1953 (OSA)**

A 29-year-old who worked at loading freight cars for several factories discusses his last place of employment called Vörös Csillag (Red Star) tractor factory. He tells of the fact that the factory turned over a considerable part of its products to the Hungarian armed forces. The equipment of the factory has become obsolete, and this inevitably affects the quality of the tractors produced.

**Poland / USA – March 9, 1953 (OSA)**

U.S. citizens of Polish origin send a memorandum to Eisenhower, asking for the current communist Polish government to be deemed as undemocratic and for the international recognition of the previous government.

**Soviet Union – March 9, 1953 (KCA)**

After a four-day period of national mourning, Stalin's body is interned beside the Lenin Mausoleum in the Red Square. A five-minute silence is observed throughout the country during the internment.

**Czechoslovakia / U.S. – March 10, 1953 (KCA)**

U.S. Air Force Headquarters in Wiesbaden announce that two Czechoslovak jet fighters of Soviet design attacked two U.S. fighters in Bavaria, within the U.S. zone of occupation. One fighter crashed and the other landed at another base.

**Hungary – March 10, 1953 (OSA)**

Hungarian Ernő Gerő admits in his speech at the trade and trade union congress that his country's industry is facing many challenges, the coal industry in particular.

**Hungary – March 10, 1953 (OSA)**

The former Minister of Justice Décsi was dismissed on the 8th February 1953. He is not a Jew, but an ethnic German who was educated by Szombathely city's Catholic Priest and who was at that time deeply religious. Later, he entered the underground communist party and his father disinherited him. He took revenge on his father by having him interned. He has no degree in law and owes his career to the assistance of Péter Gábor, a relative by marriage.

**Hungary – March 10, 1953 (OSA)**

A 19-year-old farmer from Sopron reports the pioneers' routine in the elementary school of Hanságújmajor, where he worked from 1949 until his escape from Hungary on 13 July 1952. The myth of Rákosi and the red scarf is being created. Pupils can sing only communist marches. Their parents are afraid to lose the last shreds of control over their children. They are unable to counteract the Party-education for fear that their children – quite involuntarily – may betray them.

**Hungary – March 10, 1953 (OSA)**

In the spring of 1952, in the village of Rátót the toilet was scratched by a young man who wrote about Rákosi in a negative manner. As a consequence, the local police investigated the case and arrested the "author" of the sentence. The young man was sentenced to 3 months in prison.

**Hungary – March 10, 1953 (OSA)**

A report including a list of goods which the Hungária Vegyiművek factory (Hungarian Chemical Factory) handed over to the Soviet delivery Commission.

**Hungary – March 10, 1953 (OSA)**

Feverish activity can be observed around the ÁVH (State Protection Authority) offices in Buda; it is rumoured that over 100 people have been arrested in connection with the purges underway. The report describes in detail the two heavily guarded ÁVH establishments, one of which is fitted with a crematory to destroy victims' bodies, as well as with gas chambers.

**Poland / Soviet Union – March 10, 1953 (OSA)**

The Polish government renames the city of Katowice to Stalinogrod.

**Soviet Union / China – March 10, 1953 (KCA)**

The appointment of Vassili Kuznetsov as Soviet Ambassador to the People's Republic of China is announced in Moscow.

**Czechoslovakia / U.S. – March 11, 1953 (KCA)**

In a note to the U.S. Government, the Czechoslovak Government disclaims any responsibility for shooting down an American fighter jet in Bavaria.

**Hungary – March 11, 1953 (OSA)**

Persecution mania has spread to the state-owned publishing company, as a result a shorthand textbook was recently classified as a confidential publication. Public bookstores can only sell shorthand textbooks to anyone who certifies that they are enrolled in the State School of Typography and Typing or that their employer certifies that they are studying shorthand to do a better job.

**Hungary – March 11, 1953 (OSA)**

A new regulation of the subsidies for children. Couples with children will not receive much more than before, whilst childless couples will have to pay taxes to cover the increase in subsidies paid to parents.

**Hungary – March 11, 1953 (OSA)**

The wine bottling enterprise called Budafok lagged behind the planned schedule in January 1953. It was able to complete one-sixth of the planned quantity in January. The reason behind it lies in the shortage of wine.

**Hungary – March 11, 1953 (OSA)**

In March 1953, there are changes to the market prices in Budapest. One could find more and cheaper eggs in the Budapest market than in recent months, but less flour. People naturally buy the more expensive dry dough. Potatoes are still expensive and of low quality. Prices of meat and fats are the same as before.

**Hungary – March 11, 1953 (OSA)**

It was observed in January 1953 that the Bishop Ravasz encouraged the faithful to resist and hold on, and he made reference in his prayers to those moved out of their homes and driven as expellees into other parts of Hungary. As a consequence of the reference in his prayers, he was banned from preaching by the State Church Authority.

**Hungary – March 11, 1953 (OSA)**

In the city of Máriaremete, a famous church, the monastery and the chapel are almost entirely destroyed by unknown hands. The church became a dangerous ruin, and the monastery has been transformed into a library and a communist sponsored house of culture. During the weekdays the church building is closed and it is opened only for a short time in the mornings on Sundays.

**Hungary – March 11, 1953 (OSA)**

Since the reconstruction of the Budapest Metro is lagging behind schedule, miners are moved from the city of Tatabánya to Budapest to speed up the work. They volunteer for the new job hoping to earn more but face extremely difficult working conditions instead.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – March 11, 1953 (OSA)**

In the journalism class of the National Technical Library only “reliable” people can have access to western technical papers. However, the western papers are constantly censored by two lecturers. The task of the lecturers is to remove from western technical reviews articles covering the Soviet Union. It is not advisable that Hungarians read western opinions on the Soviet’s technical progress.

**Hungary – March 11, 1953 (OSA)**

It is generally known from the Hungarian press that the Hungarian metallurgical industry is unable to keep up with the more and more exacting targets of the plans by 1953. This is the situation in the Láng Factory in Budapest which is unable to keep up its production because of the shortage of the raw materials. As a result, the average work time was reduced to 16 hours from 24 and instead of 3 shifts there were only 2.

**Hungary – March 11, 1953 (OSA)**

In March 1953, in the canteen of Győr Wagon Factory the workers no longer get bread with their meals but have to buy it somewhere else. The number of meals including flour products

has been reduced and the flour which is used to prepare their meals is of a lower quality. The workers have deserted the canteen and prefer bringing food from home.

**Poland – March 11, 1953 (OSA)**

At the Gdansk railroad station, a number of drunk men begun to sing patriotic songs and condemn Stalin, members of the secret police UB attempted to arrest these men, but a brawl occurred before more police were sent to the area.

**Soviet Union (Ukraine) – March 11, 1953 (OSA)**

Demonstrations are rumored to have taken place in Lwow, Ukraine. These demonstrations were purportedly anti-Soviet in nature, following the lifting of the extraordinary curfew measures put into place following Stalin's death.

**Czechoslovakia – March 12, 1953 (OSA)**

The resettlement of undesirable people from Prague to the countryside involves around 40,000 citizens. It includes some well-known artists and politicians. Several victims of resettlement commit suicide.

**Czechoslovakia – March 12, 1953 (OSA)**

In Nitra district in Slovakia there is a shortage of food.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany – March 12, 1953 (OSA)**

In February 1953, three new Czechoslovakian refugees came to the Valka camp in Nuremberg in West Germany. All of them are males: a clerk, a student, and a miner.

**Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia – March 12, 1953 (OSA)**

The Czechoslovakians living in Yugoslavia celebrate the tenth anniversary of the creation of the partisan brigade which fought in Slovakia during the Second World War.

**East Germany / U.K. – March 12, 1953 (KCA)**

The Air Ministry in London announces that a British Lincoln bomber on a routine exercise was shot down in the Hamburg-Berlin corridor, killing five and wounding two.

**Hungary – March 12, 1953 (OSA)**

From the first of March, the free visit to the museums of the capital was abolished, the entrance fee is now one forint in all museums.

**Hungary – March 12, 1953 (OSA)**

Under the hardship of prison life, most prisoners become deeply religious. Until 1950, the prisoners could attend religious services in the prison and receive the visits of priests who were closely watched by the guards while approaching the "political."

**Hungary – March 12, 1953 (OSA)**

The so-called "cultural education" given to pioneers tells only of the glorification of the Soviets, the teaching of hatred against the Western democracies, and for Communist indoctrination. The slogans attached to schoolroom walls have the same function. There is no emphasis on school trips' content from the side of communist teachers.

**Czechoslovakia / U.S. – March 13, 1953 (KCA)**

In a note to the Czechoslovak Government, the US Government emphasizes that according to radar, the U.S. fighters had not crossed the Czechoslovak border and that the jet was shot down on the territory of the FRG.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany – March 13, 1953 (OSA)**

The Czechoslovakian institution YMCA organises political and cultural events in Valka Camp in Nuremberg. Refugees can take part in a discussion or listen to a concert.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany – March 13, 1953 (OSA)**

Refugees in Valka Camp in Nuremberg celebrate Masaryk's birthday with several events.

**East Germany / West Germany / UK / Soviet Union – March 13, 1953 (OSA)**

On Thursday of this week at 14:30 precisely, a british bomber en route Berlin to Hamburg is shot down by an unknown aircraft. The damaged bomber falls on Soviet territory. Only three crew members manage to exit the aircraft before the crash, one of them dies in the hospital.

**East Germany / West Germany – March 13, 1953 (OSA)**

The West Berlin police catch a professional robber who was involved in the kidnapping of Dr. Lise. The kidnapping was ordered by the East German authorities; they recruited the robber from prison. It is also determined that the East German government spends 42 000000 German marks annually to censure post sent from and to the country.

**Hungary – March 13, 1953 (HC)**

The University of Economics in Budapest is renamed after Karl Marx on the 70th anniversary of his death.

**Hungary – March 13, 1953 (OSA)**

In a meeting of the Communist Party's Central Committee, Rákosi (General Secretary of the Hungarian Workers' Party) expresses his dissatisfaction with the issuance of the membership cards in March 1953. It seemed to him a conspiracy that nearly everybody was issued new membership cards. The cadre sections did not study the Party members' life as a whole before deciding whether they deserved the new card or not. Afterwards, two leading members of the Committee will have to elaborate a plan to carry out a new screening, which should be as secret as possible, but all the more efficient.

**Hungary – March 13, 1953 (OSA)**

A 20-year-old steel-caster from Horvátimle worked in the Agricultural Machinery Factory as an apprentice from September 1949 until July 1952. A well-established espionage system was working there. Some of the members were Rudolf Csengery who was responsible for checking the work time of workers and asking their opinions on production, or József Varga whose task was to look for the workers who openly murmured. In April 1952, it became widely known that a worker did not go home after work and according to the wife and co-workers he became a victim of the espionage system.

**Hungary – March 13, 1953 (OSA)**

In March 1953, the black-market rate of the US dollar in Budapest is between 46 and 47 Forints but there was almost no circulation at all due to lack of money.

**Romania – March 13, 1953 (PIR)**

New regulations regarding the functioning of the Militia are adopted.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – March 13, 1953 (KCA)**

The British High Commissioner protests to the Soviet High Commander against “this deliberate and brutal act of aggression involving the murder of British airmen.” (March 12).

**USA / Czechoslovakia – March 13, 1953 (OSA)**

A discussion between America and Czechoslovakia takes place. The Czechoslovaks had previously shot at an American fighter jet, claiming the jet flew over their territory. They also assert this wasn't the first occurrence of Americans violating borders. The Americans deem this as false, arguing that their planes never fly closer than 25 kms to the Czech border. It would also be impossible for the jet to reach the German city of Regensburg where it eventually crashed if it were shot in Czechoslovakian territory. The matter remains unresolved.

**Czechoslovakia – March 14, 1953 (KCA)**

President Klement Gottwald dies in Prague at the age of 56.

**Hungary – March 14, 1953 (OSA)**

The reports about the country's industrial and agricultural state are less positive than those that were published at the beginning of the year. By March 15, the wheat must be sowed, however not all communities have managed to even start the task. At a processing plant, only 15 of the 40 tractor drivers fulfil the daily quota. At coal mines, the safety precautions are not taken seriously.

**Hungary – March 14, 1953 (OSA)**

An 18-year-old farm boy from Fertőd made observations until his escape in August 1952. He described in his reports the everyday life in Fertőd, a small village in the north-western border zone of Hungary. They clearly show that the non-communist majority of the village population tried to keep apart from the Communists, most of whom were rather dubious characters when not utterly outcast from society.

**Hungary – March 14, 1953 (OSA)**

In the city of Mátravidék the power station has been enlarged in March 1953. Two new generator units have been attached to the power station. Their installation is nearing completion. The station has at present four generator units producing 34 000 K/W per day. Feeding coal is obtained by aerial ropeway from the soft coal mines of Rózsaszentmárton. This ropeway transports 150 tonnes per hour.

**East Germany – March 14/15, 1953 (OSA)**

The East German Minister of Education is asked to recruit students to work as laborers in mines, because the country grapples with a serious coal shortage. There are also wheat and potato shortages. The empty farming lands left behind by refugees escaping to the West also causes a problem, 600000 hectares worth of land remain uncultivated.

**East Germany / West Germany – March 14/15, 1953 (OSA)**

The East German government imposes a prison sentence of 5 years or more on those persons that attempt or plan to escape to the West.

**Soviet Union – March 14, 1953 (KRI)**

Malenkov abandons the post of First Secretary. He remains Chairman of the Council of Ministers with four replacements including Molotov and Beria. Khrushchev is given the post of Party Secretary.

**East Germany / U.K. / U.S. – March 15, 1953 (KCA)**

The Air Ministry in London announces that British aircrafts taking part in training exercises over Germany will be fully armed, and the American Air Force Headquarters announces that all unidentified aircraft over the U.S. Zone of Germany will be intercepted.

**Hungary / Austria – May 15, 1953 (KCA)**

An agreement between Austria and Hungary providing for the joint resumption and regulation of Danube river traffic between the two countries is concluded.

**Soviet Union / France / U.S. – March 15, 1953 (KCA)**

Sir Ivone Kirkpatrick and the U.S. and French High Commissioners send notes to General Chuikov protesting the aggressive behavior of Soviet pilots. (March 12).

**Soviet Union – March 15, 1953 (PLC)**

The Supreme Soviet announces the principles of the new state policies.

**East Germany / West Germany – March 16, 1953 (OSA)**

During the second week of March, 11,500 refugees who escaped to West Berlin leave the city by airplane. Amongst the newly arriving refugees is the mayor of Stahnsdorf, a member of the East Berlin Academy, a professor from the University of Jena, and a train driver who left the train he was operating once he reached a station within West German territory.

**Hungary – March 16, 1953 (HC)**

Decree 1014/1953 by the Council of Ministers announces that Easter Monday will become a regular workday.

**Romania – March 16, 1953 (PIR)**

The Jewish Democratic Committee dissolves itself.

**Soviet Union – March 16, 1953 (CWC)**

Premier Malenkov, in an address to the Supreme Soviet states that all Soviet-American differences can be solved through negotiations.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – March 16-21, 1953 (LBC)**

President Tito visits Britain. According to a communiqué of the meeting, European aggression will not be regarded as a “local” affair. According to Tito, Churchill promises to defend Yugoslavia in the case of an attack.

**Hungary / U.K. – March 16–21, 1953 (LBC)**

Britain rejects Hungary’s offer to exchange Edgar Sanders. According to Prime Minister Churchill the U.K. is applying economic pressure on Hungary and will achieve the release of Sanders with “different methods”.

**Hungary – March 17–18, 1953 (HC)**

The Parliament accepts Law II., III. and IV. of 1953 about the reformed election process, the protection of newborns, and the establishment of new honors.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – March 17, 1953 (PVC)**

In his latest note against Yugoslavia, the Hungarian Government accuses the Yugoslav Government of sending enemy agents to Hungary.

**Italy / Czechoslovakia – March 17, 1953 (OSA)**

Italian communist Alvaro Cappelli traveled to Czechoslovakia in 1948, reasoning that he could not come to terms with the state of communism in Italy. Upon his arrival, he was troubled by dangerous working conditions and bad meals, leading to health issues. He was deemed a simulant by the authorities and sentenced to 15 months of prison because he did not want to work any longer. After the end of his prison sentence, he escapes back to Italy.

**Soviet Union – March 17, 1953 (PLC)**

Amnesty decree announced in the Soviet Union. The number of prisoners in the GULAG drops from 2.5 million to 1.36 million within a year.

**Soviet Union —March 17, 1953 (OSA)**

It is argued that even though Lenin explicitly and repeatedly stated the incompatible natures of Bolshevism and anti-Semitism, the Soviet regime seriously hindered the activities of the Jewish population. The policies against non-conformity interrupted the cultural and religious life, the organization of the Jewish community and lead to the prosecution of the supporters of Zionism. The situation was further worsened by Stalin's government, who despite the fact that he avoided expressing his views on the matter, from early on, he had made antisemitic comments.

**Czechoslovakia – March 18, 1953 (OSA)**

The fight between Gottwald and Slánský for power began in 1947. Slánský was executed on Soviet orders for not fulfilling the production in heavy industry.

**Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia (Croatia) – March 18, 1953 (OSA)**

The works of Czech author Alois Jirásek are published in Zagreb in the Croatian language. The publications are sold in their original form.

**Hungary – March 18, 1953 (OSA)**

Farmers in Und observed the difference between the kolkhoz and the independent farmers' businesses. The kolkhoz is struggling with many difficulties. Many members have left despite the official prohibition because of the low earnings. The independent peasants' farm is still more profitable than the kolkhoz, notwithstanding the regime's relentless pressure on the independent farms and the favoritism for the kolkhoz. The report tries to prove this thesis with some figures on the farms.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 18, 1953 (CWC)**

The U.S. protests that a Soviet airplane fired on an American airplane that had allegedly violated Soviet airspace. **On March 21** the Soviet Union responds that the plane had violated Soviet airspace and was then forced to flee.

**Czechoslovakia – March 19, 1953 (OSA)**

In Moravské ironworks in Olomouc an explosion occurs. The work is interrupted for two days.



**Czechoslovakia – March 19, 1953 (OSA)**

Families are forced to move out from their homes in Olomouc. They are sent to the countryside.

**Hungary – March 19, 1953 (OSA)**

Foreign diplomats are also hit by the food shortage in Budapest in March 1953. They are given only a tenth of the usual amount of butter, flour, fats and meat by the Protocol Office of the Hungarian Foreign Ministry. They have justified the cut by a reduction of production which was caused by the spread of foot and mouth diseases.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – March 19, 1953 (OSA)**

The source of the report witnessed the incident, and saw it from the window of the same train in August 1952. His report describes a brawl between Hungarians and drunken Soviet soldiers. Hungarian police and the ÁVH (State Protection Authority)'s border guards did not dare to interfere and lend a helping hand to the Hungarian victims of the provoking Soviet soldiers. The latter even beat up the Soviet officer who wanted to make peace. Finally, the GPU (military police) of Körmend arrived on the spot and arrested the troublemaking Soviet soldiers. The Hungarian border guards did nothing saying that "These are the Russians, they possess the power."

**Hungary / USA / Soviet Union – March 19, 1953 (OSA)**

The American government orders the Soviet and Hungarian authorities to pay 637894 worth of American dollars, plus a 6% interest fee as damages for an American plane that was forced to land in Hungary in 1951.

**Poland – March 19, 1953 (HDP)**

Following the Soviet example Poland converts to collective leadership. Bierut resigns as Premier but keeps the post of First Secretary.

**Romania – March 19, 1953 (PIR)**

The MAN Presidium issues a decree for the collection of vegetal agricultural products for the year 1952. The Decision of the Council of Ministers forbids petty production and the sale by the peasantry of their own products. Norms proportional to the land surface, and not productivity of the soil or drought, are fixed for cereals, vegetables, oleaginous products, and potatoes handed over. Five categories of production quotas exist, ruining the small peasant property.

**Romania – March 19, 1953 (OSA)**

The source displays the fact that the Communist system enlists and promotes members of the party into different high positions for being devoted to the party.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – March 19, 1953 (KCA)**

General Chuikov sends a letter to the British High Commissioner rejecting the British protest, but proposing an Anglo-Soviet conference on air safety. (March 12).

**Czechoslovakia – March 20, 1953 (OSA)**

Religious people from small Slovakian villages struggle under persecution for their Christian faith. Among these strongly faithful, inhabitants resist passively or openly.

**Czechoslovakia – March 20, 1953 (OSA)**

At Gottwald's funeral Siroky vice minister president threatens all who act against the state of Czechoslovakia.

**Hungary – March 20, 1953 (OSA)**

It was observed in early 1954 that DISZ (Association of Working Youth) and MSZHSZ (Association of Hungarian Freedom Fighters) have taken steps to celebrate the anniversary of Hungary's "liberation" by the Red Army with mass rally and parade for which the youth will be gathered from the entire country. The youth delegation will make up 100,000 members of the associations. In addition, the associations will organise a "liberation relay run" at the same time.

**Hungary / UK/ USA – March 20, 1953 (OSA)**

What Hungarians expect from the West? Hungarians expect the liberation of the nations under oppression from the American President Eisenhower. However, many Hungarians blame the British and the Americans for letting Soviets to penetrate East-Central Europe and for choosing negotiation over armament. The Western power also made a mistake by not letting their people know that Soviet imperialism poses a serious threat. Moreover, Hungarians think that Westerners do not know what it is like living under occupation and oppression, slowly fading without an enduring cause. It feels like they are doomed to death and don't know how long they can live for. They don't believe the radio promises anymore.

**Hungary / Sweden– March 20, 1953 (OSA)**

A Swedish businessman who visited Budapest in February 1953 forms his opinion about Budapest in the following report. The number of shops is decreasing, and the former shop owners are happy if they are employed in a cooperative. Though there are goods in the shops, the prices are extremely high. Queues can often be seen in front of the shops selling these items. Often, spies are hiding the queues to report "hoarders" who dare to buy more than one kilogram of flour or one loaf of bread. Apart from this, women are also compelled to take up work, not only because the regime wants them to, but also because of the need for money.

**USA / Austria / East Germany / West Germany – March 20, 1953 (OSA)**

The US Air Force enforces a new rule - pilots may not fly within a 30-mile proximity of communist countries' borders. The only exceptions to this rule are the planes performing border patrol. Planes using the Berlin and Viennese air routes cannot fly closer than 1000 meters to the ground.

**Czechoslovakia – March 21, 1953 (KCA)**

The Czechoslovak National Assembly elects Antonin Zapotocky, the Prime Minister, as President of Czechoslovakia. Vilem Siroky is elected Prime Minister in succession to Zapotocky and Antonin Novotny as Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, succeeding Gottwald.

**Czechoslovakia – March 21, 1953 (OSA)**

When the Lidové noviny daily newspaper in Brno is cancelled for its non-communist attitude, the reporters move to another legal media.

**Czechoslovakia – March 21, 1953 (OSA)**

The Communist newspaper Rovnost from Brno, which was published even before the Second World War, was completely supplanted by Rudé Právo and was left in the market only for traditional reasons

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – March 21, 1953 (OSA)**

The communist propaganda in Czechoslovakia changes their attitude to the assassination of Nazi Protector Heydrich. The assassination is praised by Gottwald and by the USSR. The activities of assassins are compared with the activities of Soviet agents in Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / UK – March 21, 1953 (OSA)**

Some of the miners in Sokolov coal mines undergo parachute training in the Para-Unit. The training is supervised by a former member of the Czechoslovak Army in England.

**Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – March 21, 1953 (OSA)**

Some of the Yugoslavs living in Czechoslovakia are persecuted for their origins after relations between USSR and Yugoslavia become tense.

**Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia – March 21, 1953 (OSA)**

Streets in Yugoslavia are being named after former Czechoslovakian President T. G. Masaryk. At the same time, the remaining symbols of the statesman are being removed in Czechoslovakia.

**Finland / West Germany – March 22, 1953 (OAA)**

West Germany opens a commercial agency in Helsinki.

**Romania – March 22, 1953 (PIR)**

Festive assembly takes place in Bucharest for the celebration of 30 years since the founding of the UTC in Romania, whose members are decorated with the “Defense of the Motherland” order, 1st rank.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany – March 23, 1953 (OSA)**

An American fighter plane is shot down by Czechoslovakian MIG-15. The empty cartridges are found in a Bavarian locality, about 15 kms from the Czecho-Bavarian border.

**Hungary – March 23, 1953 (OSA)**

A new trend is formulated which follows the pattern created in Moscow after Stalin's death. The new trend is ‘Centralisation instead of decentralisation in the Hungarian public offices.’ As an instance of it, the ÁVH (State Protection Authority) will be merged with the Ministry of Interior. Consequently, the power over public administration and state security will be concentrated in one hand.

**Hungary – March 23, 1953 (OSA)**

Labourers are urged to make voluntary labour offers to catch up with the time lost to Stalin's funeral rally. Moreover, the workers are informed that making up the lost work time is not compulsory but the names of those who do not offer will be collected.

**Yugoslavia / Greece / Turkey – March 23, 1953 (KCA)**

The Greek Parliament and the Yugoslav National Assembly both unanimously ratify the tripartite agreement of friendship and cooperation between Greece, Yugoslavia and Turkey.

**Hungary – March 24, 1953 (HC)**

Decree no. 1953:4 by the Presidential Council states that decree no. 1952:2 about the compulsory delivery of agricultural products is modified. The required amount of swine is reduced.

**Hungary / UK / USA – March 24, 1953 (OSA)**

The source of this report was a 23-year-old border guard from Vaskút. He claims that in the Hungarian army, the indoctrination of political propaganda is no longer limited to political education classes, but also continues during training of a military nature. The cartoons used for targets depicted Churchill, Truman and Eisenhower, and it is no longer simply a “fire” or an “attack” order to launch a shooting practice on the battlefield; but rather a sentence such as “The targets are the imperialist intruders in a distance of 400 metres.”

**Hungary – March 24, 1953 (OSA)**

In March 1953, a Communist foreman stole artworks which are discovered in the ruins of Buda Castle. The foreman tries to blame the forced labourers employed in the reconstruction of Buda Castle but eventually becomes entangled in contradictions and admits that he was the thief. Raiding his home, police found a copious selection of artistic objects which the foreman had taken away one by one. He was charged and arrested despite his membership in the Communist Party.

**Czechoslovakia – March 25, 1953 (KCA)**

It is announced in Prague that President Zapotocky has appointed two further Deputy Premiers.

**Czechoslovakia – March 25, 1953 (OSA)**

At the Prague Main Railway Station, restaurant teaspoons are produced with holes in them as a prevention against theft. The cases of theft are high due to the scarcity of these goods.

**Czechoslovakia – March 25, 1953 (OSA)**

Czechoslovakian minister Jan Harus's private car causes a car accident.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany – March 25, 1953 (OSA)**

The Czechoslovakian MIG-21 take off from Cheb airfield which lays close to the Czecho-Bavarian border. When the MIGs have to start in a western direction, they cross the border when taking off.

**Hungary – March 25, 1953 (OSA)**

Close to Budakeszi, a camouflaged ammunition depot is under construction in the forest. The construction is officially labelled as a “Military clothes depot”.

**Hungary – March 25, 1953 (OSA)**

The issuance of new telephone directories for Budapest and the rest of the country (two separate editions) has been overdue for a long time. The report says that the new directories will not be forthcoming even in the spring of 1953.

**Czechoslovakia – March 26, 1953 (OSA)**

Persecution of priests and monks is performed by spying in churches during worship. The communist officers are pretending to join the worship and getting information about real opinions of the priests or monks.

**Czechoslovakia – March 26, 1953 (OSA)**

The communist propaganda creates a huge problem in relationships between non-communist parents and their children as the parents are afraid to talk to their own children for the fear they might be denounced to the children's teachers.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – March 26, 1953 (KCA)**

Another Hungarian note is sent to Yugoslavia protesting the incidents at the Yugoslav-Hungarian border. The wording of the note is rather mild when compared to previous notes.

**Poland / France – March 26, 1953 (OSA)**

A propaganda letter of a young Polish student requesting his aunt in France to return to Poland. The young girl, affirming that there is much food and clothing for everyone in Poland, expresses her concerns for the lifestyle of her aunt and cousins in France, having heard of the misery of the French population at school. The young girl proceeds to try to convince her aunt to move back to Poland also by giving examples of their current acceptable lifestyle.

**Albania / Romania – March 27, 1953 (PIR)**

The Accord for goods and payment exchange between R.P.R and the Popular Republic of Albania is signed.

**Hungary – March 27, 1953 (OSA)**

A 14-year-old boy who was attending 8th grade of his grammar school in November 1952 shares his personal views on the school in this report. The primary aim of the education in 1952 was teaching on "how to become a good communist." The emphasis was on positive sciences and Russian language, while literature and history were re-edited to fit into the pattern. The pupils had to participate in the regime's propaganda campaigns and all other movements which arose. Besides, the Úttörő (Pioneer) Organisation had a very important standing in everyday school life. It trained the children obedience to the cause and its prophet Rákosi (General Secretary of the Hungarian Workers' Party).

**Hungary – March 27, 1953 (OSA)**

A 30-year-old worker from Kőszeg gives a report on Kőszeg in the end of 1952. He tells of the presence of considerable Soviet and Hungarian ÁVH (State Protection Authority) border guard troops determining the character of the town. The Soviets often harass the Hungarian population and the ÁVH border guards keep the population under terror. Apart from that, the radio sets have been adapted in such a way that only Budapest transmitters can be heard. As far as the food is concerned; meat is scarce, but bread, flour and potatoes are still available without limitations.

**Hungary – March 27, 1953 (OSA)**

The report is about the Rákosi Mátyás Works where eavesdropping devices are being placed into the telephone centre to control telephone calls of the personnel. It was ordered to record and write down all ministerial or any official orders received in the call centre.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – March 27, 1953 (OSA)**

The Soviets have been authorised to enter the Hungarian border strip and patrol there. Pretending to be looking for Soviet deserters, they searched Tiszaszentmárton and stole three hogs from the hog-fattening farm of the local kolkhoz.

**Hungary – March 27, 1953 (OSA)**

In February 1953, an (influenza) pandemic broke out in Budapest. Mostly, influenza occurred in the outer districts of Budapest inhabited by workers. The doctors assume that the unheated flats, exhaustion of workers, and malnutrition contributed to the fact that the epidemic was taking its toll on most of the manual workers.

**Hungary – March 27, 1953 (OSA)**

The appointment of an ÁVH (State Protection Authority) officer as “observer” and liaison officer between Budapest ÁVH headquarter and the political section of Hungarian railroads.

**Soviet Union – March 27, 1953 (KRI)**

A general amnesty is declared for minor political and economic crimes, and all sentences of under five years are commuted. The elderly, infirm, underage, and mothers with children are released from prison.

**Czechoslovakia – March 28, 1953 (OSA)**

The recruitment of young people for the mines takes place in school where the agitators try to gain the interest of the young people.

**Czechoslovakia – March 28, 1953 (OSA)**

The dollars sent by relatives or friends can be used in Czechoslovakian Dárek shops in Prague and Bratislava. These dollar currency shops are usually very crowded.

**Hungary – March 28, 1953 (OSA)**

This report describes the high school in Szentgotthárd which is situated in Hungary’s western border zone. The report reveals the difficulties encountered by both the pupils and the teachers in the study of Russian. The pupils’ enjoy the teaching of religion. The discipline in the class is far from satisfactory. Pupils often make “irreverent” remarks about Rákosi (General Secretary of the the Hungarian Workers’ Party) but are not punished because their teachers are only communist in name.

**Hungary – March 28, 1953 (OSA)**

Gobbi Hilda, a well-known actress of National Theatre, has been awarded a special prize for her performance in the stage play called “Csongor és Tünde.” Gobbi did not accept the award and wrote a letter to the chief of theatre-section of the Ministry of People’s Education stating that she does not agree with the dilettantism in the direction of the theatre.

**Hungary – March 28, 1953 (OSA)**

The observation from December 1952 notes that the story of the birth of Jesus Christ is not taught in Hungarian schools. This report contains two short stories of Czech writer Führenbern explaining two different communist interpretations of the night of Christ’s birth.

**Hungary – March 28, 1953 (OSA)**

35-40 soldiers from the Sopron Signal Corps were installing a telecommunication system in the city of Alsószolnok in October 1952. Those communication lines will connect the watchtowers, the office buildings and certain observation points deeper inside the country by telephone.

**Hungary / Austria – March 28, 1953 (OSA)**

Tightened vigilance measures at Hegyeshalom (border city) railway station. The coaches of the Arlberg Express, travelling between Budapest and Vienna, are subjected to a more thorough

control by ÁVH (State Protection Authority) border guards. Also, foreign diplomats travelling in the sleeping cars would be politely asked to get out of their beds while ÁVH-men look beneath them to see nobody is hiding there. At the border line the Express slows down and ÁVH-men jump on to prevent possible spies from sneaking into Hungary.

**Poland – March 28, 1953 (PSN)**

At a plenary meeting of the Polish Communist Party Central committee, Bierut reads a report on “The Immortal Teachings of Comrade Stalin as a Weapon in the Struggle for Further Strengthening the Party and the National Front.”

**Poland – March 28, 1953 (OSA)**

The Minister of Public Security, Stanislaw Radkiewicz, delivered a speech at the Plenary Session of the Central Committee of the PUWP (Polish Communist Party) about western radio broadcasts being listened to by Poles. The speech outlines the aim to combat the listening of foreign broadcasts by mobilizing public opinion against western propaganda.

**Romania – March 28, 1953 (PIR)**

The Committee for Cultural Establishments opens the Russian Literary Decade, screening a series of Soviet films and staging Russian plays.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – March 28, 1953 (PVC)**

Naval Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean Fleet, Admiral Louis Mountbatten visits Tito on board Galeb while the Yugoslav president is travelling home from London.

**Romania / US / UN – March 29, 1953 (PIR)**

Romanian representative submits protest motion against “the murderous bacteriological war conducted by American aggressors” to the U.N.

**Yugoslavia – March 29, 1953 (KCA)**

The Yugoslav Federal Executive Council issues a decree permitting individual members of collective farms to withdraw and return to individual farming. It also permits the cooperatives themselves to be disbanded by a majority vote from their members.

**Hungary / East Germany – March 30, 1953 (OSA)**

Description of the village of Olaszfalu situated in Dunántúl. The rich ethnic Germans were expelled from the village in 1948 to East Germany and replaced by Hungarians brought in from the county of Borsod. While the old inhabitants can easily be distinguished from the newcomers by their stiff morals and clinging to the church. Most Communists are such only on paper. Only a few obscure characters running the village’s life are supporters of the regime. The main concern of the authorities and of the police informers is the discovery of the black slaughtering of livestock.

**Hungary – March 30, 1953 (OSA)**

Two pamphlets are constantly issued in Hungary containing official propaganda slogans against the Church and particularly against the Vatican. They claim that the Vatican is in the service of American imperialism and is a spy network. In addition, they stress that the papal reactionism to freedom is the main enemy of socialism and peace and its purpose is to overthrow people's democracy.

**Poland / France – March 30, 1953 (OSA)**

In a letter received by a Polish family living in northern France, a farmer complains about the difficulties to deal with in the sale and consumption of goods. Specifically, the impossibility of procuring new clothing underlies a general social concern. The letter also notes that the main preoccupation remains securing a roof and daily food, given the increase in prices but not in salaries.

**Romania / Lebanon – March 30, 1953 (OSA)**

A member of the Romanian ship “Sulina” was thoroughly interviewed when docked in Beirut and a report was filed about the learned details of life aboard Romanian ships. It was noted that there are always selected members of the Romanian Communist Party aboard ships to ensure that party policy is being followed. On the “Sulina” there were 32 such officers.

**Soviet Union – March 31–April 7, 1953 (KCA)**

A party of ten U.S. newspaper and radio owners, editors and correspondents headed by James L. Wick, visits Moscow after having obtained visas from the Soviet Embassy in London. This is the first visit of this kind since 1946. The members of the group meet Soviet editors and journalists, move freely about the city and are guests of honour at a reception given by the Moscow Press Club.

**Hungary / Italy / Vatican – March 31, 1953 (OSA)**

The Italian film-producer backed by the Vatican, has prepared a film lasting around 20 minutes on a great martyr of the Catholic Church, called Cardinal Mindszenty. The film shows and compares the energetic figure of the Cardinal with the shadowy figure at his trial, giving proof of his innocence and ending with views of Saint Peter's Cathedral in Rome showing the Pope condemning the Communist outrage.

**Hungary – March 31, 1953 (OSA)**

A 22-year-old cook describes the activities at the Balázs Summer restaurant in Budapest and the conditions in the cooks' training school. One of the important tasks of the waiters is to watch all guests and if necessary, to report whether they have observed anything suspicious. Also, the prices of the most simple meals are indicated.

**Hungary – March 31, 1953 (OSA)**

Communist discrimination of people with religious beliefs. On the occasion of an explosion at the ammunition barracks of the city of Dunakeszi Alag, the personnel of the railway station behaved so courageously that all were awarded a cash bonus. One of the employees – known for his religious attitude- remained without any bonus and was completely neglected during the ceremony in which the Minister of Communications greeted everybody individually.

**Hungary – March 31, 1953 (OSA)**

In February 1953, reconstruction work started on the Kaposvár-Szigetvár highway. The workers of the construction enterprise removed all religious relics at the roadsides. It was known that the enlargement of the road was a pretext for the removal of relics which would cause considerable dissatisfaction among the deeply religious population of the Transdanubian area.

**Hungary / Romania – March 31, 1953 (OSA)**

In February 1953 some travellers saw in Fetesti, East of Bucharest, strongly guarded Hungarian Railway cars transporting some hundred Hungarian prisoners. The latter succeeded in throwing



out slips of paper with messages to their relatives. The messages were forwarded to the prisoners' families.

**Yugoslavia – March 31, 1953 (KCA)**

The results of a census taken on this day show the population of Yugoslavia at 16,927,275, an increase of 7.3 percent from the 1948 figure.

**April**

**Poland / U.K. / Soviet Union – April, 1953 (OSA)**

The Polish Embassy in London informed Plato Films Ltd that ten new documentary films from Poland will be put on the British market. One of these films titled 'Friendship, Example, Assistance' acts as propaganda showing the 'generous assistance' Poland receives from the Soviet Union.

**Romania / Soviet Union / USA – April 1953 (OSA)**

According to first-hand accounts, intellectuals within Romanian society believe that an eventual armed conflict between the USSR and the USA is inevitable. It is also widely believed that this would end in defeat for the USSR and would serve as emancipating the Romanian state. It is noted that passive resistance does continue in Romania but with little faith of success.

**Romania / Soviet Union – April, 1953 (OSA)**

Regulations in place in Romanian hospitals forbade the prescription of penicillin when no fever was detected. This often caused patients to seek penicillin on the black market. Russian-produced penicillin was often believed to be ineffective and thus most citizens preferred obtaining foreign-made penicillin when available.

**Romania / USA / Soviet Union – April, 1953 (OSA)**

According to a source, an American plane flew over Romanian territory releasing packages containing good quality clothes among other necessities. Public opinion of America has been getting better while Romanians believe the Russians have not been delivering enough promised supplies

**East Germany – Late April, 1953 (OSA)**

A confidential SED directive to the "Society for Sports and Technical Schooling" dictates that 800,000 more East German Workers be recruited for pre-military training. Since late 1952, 400,000 had already received basic training by the organization.

**Czechoslovakia – April 1, 1953 (OSA)**

There is a case of direct political influence on a military court trial in Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / Romania – April 1, 1953 (OSA)**

In the village Klečenov in Slovakia there is currently no Roman Catholic priest which is a significant issue for the local religious community. The former priest refused to sign the Communist doctrine and preferred to work in a factory.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – April 1, 1953 (OSA)**

In March 1953, multiple conferences with Soviet experts were held at the Ministry of Heavy Engineering in Prague, possibly to control armament deliveries to the USSR.

**Hungary – April 1, 1953 (OSA)**

A former nun and teacher recall people clinging to religion. Even some ÁVH men and soldiers celebrate religious weddings in secret and have their children baptised. Though the libraries are filled with Communist literature, people tend to prefer reading old books and pretending to read Communist literature.

**Romania / Soviet Union – April 1, 1953 (PIR)**

The Romanian delegation leaves for the International Economic Counsel on East-West economic developments, in Moscow.

**Romania – April 1, 1953 (OSA)**

After the Communists came into power Georgescu, the Chief of Police, was purged because he was considered to be a reactionary.

**Romania / Soviet Union – April 1, 1953 (OSA)**

Three Soviet railwaymen belonging to the Stalingrad Oblast railway network were sentenced to death and shot for having illegally smuggled information and messages between the Soviet Union and Romania.

**Soviet Union – April 1, 1953 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government and the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party announce a series of further price reductions for foodstuffs and manufactured goods starting on **April 1**.

**Czechoslovakia – April 2, 1953 (OSA)**

Several demonstrations by housewives took place in Bratislava in February and March 1953 in front of the market hall to protest the scarcity of bread and meat. Police did not intervene.

**East Germany / West Germany – April 3, 1953 (OSA)**

After extensive conflict and legal negotiations between Heinz Galinski, Chairman of the Jewish Community in West Berlin, and Peter Levinson, US rabbi of Berlin [East and West], Levison is forced to resign his position. The withholding of the his salary and conditions imposed on the exercise of his functions caused the American rabbi to agree to the termination of his services to the Berlin community. This is likely to result in East Berlin's Jewish communities being deprived of "even nominal religious leadership" given that a future rabbi will probably not be granted the title that Levison had, which extended to "Jewish communities in the Soviet Zone of Germany".

**Hungary – April 4, 1953 (HC)**

A literary anthology titled *Felszabadítónk, Sztálin* ("Stalin, our liberator") is published.

**Romania – April 4, 1953 (PIR)**

The election of the Presidium of the R.P.R. Academy is confirmed: President – Traian Săvulescu; Vice-Presidents Petre Constantinescu-Iasi, Mihail Sadoveanu and N. Profiri; Prime Secretary Stefan Vencov. Other members of the Presidium are: R. Cernătescu, I.S. Gheorghiu, B. Lăzăreanu, E. Macovschi, Stefan Nicolau, E. Petrovici, Mihail Roller, S. Stoilov.

**Soviet Union – April 4, 1953 (PLC)**

It is announced that the Zionist conspiracy trial was based on provocation. The doctors are released from prison.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – April 5, 1953 (LBC)**

The U.S. grants an \$11 million draught relief to Yugoslavia. This raises the amount of U.S. aid to Yugoslavia to \$106, 75 million dollars since the Balkan state broke close ties with the Soviet Union.

**Romanian – April 6, 1953 (KCA)**

The Romanian Government announces a partial political amnesty to prisoners, a policy identical to those recently issued by the Soviet and Czechoslovak Governments.

**Czechoslovakia – April 9, 1953 (OSA)**

The non-fulfilment of quotas by farmers leads to a trial and fines. The criticism of these trials are published.

**Soviet Union / U.N. – April 9, 1953 (CWC)**

Permanent representative of the Soviet Union to the UN Andrei Vyshinsky addresses the U.N., emphasizing the need to avert another war and stating that differences in political systems should not keep nations from cooperating.

**Czechoslovakia – April 10, 1953 (OSA)**

There is a case of persecution of persons who assist the refugees in illegally crossing the borders in Czechoslovakia. Family members are also persecuted.

**Czechoslovakia – April 10, 1953 (OSA)**

The best audibility of Radio Free Europe broadcast is from 10pm to 12am when the jamming is weaker. The most popular program is “Messages home.” Many people gather to listen to the broadcast.

**Poland / France – April 10, 1953 (OSA)**

The immigrant Polish workers in France gather in Unions, among which is the Centralny Związek Polaków. During an important session, the international social and political life and the internal Union’s matters have been discussed. The demonstration of a sincere support for General Sosnkowski and to the fight against Communism for a free Poland has been underlined, as well as the importance of paying attention to actions that might undermine the unity of the Polish community in France.

**Czechoslovakia – April 11, 1953 (OSA)**

Two aircrafts MIG-15 crash near Domažlice and Plzeň in the west of Bohemia. In the first accident the pilot dies; during the other one he survives by using his parachute.

**Czechoslovakia – April 11, 1953 (OSA)**

The pressure on religious people in small Slovakian villages is increasing as we can see from the situation in Borský Svätý Jur where the Catholic church has a strong tradition.

**Czechoslovakia – April 11, 1953 (OSA)**

Renaming of one of Ostrava's pits to "Sekanina" is refused. Ivan Sekanina was member of communist party and died during the Second World War in a Nazi concentration camp. The reason why he is not suitable for communist propaganda is unknown.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – April 11, 1953 (OSA)**

There is an example of an escape from the USSR through Slovakia. The refugee decides to leave because his former service in a German division during the Second World War has put him under the suspicion of communist officers.

**Yugoslavia – April 11, 1953 (PVC)**

Boris Kidrić, Chairman of the Economic Committee of the Federal Executive Council, dies.

**Romania – April 12, 1953 (PIR)**

The system of price settlements is reorganized.

**Bulgaria / Romania – April 13, 1953 (PIR)**

The Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Dimitar Konstantinov Grekov, presents his accreditation letters in Bucharest.

**Romania – April 13, 1953 (PIR)**

The Council of Ministers adopts the decision regarding the introduction of agro-technical minimums; peasants are obliged to commit to a certain period of time to plough the land, and to grow and treat the seeds.

**Romania – April 13, 1953 (PIR)**

The Romanian-Soviet Medical Days are opened at the Athenaeum.

**Bulgaria / Italy – April 14, 1953, (OSA)**

The Communists were suspicious of a suspected Bulgarian clandestine training center in Rome, and there was a raising interest in their "political refugees" and a search for such "saboteurs". No evidence for such movements was available at the time.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – April 15–May 31, 1953 (PIR)**

Romanian-Yugoslav talks regarding navigation on the Danube and the creation of the Special Fluvial Administration of Porpile de Fier take place at Orova and Tekija.

**Soviet Bloc / U.S. – April 16, 1953 (LBC)**

Eisenhower's peace offensive begins. The President's proposals are as follows: step-by-step disarmament; the reduction of national armed forces; the reduction of the use of strategic materials for military purposes, the international control of atomic energy, the limitation or banning of weapons of "great destructive power;" U.N. supervision of disarmament; the extension of the European community, which would mean the free flow of people, goods and ideas; the full independence of East European peoples.

**Romania – April 18, 1953 (PIR)**

The Congress of educators in R.P.R. sends a letter to the Council of Ministers of the R.P.R. and to the Central Committee of PNR, in which they promise they would take the "path of constructing socialism," and a letter of gratitude to Stalin, "the genius leader of the working men of the whole world."

**Soviet Union / U.K. – April 19, 1953 (KCA)**

It is announced in Moscow and London that Jacob Malik has been appointed Soviet Ambassador to the U.K.

**Romania – April 20, 1953 (PIR)**

The Decree for the organization of labor protection is promulgated.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – April 20, 1953 (LBC)**

In a speech given in the House of Commons, Churchill urges a meeting of the great powers.

**Hungary – April 21, 1953 (HC)**

Decree no. 1953:7 by the Presidential Council states that new departments will be established at the Eötvös Loránd Science University. The Humanities department is split into two: the Languages and Literature department and the History department; the Natural Sciences department is split into the Mathematics, the Chemistry, the Physics and the Life and Earth studies departments.

**Romania – April 23, 1953 (PIR)**

MAN president, C.I. Parhon, awards decorations to 18 heads of production, academics and artists.

**Bulgaria – April 23, 1953 (OSA)**

A cartwright worker took two grenades and threw one of them towards militiamen after which the other one exploded in his hand. According to fellow villagers and witnesses the suicide was a reaction to an order to give up his handiwork.

**East Germany – April 23, 1953 (OSA)**

Prime Minister Grotewohl denies the existence of an anti-Church campaign ('Kirchenkampf') in East Germany.

**Romania – April 24, 1953 (PIR)**

Former politician and historian Gheorghe I. Brătianu dies in the Sighet prison.

**Romania – April 25, 1953 (PIR)**

The Central Statistics Direction, subordinated to the Council of Ministers of the R.P.R., communicates the results of the State Plan for the first trimester of 1952, which vary between 93% (in Exterior Commerce) and 122% (in the Polygraph Industry and the Diffusion of Press and Book) of the preset goals.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – April 25, 1953 (CWC)**

*Pravda* responds to Eisenhower's **April 16** speech that lists the changes the Soviet Union could make in order to reduce international tensions. The article lays blame on the U.S. for strained relations and also urges the country to make policy changes.

**Poland / U.K. – April 26, 1953 (OSA)**

The Annual General Meeting of the Federation of Poles in Great Britain held its discussions in London, around 100 participants from Polish social organizations gathered to discuss issues pertinent to Poles in exile. The federation adopted a resolution calling for Poles to participate in political activities for the Polish cause of independence. Other resolutions adopted at the

meeting concerned the welfare of the Polish community in exile and expressed the necessity of teaching Polish subjects to Polish children and youth in emigration.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – April 28, 1953 (LBC)**

Molotov's proposal for a five-power peace agreement is presented.

**Hungary – April 29, 1953 (HC)**

The first general assembly of the TTIT (Educational Association of Social Sciences and Sciences) takes place. The association is organized in order to inform the public about the "exceptional scientific views and results". The Head of the association is Rezső Bognár, the General Secretary is Sándor Erdei.

**Romania / China – April 29, 1953 (PIR)**

The Soviet and the Chinese delegations take part in the celebration of **May 1st** in Romania.

**Hungary – April, 1953 (HC)**

*Föltámadott a tenger* ("The sea has risen"), a film by Kálmán Nádasdy and László Ranódy, is first shown.

**East Germany – April 30, 1953 (OSA)**

Hermann Axen announces, in a speech to the SED Central Committee, a purge of the party, mainly targeted at long-time Communist politician and head of the "cadres" department, Franz Dahlem. Dahlem's enmity with Walter Ulbricht, dating back to the late 1930s, was most likely the cause of his purge, as Merker and Eisler had previously been accused and removed for their opposition to him in the preceding months.

**May**

**Poland / East Germany – May, 1953 (OSA)**

A recent concentration of East German troops on the border with Poland has been reported explaining the decrease in the number of refugees travelling from Poland to Western Germany. Military manoeuvres have also been announced around Szczecin making travel for refugees more dangerous.

**Poland / Indonesia – May, 1953, (OSA)**

Poland and Indonesia signed a commercial agreement in May after negotiations had been ongoing since March 1953.

**Poland / West Germany – May, 1953 (OSA)**

A Polish trade delegation is expected to arrive in Bonn to negotiate a new trade agreement to replace one expiring on 30 June 1953.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – May, 1953 (OSA)**

A Soviet order is handed to the Ministry for State Security for the construction of a prison in Neu Brandenburg with a capacity for 20,000 prisoners. Excavations begin within the month.

**East Germany – Late May, 1953 (OSA)**

Following negotiations with the Socialist Unity Party (SED), it was decided that the Democratic Peasant Party will be abolished within the year, and its members and recruitment absorbed by the SED after a screening. Following the merger there will be four political parties in East Germany: the SED, the Christian Democratic Union, the Liberal Democratic Party, and the National Democratic Party.

**East Germany – Late May, 1953 (OSA)**

Strikes have broken out in various parts of the GDR against the recent 10 per cent increase of the production norms, and wage cuts recently declared by the government. Strikes were noted in the Fimag and Kieberg factories in Finsterwalde, in the Hydrierwerk Zeitz firm, and the Mansfeld coal mines.

**Poland – May 1, 1953 (OSA)**

Around 175,000 people (rather than the 400,000 officially reported) took part in the People's parade in Warsaw. Western diplomats did not receive invitations to the tribunes of the parade.

**East Germany – May 1, 1953 (KCA)**

The Socialist Unity Party declare that the city of Chemnitz is renamed Karl Marx-Stadt from this day onward.

**Romania – May 1, 1953 (PIR)**

The Ensemble for songs and dances of the Popular Counsel of the Capital is founded.

**Czechoslovakia – May 4, 1953 (KCA)**

The Czechoslovak Government announces an amnesty law, providing that men over 60 and women over 55 and pregnant women of any age are to be immediately released, freeing those minors and adults serving short-term sentences, and cutting the number of years for those with long terms and life sentences. Similar amnesties will be extended to military offenders, but not to political prisoners.

**Poland – May 4, 1953 (KCA)**

The Polish Government adopts a resolution giving top priority to the completion of the Nowa Huta steel plant near Cracow by 1955. The Nowa Huta project envisages the construction of one of the largest and most modern metallurgical works in the world.

**Poland – May 5, 1953 (OSA)**

A ministerial order from the Polish government imposes obligations and establishes an oath of faithfulness to the State to be made by bishops and clergy before taking their posts.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – May 6, 1953 (HC)**

The Hungarian Foreign Ministry sends a protesting memorandum to the Yugoslav Embassy to raise objections against the border violations.

**Bulgaria – May 6, 1953 (OSA)**

Before the Bulgarian Communist era, many points were taken into consideration when establishing wages aiming to improve the standard of living of the workers. Communist wage policy was built on the principle of "he who does not work does not earn". Therefore, supporting a family alone was not possible anymore, "motivating" all people to join industrial labor.

**East Germany – May 6, 1953 (OSA)**

Protestant Bishop Dr. Otto Dibelius files a libel suit against the editorial board of “Junge Welt”, a newspaper of the Communist organization Free German Youth, for prosecuting a campaign against the Protestant youth movement “Die Junge Gemeinde”, and consequently, the Protestant Church itself. This is the first time since the anti-Church campaign in East Germany was actively begun last summer, that the Protestant Church has taken the offensive.

**Poland / Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Romania / Bulgaria – May 7, 1953 (OSA)**

A Polish architecture exposition has taken place in Zurich „Neue Polnische Architektur” under the guide of a communist organisation. The exhibition consisted of photos and new models of reconstruction in modern urbanism in Poland including "The Palace of Culture and Sciences". The exhibition was followed by international architects and books such as "The history of Polish architecture" were later published. Also, a conference on railroads which took place in Bern is described. The conference saw the participation of 32 European countries to discuss the admission of Germany to the international office, an admission much debated.

**East Germany / Poland – May 8, 1953 (OSA)**

As the number of Polish refugees to West Germany decreases considerably, reports start reaching the West of a higher concentration of frontier guard units and mobile patrols as part of stricter controls in the German–Polish border to prevent border crossing. These are reinforced by units from the new East German army, and maneuvers of the Volkspolizei are also being held in the area.

**Romania / Lebanon – May 8, 1953 (OSA)**

Upon the announcement of Stalin’s fatal illness and subsequent death, many rumours spread of impending revolution within the Romanian population. Security was tightened as a precaution. It seemed that most anti-Communist rumours were spread by a single network.

**Romania / China – May 8, 1953 (PIR)**

The ratification of the cultural accord between R.P.R. and the Peoples’ Republic of China takes place.

**Romania – May 9, 1953 (PIR)**

Great festive assembly takes place at the Athenaeum to celebrate 75 years of Romanian independence.

**Bulgaria – May 10, 1953 (KCA)**

The Orthodox Church in Bulgaria elects its own Patriarch.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – May 11, 1953 (LBC)**

Prime Minister Churchill proposes “East-West differences to be taken up at the highest level between the leading powers without delay,” the conference should be limited to the least number of participants possible. According to Churchill, Stalin’s death is changing the Kremlin’s attitude. Both the government party and the opposition received the proposal favorably. The State Department praises Churchill’s lofty initiative, but until the settlement of the Korean and the Austrian questions, he sees no prospect for a conference. France expresses outrage at the fact that Churchill did not publicly call on France to participate in the conference. According to the State Department, however, the U.S. will not participate at a high level conference of great powers without France.



**East Germany – May 13-14, 1953 (PLC)**

The leaders of the SED announce that the GDR is a state where the proletariat rules, disregarding Soviet Interior Minister Beria's plan for a united Germany. The required production level is increased.

**Romania – mid 1953 (OSA)**

Private shops were announced to officially be allowed to reopen. This private operation could only be done on a limited basis. This reportedly caused a rise in inflation despite heavy taxation on private shops.

**Romania – mid 1953 (OSA)**

Goiciu, a member of the minister of the interior, was arrested due to the role he played in sending 10,000 detainees to the canal site "Danube-Black Sea." At this site, all 10,000 detainees died. He was sent to a prison in Jilava, Romania. 40 of his subordinates were also arrested.

**Czechoslovakia – May 15, 1953 (KCA)**

It is officially announced in Prague that William Oatis, the former Associated Press correspondent in Prague who had been sentenced to ten years' imprisonment in **July 1951** on charges of espionage, has been "brought under amnesty", proclaimed by the Czechoslovak Government on **May 4**, and that he has been released.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – May 15, 1953 (KCA/PIR)**

A law nationalizing every remaining private factory is adopted in Romania. Romania and Yugoslavia conclude an agreement on navigation in the Iron Gates sector of the Danube.

**Romania/ Poland / Hungary / Czechoslovakia / Albania / Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – May 15, 1953 (OSA)**

A list of books detailing the Soviet persecution of Catholic Churches in Soviet satellite states is published.

**Romania / Soviet Union – May 15-17, 1953 (PIR)**

A Soviet delegation led by painter F.P. Regetnikov, laureate of the Stalin Prize, takes part in the Plenary of the plastic artists in the R.P.R.

**Czechoslovakia / U.S. – May 16, 1953 (LBC)**

Czechoslovakia releases the American journalist William Oatis, who was sentenced to ten years for espionage in 1951. The State Department denies a U.S.-Czechoslovak agreement for the release of Oatis, but will consider the cancellation of the restrictions that were imposed on US-Czechoslovak relations because of Oatis' arrest.

**Soviet Union — May 16, 1953 (OSA)**

Colonel Alexei Bogdanov, a Military delegate to the Soviet Embassy, is arrested by Oslo police for public drunkenness. After refusing both police and civilian escort to his house, the Oslo police unsuccessfully tried to communicate with the Soviet Embassy, due to the language barrier. When the Colonel tried to remove his clothes, the police admitted him to jail, and, within two hours, representatives of the Soviet Embassy came to the police station to discharge him.

**Hungary – May 17, 1953 (HC)**

Parliamentary elections in Hungary take place. Participation rate is 98%. The Patriotic People's Front receives 98.2% of the votes.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – May 17, 1953 (PVC)**

Tito delivers a speech at Slavonski Brod in which he reviews international affairs. He refers to Prime Minister Churchill's speech at the House of Commons and considers it one of the most important addresses for the maintenance of world peace. However, Tito categorically rejects that the great powers again make decisions on the faith of small states behind closed doors. On the Trieste question, Tito again rejects the Western approach and proposes a condominium.

**Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – May 18, 1953 (PVC)**

Bulgaria sends another note to Yugoslavia protesting new border incidents.

**Romania / Soviet Union – May 18, 1953 (OSA)**

Changes happen in foreign trade organizations. Initially, during the Moscow economic conference in April 1952, a special plan was established to export goods from the West towards the Iron Curtain, however, another formula was adopted and a network of organizations created, which officially were to encourage foreign trade in general.

**Yugoslavia – May 18-24, 1953 (PVC)**

Meeting of the Holy Synod of the Serbian Orthodox Church takes place. There, the approval of the Priests' Association is withheld.

**East Germany – May 20, 1953 (OSA)**

Intensification of the East German anti-Church campaign, as evidenced by the 'disallowing' of the Dibelius suit, and by statements made by Walter Ulbricht at the women's conference in East Berlin, in which he accused the church of submitting to 'capitalist exploitation'. Additionally, Pastor Guenther Brandt of the Student community ('Studentengemeinde') in Potsdam was arrested, and the Protestant Inner Mission, a care institution, was occupied for nine hours by the 90 men of the People's Police.

**Poland / Czechoslovakia / Hungary – May 20, 1953 (OSA)**

The Lutheran church, the most widespread Protestant confession in Poland prior to the war, has suffered significant losses because of Nazi persecution. According to the World Organization of Churches, this religious belief includes the majority of Polish protestants as well as it is the most exposed to the Communist repression. The authorities forced the dismissal of Bishop Superintendent Szeruda, who was replaced by Bishop Kotula since he was more responsive to the regime. Although to a lesser extent, it is still reported the presence of the Methodist, the Calvinist and the Old Catholic Church. It shows the lack of pastors in several localities in the old East Prussian region. The protestants' condition in Hungary, where the number of protestants represents 1/3 of the total population, is better than that of Catholics. In Czechoslovakia the government shows a more liberal attitude towards the Protestant Church than in other countries of the region.

**Poland / Denmark – May 20, 1953 (KCA)**

Polish Air Force Pilot Lieutenant Jazwensky lands on the Danish island of Bornholm and asks for political asylum, becoming the second pilot to do so.

**Poland / Switzerland – May 21, 1953 (OSA)**

The report analyses an example of the pressure exercised by the Soviet Regime on the Polish communities through the anecdote of a never - received parcel by a Polish woman living in Switzerland. The sender had sent a package with food and clothing to her cousin in Switzerland who was forced to pay a high price to the custom house in order to receive it. However, after receiving a letter confirming the arrival of the parcel, it was delivered back to her, with the exact content in very poor conditions. The anecdote is provided by an anonymous informer.

**Romania / Soviet Union / USA – May 21, 1953 (OSA)**

The source has seven anecdotes circulating in Romania, which allegedly indicate the prevailing spirit in the country. The anecdotes are on the topics of communism, Russians, Stalin, collectivization and Americans.

**Yugoslavia / France / U.K. / U.S. – May 21, 1953 (LKT)**

In his Air Forces Day speech at Batajnica, Tito, surrounded by Western military attachés, refers to the United States, the U.K., and France as "our allies" who are assisting both Yugoslavia and the cause of peace. He grants that Soviet propaganda against Yugoslavia has eased, but points out that there has been no corresponding improvement in relations between the Soviet bloc and Yugoslavia.

**Poland / U.K. – May 22, 1953 (KCA)**

Eugeniusz Milnikiel, former Polish Ambassador to Sweden, presents letters of credence in London as Ambassador to the U.K.

**Romania / France – May 22, 1953 (OSA)**

The source details the case of a spy who doomed many officers of the former regime. This is regarded as the first biography of the subject person received by the office of Paris News Bureau. It is written by a former companion-in-arms whose previous reports proved reliable.

**Romania – May 22, 1953 (OSA)**

Lieutenant Colonel Diaconu Leonid is the Head of the Information section of the Headquarters troops of the Ministry of the Interior. He is around 43 years old and a career officer of the Romanian Army. He is regarded as an opportunist, not very intelligent but has become a fanatical Communist. He is completely in the confidence of the Communist Party.

**Yugoslavia – May 22, 1953 (KCA/PVC)**

The Federal National Assembly passes a Bill reducing the maximum private land holding from 20-30 hectares to 10-15 hectares. Land owned by people over this new limit will be purchased and assigned to landless and poor peasants. At the same time it allows members to leave the agricultural cooperatives.

**Poland / France – May 23, 1953 (OSA)**

A conference organised by the Polish movement for freedom took place on May 15th of 1953 in Paris. The conference analysed the liberation politics of the USA alongside the collaboration toward the independence of Poland.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. / France – May 24, 1953 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government's response to Churchill's speech of **May 11**, in which he called for a high-level conference of the leading world powers, is published in *Pravda*. The Soviet Government accepts his proposal, but disapproves of Britain attending the upcoming Bermuda

conference between Britain, the U.S. and France, and reiterates that it will only meet with the other Powers if there are no “preliminary fixed demands”.

**Hungary – May 25, 1953 (HC)**

The general assembly of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences convenes. “*The economic problems of the Soviet Union*,” by Stalin, scientific research, and the cultural revolution are the topics on the agenda.

**Romania – May 25, 1953 (PIR)**

The “R.S.S. Ukraine Decade” is opened under the aegis of ARLUS.

**Poland / China / Soviet Union – May 25, 1953 (OSA)**

An agreement under the sponsorship of Moscow was signed between Poland and China. The commercial agreement concerns trade in machinery, metals as well as mineral products, soya beans and grains.

**Czechoslovakia – May 26, 1953 (KCA)**

Prague radio announces that Richard Slansky, brother of the late Rudolf Slansky, has been sentenced to life imprisonment on charges of treason and espionage.

**Romania / U.S. – May 26, 1953 (LBC)**

The U.S. expels the First Secretary of the Romanian Legation in Washington.

**Romania – May 27, 1953 (PIR)**

Ioan Suciu, Greek-Catholic bishop of Blaj, dies in the Sighet prison.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – May 27, 1953 (KCA)**

The Soviet Ministry of Interior announces that the four Soviet citizens that had been dropped over the Ukraine by U.S. aircrafts to carry out espionage and sabotage had been tried by the Military Collegium of the Supreme Court, found guilty and executed by firing squad. A U.S. State Department spokesperson described the Soviet announcement as “too fantastic to deserve comment”.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – May 27, 1953 (OSA)**

Over 4,000 East German citizens flee to and seek refuge in West Berlin in a single day, the highest number until then recorded by the refugee reporting office. The total since 1 May reaches 35,000 East German refugees.

**East Germany – May 28, 1953 (KGD)**

The leadership of the SED decides to raise work quotas by at least 10%.

**Romania – May 29, 1953 (PIR)**

The MAN Presidium appoints Gheorghe Apostol as Vice President of the Council of Ministers.

**Poland / Denmark – May 30, 1953 (KCA)**

It is announced in Copenhagen that Jazwensky has been granted the status of political refugee and will be allowed to go wherever he chooses.

**Soviet Union / Turkey – May 30, 1953 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union renounces its territorial claims in Turkey and withdraws its demands to special privileges in the Dardanelles.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – May 30, 1953 (PVC)**

Romania and Yugoslavia sign an agreement on joint control of the Iron Gates section of the Danube.

**Yugoslavia – May 30, 1953 (PVC)**

The abolition of the post of political commissars in Yugoslav army takes place.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – May 31, 1953 (KCA/PIR)**

Romania and Yugoslavia sign an agreement on joint control of the Iron Gates section of the Danube.

**June****Poland – June 1953 (OSA)**

The Warsaw radio and press have been advertising for more people to join the Communist Party. Previously only people over the age of 26 could be elected to the party, the recent drive for new members has seen the age limit reduced to 18.

**Poland – June–July, 1953 (OSA)**

New identity cards in Poland separate Poles into three categories. A-cards are issued to workers and trusted party members and are valid for 5 years. B-cards are similar to A-cards although marked differently and valid for 3 years often issued to peasants and ‘intellectuals’. C-cards are valid for one year only.

**Soviet Union (Estonia) – Summer, 1953 (OSA)**

Frequent exercises of Soviet armored units were witnessed in the Petseri region of Estonia.

**Soviet Union (Estonia) – June, 1953 (OSA)**

A new Soviet amphibious vehicle was exhibited in the Estonian towns of Parnu, Virtsu and Haapsalu. These new technological developments were brought to Estonia on an excursion of students from the Automobile Faculty in Moscow.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia / U.S. – June 1953 (LKT)**

In a meeting with U.S. Governor of Illinois, Adlai Stevenson on Brioni, Tito again states that the apparent changes in Soviet policy and the nature of the Soviet system are not genuine.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – June 1-5, 1953 (KGD)**

The SED representatives visit Moscow, where they face criticism by Soviet leaders over the socialization tempo of Walter Ulbricht.

**East Germany – June 1–15 – October 1, 1953 (OSA)**

New East German identification cards begin to be issued on June 1 in the GDR, and on June 15 in the Soviet sector of Berlin. The exchange is expected to be concluded by October 1, 1953.

Reports suggest that these identity cards will only be valid for the citizens' district of residence, acting as restrictions on movement.

#### **Czechoslovakia – June 1, 1953 (PSČZ)**

Currency reform stirs up.

#### **Czechoslovakia – June 1, 1953 (PLC/REV)**

Mass demonstrations in Plzen and Ostrava take place. Protestors occupy the city hall in Plzen and hang out national and American flags. The protests are suppressed by the armed forces.

#### **Yugoslavia – June 1, 1953 (KCA)**

In his capacity as Supreme Commander of the Yugoslav Army, President Tito issues an order abolishing Political Commissars in all military units, training establishments and institutions, creating in their place the rank of Assistant Commander for Political and Educational Activities.

#### **Bulgaria – June 2, 1953 (OSA)**

The Bulgarian government seems to have intensified measures of intimidation and threats against those who have near relatives who have left Bulgaria and have found asylum in foreign countries. The persecution of relatives of escapees is a consequence of the modification of the Bulgarian Penal Code and has resulted in very serious measures on behalf of the government.

#### **Bulgaria / Soviet Union – June 2, 1953 (OSA)**

On 2 June 1953, after a speech of Tsankov, there was applause and scanning of the name of Malenkov. The next day the official party organ did not mention the scanning of Malenkov's name, as a sign of the leadership's being acquainted with the situation of the Party in Moscow and waiting for certainty of Stalin's succession.

#### **East Germany / Poland – June 3, 1953 (OSA)**

Due to its own difficulties, the Polish trade organization needs to cancel its deliveries to East Germany. This failure of receiving supplies from Poland accelerates the food crisis in the country.

#### **Hungary – June 3, 1953 (KCA)**

The new Hungarian National Assembly meets for the first time and re-elects István Dobi of the former Smallholders Party as Chairman of the Presidium.

#### **Yugoslavia / Greece / Turkey – June 3–12, 1953 (KCA)**

Representatives of the General Staff of Turkey, Yugoslavia and Greece meet to continue their previous discussions regarding the common defense of the three countries.

#### **Romania – June 3, 1953 (PIR)**

The 12th ordinary session of MAN take place. Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej is elected President of the Council of Ministers.

#### **Poland – June 4, 1953 (PLC)**

Cardinal Wyszyński, the head of the Polish Catholic Church, reads out a letter in Beirut, written at the Congress of Polish Archbishops, in front of 200,000 believers. "What belongs to God, cannot be given to the emperor. Non possumus."

**Yugoslavia – June 4, 1953 (KCA, ACY)**

The Law on the Legal Status of Religious Communities comes into force on **June 4**. It codifies the constitutional provisions for the separation of church and state and the guarantees of freedom of conscience and religious belief. The legislation is approved by the Serbian Orthodox Church and the Muslim Community, but is rejected by the Roman Catholic Church.

**Czechoslovakia / U.S. – June 5, 1953 (LBC)**

The U.S. announces that the import of Czechoslovak goods, the export of non-strategic commodities to Czechoslovakia and the well-founded business trips of U.S. citizens are once more permitted.

**Hungary – June 6, 1953 (HC)**

*Pomádé király új ruhája* (“The news clothes of King Grease”) by György Ránki is presented at the Opera House.

**Hungary – June 6–13, 1953 (HC)**

The first congress of Hungarian historians is organized in Budapest on the 250th anniversary of the beginning of the Rákóczi freedom fight in the early 18th century. Some foreign, mostly Soviet, historians also participate.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – June 6, 1953 (KCA)**

Following a meeting between the two on **April 29**, Molotov makes a proposal to Yugoslav Chargé d’Affaires Djuritch in Moscow for the two countries to resume normal diplomatic relations.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – June 8–24, 1953 (KCA)**

A special committee of the Danube Commission meets in Bucharest and rejects a series of Yugoslav proposals for a reorganization of the Commission’s secretariat which would have modified Soviet control of its management.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 8, 1953 (LBC)**

President Eisenhower’s committee on information activity recommends that the Psychological Strategy Board be replaced by an Operation Coordination Committee working under the National Security Council. According to the president of the committee, psychological strategy cannot be dealt with separately from official policy and foreign policy. The new committee would work out a detailed plan for psychological warfare to be waged on this basis and not separately. According to the White House summary of the report, there is no reliable evidence that the recent changes in Soviet leadership, Soviet politics and Soviet tactics changed Soviet aspirations for a communist world under the Kremlin’s rule.

**East Germany – June 9, 1953 (PLC)**

Under Soviet pressure the SED announces a reform program.

**East Germany – June 11, 1953 (NNT)**

A resolution of the Council of Ministers announces that any GDR citizen is entitled to get food cards.

**Poland – June 12, 1953 (OSA)**

The report lists some names of important and influential Polish communists in Luxembourg alongside their main activities and their contacts in the Duchy of Luxembourg.

**Yugoslavia – June 12, 1953 (PVC)**

Serbian Supreme Court revises the **June 1917** decision sentencing Dragutin Dimitrijević (Apis) amongst others to death for their attempted assassination of Prince Regent Alexander.

**Yugoslavia / Turkey / Greece – June 12, 1953 (OSA)**

The military staff talks of the Balkan Tripartite Pact powers ended in Athens. The meeting resulted in a complete agreement on all essential problems of common defence.

**Hungary – June 13, 1953 (HC)**

Hungary celebrates the 250th anniversary of the beginning of the Rákóczi freedom fight. Deputy Defense Minister Sándor Nógrádi gives a speech at the National Army Theater in Budapest.

**Hungary – June 13–16, 1953 (REV)**

Several members of the Hungarian party and state leadership are summoned to Moscow for discussions kept secret for 30 years. The autocratic rule of Mátyás Rákosi is ended, Imre Nagy is recommended for prime minister, and the main lines of a new policy are laid.

**Romania – June 13, 1953 (PIR)**

Medico-sanitary assistance for workers is organized.

**Bulgaria – June 14, 1953 (OSA)**

The 30th anniversary of the death of Stamboliyski and Daskalov was celebrated all over Bulgaria, and the local press and broadcast devoted much space to this event. An account of a Bulgarian refugee reported on the BCP's plans for co-operating with the Bulgarian peasants. Conflicts between workers and peasants showed that the only way is true cooperation and policies towards the Agrarians changed accordingly.

**Soviet Union / Israel – June 15, 1953 (PLC)**

The Soviet Union resumes diplomatic relations with Israel.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – June 15, 1953 (KCA)**

Belgrade announces that Yugoslavia has accepted a Soviet proposal to resume normal diplomatic relations between the two countries and has agreed to the appointment of Vassili Valikov as Soviet Ambassador in Belgrade.

**Romania – June 16, 1953 (OSA)**

The source has details about Major General Marincu, who is Chief of Staff of the Frontier Guard Command. He is a career officer, about 55 years old and an able, intelligent and cultured officer. He has become a militant Communist and is regarded as an opportunist. He is not well liked due to his generally unpleasant character.

**East Germany – June 17, 1953 (PLC)**

Anti-communist and anti-Soviet uprisings in East Berlin and other East German cities take place. According to the official information, 21 people die, and 187 are injured.



**Yugoslavia – June 17, 1953 (PVC)**

The Central Committee of the Yugoslav League of Communists, after meeting in Brioni, issues a letter calling on all Communist organizations to increase political activity and to tighten up measures against heresy and Western bourgeois influence.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – June 18, 1953 (KCA/PIR)**

The model statute for GAC's is established.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / U.S. – June 18–20, 1953 (CWC)**

On **June 18th** the U.S. sends a note of protest to the Soviet Union for the handling of the Berlin uprising. The Soviets respond on **June 20th** justifying use of force with claims that western agents were inciting protest. The U.S. denies these accusations.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – June 18, 1953 (KCA)**

The Yugoslav Foreign Ministry announces that it has granted a Soviet request for 26 naval vessels of the Soviet Danube Flotilla to pass through the Yugoslav reaches of the Danube en route for Ismail, the Soviet river port in the Danube estuary.

**Romania / Israel – June 18, 1953 (OSA)**

The emigration of Romanians of Jewish descent was reported. The “Transylvania”, which for six months had been on a cargo run between Constanta and Durazzo, was being refitted in Constanta harbor for the transport of Jewish emigrants to the State of Israel.

**Romania – June 19, 1953 (PIR)**

Romania celebrates the two-year anniversary of the publication of Stalin's “ingenious” works on linguistic problems.

**Poland / Norway – June 19, 1953 (OSA)**

Norway and Poland signed a trade treaty for a year, Norway is set to import around 250,000 tons of Polish coal.

**Romania / Soviet Union – June 20, 1953 (OSA)**

A first hand account given by a Greek national who had been living in Romania at the time of the arrival of Russian troops in 1944. Among other observations, the source focuses particularly on the robbery and pillaging. He states the military's motivations for such actions were the products available in Romania that had long-since stopped being commonplace in Russia.

**Romania – June 20, 1953 (PIR)**

Meeting between Gheorghiu-Dej and the Stakhanovist miners takes place.

**East Germany – June 20, 1953 (OSA)**

The Eastern Zone border was temporarily blocked following the declaration of State of Emergency. Magdeburg, Dresden, Jena, Halle, and possibly Leipzig, were put under martial law.

**Hungary / Romania – June 21, 1953 (PIR)**

An accord for economic cooperation between Romania and Hungary is signed.

**Yugoslavia – June 21, 1953 (KCA)**

The Yugoslav Federal Executive Council decides to set up a council for National Defense and to form three new Commissions to deal with religious matters, economic problems, and cooperation with the World Health Organization.

**Bulgaria / Greece – June 22, 1953 (KCA)**

The Bulgarian Foreign Minister notifies the Secretary-General of the U.N. that his Government has accepted a Greek proposal for a mixed border commission to settle all outstanding frontier disputes between Greece and Bulgaria. He requests the commission to exclude U.N. representatives and meet as soon as possible.

**Soviet Union – June 22, 1953 (KCA)**

The Soviet Foreign Office informs all foreign embassies in Moscow that travel restrictions on foreigners in the greater part of the USSR have been removed, thereby opening to travel almost all of European Russia and large areas of the Asian region of the Soviet Union, though travel within the Moscow area remains confined to a 25-mile radius of the capital.

**Poland / U.K. – June 23, 1953 (KCA)**

It is announced in London that Captain Cwiklinski of the Polish liner *Batory* and the ship's medical officer failed to leave with the liner on **June 20** and have sought asylum in Britain.

**Yugoslavia / Greece / Turkey – June 24, 1953 (KCA)**

The three countries issue a tripartite agreement reiterating their determination to promote cooperation amongst themselves to the greatest possible extent.

**Bulgaria / Greece – June 25, 1953 (KCA)**

The Greek Government informs the U.N. that it agrees with Bulgaria's request.

**Poland / UK – June 25, 1953 (KCA)**

Captain Cwiklinski and the medical officer are granted asylum.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – June 25, 1953 (PIR)**

Protest note of the R.P.R., against the provocations near the border between the two countries is remitted to the Embassy of Yugoslavia,

**Romania / U.N. – June 26, 1953 (PIR)**

The Romanian Government asks the Security Council to adopt the resolution project proposed by the Soviet Union for the acceptance of Romania and the other states of the Eastern bloc as members of the U.N.

**Soviet Union – June 26, 1953 (KRI)**

Lavrenty Beria is arrested at a meeting of the Presidium after other members of the body conspire with the military to remove him from power. The other members fear that with the control of the secret police, Beria could become the next Stalin. Nikita Khrushchev organizes the arrest, bringing him to the forefront of the Presidium.

**Yugoslavia / Greece / Turkey – June, 26 1953 (OSA)**

The first "working level" military staff talks of the Balkan tripartite Pact powers end in Athens on the 12th of June. Participants complete agreement on the important problems of common defence.

**Hungary – June 27–28, 1953 (HC)**

A session of the CC of the Hungarian Workers' Party takes place. The problems with the party leadership are discussed regarding politics, economics and everyday life. The declaration states that the collective leadership is missing, and that the personal cult and the undemocratic system within the party organization are harmful. The new economic policy will discourage rapid industrialization, reallocate resources for investment, reform the state collection system, strengthen the existing cooperative farms instead of establishing new ones, and raise the living standard of workers. The Organizing Committee and the General Secretary status will be abolished. Members of the new Secretariat: Mátyás Rákosi, Lajos Ács and Béla Vég.

**Yugoslavia / Turkey / Greece – June 27-28, 1953 (OSA)**

Athletes of the Balkan Tripartite Pact powers had a friendly competition in the field and track tournament at Athens Stadium. The Yugoslav press considered this tournament as the continuation of Balkan Olympic Games that was discontinued following the resolution of the Cominform against Yugoslavia. Over 35.000 spectators attended the tournament.

**Romania – June 28, 1953 (OSA)**

The Communist Romanian newspaper Scanteia released an article on one of the engineers at the Clement Gottwald factory. The factory was known to not be meeting production quotas.

**Soviet Union – June 30, 1953 (KCA)**

It is announced that Malik and Zarubin, the ambassadors to the U.K. and U.S., have been recalled to Moscow for consultations.

**Soviet Union – Summer 1953 (KRI)**

Uprisings take place in Soviet prison camps.

**July****Romania – July 1953 (PIR)**

The Council of Ministers halts the work on the Danube-Black Sea Canal. An estimated 10 thousand political detainees had worked on the project.

**Romania – July, 1953 (OSA)**

The purchasing power of Romanian factory workers decreases and unemployment increases. This causes a widespread increase in theft among factory workers. Often, these threats are organised carefully before being carried out. Reportedly, all those caught are referred to as “Allies of Uncle Sam.”

**East Germany – July, 1953 (HWD)**

Wilhelm Zaisser and Rudolf Herrnstadt, opponents of Walter Ulbricht lose their position in the SED and they are removed from the party in January 1954.

**East Germany – July, 1953 (OSA)**

Despite opposition from Walter Ulbricht, the East German Government has been negotiating a blanket amnesty for persons arrested in connection with the June 17<sup>th</sup> Uprising. This is said to have been ordered by Vladimir Semionov (Soviet High Commissioner). It is believed that the amnesty did not go forward, as by late October over 300 sentences had been passed to

individuals who had participated in the uprising; this does not include those passed by regular courts such as Soviet Military Tribunals.

**Hungary – July 1, 1953 (HC)**

The prices of certain clothing items are decreased by 10-30%.

**Romania – July 1, 1953 (OSA)**

Romanian defence forces in Bucharest have been training to combat possible attacks from guerilla forces. This includes bi-weekly meetings in the Ministry of Defence, training of military personnel, and the installation of cannons on the roofs of large buildings. Special importance is given to defence from aerial attack.

**Yugoslavia / Burma – July 1, 1953 (OEH)**

Yugoslavia signs a trade agreement with Burma.

**Yugoslavia / The Netherlands – July 1, 1953 (OSA)**

Yugoslavia has a valid commercial agreement with the Netherlands.

**Hungary – July 2, 1953 (HC)**

The Government led by prime minister Mátyás Rákos resigns.

**Hungary – July 2, 1953 (HC)**

József Domonkos, Public State Prosecutor, is dismissed by the Presidential Council upon his own request.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – July 2, 1953 (PVC)**

*Borba* officially states that a mixed Romanian-Yugoslav commission will be set up to work out measures for the prevention of border incidents. The meetings are scheduled to start at Timisoara.

**Romania / France – July 3, 1953 (PIR)**

The Romanian Communist Party sends a congratulatory telegram to the French Communist Party upon the liberation of Jacques Duclos.

**Hungary – July 4, 1953 (HC)**

Session of the new Parliament, (elected on **May 7**) takes place. The Chairman of the Presidential Council will remain István Dobi, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers will be Imre Nagy. Law 1953:IV. is accepted stating the number of ministries will be reduced.

**Hungary – July 4, 1953 (HC)**

The Imre Nagy administration is formed. Deputy heads of the Council of Ministers: Ernő Gerő and András Hegedüs. Ministers: József Tisza (State Collections), József Bognár (External and Internal Trade), Ernő Gerő (Interior), Sándor Zsoldos (Health), Iván Altomáre (Food Industry), Lajos Szijártó (Constructions), András Hegedüs (Agriculture), István Bata (Defense), Ferenc Erdei (Justice), Mihály Zsofinyecz (Metallurgy and Machine Industry), Árpád Kiss (Light Industry), Lajos Bebrits (Transportation and Post), János Boldoczki (Foreign Affairs), István Hidas (Heavy Industry), József Darvas (Culture), Tibor Erdey-Grúz (Education), Károly Olt (Finance). Member of the Council of Ministers also: Béla Szalai, the head of the State Planning Office.

**Romania – July 4, 1953 (PIR)**

Decision of the Council of Ministers of R.P.R. and the Central Committee of PMR is reached regarding the increase in coal production and the improvement of living conditions of the workers in the mining industry.

**Romania / France – July 6, 1953 (OSA)**

The Romanian Charles I University in Paris was founded in 1950 as a centre for Romanian culture-in-exile. The University is led by three Romanian professors living in France: MM. P. Sergescu, C. Marinescu, and V. Veniamin. The four departments of the University are as follows: the legal-economic-social department, the medical department, the science department, and the department of history.

**Albania / Yugoslavia / Greece / Turkey – July 7-11, 1953 (KCA)**

The first of the regular meetings between the Foreign Ministers of Greece, Turkey and Yugoslavia takes place, as mandated by the tripartite agreement they had signed. They agree that the independence of Albania “constitutes an important element of peace and stability in the Balkans”.

**Poland / French – July 7, 1953 (OSA)**

The commercial relations between the Polish and the French market were managed by three banks in Paris which took charge of the majority of the trade relations between the two states. The principal role was held by the BKO, a Polish Bank, alongside the Commercial Bank for Nord Europe and the French - Polish Bank. The exports to France concerned different products among which the most important was coal. However, with the introduction of the common market and the C.E.C.A., these commercial transactions became more infrequent.

**Poland / France – July 7, 1953 (OSA)**

The Polish communist consulates in different France cities received monthly budgets directly managed by the Polish PKO bank in Paris. Payment upon receipt of the visa by the embassy.

**Romania – July 9, 1953 (OSA)**

The source describes the escape of a Romanian from R.P.R. to Yugoslavia after two years of preparations, and the subsequent escape from Yugoslavia to the West. The witness remarks on the similarity between the communist regime from the R.P.R. and Yugoslavia, while providing a detailed account of his escape journey from Yugoslavia to the West.

**Romania – July 9, 1953 (OSA)**

The source is a record of the personal information of Balanceanu Ioan, a professor of Marxism-Leninism at the Medical School in Bucharest. He is well paid and drives a large American car. Also, he is regarded as a dangerous and fanatical Communist, apparently well qualified to teach the Communist doctrine to students.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – July 7, 1953 (PVC)**

At an interview with a UP correspondent, Marshal Tito states that the establishment of normal relations with the Soviet Union does not signify ideological compatibility. He denies rumors that participation of opposition parties are to be permitted at the next general elections.

**Finland – July 9, 1953 (HJH)**

Urho Kekkonen's Government falls, because the Agrarians and Social Democrats differ on economic issues.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 10, 1953 (PLC/LBC)**

Beria, the Soviet Interior Minister is excluded from the party and is arrested. According to the official declaration on **December 25**, Beria and his six associates are sentenced to death in a trial and executed immediately. After the fall of Beria and the uprisings in East Germany the question of a unified Germany is no longer discussed. Chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee Alexander Wiley: “this may be one of our greatest opportunities” to “exploit boiling tensions inside the Iron Curtain” and expose “the true hideous nature of the Soviet slaughterhouse”.

**Romania – July 11, 1953 (OSA)**

The Catholic church is still the number one enemy of the communist regime, and Catholic priests are arrested.

**Yugoslavia – July, 11 1953 (OSA)**

Report regarding cominform propaganda in Yugoslavia. Tito’s international success has been received in the country with enthusiasm, but critics say that he is being bankrolled by Western capitalists and sacrificing the Yugoslav people as “cannon fodder” to them. It is noted by those reporting that there was no evidence to support these claims.

**Yugoslavia / Greece / Turkey – July, 11 1953 (OSA)**

On the 27th and 28th of June Athletes of the Balkan Tripartite Pact powers attend a track and field tournament held in Athens Stadium. Several national and stadium records were broken. Report also indicates Yugoslav scores in different events.

**Hungary – July 12, 1953 (HC)**

Decree no. 1953:10 by the Presidential Council regulates the state collection system. The state collection requirements are reduced by 10%; fines given to those farmers who cannot produce the required amount are abolished.

**Poland – July 12, 1953 (OSA)**

After being suspended for 4 months the Catholic newspaper *Tygodnik Powszechny* is re-established under a new editorial team.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – July 13, 1953 (PVC)**

Hungary sends a note to Yugoslavia expressing willingness to create a joint Hungarian-Yugoslav commission to work out measures for the prevention of future frontier incidents.

**Romania – July 14, 1953 (OSA)**

The source describes the Baraganul spinning mill, giving details regarding the work program, salaries, the organization of the factory, the quantity and quality of the products and the morale of workers.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – July 14, 1953 (KCA)**

It is announced in Belgrade that the Soviet Government has agreed to the appointment of Dobrivoje Vidić as Yugoslav Ambassador in Moscow.

**Poland / France – July 15, 1953 (OSA)**

The activities of the Polish bank P.K.O. in Paris to help the Polish in France are described. The activities of the three bank offices distributed in France allow (through better economic conditions) to send to Poland products that otherwise will be expensive.

**Poland / Soviet Union / Italy – July 15, 1953 (OSA)**

The disorientation and concern by the Italian Communist leaders in discovering the arrest of Beria, news also reported by the national newspaper "Il paese" is recorded. Details of Beria's life prior to his arrest and regarding his political beliefs are provided, and the document also reports rumours about the possible reconstruction of the Comintern led by Togliatti, who enjoyed the trust of Moscow.

**Romania / France – July 15, 1953 (OSA)**

First profile published in Paris on Veterinary Doctor and Professor Filip. He served as a professor of anatomy at the University of Bucharest at the leisure of the Communist Party due to his loyalty since joining in 1944. He is marked as dangerous and ill-qualified.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – July 15, 1953 (CWC)**

The Western Powers send an invitation to the Soviet Union for a big four meeting to draft the peace treaties for Germany and Austria.

**Soviet Union / France – July 15, 1953 (KCA)**

Paris and Moscow sign a three-year Franco-Soviet trade agreement providing for the exchange of twelve billion francs in each direction. This is the first trade agreement signed between the two countries since 1934.

**Soviet Union / U.N – July 15, 1953 (KCA)**

During a meeting of the U.N. Economic and Social Council in Geneva, the Soviet delegate announces that the Soviet Union is willing to take part in the U.N. Technical Assistance Program and will contribute four million rubles to the fund

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – July 15, 1953 (OSA)**

The Hungarian government gave a suggestion to the Yugoslav government about a mixed commission in order to investigate the border incidents between the two countries as reported by Szabad Ifjúság.

**Romania / France – July 16, 1953 (OSA)**

French exports to Romania in the 1st Quarter of 1953 are reported as consisting largely of steel, industrial equipment, and electronics. In total over 165 thousand kilograms of goods were exported at a cost to Romania of over 900 million Francs.

**Romania / France – July 16, 1953 (OSA)**

Paris published the first of many reports detailing the workings of the Romanian armed forces. Between the years 1944 and 1948, the Soviets took to demolishing the Romanian army and replacing it with an inexperienced, yet loyal, Soviet army. Special Soviet attention was paid to Romania due to its position on the Danube.

**Soviet Union / Australia – July 16, 1953 (KCA)**

It is announced that Nikolai Generalov has been appointed as Soviet Ambassador to Australia.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria / Albania – July, 16 1953 (OSA)**

11 refugees from Bulgaria, 8 refugees from Yugoslavia and 8 from Albania arrive in Greece during the month of June in 1953.

**Poland / U.N. – July 17, 1953 (KCA)**

The Polish Government likewise announces its willingness to participate in the U.N. Technical Assistance Program, and states that it will contribute 300,000 zlotys.

**Romania / France – July 17, 1953 (OSA)**

The Council of the Free Youth of Central and Eastern Europe met and voted to define their objectives for the following year. These objectives were as follows: promote cooperation between exiled communities, maintain national identities, and keep the youth educated on the events of their countries. The organisation is known to have a large base in France and the United Kingdom and a small following in Germany.

**Soviet Union / Turkey – July 18, 1953 (KCA)**

The Turkish Government sends a reply of satisfaction to the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union — July 18, 1953**

The preparation process for the opening of the Indonesian Embassy in Moscow. A small group of members of the diplomatic delegation has been selected and the funds necessary for the facilities of the Embassy have been allocated. The imminent opening of the Embassy in Moscow caused strong disagreements and turbulences in Djakarta, among the governing parties.

**Hungary – July 19-22, 1953 (KCA)**

Following the formation of the new Hungarian Cabinet led by Imre Nagy, 24 ministers, including a number of members of the Rákosi Cabinet who had lost their portfolios in the Government reorganization, are appointed.

**Soviet Union / Israel – July 20, 1953 (KCA)**

Moscow radio announces that the Soviet Union and Israel have resumed normal diplomatic relations.

**Romania – July 21, 1953 (PIR)**

The project of the RPR Constitution is published.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – July 21, 1953 (KCA)**

Valikov, the new Soviet Ambassador to Yugoslavia, arrives in Belgrade.

**Soviet Union / Greece – July 21, 1953 (KCA)**

It is officially announced in Athens that the Greek Government has accepted a suggestion by the Soviet Government for the two countries to exchange Ambassadors. Mikhail Sergeyev is appointed Soviet Ambassador to Greece.

**Soviet Union / Greece – July 21, 1953 (OSA)**

The Greek Foreign Minister Stephan Stephanopoulos announced that the USSR had submitted the name of their prospective ambassador, and that King Paul had given his approval. This was following an agreement between the Greek and Soviet governments to exchange ambassadors and for a 10,000,000 USD Greek-Soviet barter agreement.



**Poland / Sweden – July 21, 1953 (OSA)**

Wincent Siakowski, a Polish journalist known for editing newspapers in Upper Silesia died in Stockholm. He was an active member of the Polish Journalist Guild of London and played a part in administering the Council of Polish Refugees in Sweden.

**Hungary – July 23, 1953 (HC)**

Governmental decree 73/1953 announces that the Interior Ministry is no longer solely responsible for the administration of local councils.

**Albania – July 24, 1953 (KCA)**

Tirana officially announces that the Albanian Communist Party and the Presidium of the National Assembly have decided to carry out a reorganization of the administration. These changes include the abolition of the Presidium of the Council of Minister, the merger of some ministries that reduces their number from 19 to 10, along with some changes in Hoxha's Cabinet.

**Hungary – July 25, 1953 (HC)**

Decree no. 1953:11 by the Hungarian Presidential Council states that amnesty will be given to those sentenced to fewer than two years for political reasons. Those who were accused of war crimes, anti-government or anti-democratic activity are not given amnesty.

**Poland / Sweden – July 25, 1953 (OSA)**

Poland has agreed to pay Sweden 1,000,000 pound sterling to help settle its debt with the country. The payment was made to help enable Poland to take delivery on a portion of nearly 60,000,000 Swedish Crowns worth of capital goods which were ordered from Sweden under a treaty from 18 March 1947. To date Poland had only paid half the sum and had been unable to raise funds for the full amount especially as Polish exports of coal to Sweden declined.

**Romania – July 25, 1953 (OSA)**

Romanian armed service reforms were created in line with the Soviet organisation. Every four years, contracts to remain in the armed forces must be renewed by all members. When deemed no longer fit, members were retired. This resulted in a largely young armed service.

**Romania – July 26–30, 1953 (PIR)**

The Third World Youth Congress takes place in Bucharest.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – July 26, 1953 (PVC)**

Yugoslavia opens discussions with Romania on the establishment of a Mixed Frontier Commission.

**Romania / Soviet Union – July 27, 1953 (KCA)**

Leonid Melnikov is appointed Soviet Ambassador to Romania.

**Yugoslavia / Lebanon – July 28, 1952 (PVC)**

Yugoslavia signs a trade agreement with Lebanon.

**Soviet Union – July 29, 1953 (KCA)**

Moscow announces that Alexei Kleshev, Prime Minister of the Byelorussian Soviet Republic since 1948, has been relieved of his duties and succeeded by Kyril Mazurov. It is also announced that both the Minister of Justice of the Moldavian Soviet Republic, Bondarenko,

and the President of the Supreme Court of Moldavia have been relieved of their positions, no reason being given for any of the changes.

**Poland / Sweden / Hungary / Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union –July 29 – August 7, 1953 (OSA)**

The International Chemist Congress took place in Stockholm with delegates invited from Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia as well as the Soviet Union.

**Hungary – July 30, 1953 (HC)**

Decree no. 1953:13 by the Hungarian Presidential Council states that a new prosecutor organization will be established. The public prosecutor, chosen by the Parliament and only responsible to the Parliament, will make sure that legitimacy is kept. The prosecutors are independent of the local state administrative bodies.

**Poland – July 30, 1953 (OSA)**

One of the former Polish Socialist Party's most prominent leaders, Jozef Dziegielewski, is reported by Radio Free Europe to have died some time ago. His death was not announced by either the Polish press or radio, but it is now known he died in 1952. Dziegielewski had been imprisoned by the Communists for refusing to collaborate in a trial after the Second World War but had been released from prison in 1951.

**Albania / Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Romania / Yugoslavia – July, 31 1953 (OSA)**

The report includes the list of ships flying the Italian Flag which are being used for traffic with Communist Countries.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany / U.S. – July 31, 1953 (LBC)**

Washington rejects Czechoslovakia's protest against Crusade for Freedom sending balloons from West Germany to Czechoslovakia. According to the US note it is "inevitable" that the outside world tries to break through "thewallsealingoffthe(Czech) people".

**Romania – July 31, 1953 (OSA)**

Political education within the Romanian armed forces was deemed of special importance. It usually took place first thing in the morning and could occur at any time throughout the day, at the officers' leisure. According to a French report, 20 to 25% of training was taken up with political education.

**August**

**Romania – August, 1953 (OSA)**

Celebrated Romanian poet Victor Turbure retired from writing after a disastrous reading of his most recent poem about Stalin's death. Intelligence suggests that he has since joined the military, though this cannot be fully confirmed.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt – August 1953 (RYN)**

The first Egyptian military mission visits Yugoslavia and tours army units and factories.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. / U.S. – August 1953 (HWC)**

The defense of the so called 'Ljubljana Gap' becomes coordinated Yugoslav-Western policy.

**Poland – August, 1953 (OSA)**

The construction of Warsaw's subway has been delayed due to difficulties with the soil excavation around the Wistula river. Around 1200 workers were reported to have been moved to other construction projects from Warsaw.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – mid-August, 1953 (OSA)**

The Soviet Air Force evacuates five German airfields (Werneuchen, Neupetershain, Brand, Insterwalde, and Staaken), leaving the last by August 17. These were among a number of several concessions announced by Moscow to East Germany.

**East Germany – August, 1953 (OSA)**

In order to prevent a recurrence of unrest in the likeness of the June 1953 Uprising, the SED ordered the creation of "Fighting Groups" in all factories and plants of the German Democratic Republic. This new paramilitary organization is an extension of the pre-military training being provided by the "Society for Sports and Technical Schooling". The function of these fighting groups would be to reveal and go against those workers who are potential agitators and demonstrators.

**Poland / Hungary / Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / Switzerland / Romania – August 1, 1953 (OSA)**

In 1953 the 16th Session of the Economic and Social Council on the ONU took place in Geneva. The main topics are the report of the Commission on Human Rights and the alleged violations on the trade unions rights. The first topic has been examined on the basis of the accomplishments achieved during the session of the 7th of April and the 30th of May concerning economic, social and political rights which are often violated by the Communist regimes. The delegations of Poland and USSR supported with no reserve however they refused any international control. The second topic concerns complaints by third countries regarding alleged violations of the rights of the workers in Romania and USSR. The two states did not provide the required observations on the topic and the resolution to request to obtain them has been voted against by the USSR and Poland. Hence, a common solution on the discussed topics was not found.

**Hungary – August 2, 1953 (HC)**

Decree 1038/1953 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that the home farmland of the members of the cooperative farms will be increased.

**Romania – August 2–14, 1953 (PIR)**

The Third World Congress of the Youth and Students takes place in Bucharest.

**Albania / Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Romania / Yugoslavia – August, 3 1953 (OSA)**

Real wage in summer 1953 is based on different National Food Baskets. Data is provided for the content and costs of the National Food Baskets, as well as the unit price of basic goods in the USSR, Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – August 3–22, 1953 (PVC)**

Former British Prime Minister Clement Attlee pays a private visit to Yugoslavia.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – August 4, 1953 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union responds to the **July 15th** note by rejecting the proposed agenda for the meeting of the big four, insisting that the talks also include foreign military bases and armaments. The Soviets also suggest that China be invited to the talks.

**Bulgaria / Greece – August 4, 1953 (OSA)**

An incident occurred at the time when according to rumors there were preparations on behalf of Bulgaria for invading Greece. While there were provocative incidents on the Greek island of Gamma, mobilization was under way in Bulgaria.

**Soviet Union – August 5–8, 1953 (KCA)**

The Supreme Soviet of the USSR meets in Moscow to approve the state budget for 1953 and to confirm decrees issued by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, one of which provides for the trial of Lavrenti Beria.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – August 5, 1953 (PVC)**

Meetings about the establishment of a joint Hungarian-Yugoslav commission to work out measures against frontier provocations open at Sombor in Yugoslavia and at Baja in Hungary.

**Soviet Union – August 8, 1953 (PLC)**

At the session of the Supreme Soviet Malenkov declares that another world war should be avoided, and that peaceful coexistence is necessary, referring to Soviet nuclear weapons.

**Hungary – August 9, 1953 (HC)**

A decree announces that craftsmen are allowed to work independently.

**Poland / France – August 10, 1953 (OSA)**

French writers contribute to the Polish press and are paid monthly by the Polish bank P.K.O. A list of the writers and their salaries is provided.

**Soviet Union / Iran – August 10, 1953 (KCA)**

It is announced in Moscow and Tehran that the USSR and Iran have agreed to set up a commission composed of representatives of the two countries whose aim will be to strengthen friendly relations between the two countries.

**Romania / France – August 11, 1953 (OSA)**

The Paris News Bureau releases a report on Romanian armed services recruitment tactics. According to the report, along with physical examinations, all new recruits were subject to political examinations. Results of these examinations determined their regional placement.

**Romania – August 11, 1953 (OSA)**

The Romanian government released a decision with regards to “improvement of the system of sales of wines and liquors to the state.” In this decision, the government stated that prices paid for the same products are private and state vineyards should be equal.

**Yugoslavia – August 11, 1953 (PVC)**

At an interview with an Associated Press correspondent, Marshal Tito reaffirms the Yugoslav policy of non-alignment.

**Soviet Union – August 12, 1953 (PLC)**

The Soviet Union tests its first hydrogen bomb.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 15, 1953 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union sends a note to the U.S. suggesting that a national German government be established ahead of elections that could then supervise the elections. The U.S. maintains its position that elections have to occur before any German governments could be established.

**Hungary / U.K. – August 17, 1953 (KCA)**

Budapest radio announces that the Hungarian Presidential Council has pardoned Edgar Sanders, the British businessman who served 3.5 years of a 13-year sentence of imprisonment that he received in 1950 after being found guilty of espionage.

**East Germany / West Germany / USA – August 17, 1953 (OSA)**

The NWDR and US air force begin the ‘Kinderluftbruecke’, whereby 1,000 children between the ages of 8 and 16 from the GDR and East Berlin are sent to spend the vacation with West German families. The children arrive in the airports of Frankfurt, Hamburg, and Hannover.

**Hungary – August 18, 1953 (HC)**

Decree 1041/1953 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers states that the journalism degree will be introduced at the Language and Literature Department of the Eötvös Loránd Science University starting with the 1953-1954 academic year.

**Hungary / U.K. – August 18, 1953 (KCA)**

Sanders is released from prison.

**Soviet Union / Greece – August 19, 1953 (OSA)**

The Soviet Red Cross contributes 250,000 Rubles for Earthquake relief in the Ionian islands.

**Romania – August 19-20, 1953 (PIR)**

The extended Plenary of the Central Committee of PMR salutes the removal of Beria from PCUS and decides to convoke the Congress of PMR in **March 1954**. The Resolution adopted by the plenary outlines the insufficiencies in the realization of the industrialization process, accuses syndicates of malfunctioning and the Union of the Working Youth of superficiality, and notes party indiscipline and the break of links to the masses.

**Hungary – August 20, 1953 (HC)**

The National Stadium (Népstadion) in Budapest is opened.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 20, 1953 (LBC)**

Moscow announces a successful hydrogen bomb test.

**Romania – August 20-23, 1953 (PIR)**

The Congress of top-ranking workers from GAC’s (Collective Agricultural Institutions) takes place.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – August 20, 1953 (PVC)**

A Yugoslav military delegation leaves for Washington.

**Bulgaria – August 20, 1953 (OSA)**

Reports of underground resistance movements against Communism emerge. Underground resistance movements exist in Bulgaria. There have been three different underground groups identified between 1948-1952: the "Georgi Benkovski", Hainov Nikola and "Rayna Kniagia" Underground Groups.

**Yugoslavia / Ethiopia – August 21, 1953 (PVC)**

Yugoslavia signs a trade agreement with Ethiopia.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – August 22, 1953 (PLC)**

According to an East German-Soviet agreement the Soviet Union will not require East Germany to pay the rest of its reparations, the ownership of all Soviet factories will be mixed, and the expenses of the Soviet occupational army will be reduced.

**Hungary – August 23, 1953 (HC)**

A decree by the Hungarian Council of Ministers states that the tax paid by peasants will be reduced.

**Romania – August 23, 1953 (PLC)**

Gheorghiu-Dej declares at the session of the Romanian Workers' Party that the historic aim of the party is to "fulfill all national aims of the Romanian people".

**Poland / East Germany / Soviet Union / West Germany – August 24, 1953 (PSN)**

Following the Soviet Union's example Poland cancels German reparations as of **January 1, 1954**. Unlike the Soviet announcement which specifies East Germany, the Polish announcement seems to specify Germany as a whole. Years later it is clarified that the announcement was meant for East Germany only.

**Soviet Union / Canada – August 25, 1953 (KCA)**

Dmitri Chuvachin is appointed Soviet Ambassador to Canada, a vacant position since 1945.

**Romania / France – August 25, 1953 (OSA)**

In the first six months of the year, French imports from Romania increased drastically from those the previous year while Romanian steel imports from France also increased.

**Romania – August 25, 1953 (OSA)**

A song in Romanian language. According to the evaluation comments, the accent of the present Communist-inspired song is on the big social changes which are claimed to have taken place in Romanian villages.

**Poland / France – August 26, 1953 (OSA)**

In Paris, the Polish academy of science office is still linked to the academy in Cracow and to the Polish embassy. The President, Professor Wediewicz, a French non - communist member of the academy, manages to keep his position and the financing from the Polish embassy despite reduced activities. Nonetheless, the Polish Academy of Science in Paris continues to publish a Bulletin in French on its activities.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – August 27, 1953 (LBC)**

The U.S., the U.K. and France relax the travel restrictions imposed on Soviet diplomats.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – August 28, 1953 (KCA)**

Hungary and Yugoslavia sign an agreement for the establishment of a mixed frontier commission to regulate frontier incidents between the two countries.

**Romania – August 28, 1953 (OSA)**

Due to shortages and inefficient distribution, queues described as “never-ending” formed in the port city of Constanta. Queues were formed to obtain most necessary commodities including food; many residents were malnourished as a result.

**Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste – August 29, 1953 (PVC)**

An article in *Yugopress*, which suggests that Yugoslavia's attitude towards Trieste be re-examined, provokes a sensational reaction in Italy.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – August 30, 1953 (OSA)**

The two governments reached an agreement on the measure in order to prevent future border incidents as reported by Szabad Nép.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – August 31, 1953 (KCA)**

Hungary becomes the first of Yugoslavia's Communist neighbors to resume diplomatic relations as Sándor Kurimszki is appointed Minister in Belgrade.

**September****Romania / Sweden – September, 1953 (OSA)**

Fransisc Otroc was appointed new Romanian Envoyé Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Sweden. Before this position, he served as Deputy Minister in the Department of Ethnic Minorities in Romania.

**Romania – September, 1953 (OSA)**

In this month, a prisoner attempted to escape from the Bragadiru forced-labour camp in Romania. He was shot on the spot. The guard who shot him was promptly rewarded for his actions with a promotion to the rank of sergeant, 15 days of vacation and a hefty sum of money.

**Soviet Union – September 1953 (KRI)**

Rehabilitation of the victims of Stalinist terror begins.

**Soviet Union / Turkey – September 1953 (OSA)**

The Turkish Ministry for Economy and Trade releases a statement renewing the previously existing trade deal with the Soviet Union.

**Poland / West Germany – September, 1953 (OSA)**

Wladyslaw Gomulka has been reported to have been released from prison and will no longer be brought to justice by the Government, instead he will appear as a witness in the trial against former Minister of Reclaimed Lands Jozef Dubiel charged with collaboration with the Germans.

**Poland – September, 1953 (OSA)**

It has been announced that in 1954 a Polish ‘filmtown’ will be started near Warsaw, the construction has already begun, and it hopes to become a large film center including a film college. The entire center should be finished by 1955. The Chief Director of the new center is Alexander Ford who is also the President of the Artistic Commission of the Central Film Office.

**East Germany – September, 1953 (OSA)**

After orders from the Socialist Unity Party (SED), punishment for the June 17, 1953 Uprising was meted out to employees across East Germany, deemed to have demonstrated a ‘defeatist’ attitude. This consisted of lowering these workers’ pay category.

**Romania / France – September 2, 1953 (OSA)**

A delegation of young French communists boarded a train to attend a Youths for Communism event in Bucharest. Preparation for this delegation was carried out by the French Communist Party and only known Communists were allowed to attend; there were also signs of heavy propaganda throughout the event.

**Soviet Union – September 3-7, 1953 (KCA)**

While in session, the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party adopts a 40,000-word report presented by Khrushchev in which he strongly criticizes the weakness of Soviet agriculture. It also adopts a 20,000 word resolution making detailed recommendations to solve the agricultural problems.

**Romania – September 5, 1953 (PIR)**

Party superiors decide upon the reduction of taxes for agricultural producers and the annulment of debts and undelivered quotas in the preceding year.

**Hungary – September 6, 1953 (HC)**

Decree 1047/1953 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that prices will be decreased (The prices of 10,000 goods are reduced by 5-40%)

**Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste – September 6, 1953 (PVC)**

Speaking at a Slovenian rally at Okroglica, Marshal Tito proposes that the city of Trieste shall be internationalized and the whole hinterland go to Yugoslavia. He will not, for the present, take military measures to counter those taken by Italy, nor will he annex Zone B or use force in support of his claims to Zone A.

**Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – September 7, 1953 (PVC)**

The Yugoslav news agency reports on another provocation at the Yugoslav-Bulgarian border. One Yugoslav border guard is wounded.

**Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – September 8, 1953 (PVC)**

Radio Belgrade announces that Bulgaria is going to send an ambassador to Yugoslavia. There has been no Bulgarian ambassador in Yugoslavia since 1950.

**Poland / France – September 8, 1953 (OSA)**

The “Botrans” society represented an important Polish - French international company of transport used by the Polish communists in France for both land and sea trades. The nationalised society counted with different offices in the most commercially influential cities around the



world. The “Botrans” society was specialised in “Hartwig” transport and directed by Oppman with only French shareholders collaborators, a choice due to security reasons.

#### **Romania – September 8, 1953 (OSA)**

The Romanian government announced a new reduction on insurance taxes within the country. This tax reduction approached 50%.

#### **Romania – September 8, 1953 (OSA)**

The Central Committee of Physical Culture regards “ping pong” as a word used in bourgeois countries, and thus calls it “table tennis.” The world champion in table tennis of 1950, Angelica Rozeanu who is married to a man known as Iris Rozeanu (formerly known as Iris Ervint) has accumulated over 100,000 lei in 1951 throughout all the competitions she has participated in. Her husband takes the money and tries to exchange it against foreign currencies but he is caught and arrested. Angelica Rozeanu is not arrested because she cannot be replaced in the propaganda materials. According to the source, it is unknown whether Iris Rozeanu has been freed by the authorities.

#### **Romania / France – September 8, 1953 (OSA)**

Two France Press correspondents in Bucharest are arrested and charged with agitation against the regime. After having read the charges against them and their dossier they consider that these charges are so inconsequential that it is not necessary for them to engage a lawyer to defend them. They are in fact charged with having sent abroad news concerning the arrests of certain political figures and newspapermen. During their trial they prove that the information they had sent abroad had already appeared in the Communist press. Although the trial appeared to be going in their favour, the judge sentenced each of them to 10 years in prison.

#### **Bulgaria / Yugoslavia / Greece / Turkey – September 9, 1953 (KCA)**

In a speech in Sofia, Bulgarian Prime Minister Chervenkov expresses his Government’s desire to settle all outstanding problems between its neighbors Greece, Turkey and Yugoslavia.

#### **Poland / U.N. – September 9, 1953 (KCA)**

A Polish interpreter with the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Korea breaks away from the group and appeals to the U.N. Command for political asylum.

#### **Yugoslavia – September 9, 1953 (PVC)**

The new electoral law is passed by the National Assembly. It is approved by the President on **September 20**.

#### **Soviet Union / North Korea – September 10-20, 1953 (KCA)**

After receiving an invitation from the Soviet Union, a North Korean delegation, headed by Prime Minister Kim Il Sung and General Nam Il, visits Moscow for discussions regarding the armistice in Korea and the Soviet offer of economic aid to North Korea

#### **Czechoslovakia – September 11, 1953 (KCA)**

Major reorganizations of the Czechoslovak Government are carried out in accordance with decisions by the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party. The Presidium of the Government is abolished and the 14 ministries are merged into 7.

**Poland / China / U.N. – September 11, 1953 (KCA)**

A Beijing broadcast states that the Communist Command has sent a note to the U.N. Supreme Commander demanding the interpreter's return, protesting against what they called his "kidnapping".

**Romania / Yugoslavia – September 11, 1953 (PIR)**

Following negotiations, which started **July 11**, Romania and Yugoslavia conclude a treaty regulating frontier incidents.

**Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – September 11, 1953 (KCA)**

Bulgaria also restores full diplomatic relations with Yugoslavia, appointing Ljuban Angelov as Ambassador to Belgrade.

**Poland / France – September 12, 1953 (OSA)**

After the dissolution of the Polish communist mass movements in France in 1949, the efforts of the Polish embassy in France has been concentrated towards the creation of new Polish organisations. The "France - Polish friendship" and the C.G.T have been created, representing the active organisation of Poles exiled in France. However, the effort of the embassy most recently aims at the creation of a single and bigger form of Polish community.

**Romania – September 12, 1953 (OSA)**

The source contains a few biographical notes on a very minor Communist personality, Balaban Cezar, who is a student at the Veterinary College of Bucharest. He is the secretary of the youth organization and as such has considerable influence among the students. He is a dangerous and fanatical Communist, about 32 years old and a graduate of the college. His general description characterises him as ambitious, vengeful and disliked by the students.

**Bulgaria / Greece – September 13, 1953 (KCA)**

A Sofia broadcast announces that the Bulgarian Government has sent a message to the U.N. Secretary General to be transmitted to Athens proposing the resumption of diplomatic relations.

**Poland – September 13, 1953 (KCA)**

A broadcast from Warsaw announces that the Roman Catholic Bishop of Kielce, Czeslaw Kaczmarek, along with three priests and a nun will be tried by a military tribunal on charges of "espionage, anti-State propaganda, and diversionary activities."

**Soviet Union – September 13, 1953 (KRI)**

Nikita Khrushchev is appointed First Secretary of the CPSU.

**Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste – September 13, 1953 (PVC)**

At Split, Marshal Tito repeats his will for the internationalization of Trieste and adds that he would regard an Italian move against Zone A as an act of aggression.

**Poland – September 14–20, 1953 (KCA)**

The trial of the five accused takes place. All defendants are said to have pleaded guilty. Kaczmarek is sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment and the forfeiture of civic rights for 5 years. One of the nuns is released, and the other defendants receive sentences of imprisonment ranging from five to ten years along with the forfeiture of civic rights for a period of time.

**Poland / France – September 14, 1953 (OSA)**

A disagreement within the Polish Communist Embassy in Paris over the power struggle is undermining the internal stability of the embassy. The power struggle between the chargé d'affaires Ogrodzinski and the cultural attaché Fryda has not reached a resolution.

**Czechoslovakia – September 15, 1953 (KCA)**

The National Assembly unanimously ratifies the changes brought on by the reorganization of the Czechoslovak Government. Fierlinger is elected as President of the National Assembly. Bacilek becomes Secretary-General of the Slovak Communist Party.

**Romania – September 15, 1953 (PIR)**

The Congress of the Battle for Peace Committees in RPR takes place in Bucharest.

**Romania – September 15, 1953 (OSA)**

In June 1950, the tailor Marin Radulescu was arrested by the Romanian Security Police as he was leaving his shop in Buzesti Street in Bucharest. He was held in the Jilava prison near Bucharest for about 16 months. Toward the end of 1951 he was informed by the authorities that there were no charges against him and that he was free. About a month prior to his release the food given him was greatly increased so that he was in a fairly good physical condition when he left the prison. He was threatened to not speak about anything that happened.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – September 15-20, 1953 (PVC)**

Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery pays a private visit to Yugoslavia.

**Yugoslavia – September 16, 1953 (ACY)**

A revised Code of Criminal Procedures is issued.

**Romania – September 17-29, 1953 (OSA)**

As a result of the Youths for Communism event, the Romanian government reallocated funds and supplies to prove a lack of shortages to foreign delegations. This resulted in steeper shortages than were previously expected throughout the winter in other parts of Romania. According to a source, banks were unable to pay back peoples due money.

**Poland / France – September 17, 1953 (OSA)**

In June 1953 a confidential meeting in Paris at the Maison Polonaise saw the participation of several directors and moniteurs - chefs engaged in summer camps for Polish boys from 8 to 15 in France. The meeting gave precise instructions to the staff about the behaviour to follow and the lessons to be transmitted to the children prioritising love for the homeland, and economic and cultural knowledge. Attention is paid to the absence of Polish teachers who boycotted the political aspects of the meeting.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 18, 1953 (LBC)**

In a speech, Secretary of State Dulles urges the USSR to agree on the independence of the present Soviet satellites.

**Hungary – September 19, 1953 (HC)**

Decree 1053/1953 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that federal aid will be provided in order to strengthen the cooperative farm system and raise the living standard of farmers.

**Soviet Union / Turkey — September 19, 1953 (OSA)**

The existent trade agreements between Turkey and the Soviet Union are to be extended, following the efforts to promote the trade relations between the Eastern and the Western Bloc. The process follows a series of governmental regulations, maintaining an equilibrium of exports and imports by the respective parties. Turkey is utilizing the Russian market for the surplus of Tobacco and cotton.

**Soviet Union / North Korea – September 19, 1953 (KCA)**

A statement issued details an agreement on Soviet assistance to North Korea. It is agreed that one billion rubles will be allocated for North Korean rehabilitation.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 20, 1953 (CWC)**

*Pravda* responds to Secretary of State Dulles' **September 17th** speech to the U.N. which attacks the Soviet Union for not doing enough to ensure world peace. He is accused of applying a policy of strength to the socialist states despite their growing strength after the Second World War.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – September 21–24, 1953 (PVC)**

Autumn maneuvers of the Yugoslav Army are attended by British Field Marshal Sir John Harding.

**East Germany / West Germany / Poland – September 22, 1953 (OSA)**

Telegraf, the West Berlin newspaper, addresses that workers will surely protest against the decision to increase the work norms. It also points out that the abolition of food rationing will cause harm to the East Germany population. It creates a comparison to the situation in Poland where the same policy has already been tried. By learning from the Polish experience, it suggests that SED has reasons to drop the policy.

**Romania / France – September 22, 1953 (OSA)**

According to a young Communist delegate to the Youths for Communism event in Bucharest, the French Communists were stricken by the sad state of Bucharest.

According to the source, around 8 out of every 10 Romanians were against the Communist regime.

**Romania – September 23, 1953 (OSA)**

The source gives biographical data regarding a minor Communist personality, Barnea Mircea, who is a member of the faculty of Veterinary College of Bucharest. He is a member of the Communist Party and regarded as a very dangerous Communist.

**Czechoslovakia – September 24, 1953 (KCA)**

A reorganization of the Slovak Board of Commissioners is announced.

**Hungary – September 25, 1953 (HC)**

Decree 4/1953 by the Minister of Agriculture regulates the methods of leaving or dissolving a cooperative farm.

**Poland – September 25, 1953 (PSN)**

Cardinal Stephan Wyszyński, the primate of Poland, is arrested. His location is kept secret from the public.

**Soviet Union / Finland – September 25, 1953 (OSA)**

A former prisoner from Finland describes the harsh and inhumane conditions in the labor camps of Siberia, from 1946 to 1949. Life in the camps is defined by freezing temperatures, labor exhaustion, extreme hunger, brutal housing and sleeping arrangements, and the constant conveyance of the workers to various camps. Prisoners are classified according to the state of their health and their ability to work, while women live in comparatively better conditions. The labor tasks include agricultural work in harsh terrain conditions and the construction of the railway.

**Poland – September 26, 1953 (PSN)**

*Trybuna Ludu* publishes an article alleging that various Church members including Wyszynski had conspired with West German organizations to overthrow the state. The article is meant to precede the announcement of Wyszynski's arrest.

**Poland / France – September 26, 1953 (OSA)**

This report lists different Colleges and Universities in which the Polish language and culture was being taught in France dated back to 1953. Alongside Polish culture, Polish civilisation and traditions are taught. Information on Polish people working in the universities are provided.

**Romania / France – September 26, 1953 (OSA)**

A meeting of the “Association-France-Roumanie” was held in Paris. In attendance was François de Geoppre, Minister of the Romanian R.P. in Paris. The meeting was largely used to reaffirm connections between the French Communist Party and the Romanian republic. The meeting was attended by upwards of 1,500 people.

**Yugoslavia – September 26, 1953 (PVC)**

The National Assembly passes a law forbidding the naming of streets and enterprises after living persons.

**Poland – September 28, 1953 (KCA)**

The Polish Government announces that Cardinal Stefan Wyszynski, the Primate of Poland, has been suspended from his ecclesiastical functions and has been given permission to retire to a monastery. The Government claims he “abused his authority” by breaking the principles of the Church-State agreement of 1950.

**Poland / France – September 28, 1953 (OSA)**

It is reported that in the June and August monthly publications, “Le sous - sol Lorraine” eloquently attacked the naturalised Poles through two of its articles. The article from June was entitled “Workers' forces - peace and federalist freedom in Poland: fascist and anti - communist organizations in the service of patronage, reaction and Americans.” The August article contains threats against Polish anti - communist militants, entitled “Hatred of Polish Fascists!”

**Soviet Union / China / France / U.K. / U.S. – September 28, 1953 (LBC)**

The Soviet Government calls on the U.S., the U.K. and France for a foreign ministers’ conference with the Soviet Union and China to relieve international tensions and solve the Austrian and German problems. Churchill approves that a meeting between the four powers is desirable. According to the U.S. State Department the Soviet proposal is “evasive” and “dilatatory”.

**Soviet Union – September 28, 1953 (KCA)**

It is announced in Moscow that Semeonov, the new Soviet High Commissioner in Eastern Germany, will assume the rank of Ambassador.

**Yugoslavia – September 28, 1953 (PVC)**

Yugoslavia rejects the Italian suggestion for a plebiscite in Trieste.

**Yugoslavia / Romania – September 28, 1953 (OSA)**

Radio Belgrade broadcasted that Mihai Diaconu, a Romanian pilot, who fled to Yugoslavia with a jet plane in the end of July 1953, requested political asylum.

**Romania – September 29, 1953 (PIR)**

The new RPR Constitution is promulgated.

**Poland / Italy – September 29, 1953 (OSA)**

The Vatican Radio has reported that Cardinal Wyszynski has been deposed from his function as the Primate of Poland by the Polish government. The broadcast condemns the government's actions of arbitrary arrest against the Catholic Church. Wyszynski was imprisoned on 25 September 1953.

**Hungary – September 30, 1953 (HC)**

The Hungarian Council of Ministers calls for the 4th peace loan program. The program ends on **October 7** with 1 billion forints.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – September 30, 1953 (LBC)**

According to the Foreign Office the **September 28** Soviet note contained few new elements. The British, French and American foreign ministers consult on the next step. Eisenhower declares that the Soviet hydrogen bomb makes it even more important to investigate whether the Soviet bloc is interested in a negotiated settlement.

**October****Romania – October, 1953 (KCA)**

During October, the Romanian News Agency gives a description of plans to transform barren Dobruja steppe country by planting forest shelter belts.

**Finland / France – October, 1953 (FKH)**

Direct flight connections start between Helsinki and Paris.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – October, 1953 (HWD)**

The government decreases the prices of almost all products by 10-15% in the network of Trade Organization (Handelsorganisation). Prime Minister Otto Grotewohl declares that the measurements are due to the support of the Soviet Union. All these “lead to the improvement of the living circumstances of the East German citizens”. In spite of this, emigration grows.

**Soviet Union / Finland – October, 1953 (OSA)**

Accompanied by journalists, a Finnish football team made a trip to Moscow and to Leningrad. Following the trip, one of the journalists wrote an article about the journey in the Finnish newspaper *Nya Pressen*.

**Poland / Vatican – October 1, 1953 (KCA)**

The Vatican announces the excommunication of all those connected with the suspension of Cardinal Wyszynski from his ecclesiastical duties.

**Yugoslavia (Serbia) / Bulgaria – October, 1 1953 (OSA)**

Explanation of The Serbian Orthodox Church and its bodies. The Serbian Patriarchate unites some five and a half million Orthodox members and 25 bishoprics. According to the Church statute of 1947, the supreme body of the Church is the Bishopric Council. The Grand Church Court is the juridical body. The Patriarchal Council is in charge of the social affairs of the Church.

**Poland / France – October 2, 1953 (OSA)**

The report gives information on the appointment of the Polish Communist Embassy official, Klos, as the new director of Bureau d'Informations Polonaises in Paris.

**Romania / France – October 2, 1953 (OSA)**

High-ranking members of the French Communist party met in Paris to discuss the recent Youths for Communism event in Bucharest. Their report sees it as a major success filled with Communist speeches, anti-American propaganda magazines, and joyful crowds.

**Poland / France – October 3, 1953 (OSA)**

It is reported that on the 21st and the 23rd of September 1953, the Paris courthouse sentenced three naturalised Poles in France who had refused to do compulsory military service as "conscientious objectors." It is also reported that the percentage of Polish objectors is extremely high in French prisons, however the penalty for the three men was not serious thanks to their previously clean criminal records. It is specified that many of the convicts joined religious sects, particularly the "Witnesses of Jehovah." In addition, naturalised men such as Matchulla, if convicted, lost French citizenship.

**Romania – October 3, 1953, (OSA)**

There is information about living conditions in the port of Constanta, the Soviet control over the export of Romanian oil; about enforced security measures against foreigners; offenses against the Church; and anti-Western propaganda. Comparison between the former German and now Russian controls.

**Soviet Union / Romania / Bulgaria / Albania – October 3, 1953 (OSA)**

Russian exports of Romanian oil from the port city of Constanta are deemed important, as were mineral oil exports from Durazzo. According to a Greek source, Soviet authorities would punish residents who interacted with foreign sailors. In Albanian and Bulgarian ports, the Greek sailors were not allowed ashore.

**Yugoslavia – October 4, 1953 (PVC)**

Election speech is given by Marshal Tito in which he calls for increased agricultural production and promises grants for independent peasants.

**Hungary / Greece – October 5, 1953 (KCA)**

Athens announces that the Hungarian Red Cross has informed the Greek Red Cross that 600 Greek children, who were abducted by Communist guerillas during the Greek Civil War and had since been living in Hungary, will be returned.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 5, 1953 (PVC)**

Former Yugoslav Foreign Minister Edvard Kardelj reviews Yugoslavia's relations with other countries. He does not believe that the latest Soviet steps will significantly alter the current Soviet-Yugoslav relations while the Balkan Alliance and Washington discussions strengthen Yugoslavia's independence.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – October 6, 1953 (LBC)**

According to Dulles the U.S., the U.K., West Germany and France are studying the possibility of a non-aggression treaty with the USSR. It is widely understood that the Soviet Union must receive guarantees against a German attack.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – October 7, 1953 (LBC)**

British Foreign Minister Eden declares that Britain wants to hold East-West talks.

**East Germany – October 7, 1953 (OSA)**

The fourth birthday of the foundation of the German Democratic Republic prompts large celebrations in Berlin.

**Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste / U.S. – October 8, 1953 (KCA)**

The U.S. announces the termination of Allied Military Government in Zone A of the free territory of Trieste and the handing over of its administration to the Italian Government.

**Romania / France / Greece / U.S. – October 9, 1953 (KCA)**

16 people who are described as “Fascists or ex-convicts who had fled Romania” are tried on charges of espionage and terrorism in Bucharest. The defendants are said to have been recruited by U.S., French and Greek intelligence services. All reportedly plead guilty. 13 are sentenced to death on **October 12** and the other three receive sentences ranging from 3 to 25 years in prison.

**Romania / Greece/ Soviet Union – Oct 10, 1953 (OSA)**

A report is filed by a former Greek-Romanian telephone technician detailing the Soviet takeover of the Romanian telephone companies. According to the source, this included purging of previous staff, a curtailing of operator privileges, and increased censorship.

**Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste / U.K. / U.S. – October 10, 1953 (NBT)**

In his speech in Leskovac, Tito analyses the background of the Trieste problem, condemns the British-American decision on Trieste on **8 October**, and enumerates the consequences.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. / U.S. / Trieste / Italy – October 11, 1953 (NBT/PVC)**

In his speech in Skopje, Tito again appeals to the U.K. and the U.S. to revoke their decision on Trieste made on **8 October** and states that if the Italians enter Zone A, the Yugoslavs will do the same.



**Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste / U.K. / U.S. – October 12, 1953 (NBT)**

Yugoslavia transmits another note to the U.K. and the U.S. proposing a four-power conference on Trieste. Moreover, Yugoslavia notifies the Secretary General of the U.N. that it would bring the Trieste problem before the Security Council if its proposal for a four-power conference were refused.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union / Trieste – October 12, 1953 (NBT)**

The Soviet Union also protests against the US and British decision on the Trieste question on **October 8** in a note sent to the Governments of the U.K. and U.S.

**Poland / France – October 13, 1953 (OSA)**

It is reported that in 1953 the Polish communist bank P.K.O. has defaulted on around two hundred million francs. The situation has been compounded by the lack of economic ratification between France and Poland, which has caused the commercial transactions of the bank to slow down.

**Romania – October 13, 1953 (OSA)**

The source visits various state farms in the area as part of his practical education. As a result of the lack of competent technical personnel, diseases among farm animals are prevalent. Many of the barns and enclosures for the animals and poultry are badly kept and overcrowded. As a result, there has been a great decrease in the amount of milk, dairy products and eggs. These farms are not well run nor are they efficient.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – October, 13 1953 (OSA)**

One of the Hungarian refugees (named as Janos) interned in Brus camp was accused of espionage. The methods preferred by the UDB officials in the Brus camp was to force the emigrant to supply information about their fellow prisoners. He committed suicide after interrogation.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – October 13, 1953 (OSA)**

Two former Hungarian officials, namely BORSOS Sandor (former member of Hungarian Parliament from the Peasant Party) and one other former member of the Socialist Party, visit Yugoslavia. The Association of the Hungarian Minority invited them. It is indicated that the journey's purpose was for the reorganisation of the so-called Committee of Liberation.

**Yugoslavia / Romania – October 14, 1953 (OSA)**

A meeting between Yugoslav authorities and the political committee of the Romanian refugees took place in Svetozarevo.

**Yugoslavia / Trieste / U.S. – October 14, 1953 (HWC)**

Eisenhower gives orders for several U.S. warships to take position in the Adriatic without delay. Previously the Yugoslav Foreign Minister was understood by Dulles to have threatened that Yugoslavia would enter Zone A of Trieste.

**Soviet Union / Austria – October 15, 1953 (OSA)**

A group of around 600 prisoners of war were released from a Soviet camp near Jaroslavl, (Cherbakov). The total number of prisoners was around 1,000, representing nearly 25 nationalities.

**Poland / Sweden – October 15, 1953 (OSA)**

A new Swedish-Polish coal treaty has been signed.

**Romania / Korea – October 15–23, 1953 (PIR)**

Romanian-Korean negotiations take place in Bucharest and result in an accord regarding the aid Romania would offer to the economic reconstruction of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

**Poland / France – October 16, 1953 (OSA)**

This report gives details about the summer vacations financed by the Polish Communist Embassy for children of Polish migrants in France. Specifically, a list of monthly expenses of the year 1953 of the "Croix Rouge Polonaise" for the summer camps is provided. It is also highlighted that the colonies had seen the participation of 5,000 children, among which some participate free of charge.

**Romania / Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – October, 17 1953 (OSA)**

The described efforts of the Tito regime in persuading the Romanian escapees to adhere to the Communist sponsored Romanian Association in Yugoslavia. The difficulties encountered by those who want to emigrate to the West are known here.

**Romania / East Germany – October 17, 1953 (PIR)**

Romania and the Democratic Republic of Germany upgrade diplomatic relations to the level of embassy.

**Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste / U.K. / U.S. – October 17, 1953 (PVC)**

In an interview with an Observer correspondent, Marshal Tito says that he would regard Italian assumption of administration of Zone A, with or without troops, as illegal aggression, in the face of which he would march to the rescue of the Slovenian population. He will not fight British or American troops, but if they allow the Italians in under their protection, the effect on relations with Yugoslavia would be "catastrophic".

**Bulgaria – October 17, 1953 (OSA)**

A considerable number of political prisoners were freed in September 1953, but no decree was published. The Council of Ministers was showing "sentiments of justice and humanity" to people who "have proved their loyalty towards the regime" and started to reintegrate them into society.

**Albania / Yugoslavia – October 18, 1953 (PVC)**

In his speech at Priština Minister of Interior Aleksandar Ranković expresses Yugoslavia's readiness to normalize the relationship with Albania and considers Enver Hoxha the main obstacle.

**Poland – October 18–25, 1953 (OSA)**

The bishop of Olsztyn is arrested as well as a priest from a nearby town Butryny. This is further evidence of an increase in repression against the Catholic Church this year.

**Albania / Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Romania / Yugoslavia / France – October, 20 1953 (OSA)**

The program of the Council of the "Jeunesse Libre de l'Europe Centrale et Orientale." The Council is the only permanent organisation of exiles which represents the youth of eleven

nations and five different political tendencies. The objectives of the Council are to aid youth to develop their cultural, political and social heritage.

**Poland – October 21, 1953 (OSA)**

The newly elected council of the Communist World Trade Union Federation involves the new Polish representatives: Wiktor Klosiewicz, Bronislaw Marks, Zygmunt Keatko, Irena Piwowarska, Stefan Ciolkowki.

**Poland / France – October 22, 1953 (OSA)**

It is reported the intention by an unknown French acquirer to buy the Polorbis, property of the Polish regime. The report underlines the commercial and political importance of the transaction.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany – October 23, 1953 (OSA)**

In refugee camp Valka in Nuremberg the preparation for a celebration of Czechoslovakian Independence Day is in progress.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – October 24, 1953 (OSA)**

Hungarian luxury goods reach the Czechoslovakian market.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – October 25, 1953 (CWC)**

An article in *Pravda* states that the **October 18th** London foreign ministers' conference between France, Britain and the U.S. failed to resolve the differences between the U.S. and its European allies in Germany. It states that many in France do not want to see a rearmed Germany.

**Soviet Union / Italy – October 25, 1953 (OSA)**

Soviet ship *Voroshilov* pulls into Genoa with a cargo of steel and iron. According to intelligence, this was the first time a Soviet ship had entered an Italian port since WW2.

**Soviet Union / Greece – October 26, 1953 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government presents a note to the Greek Government protesting a recent agreement that permits the U.S. to establish military bases in Greece.

**Romania – October 27, 1953 (PIR)**

During the Assembly of the Central Committee active of PMR and the City Committee of PMR Bucharest Gheorghiu-Dej holds a presentation on “The world historical importance of the 19th Congress of the CPSU.”

**Soviet Union / Italy – October 27, 1953 (OSA)**

An Italo-Soviet trade agreement is signed, in substitution of a previous arrangement with the Soviet Union. The new trade deal envisions an exchange of raw mineral oils, manganese minerals and sawed timber from the Soviet Union, with Italian oranges, almonds, lemons and cork, amongst other goods.

**Soviet Union / Italy – October 27, 1953 (OSA)**

Representatives of the Soviet Union and of Italy sign a trade protocol in Rome, regarding the exchange of goods between the two countries in the period between 27 October 1953 and 26 October 1954.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – October 28, 1953 (LBC)**

Eisenhower announces that he is willing to talk about peace with Soviet Prime Minister Georgii Malenkov, but first he needs proof of the Soviets' honest intentions. On **November 3** the Soviet Union rejects the proposal for four-power talks, since it wants to include China.

**Czechoslovakia – October 29, 1953 (OSA)**

According to an RFE report, the communist officials in Prague try to bribe Western journalists and politicians.

**Czechoslovakia / Italy – October 29, 1953 (OSA)**

In Italy there is a long tradition among the Czech and Slovak minority to celebrate the anniversary of the foundation of Czechoslovakia which continues this year.

**Poland / France – October 29, 1953 (OSA)**

A Franco-Polish trade agreement was signed.

**Yugoslavia / Romania / France – October, 29 1953 (OSA)**

Experiences of Romanian Exiles in Yugoslavia. After entering Yugoslavia, the source was interrogated. He tried to escape from Yugoslavia but was imprisoned for ten months in different cities. Through a relative, he obtained a French visa and moved to France.

**Soviet Union – October 30, 1953 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government publishes a decree announcing that 8.5 billion rubles will be invested in the food industry in 1954 to overcome food shortages and meet growing national demand.

**Soviet Union / Spain —October 30, 1953 (OSA)**

In a camp near Jaroslavl, there are about 1.000 prisoners from nearly 25 nations, who are hesitant about the promises of the Soviet commissions that they have been granted amnesty and they will soon return to their home countries. According to a Spaniard prisoner, there are close to 300 Spanish prisoners in the camp, many of them not convicted of any crime, and others accused of disturbance, hunger strikes, etc. This group includes Red division, left-wing Spaniards who were in exile in the Soviet Union, as well as Blue Division anti-communist fighters Spaniards, held captives from the Second World War. The prisoners are not allowed to contact their families in Spain.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany / East Germany – October 31, 1953 (OSA)**

A Czechoslovakian refugee escapes to West Berlin through East Germany. The escape is only possible thanks to generous support and help given him by inhabitants of the East Zone of Germany.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – October 31, 1953 (OSA)**

The former part of Czechoslovakia Subcarpathian Rus is now part of the Soviet Union and locals who did not agree moved to Czechoslovakia; the persecution of the Carpatho-Ukrainian minority in Czechoslovakia increases.

**Hungary – October 31, 1953 (HC)**

The Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party announces that its 3rd congress will be held in **April 1954**. Antal Apró becomes a member of the Political Committee.

### **Hungary – October, 1953 (HC)**

The *Város alatt* (“Under the city”), a film directed by János Herskó, is first shown.

## **November**

### **Czechoslovakia / Israel – November 2, 1953 (KCA)**

It is officially announced in Tel Aviv that two Israeli nationals in Prague have been tried for crimes against the security of the State and have been sentenced to 15 years’ and life imprisonment.

### **Soviet Union / India – November 2, 1953 (KCA)**

The new Soviet Ambassador to India, Menshikov, presents his credentials to President Prasad.

### **Yugoslavia / Hungary – November, 2 1953 (OSA)**

Boros Sandor and Presser Istvan (former members of Hungarian Parliament) visit Yugoslavia. These two officials were invited to Yugoslavia by the Association of the Hungarian Minority in Yugoslavia. It is claimed that the journey is linked with reorganisation of the Committee of Liberation.

### **Czechoslovakia / Israel – November 3, 1953 (KCA)**

A spokesperson of the Israeli Foreign Ministry states that the Czechoslovak Government prohibited Israeli representatives from seeing the two defendants, and that it has initiated a protest since no Israeli officials were allowed to attend the trial.

### **Czechoslovakia / East Germany – November 3, 1953 (OSA)**

There are no permits required to approach the Czechoslovakian – Eastern German border in Děčín in the northwest of Czechoslovakia.

### **Czechoslovakia / West Germany – November 3, 1953 (OSA)**

Freedom balloons and hunger crowns from West Germany reached the south of Moravia.

### **Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – November 3, 1953 (OSA)**

The Czechoslovakian architects are supposed to imitate the Soviet construction style of buildings.

### **Czechoslovakia / USA / Soviet Union / West Germany – November 3, 1953 (OSA)**

An American team from Munich is filming a movie in Valka camp in Nuremberg about Soviet forced labour camps.

### **Romania – November 3, 1953 (OSA)**

The Romanian government recognised the five year anniversary of the trial of numerous government-proclaimed traitors. The occasion was marked with jubilation by the government.

### **Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – November 3, 1953 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union sends a note to the Western powers accusing them of ignoring issues that the Soviet Union has raised in various communications. It inquires whether or not the German peace treaty will be discussed at the next big four foreign ministers conference or whether the Western powers would ratify the 1951 Paris agreement.

**Yugoslavia / Italy – November 3, 1953 (PVC)**

Yugoslavia protests Italy's ban of exports to Yugoslavia.

**Czechoslovakia – November 4, 1953 (OSA)**

Czechoslovakian association cooperating with the army Svazarm increases its activities. The members will be trained and equipped with automatic rifles provided by the Czechoslovakian army.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – November 4, 1953 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union denies any knowledge on or connection to the disappearance of two British Foreign Office diplomats in the Moscow literary magazine *New Times*.

**Yugoslavia / Romania – November, 4 1953 (OSA)**

There are several hundred Romanian exiles in Yugoslavia. The escapees are interrogated and assigned as farm labourers.

**Romania / France – November 5, 1953 (OSA)**

A Romanian and French volleyball match occurred this evening in France, after a brief delay due to visa-related issues. The Romanians won against the French with a score of 3-2. The Romanians were strictly guarded by political personnel from among the embassy staff.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Romania / France – November, 5 1953 (OSA)**

The organisation France-Europe Libre has prepared the organisation of a study group to concentrate on the problem of the countries "Behind the Iron Curtain" after they are liberated.

**Czechoslovakia – November 6, 1953 (OSA)**

The largest European cement factory in Hranice, Czechoslovakia is under construction.

**Czechoslovakia / USA – November 6, 1953 (OSA)**

Soviet movies in Czechoslovakia are sometimes advertised as American ones to attract more locals to the cinemas.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany / East Germany – November 6, 1953 (OSA)**

During October 1953, 14 Czechoslovakian men escape to West Germany; the number of refugees who come through East Germany or Berlin has increased.

**Poland – November 6, 1953 (OSA)**

A Swedish first mate (nautical officer), Einar De Jounge will be tried in Gdansk on November 12, 1953 after being accused of helping a Polish couple attempt to escape the country. He was first arrested on September 19. (He was sentenced to a year in prison.)

**Bulgaria / Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 7, 1953 (KCA)**

The appointment of Yugoslav Ambassadors to Hungary and Bulgaria is announced, the first since Yugoslavia's break with Cominform.

**Czechoslovakia – November 7, 1953 (OSA)**

The iconic statue of Štefánik and Masaryk memorial in Bratislava is removed.

**Czechoslovakia – November 7, 1953 (OSA)**

Small villages in Czechoslovakia are liquidated to enlarge army training grounds.

**Czechoslovakia – November 7, 1953 (OSA)**

Freedom balloons with leaflets and hunger crowns were also found in Olomouc district in central Moravia.

**Yugoslavia / Romania / Albania / Hungary / Bulgaria – November 7, 1953 (OSA)**

There was a meeting in the hall of Svetozarevo Narodni Front between the Yugoslav government delegations and the delegations of refugees of various nationalities. These refugees, among others were Bulgarians, Hungarians, Albanians, and Romanians, had found asylum in Yugoslavia.

**Yugoslavia / Austria – November 9–11, 1953 (KCA)**

The Yugoslav Foreign Minister Koča Popović pays an official visit to Vienna. At the end of the visit he emphasizes that Yugoslavia supports, without reservation, Austria's efforts to conclude an Austrian State Treaty.

**Yugoslavia / Greece / Turkey – November 10-20, 1953 (KCA)**

Tripartite military talks between Greek, Turkish and Yugoslav representatives are held in Belgrade. It is agreed that the Committee of the Permanent Secretariat of the Balkan Pact will sit in Belgrade under the chairmanship of the Yugoslavian representative until the next meeting of the Foreign Ministers.

**Albania / Yugoslavia – November 11, 1953 (PVC)**

The British legation in Budapest receives information from a highly confidential source that Albania has appealed to Yugoslavia and offered the restoration of full diplomatic relations between the two countries.

**Czechoslovakia – November 11, 1953 (OSA)**

The rumours about alleged parachutists from the West dropped over Uherský Brod region cause police controls in the whole area.

**Czechoslovakia / East Germany – November 11, 1953 (OSA)**

An anti-Communist pamphlet in German language is found on the north of Bohemia, it encourages the Citizens of DDR to overthrow the Communist regime in East Germany.

**Poland / Great Britain – November 11, 1953 (PSM)**

Poland and Great Britain sign a trade agreement for the years 1954-1956.

**Czechoslovakia – November 12, 1953 (OSA)**

The relatives of escapees to the West who stay in Czechoslovakia are persecuted.

**Czechoslovakia – November 12, 1953 (OSA)**

After the currency reform in June 1953, there are huge demonstrations in Bohumín near Ostrava. The demonstrations are violently dispersed.

**Czechoslovakia – November 12, 1953 (OSA)**

Comrade Jan Šrámek, Chairman of the Bratislava town National Committee, will be suspended for irregularities within the Bratislava municipal administration.

**Soviet Union / Greece – November 12, 1953 (KCA)**

The Greek Government repudiates the complaints of the Soviet Government.

**Czechoslovakia – November 13, 1953 (OSA)**

Three public brothels open in Ostrava to prevent further spread of venereal disease which has become a huge problem in this region recently.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany – November 13, 1953 (OSA)**

alleged Western agent is arrested while crossing the Czecho-Bavarian border; he is interrogated and shot.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – November 15, 1953 (OSA)**

The new Yugoslav ministry accredited by the Hungarian Government arrived in Budapest.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – November 16, 1953 (CWC)**

The Western powers respond that China cannot come to the meeting of foreign ministers and that the Soviets have set unrealistic preconditions to any settlement.

**Czechoslovakia – November 16, 1953**

In Bratislava a free market appears where visitors do not need money to buy goods; it is a consequence of the Czechoslovakian currency reform.

**Soviet Union – November 17, 1953 (KCA)**

The embalmed body of the late Marshall Stalin is placed in Lenin's tomb in Red Square.

**Finland – November 17, 1953 (HJH)**

A new government that enjoys enough support in Parliament could not be formed, and it is necessary for President Juho Kusti Paasikivi to form a caretaker Government headed by the Head of the Bank of Finland, Sakari Tuomioja.

**Czechoslovakia / China / Northern Korea – November 19, 1953 (OSA)**

Czechoslovakian electrical engineers are recruited for work in China and North Korea. The specialists will repair a power station and join the construction work of new power plants.

**Soviet Union / Italy — November 19, 1953 (OSA)**

Anchorage of the Russian cargo ship "Voroshilov" to the port of Genoa. The ship, represented by the maritime agency "Sagitol", includes 49 crew members. The shipment of metals is intended for the Italian market. Speculated to be the first time the ship enters an Italian harbor.

**Romania / France – November 20 - December 10, 1953 (OSA)**

Vasile Dumitru was sent to the Ministry of Interior of Romania's "rest houses" for the second time in his career. According to Dumitru, the "rest houses" serve as a base for indoctrination with various state propaganda. To be admitted to the "rest houses" one must be either a member of the Communist party or one of the Communist-controlled syndicates.

**Soviet Union / Italy – November 21, 1953 (OSA)**

An Italo-Soviet trade agreement is agreed in Genoa. The meeting is attended by businessmen, representatives of commerce and industry, economists, and Union representatives.



**Yugoslavia – November 23-28, 1953 (KCA/PVC)**

General elections take place in Yugoslavia for a Council of Producers of 202 deputies.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – November 24, 1953 (OSA)**

Several workers of the Praha Škoda enterprise receive bonuses from Soviet firms for completing production of Soviet goods on time.

**Romania – November 24, 1953 (PIR)**

A new wage law, geared towards the improvement of workers' salaries and the stimulation of industrial production, is published.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 24, 1953 (KTS)**

The new Yugoslav Ambassador to Hungary, Dalibor Soldatić presents his credentials to István Dobi.

**Hungary – November 25, 1953 (HC)**

The National Theater in Budapest presents *Uborkafa* ("Cucumber tree"), a play by Ernő Urbán.

**Soviet Union / Western Powers – November 26, 1953 (KCA)**

After a continuous exchange of letters between the Western Powers and the Soviet Union regarding a Four-Power Conference, in identical notes to the Western Governments, the Soviet Union expresses its readiness to take part in a Four-Power conference of Foreign Ministers, suggesting Berlin as the venue for such an event. However, the Soviet Union continues to insist that the People's Republic of China should take part in a Great-Power Conference.

**Soviet Union – November 26, 1953 (KCA)**

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet issues a decree repealing the ban on marriages between Soviet citizens and foreign nationals imposed in 1947. The decree states that those people who marry foreign nationals will retain their Soviet citizenship.

**Yugoslavia – November 26, 1953 (KCA)**

Official returns for the Federal Council elections state that 89% of the electorate went to the polls and that the number of invalid votes was 4.3%. All prominent personalities in the Yugoslav Government were reelected.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany– November 27, 1953 (OSA)**

The popular Czechoslovakian feast of Saint Nicholas will be celebrated in December in the Valka camp in West Germany. Several events for children of Czechoslovakian refugees are prepared.

**Soviet Union / Israel – November 27, 1953 (KCA)**

Former Israeli Ambassador in Moscow Samuel Eliashev resumes his post in Moscow.

**Czechoslovakia / Belgium – November 28, 1953 (OSA)**

Czechoslovakians in exile organise the Sokol club in Brussel in Belgium. They join and cooperate with other Sokol clubs in Western Europe.

**Hungary – November 28, 1953 (HC)**

Decree no. 1953:25 by the Hungarian Presidential Council states that the Labor Code will be modified. The employees are given more rights.

**Yugoslavia – November 29, 1953 (PVC)**

Celebrations at Jajce and Sarajevo take place to mark the 10th anniversary of the second session of the AVNOJ, at which the provisional program of the present regime is first announced. Marshal Tito states that Yugoslavia will attend a conference on Trieste provided that the meeting is not called to implement the decision of **October 8**.

**Czechoslovakia / Austria – November 30, 1953 (OSA)**

The barriers on the Czecho-Austrian border in the Český Krumlov area are high voltage.

**East Germany – November 30, 1953 (OSA)**

Date for the conclusion of the abolition of “Coordination and Control Centers” and the Coordination council. This consists of a significant restructuring of the East German government.

**Soviet Union — November 30, 1953 (OSA)**

The state and state-led social organizations intervene and regulate all aspects of entertainment and leisure time activities in the Soviet Union, with no room for personal initiatives. However, that does not hinder the participation of large crowds in a wide variety of activities. The ballet, theaters, cinemas and “Cultural Parks” attract extensive numbers of people, especially in metropolitan areas. The art collections displayed at the museums are defined by socialist realism, while the public libraries are occupied by a large crowd of people interested in scientific books that are not affordable to them.

**December****Hungary – December, 1953 (HC)**

The Fourth Hungarian Fine Arts Exhibition is opened.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – December, 1953 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union suggests another meeting of the big four to take place on **January 25th** in Berlin. They also suggest that China be consulted on Asian issues. The Western powers agree to the invitation.

**Poland / France – December, 1953 (PSM)**

Delegation from the French Parliament visits Poland. Both countries express hope for the development of friendly mutual relations and cooperation in the fields of politics, trade and culture.

**East Germany – mid-December, 1953 (OSA)**

Bicycle registration is imposed in East Germany, facilitated by the security services. Besides preventing theft, it is hypothesized that such measures may have military aims as well.

**East Germany / North Korea – December, 1953 (OSA)**

Recruitment of engineers, technicians, and specialists for reconstruction work in North Korea, in what is intended to be a delegation of over 100 volunteers sent in early 1954, likely on yearly contracts. This recruitment by the East German Central Office for Research is likely to have occurred under orders from Moscow.

**Romania / Soviet Union – December, 1953 (OSA)**

In this month, Russian units including auto trucks were being housed in the ex-Trei Pioneri barracks near Galati, Romania. They were commonly used to transport prisoners to the prison right outside the city.

**East Germany – December 1, 1953 (OSA)**

A ration of electricity is imposed in East Germany, allocated regionally. This follows a shortage in coal and lignite.

**Romania – December 1, 1953 (OSA)**

The source gives details of the arrests of three Romanian Army officers. Two of them, Bica Iulian and Gragomir Nicolae, were arrested in June 1950 and were sent to do forced labour on the Danube-Black Sea Canal. The third, Raduleascu Nicolae, was accused of being implicated in the Avram Iancu subversive organisation and was sentenced to two years of prison. He should have served his term in prison in Timisoara, but most of it was at the political prison in Aiud.

**Romania – December 2, 1953 (PIR)**

The Romanian Government decides on the improvement of the system of wages.

**Soviet Union / Israel – December 2, 1953 (KCA)**

The new Soviet Minister to Israel, Alexander Abramov, presents credentials to the Israeli Foreign Minister.

**Soviet Union / China – December 2, 1953 (KCA)**

It is officially announced in Moscow that Kuznetsov will be succeeded as Soviet Ambassador in Beijing by Professor Pavel Yudin, but he will remain a Deputy Minister.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany – December 5, 1953 (OSA)**

Citizen of Western Germany Margarette Pfeiffer is accused of espionage for Czechoslovakia. The trial will begin on 8th December in Nuremberg.

**Poland – December 5, 1953 (PSN)**

Lt. Colonel Jozef Swiatla, Vice Director of the Tenth Department in the Ministry of Public Security, disappears in West Berlin. His fate is not made public for a year.

**Romania / Soviet Union – December 5, 1953 (PIR)**

The Romanian-Soviet accord regarding the creation of the Special Fluvial Administration on the inferior course of the Danube is signed in Bucharest.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – December, 5 1953 (OSA)**

Borsos Sandor, who returned from Yugoslavia on 16 November, gives a description of Hungarians living in Yugoslavia.

**Czechoslovakia – December 7, 1953 (OSA)**

Between July and August 1953 there is no sugar or meat to be purchased in Praha.

**Yugoslavia / Italy – December 7, 1953 (PVC)**

It is announced that Yugoslavia and Italy have both agreed to withdraw troops from the immediate vicinity of the frontier.

**Czechoslovakia / France – December 8, 1953 (OSA)**

There will be a Sokol Games in Paris in July 1954. Exile Sokols as well as sportsmen from Western Europe will compete. Several guests are invited including Western politicians.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany – December 8, 1953 (OSA)**

There is a new Christmas tree in Valka camp in Nuremberg. The celebrations will take place in both local churches.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany – December 8, 1953 (OSA)**

During November 1953, 14 Czechoslovakians escape to the Western Germany including one woman.

**Romania / France – December 8, 1953 (OSA)**

The Paris News Bureau published a report summarising the activities of the Queen Elizabeth's Committee in its first year of operation. This committee was established to give aid to Romanian exiles and concerns itself with social rather than political matters. Since October 1952, the committee has distributed over 1.8 million Francs and aided over 250 exiles.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – December 8, 1953 (LBC)**

President Eisenhower's disarmament proposal: the countries participating in the nuclear arms race, including the Soviet Union should hand over their nuclear arsenal to a U.N.-controlled fissionable material bank. On **December 9** Soviet Foreign Minister Vishinsky announces rejection of the Eisenhower plan, and continues to insist on the total ban of nuclear weapons. On **December 11** the Soviet leadership conditionally agrees to discuss the Eisenhower proposal with the U.S. and other great powers. Condition: the Soviet proposal on banning the hydrogen and the atomic bomb must be discussed at the conference. According to Dulles, the U.S. is willing to discuss disarmament with the USSR.

**Poland / Finland – December 8, 1953 (OSA)**

A new trade agreement was signed between Poland and Finland for the exchange of goods during 1954.

**Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia – December 9, 1953 (OSA)**

A Yugoslavian citizen who lived in Czechoslovakia for years is expelled from the country for refusing to collaborate with the Secret State Service. Eventually, he leaves the country together with his wife – a Czechoslovakian.

**Hungary / Bulgaria / Romania / Yugoslavia – December 9–17, 1953 (KCA)**

At its 9th session held at Galatz, Romania, the Danube Commission unanimously decides to elect Dragoje Djurić, the Yugoslav delegate, as Secretary of the Commission; Endre Sík, the Hungarian delegate, as the Chairman; and Ganev, the Bulgarian delegate, as the Vice-Chairman. On a joint Yugoslav-Hungarian proposal the seat of the Commission is moved from Galatz to Budapest.

**Czechoslovakia / Austria – December 10, 1953 (OSA)**

In Czechoslovakian schools in Vienna, the portrait of president Zápotocký hangs in every class next to the portrait of the Austrian president. Czechoslovakian refugees living in Austria are disappointed.

**Hungary – December 13, 1953 (HC)**

Decree no. 1953:27 is introduced by the Hungarian Presidential Council about the agricultural workers. It is stated that they should be given the right to sell freely a higher proportion of their production in order to encourage increased production. The required state collection amount of agricultural goods is reduced by 25%, of pork and beef by 30%, of poultry and eggs by 50% for collective farmers. For independent farmers the reductions are 10-15%, 25-30%, and 40% respectively.

**Romania – December 13, 1953 (OSA)**

The government released a decision to reorganise the government delivery system of meats, milk, and wool.

**Romania – December 13, 1953 (OSA)**

According to the Communist Romanian newspaper “Scanteia,” the government announced a reduction in the maximum rent allowed to be charged to employees. This capped rent at 1 Lei per month per square metre.

**Romania – December 13, 1953 (OSA)**

The Romanian government released a decision on agricultural delivery quotas. In this decision, the price of milk with a 3.5% fat content was listed as 0.40 lei per litre.

**Romania – December 14, 1953 (PIR)**

The Institute for Judicial Investigations in Bucharest is founded.

**Albania / Yugoslavia – December 14, 1953 (KCA)**

Yugoslav-Albanian frontier discussions conclude with two agreements dealing with re-erection of frontier demarcation posts, and measures to prevent and settle frontier incidents.

**Poland / West-Berlin – December 14, 1953 (OSA)**

The East-European Institute in West-Berlin held a conference on the future of German-Polish relations. The conference was chaired by Professor of Eastern European History Phillip Wilhelm, Poland was represented by journalist Jerzy Kiewski; while West-Germany was represented by editor of the Christian Democratic paper *Kurier* and Willy Brandt, a Social Democratic member of the Bundestag. The conference did not aim to make an agreement or joint declaration but sought to be an exchange of views.

**Czechoslovakia – December 15, 1953 (OSA)**

There are two kinds of punishment for Jáchymov employees; either trial and prison, or spying for Secret State Security police.

**Poland / Argentina – December 15, 1953 (OSA)**

Argentina has concluded a trade agreement with Poland. Poland is set to deliver coal, cement and sheet-glass while Argentina will export wool, hides and quebracho extract.

**Poland – December 17, 1953 (PSN)**

The bishops ordinary, capitular vicars, and suffragan bishops from all dioceses take their oaths in Government offices.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany – December 18, 1953 (OSA)**

Thanks to several charities in Western Germany, the refugees in Valka camp in Germany celebrate Christmas on 17th and 18th December. The Czechoslovakian refugees prepare musical performances.

**West Germany / USA – December 18, 1953 (OSA)**

An American Army spokesman announced a gift from the USA to refugees in Valka camp in Western Germany. They will receive more than 35 thousand pounds of food as a Christmas gift.

**Hungary – December 19, 1953 (HC)**

At the session of the CC of the Hungarian Workers' Party András Hegedüs announces the new agricultural development program prepared by the Political Committee. During the next three years the government will spend 12-13 billion forints on agricultural development.

**Romania / France – December 20, 1953 (OSA)**

Elections for the Romanian's People Council were held. They were largely seen as rigged by the government. It must also be noted that for three months prior to the elections, a large campaigning effort was carried out by the candidates. According to the French report on the elections this was seen as a propaganda ploy to increase recognition of the election results.

**Albania / Yugoslavia – December 21, 1953 (PLC)**

Albania reinitiates diplomatic relations with Yugoslavia.

**Czechoslovakia – December 21, 1953 (OSA)**

Meat of animals infected by tuberculosis is sold by state shops in Vyšší Brod in Czechoslovakia.

**Yugoslav / Italy – December 21, 1953 (KCA)**

It is announced in Rome and Belgrade that the withdrawal of Italian and Yugoslav troops from the border area under the agreement of **December 5** has been completed. (The agreement itself was announced on December 7.)

**Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – December 22, 1953 (PVC)**

Conference on railway traffic with the Bulgarians at Niška Banja takes place.

**Czechoslovakia – December 23, 1953 (OSA)**

A monument for the Czech Communist journalist Julius Fučík, who was murdered by Nazis, is unveiled in Frantičkovy Lázně in August 1953.

**Yugoslavia – December 24, 1953 (PVC)**

First meeting of the new Federal Assembly takes place.

**Yugoslavia – December, 30 1953 (OSA)**

The difficulties of the Tito regime after the abolishment of Communist doctrine. General impressions regarding Yugoslavia's transition from Stalin Communism toward Tito Communism.

**East Germany / Germany– December 31, 1953 (KGD)**

391,390 people flee from the GDR to the FRG and West Berlin in 1953.

**Romania – late 1953 (OSA)**

Due to the harsh winter in Romania, guerilla groups were forced by their hunger to venture further afield from their bases. This led to a number of successful government-backed ambushes that cost the guerilla group many casualties.

**Romania – late 1953 (OSA)**

Common prison guards at the Romanian prison at Lugoj were replaced in their roles by securitate soldiers. The prison was known for housing many political prisoners.

## 1954

### **Hungary – 1954 (HC)**

According to the report of the Hungarian Central Statistics Office, the industrial sector completes 101.4% of the plan (3.1% higher than in the previous year). Investments are reduced by 33%. Construction of housing increases. The agricultural sector receives 400 million forints more than in 1953 for investment. The real wage of workers and employees is increased by 15%, the pension by 25%. Tourism: 2,106 people visit Hungary, 146 Hungarian citizens traveled abroad.

The Hungarian Science Academy founds the Piskéstető observatory.

The Hungarian University in Targu Mures (Romania) starts a Hungarian doctors' newspaper called *Orvosi Szemle*.

### **Romania – 1954 (RUR)**

Gheorghiu-Dej relinquishes his post as first secretary. His close associate, Gheorge Apostol is appointed to the position.

### **Romania – 1954 (RFN)**

Romania applies for the membership in UN for second time and claims that it pays careful attention to the work of the UN.

### **Romania – 1954 (RUR)**

Lucretiu Patrascanu is executed. He was the only possible leader of anti-Stalinist movement in the party.

### **Romania – 1954 (OSA)**

Due to educational reforms decided on by the government in the previous year, from 1954 onward, it is no longer sufficient to receive a certificate of honourable mention upon leaving high school to be accepted into University. All applicants must now take an admissions test to determine their acceptance. This same reform reduced the years spent in high school to three.

### **Romania – early 1954 (OSA)**

In a reversal of policy, the Romanian government allowed the reauthorization of private trade within its borders. Taverns were only authorised when prohibited from serving alcoholic beverages.

### **Romania – early 1954 (OSA)**

Physical Education Instructors at the Ministry of the Interior of Romania are known to be sent in groups of 40 for a two month long training session at “Dinamo,” a sports stadium in Romania. Here they engage in theoretical as well as physical courses covering discipline, Marxism-Leninism, and political economy.

### **Romania – early 1954 (OSA)**

At this time, the head of the Administration of the “Dinamo” Central Council is known to be Communist Marcel Goldenberg. He is known to be from a formerly well-off family and to be a long time loyal member of the Communist party. He is listed in French reports of the time as a “dangerous communist.”



### **Romania – early 1954 (OSA)**

Romanian religious sentiment seems to be increasing. The Communist government continues to wage a war against the Church, but has yet to forbid citizens from attending it. Patriarch Justinian Marina lives a life of luxury and public opinion on him and his faith is quite mixed.

### **Romania / Denmark – 1954 (OSA)**

The Romanian diplomats stationed in Denmark in the year of 1954 are the following: M. Alexandru Chirila - Second Secretary and Chargé d'Affaires, M. Stefan Radina - Attaché, M. Vica Turdor - Attaché. The wives of all three diplomats were also registered as residing in Denmark throughout the year.

### **Romania / France / West Germany – 1954 (OSA)**

Constantin Maler arrived in Nice, France as a Romanian refugee. He had previously escaped Romania in 1951 and had spent the subsequent years working in American-occupied West Germany. He fled Romania after a two year imprisonment caused by a political disagreement with the Photographer's Union.

### **Romania / France – early 1954 (OSA)**

In the first six months of the year 1954, the Romanian Royal University Foundation “Charles 1st” held multiple lectures and events celebrating Romanian national days. They have put out numerous periodicals and brochures and been active in international conferences.

### **Romania / Hungary – 1954 (OSA)**

The artificial silk factory located in the Romanian town of Popestileordeni was set on fire and destroyed. The act of arson was perpetrated by the employees of the factory due to their dislike of the harsh Hungarian-born director of the factory. This director was later jailed by the Romanian authorities for failing to enforce discipline at this factory.

### **East Germany – 1954 (OSA)**

Early in the year, the SED declared 1954 to be the year for the achievement of higher standards of living in East Germany in what was termed the “Year of the Great Initiative”. By April, indicators undeniably showed that the German Democratic Republic was falling behind in its ambitious plans, with a failure to meet production quotas, a decline of outputs since 1953, and smaller amounts of merchandise available in H-O stores.

## **January**

### **Poland – January, 1954 (OSA)**

Letters from several Polish cities and towns report the closing down of Churches or no replacement of priests who have been dismissed after refusing to sign the ‘Loyalty Declaration’. This oath of allegiance has been in place since May 1953.

### **Poland / France / East Germany/ Turkey / Bulgaria / Syria / India – January, 1954 (OSA)**

Poland plans to attend more International Trade Fairs in 1955, recently it booked a significant amount of space at the Leipzig fair, and plans to attend the Paris International Trade Fair in May, the Turkish fair at Izmir; the Bulgarian Fair at Plovdiv; the Damascus fair and the fair at New Delhi.

**Romania – January, 1954 (OSA)**

Provisions in place governing the approach and treatment of all foreign ships in the Romanian port city of Constanta. Along with these provisions, the ports are seen to be a major location for loading large amounts of Romanian petrol onto Russia-bound ships.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – January 1, 1954 (KGD/HWD)**

The government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics ceases further demands for reparations from the GDR and declares a limit to the occupation costs of 5% of the GDR budget.

**Finland – January 1, 1954 (HJH)**

In his New Year's Day speech President Juho Kusti Paasikivi expresses his dissatisfaction with such inter-party warfare that has caused instability in the Finnish government ever since Finland gained her independence. Therefore, he calls for unity between the parties.

**Romania – January 1, 1954 (OSA)**

A new reduction in taxes on buildings became effective in Romania. This reduction amounted to 25% for employees and members of cooperatives and 20% for all other citizens.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – January 1, 1954 (OSA)**

There was an exchange of documents in Belgrade about the agreement on the prevention of border incidents as reported by Szabad Nép.

**Romania – January 3, 1954 (OSA)**

A claim by a Romanian refugee, a former frontier guard who fled from his country in February 1953. It details the Second Lieutenant of Security of Timisoara - Nagy Mihai's - advancement in career and his misconduct. The source reports the Second Lieutenant's harm towards the peasants in Timisoara province. The report continues onto a record of a Yugoslav attempting to pass the frontier. It details property damage, abuses, maltreatment and many denouncements against the peasants, stating that Nagy Mihai has not been held accountable for his actions.

**Czechoslovakia – January 4, 1954 (PLC)**

Czechoslovakia's membership in the World Bank is suspended, because of the country's debt. From the Soviet Bloc Czechoslovakia is the only member of the World Bank.

**Romania / France – January 4, 1954 (OSA)**

“Association France-Roumanie” held a lecture focusing on the works of the Romanian writer: Ion Luca Caragiale. The purpose of this event is seen to have been to prove an emphasis on literature within Romania. As part of this largely pro-communist event, speakers drew connections between the ideals of the French Revolution and those governing Communism.

**Poland / France – January 7, 1954 (OSA)**

The report describes the comments of two of the nine French deputies returning from their trip to Poland with the aim of studying the ethnographic and geographical conditions of the presence of German citizens there. The report, divided into 10 different points, analyses the relations between Poland and France, the level of respect and attention expected and received upon arrival and knowledge of the French language, as well as the personal impressions of visiting Members and the considerations of maintaining the Oder - Naisse border.

**Soviet Bloc / U.S. – January 7, 1954 (LBC)**

Eisenhower delivers his State of the Union address. According to the President, American freedom is threatened so long as the world communist conspiracy exists in its present scope, power and hostility. The U.S. counts on nuclear arms to defend freedom. – *January 12*. John Foster Dulles on U.S. strategy: The U.S. will respond with immediate retaliation to aggression “the place and means of its own choosing”. According to the doctrine of massive retaliation the U.S. would consider responding to aggression with its nuclear arsenal. The doctrine is credible because the U.S. is virtually invulnerable to nuclear attack at this time. According to Dulles the best way to deter aggression is “to depend primarily upon a great capacity to retaliate instantly”. The U.S., in the secretary’s view, does not seek the illusion of security in a diplomatic deal which would seem to endorse captivity of other peoples. The Eisenhower administration wants to introduce more efficient and less costly defense measures by putting more emphasis on deterrence and less on local defense bases.

**Bulgaria - January 9, 1954 (OSA)**

Bulgarian language content of Western broadcasting stations has an enormous influence on the lives of Bulgarian people. Radio Belgrade helps Bulgarian people better comprehend global issues and makes their evenings more interesting. The station is also successful in preventing Bulgaria’s Sovietization. On the other hand, another broadcasting station, the “Voice of America”, is claimed to have spread superficial and misleading information.

**Hungary – January 9, 1954 (HC)**

Decree 1/1954 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that identity cards will be introduced.

**Poland – January 9, 1954 (OSA)**

In this report information is given about a penalty inflicted on a young man for listening to a foreign Western radio broadcast. The man was taken by the militia and accused of spreading foreign propaganda. It is reported that the man was released after many months. The information was given by a friend of the accused man.

**Poland – January 9, 1954 (OSA)**

A Polish official receives an order to return to Warsaw and appear before the Disciplinary Board. The recall is linked to an event in September 1954 during a summer camp for minors.

**Romania – January 9, 1954 (PIR)**

Education for the training of cadres needed in the collective agricultural household (GAC’s).

**Romania – January 9, 1954 (OSA)**

A report is published that looks specifically at the ethnic lines along which recruitment into the Romanian state security apparatus is carried out. It states that ethnic Russians are often favoured for these positions and among the Romanian population, specifically the group referred to as the “Lipoveni,” a group of ethnic Russians differentiated by their adoption of the Gregorian calendar, their long beards, and their semi-nomadic fishing life-style.

**Bulgaria / Italy – January 11, 1954 (OSA)**

The “paidos” go to Rome in an effort to repatriate Bulgarians living in Italy. Following the amendment of the Bulgaria Penal Code dealing with escapee problems, the Bulgarian government decreed that all previous regulations were abrogated and all Bulgarian citizens are

invited to repatriate. Those who do not comply will be subject to 5-year imprisonment and a fine of 2,000 Leva.

**Poland – January 11, 1954 (OSA)**

The document provides two brief letters where the appalling conditions in which Polish hospitals worked are described. The first letter, a woman describes the lack of beds in the hospital of Jablonka, many of which are occupied by children with TB and rickets. The second letter describes the shortage of staff in the hospitals of Legnica. Both letters date back to December 1953.

**Poland – January 11, 1954 (OSA)**

In this report the life on the Polish state farm “Panstwowe Gospodarstwo Rolne” is described. The report provides details on the history, the administration and about the cultivations of the farm. Moreover, a description of the working life and the earnings of a former worker can be found, alongside the personal opinion on the management of the farm itself.

**Poland / Italy – January 11, 1954 (OSA)**

Details on the new Italo - Polish trade concerning chemical products are provided. The “Ciech” list requires the products to be imported to Italy before being re - exported to Poland due to strict commercial rules. Details of the purchases of sulphur and mercury are given. It also mentions the recent agreement of Poland with the Italian textile company “ITALVISCOSA” alongside a description of the delegation meeting.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – January 11, 1954 (LBC)**

British Foreign Minister Eden calls for a compromise solution of the East-West stalemate. He proposes Soviet-American discussion on Eisenhower’s nuclear disarmament plan.

**Yugoslavia – January 11, 1954 (KCA)**

Belgrade announces that the number of collective farms in Yugoslavia has declined during the past year from 4,764 to 1,062 as a result of the decree of **March 29, 1953**, which permitted the dissolution of such cooperatives by the decision of their members.

**Poland / Belgium – January 11, 1954 (OSA)**

Poland has concluded a trade agreement with Belgium and the Belgian Congo for the year 1954.

**Poland / Greece – January 11, 1954 (OSA)**

A Greek-Polish trade agreement has been renewed for a year.

**Bulgaria – January 12, 1954 (OSA)**

The delivery quotas constitute an important element of the State’s bureaucratic monopolism. The State pays extremely low prices for the delivered products, sometimes making a profit of 500%. In some regions of Southern Bulgaria, where there is a low yield of beans and potatoes, farmers struggle to keep up with the delivery quotas. In the Novoselets village cooperative, only 20% of the demanded beans are available, which causes great panic among the population. Kolhoz residents are threatened with deportation if unable to fulfil their quota capacity. The kolhoz delegates have to buy beans in another village where there was an abundance of bean crops. As beans become scarcer, their prices skyrocket as the farmers buying the beans at a price of 12 Leva a kilo. The beans are purchased by the government agency at a price of 4 Leva per kilo. The loss in money is deducted from the earnings of kolhoz inmates.

**Bulgaria – January 12, 1954 (OSA)**

A decrease in the morality of the youth has been recorded in Sofia. This phenomenon might be stemmed from a lack of parental supervision since the introduction of the co-education system which holds meetings in the evening. There are cases of teachers seducing their students or young girls being impregnated. Abortion must be conducted in absolute discreet as those involved risk geeing imprisoned. There is also a spike in venereal disease transmission, of which treatment is very costly and hardly anybody can afford it.

**Bulgaria – January 12, 1954 (OSA)**

Izgrev village was predominantly inhabited by Turkish ethnics, discouraging the Bulgarian government from establishing collectivization in the village. Only after the exodus of Turks from Bulgaria did the government begin to establish the collective farm at Izgrev. However, collectivization efforts were strongly met with opposition from the remaining Turkish ethnics, partly because of their strong attachment to the soil. The government did not resort to physical violence to force farmers to join the collective farms but rather used incentives such as tax reductions and delivery quotas. Even though the Izgrev village is considered to be one of the most fertile regions in Bulgaria, a person earned a daily wage of 7 Leva, half as much as the lowest wages of unskilled workers.

**Bulgaria / Greece – January 12, 1954 (OSA)**

Greek Military Authorities reported strong peasants' resistance to collective farming in the region of Stara Zagora. Peasants seek to dissolve the newly established kolhoz in the village of Arnautito. Farmers are allowed to leave the kolkhoz, but their lands are taken from them. Reports also pointed out a similar three or four-day worker strike in the hydroelectric project in the region, stemming from the workers' anger toward the corrupt supervisors who embezzled large sums of money by under-crediting the work performed.

**Bulgaria / Soviet Union – January 12, 1954 (OSA)**

The Bulgarian authorities have created a special branch attached to the Ministry of National Defence, with the mission of dealing with atomic warfare. Propaganda campaigns on atomic warfare have also been carried out intensively, demonstrated by the series of conferences and preparations in factories and government institutions. The propaganda message placed a strong emphasis on the fact that the Soviet Union had broken the American monopoly on atomic weapons and Soviet technology was much more superior than the one America possessed. In short, the Soviet Union was well-prepared for atomic warfare with the popular democracies. Nevertheless, despite all the propaganda messages, the audience was not totally convinced due to the lack of precise data and figures.

**Bulgaria – January 12, 1954 (OSA)**

Tsenov Todor, a 40-year-old farmer in Gaganitsa committed suicide due to his inability to support his family after collectivization efforts by the authorities. His 30-dekar of fertile land was incorporated into a collective in March 1952 and his 10 beehives were also confiscated. Overwhelmed with his desperate situation, he took his own life and left his wife and two children with no source of support. His family is still obligated to deliver the regular quota set up by the village authorities at the end of the year.

**Bulgaria – January 12, 1954 (OSA)**

A large-scale amnesty was signed by the Bulgarian authorities, which prompted the government to release the prisoners of concentration camps across the nation. Nonetheless, the released inmates now find themselves in a precarious situation in which they are unable to find

employment or procure passports. Conforming to the amnesty, the government is also under the obligation to inform of the the death of inmates to their family members. Common causes of death included starvation and hard labour.

#### **Bulgaria – January 12, 1954 (OSA)**

The published returns of the election of December 1953 were as follows: 99.53% of eligible voters participated in the poll, with 99.90% of them voting for the Fatherland Front. Propagandistic messages for the elections were displayed across the country, strongly encouraging people to vote. On the part of Bulgarian citizens, they knew that their vote would account for nothing, thus were perplexed by the government's efforts in urging poll participation. Nevertheless, Bulgarians were obligated to vote as their absence might arouse unnecessary suspicion. The Government made promises of the rejuvenation of the constitution but did not mention an improvement in living conditions as that was an impossible task to achieve, evidenced by Chervenkov's failed effort to cut food prices.

#### **Czechoslovakia / USA / West Germany – January 12, 1954 (OSA)**

A Czechoslovakian living in Cleveland in the United States donates 100 dollars to refugees in Valka camp in Western Germany.

#### **Poland / Italy – January 12, 1954 (OSA)**

The arrival of the Danish steamship "Krusa" to the harbour of Genoa, around January 1954 is reported. Information is provided by the Polfracht, considered trustworthy by the Polish authorities. Details are provided on the arrival of the ship "Korno" with a cargo of coal in Bari, and the arrival of the "Dimitryj Pozharskij" not carrying any cargo from Odessa to Venice, alongside information on the arrival of the motorship "Augustus" to Genoa. Further details on the cargos and routes are provided.

#### **Poland / East Germany – January 12, 1954 (OSA)**

It is reported that the former German airfield was enlarged and became a Soviet jet plane station. Moreover, special houses for personnel and pilots were built. The airfield was situated four kilometres from Stargrad.

#### **Poland – January 12, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides information about the Polish fishery operating in the Panstwowe Gospodarstwo Rolne state farm, in Lake Bukowo. Details on the employees, the working hours and the materials used for the fishery are provided alongside information on the sale of the fish. Information was gathered thanks to the testimony of a former worker.

#### **Poland / Soviet Union – January 12, 1954 (OSA)**

The report gives information on a Polish state brewery which was previously in Russian hands. The report provides geographical details on the location of the main brewery and the malt processing branch, alongside details on the number of employees and the directors of the brewery itself. The report also gives details on the preparation of the beer and on the conditions and salaries of the workers.

#### **Poland – January 12, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides information regarding the Polish agricultural school "Slupsz." Details on the garden and the affiliated activities are provided alongside details on the payments of the workers and the number of students. Information was gathered thanks to the testimony of a former worker.

**Bulgaria – January 13, 1954 (OSA)**

The Communist Government in Bulgaria attaches great importance to sports, which are under government regulation and supervision. Nobody may participate in any kind of sports outside of the affiliated associations. The voluntary sports organisation “Torpedo” of Sofia consists of metallurgical workers, electricians, and students. Admission to the organisation is dependent on a written application to the head of physical education. New members will receive a membership card and have to pay an annual fee of 120 Leva. Sports competitions take place frequently, attended by many young people. The “Torpedo” is short of sporting equipment.

**Bulgaria / Soviet Union – January 13, 1954 (OSA)**

The electrification plan in Bulgaria is doomed to fail as industrialization was virtually impossible without establishing commercial relations with the West. Following the Soviet policy of increasing the population’s satisfaction, Chervenkov has embarked on a policy of increasing agricultural output for industrial use and the building of the light industry. The great shortage of electric power in the industrialization process has led to the large-scale construction of dams to make up for the small supply of coal in Bulgaria. However, the means were limited since the USSR could not supply the required installations. For this reason, construction work was constantly interrupted, causing unemployment and resentment in the Bulgarian population. Russia was contemplating letting Bulgaria trade with the West to ameliorate the crisis.

**Bulgaria – January 13, 1954 (OSA)**

The peasants do not display fervent interest in joining any political affiliation, especially the Communist Party. In the village of Izgrev, only 18 of the 90 collective farm members belong to the Communist Party. The younger generation is more politically active, joining the “Dimitrov’s Youth Union.” This is due to the success of Communist propaganda among the village’s young population and the privileges enjoyed by the members of the Youth Union.

**Bulgaria – January 13, 1954 (OSA)**

Following the Five-Year-Plan to increase investment in coal production in Bulgaria, there has been an increase in coal production in the Dimitrovgrad Area. However, the government encountered difficulty in the recruitment and retention of miners, who left their jobs due to the poor living conditions and the high production norms. A 39-year-old Bulgarian farmer recounted his experience working in the mines for a few days. He was lured by the recruitment campaign promises of good working conditions and high wages and was soon disappointed.

**Bulgaria / Romania / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – January 13, 1954 (OSA)**

A strategic bridge to connect Bulgaria with Romania is being constructed near Russe. The completion date is still unclear. The bridge is supervised by Russians, as it is a gift from the Russians to the inhabitants of the locality. Also in the vicinity of Vidin, a new Danube railway bridge was constructed under the initiative of the Ministry for Public Work and Transportation. The construction displays distrust towards Yugoslavia because the bridge deviates trade traffic from the normal through Yugoslavia.

**Poland / Soviet Union – January 13, 1954 (OSA)**

Information on the Russian black market in Poland is given. Russians are described as supreme masters of the Polish black market. It is reported that the various products sold by the Russian are made in the satellite countries even if this is not made clear to the population. The European authorities are alleged to have a secret agreement in splitting the profit of the Russian black market.

**Poland – January 13, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides information about alleged rumours on Polish - German underground movements happening in Lower Silesia in 1953. The rumours concern the alleged construction on military buildings on the west shore of the river Neisse. Details on the alleged tasks of the workers are given alongside the operations of the group.

**Poland – January 13, 1954 (OSA)**

The report lists the crew members of the Polish vessel “Pilica” dated back to December 1953. Names and details on the members are provided.

**Yugoslavia, Romania – January, 13 1954 (OSA)**

A refugee journalist visited Yugoslavia in 1953. The report deals with Yugoslav attempts to represent a “Third Force” in the present cold war between East and West and the attitudes towards the emigrants from satellite countries resulting therefrom.

**Bulgaria – January 14, 1954 (OSA)**

The Railwaymen’s Hospital in Sofia is located near the station and only takes care of people working in the transportation service. There are 20 doctors and 40 nurses, aided by moderate-quality equipment. No patient is allowed to spend more than one month in the hospital, after which period he would be dismissed. Lately, there has been an improvement in patients’ treatment, as patients are only dismissed after being cured. Nevertheless, medicine supply in the hospital is not stable, including shortages in cotton, paper bandages, blood reserves, and especially medical specialties for heart diseases. The staff salaries are categorised into 4 groups: director of the hospital, chief of section, experienced physician, and ordinary physician.

**Bulgaria – January 14, 1954 (OSA)**

The Bulgarian has embarked on the plan to “radioficate” the entire nation. Receiving centres are being set up together with loudspeakers. The present regime aims to reduce the presence of private radio in the nation, which makes it virtually impossible for citizens to listen to anything other than Communist propaganda.

**Bulgaria / Soviet Union – January 14, 1954 (OSA)**

The “joint-ownership” of apartment houses in Bulgaria is taking place vigorously in Sofia due to the great shortage of living quarters caused by the emigration of rural residents, the destruction of apartments during the war, and the requisition of buildings for public purposes. The nationalisation, requisition, and confiscation of private properties also resulted in people’s unwillingness to own private properties. As a result, flats that have 2, 3 or 4 rooms are now shared among two or three families, with the former inhabitants being forced to cede one of their rooms to others. Living conditions are extremely poor. Toilets are filthy as no one takes it upon themselves to clean toilets. People have to wait in line to use the kitchen and sometimes fight over missing kitchen appliances or ingredients. Residents are under the obligation to attend the “Koooperatori” every week, which are the obligatory 2 to 3-hour-long courses concerning communism and the Soviet Union. People are afraid to skip a meeting as an absence will reflect poorly on them.

**Bulgaria / UK / Indonesia / Soviet Union – January 14, 1954 (OSA)**

The Indonesian ambassador to Britain, Subandrio, is almost certain to be appointed to be the first Indonesian Ambassador to Moscow in February 1954. This appointment may be prompted by Indonesia’s establishment of trade relations with the Soviet Union.



**Poland / UK / Soviet Union – January 14, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides information on the possibility for the Indonesian ambassador of Britain, Subandrio, to be appointed first Indonesian Ambassador to the Soviet Union. This piece of gossip was circulating among well informed circles.

**Poland / Sweden – January 14, 1954 (OSA)**

The document provides brief letters received from Orlowo by regular people. The first letter was written by a sailor in Poland and addressed to his friend who escaped to Sweden. The second letter concerns a mother whose difficulties in obtaining food and clothing are expressed to her son in Sweden. The woman affirms that there are some who live in worse conditions. The third short letter was written by a teacher who recounts their modest Christmas due to the economic difficulties being faced.

**Poland – January 14, 1954 (OSA)**

In this letter, a woman from Lublin complained about her poor economic conditions which did not allow her to buy food supplies or to plan the future. The woman also declared her depression and her estrangement from her faith due to her misery. The letter ends in her hope that it will not cause the sender any concern.

**Poland – January 14, 1954 (OSA)**

Details on the directorship of a Polish state construction firm in May 1953 are provided here. The document also provides details on the supplies, the occupation's works and on the construction of cells of some police stations located in various villages.

**Romania – January 14, 1954 (PIR)**

A law is passed providing for free medical assistance and the regulation of medicine distribution.

**Soviet Bloc / U.S. – January 14, 1954 (LBC)**

The U.S. Secretary of Commerce reports that 5,754 requests for export licenses arrived from behind the Iron Curtain and that 4,265 of these have been issued. In the first nine months of 1953 the U.S. exported \$28.7 million worth of merchandise to the Soviet bloc (1952: \$39.5 million). In the same period U.S. exports reached \$1.7 dollars. U.S. import from the East bloc was \$1 million out of a total U.S. import of \$11.8 billion. In the same period of 1952, U.S. imports from the Soviet bloc totaled \$1.1 million. – *January 19*. The Secretary of Commerce prohibits a Minnesota company from exporting 40 million pounds of butter to the USSR. The reason being that the price would have been smaller than the domestic price.

**Soviet Union / Turkey – January 14, 1954 (OSA)**

The Istanbul daily *Cumhuriyet* stated that construction lumber was being imported from the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / Italy – January 14, 1954 (OSA)**

The Soviet Ship *S/S Sovietskaia Gavan* arrived in Livorno, Italy, from Anvers, Belgium with a cargo of 8,999 tons of pit coal.

**Bulgaria / Italy – January 15, 1954 (OSA)**

The ship “Prvi Maj” is sent for reconstruction in the Italian and Triestine shipyards. The ship is a two-funnel ship sunk in the Danube during the war and was salvaged to conduct commercial service. The Bulgarian wants to expand the ship’s tonnage from 350 to 1000 tonnes to be put

into service on the Black Sea. Additionally, Bulgaria will order more ship constructions in Italy and will pay for the service via clearing.

#### **Bulgaria / Italy – January 15, 1954 (OSA)**

The Bulgarian vessel “Shipka” will undergo a major reconstruction in Genoa for a period of 170 days, having its engine room replaced and its engines transformed from using coal to naphta. Payment for the work is made in US dollars, alongside the exportation of Bulgarian fresh eggs and poultry to Italy. The Cori organisation is a Communist cooperative that is responsible for the repairs and construction of ships of medium tonnage. However, Cori is unsuited for the task as it has no specialised workshops and few experienced workers. For this reason, 80% of the repairs of Shipka is entrusted to foreign organisations and private workshops.

#### **Bulgaria / Italy / Soviet Union – January 15, 1954 (OSA)**

The Bulgarian ship “Hristo Smirnenski” arrives completely empty in Naples after having its cargoes picked up in Odessa, Stalin, and Burgas. Next, the ship carries 1,050 tonnes of tobacco supplied by the Italian State Monopoly to be delivered to Odessa. The ship was formerly commanded by Captain Kushev, who was rumoured to be dismissed after an incident of the ship running aground. In the foreseeable future, Bulgarian ships will frequently arrive at Italian ports thanks to the new Italy-Bulgarian trade agreement, which resumes commercial relationships between the two countries. The ship “Smirnenski” is expected to arrive in Naples, transporting 1050 tonnes of tobacco to Odessa.

#### **Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / Poland – January 15, 1954 (OSA)**

The Nikolaevo porcelain factory, constructed in 1949, is the only one of its kind in Bulgaria, specialising in the production of porcelain. Machinery was brought to the plan, along with the new equipment imported from Czechoslovakia and Poland, which made production possible as early as September 1952. The factory is suitable for the business as it can acquire all the necessary coals for porcelain production from the brown coal mine north of the village. The factory employs around 2000 workers, all under the supervision of the director. The entire output of the factory consists of high explosives destined for the armed forces.

#### **Yugoslavia – January, 15 1954 (OSA)**

The report contains the directives for Yugoslav anti-Soviet propaganda and the counter arguments from sources to the critiques expressed in said propaganda. The report also contains Yugoslav criticism of RFE, VOA and BBC radio programs.

#### **Bulgaria – January 16, 1954 (OSA)**

The celebration of the 6th anniversary of the construction of the Bulgarian constitution, the “Dimitrov Constitution” takes place in Milan in the room of the Cultural Club of the Friends of Hungary. The evening begins with a speech that boasted the beautiful characteristics of the Dimitrov Constitution and recited the short history of Bulgaria, concluding with a statement emphasising the economic achievements of Bulgaria. After the speech, people leave their seats to get some refreshments and socialise with one another.

#### **Bulgaria – January 16, 1954 (OSA)**

Reports point out the increasing influence of Radio Free Europe on the Bulgarian population. Bulgarian people believe that RFE always reports the latest news in an objective manner. They also like the plain and comprehensible language in the broadcasts, as well as the nationalist

feeling embedded in the messages. In Russe, people usually form groups of four to five people and gather together to listen to RFR.

**Bulgaria – January 16, 1954 (OSA)**

The high norms and low salaries in industrial enterprises prompt workers to leave their jobs after only a few weeks of employment. More than 11,000 mineworkers quit at the “G.Dimitrov” in a period of 11 months. To resolve the situation, the government had resorted to denying the freedom of movement to the workers via the law of “Stabilising Workers.” The law decrees that workers leaving their workplace without the authorization of the administrators are liable to imprisonment of up to four months or corrective labour up to one year. A worker may leave after one year only if their work was no longer necessary. Workers were also subject to dismissal on short notice. In addition to the new law, the government launched recruitment campaigns that attracted workers by promises of high wages.

**Poland – January 16, 1954 (OSA)**

The transactions carried out by the Polish communist Embassy and the Chamber of Commerce in Warsaw through the Polish P.K.O. bank from December 10th, 1953.

**Romania / France – January 16, 1954 (OSA)**

On this date the Romanian Catholic Mission in Paris hosted an event on the Romanian philologist and linguist: Timoteiu Cipariu. The talk was given by M. Sever Pop in Romanian.

**Yugoslavia – January, 16 1954 (OSA)**

Obstacles to collaboration between Yugoslavs and satellite emigrants. Changes to the Yugoslav "Communist way of life" will affect future relations and satellite emigrants' ability to integrate into Yugoslavia.

**Bulgaria – January 17, 1954 (KCA)**

The Bulgarian National Assembly approves the new Government proposed by Vulko Chervenkov, General Secretary of the CC of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

**Yugoslavia – January 17, 1954 (KCA)**

Milovan Djilas, one of the four Vice-Presidents of the Federal Executive Council, is expelled from the Central Committee of the Yugoslav Communist Party after having been censured for a series of articles he has contributed to *Borba* and other periodicals.

**Bulgaria – January 18, 1954 (OSA)**

The lead and zinc mine “Gabrovo” was located along the highway near Gabrovo, Petelevo, Boyan Botevo, and Angel Voyvoda. Within a few months of surveying, exploitation began but production was still insignificant. Buildings are constructed to serve as administrative buildings and living quarters for the workers at the mine. The mine employs 120 miners, of whom 100 were natives of the region. The worker receives a visored cap, a pair of boots, or protective clothing depending on the working conditions. All clothes were renewed if worn out.

**Poland – January 18, 1954 (KCA)**

The President of the Polish Government-in-exile, August Zaleski, appoints Jerzy Hryniewski as Prime Minister.

**Soviet Union – January 18, 1954 (PLC)**

The 300th anniversary of the unification of Russia and Ukraine is celebrated in the Soviet Union.

**Bulgaria – January 19, 1954 (OSA)**

The Nikolaevo brown coal mine is located three kilometres north of Nikolaevo village. The mine employs about 500 miners, accommodated by facilities such as a canteen, a restaurant, a Communist party club and movie hall. The workers reach a daily output of 200 to 220 tonnes of coal and earn a daily salary of 16 to 26 Leva by working eight hours a day. Coal was exploited 150 metres below the surface, which was then transported by small horse-drawn carriages. The coal extracted at Nikolaevo is categorised and used for different purposes. The first quality was used for heating, while the third quality was delivered to factories.

**Bulgaria / Greece – January 19, 1954 (OSA)**

A final protocol on frontier issues under the heading “Our Peace Policy” is signed at Salonica between Greece and Bulgaria. The protocol concerns the border disputes and the reestablishment of the destroyed border pyramids between the two countries. No concrete detail is revealed, but according to the interpretive statement released from Athens, the protocol seeks to provide the median steady line of the river bed in non-navigable rivers to avoid frontier disputes. Some territories under Bulgarian occupation are ceded to Greece. Metal posts are set up along the frontier, in addition to photographs of the area from above to determine the border more clearly. Comrade Chervenkov emphasises that Bulgaria would respect the Peace Treaty and strictly follow all the obligations resulting from this treaty.

**Bulgaria – January 19, 1954 (OSA)**

The Bulgarian government is purchasing lemons in Italy at a cost of 107 Lire per kilogram. The lemons are sold in Bulgaria at a price of 3500 Lire per kilogram, which means that the government makes a profit of nearly 3000%.

**Bulgaria – January 19, 1954 (OSA)**

Sasho Popov, the orchestra conductor of the Sofia Opera House, marries Teresieva, a pianist who does not have any musical education. After her marriage, Teresieva becomes a conductor with the help of her husband. While making a tour around Bulgaria, she wanted to conduct a symphony, even though she did not have any idea how to organise one. The source concludes that “These are the leading people of arts and culture in Bulgaria”. However, the report must be used carefully and regarded subjectively.

**Bulgaria / Soviet Union / Romania – January 19, 1954 (OSA)**

The mountain pass of “Hainboghaz” plays a strategically important role in connecting northern and southern Bulgaria. A new railroad line is constructed in the same direction to connect with the Soviet Union and Romania, whose trucks and trails could freely reach Bulgaria without having to make detours thanks to the transportation network. Additionally, the highway serves to make possible the speedy concentration of the 3rd Bulgarian Army in case of conflict. After the construction of the bridge at Ruse, it will facilitate the speedy concentration of military reinforcements from the south to the north.

**Hungary / Austria – January 19, 1954 (KCA)**

It is announced in Vienna that the Austrian Danube Steamship Company and the Hungarian Danube Shipping Company have signed an agreement regulating steamer traffic between the two countries.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany – January 20, 1954 (OSA)**

During December 1953, 14 Czechoslovakians escape to West Germany including one woman.

**Poland / France – January 20, 1954 (OSA)**

Before the municipal elections of April 1953, the French national parties campaigned to gain the vote of Polish workers. The campaign to encourage voter registration saw for the first time the effort and interest and awareness of the importance of the vote of naturalised citizens in France. In some municipalities the percentage of naturalised citizens was so high that it could change the election results. Previously only the Communist Party had directed its election campaign also towards naturalised citizens, organising "door - to - door" inscriptions.

**Yugoslavia – January, 20 1954 (OSA)**

The report deals with the financial resources of the emigrant groups, and relations between the nationalities.

**Yugoslavia / Romania – January, 20 1954 (OSA)**

A report deals with the Romanian national minority in Yugoslavia and leading personalities of the emigration.

**Hungary – January 21–23, 1954 (HC)**

The Hungarian Parliament accepts Law 1953: III., stating that the Ministry of City and Village Economy will be established (minister: János Szabó) and Law IV. about the country's economic plan.

**Czechoslovakia – January 21, 1954 (OSA)**

Several changes in the editorial staff of the official communistic newspaper Rudá Právo have been made. The new editor in chief is Vojtěch Dolejší.

**Czechoslovakia – January 21, 1954 (OSA)**

Changes in the editorial staff of communistic newspaper Práce have been made. The new editor in chief is Antonín Zázvorka.

**Yugoslavia / Romania – January, 22 1954 (OSA)**

Following the requests of the Yugoslav authorities, an extraordinary meeting of the political committee of the Romanian refugees in Yugoslavia was called on the 14th of October 1953 in Svetozarevo.

**Yugoslavia / Romania / Hungary / Albania – January, 22 1954 (OSA)**

General Mogos, Colonel PAJA and a certain VUJA arrived in Svetozarevo from Belgrade. A meeting was organised and the three mentioned people, and the delegations of refugees who had found asylum in Yugoslavia took part. Among these delegations there were Bulgarians, Hungarians and Albanians, Romanians. On 8th of November on the desires of Yugoslav Government, the Romanian committee had to be newly elected.

**Yugoslavia / Greece – January, 23 1954 (OSA)**

According to an American publication, Tito and Malenkov have a secret agreement to see Yugoslavia rejoin the Soviet bloc. Greek government ministers respond with shock and disappointment to these reports, interpreting them as a betrayal on Tito's part.

**Romania / France – January 24, 1954 (OSA)**

In Paris, there was a large event commemorating the anniversary of the unification of Romania. It was acknowledged that Russia has originally been against such a union. The event saw speeches given by notable members of the community.

**Soviet Union / Italy – January 24, 1954 (KCA)**

Alexander Bogomolov is appointed as the Soviet Ambassador to Italy.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – January 25, 1954 (CWC)**

The four-power conference of Soviet, French, British and American foreign ministers begins in Berlin. On the agenda are peace treaties for Germany and Austria as well as European security and arms control.

**Hungary / Greece – January 26, 1954 (KCA)**

The Hungarian Government informs the International Red Cross that it is willing to return to Greece the 1,172 hostages taken from their homes by Communist guerrillas during the Greek civil war.

**Czechoslovakia – January 28, 1954 (OSA)**

Insects called San José infect fruit trees in Slovakia and Moravia which triggers a huge government campaign.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 28, 1954 (LBC)**

Eisenhower's program on East-West trade: The U.S. will maintain the embargo of strategic commodities until real peace is realized. However, the exchange of peaceful products has to be increased because it will be to the West's advantage, it will facilitate penetration behind the Iron Curtain, and will bring closer the day when East-West relations can be normalized.

**Czechoslovakia – January 29, 1954 (KCA)**

It is announced in Prague that seven associates of the late Rudolf Slansky who was executed in 1952, have been sentenced to long terms of imprisonment after a three-day trial.

**Soviet Union / Italy / Belgium — January 29, 1954 (OSA)**

The Soviet S/S "Sovietskaja Gavan" arrived in Leghorn on January 14, 1954, carrying a large cargo of coal from Anvers. The ship is under the agency of the Folea Company in Leghorn. Meanwhile, the Israeli M/S "Nackchon" is expected to reach Odessa approximately on January 15, 1954, carrying a cargo of oranges for the Russian market, marking the first call of Israeli vessel to a Soviet harbor, after the relaunching of the diplomatic relations between the two countries. According to maritime agencies, the new agreements prescribe shipments of fruits to the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – January 30, 1954 (CWC)**

Molotov presents a proposal to the conference which calls for the five permanent members of the Security Council to sign an agreement renouncing the use of atomic weapons. The United States, Britain and France reject the proposal.

**Soviet Union / China – January 31, 1954 (KCA)**

The first direct passenger train service between Moscow and Beijing is in operation.

## **February**

### **East Germany – February, 1954 (OSA)**

A sharp increase in the number of sick reports in East German industrial plants was recorded. This likely represents an act of passive resistance by workers, given the absence of a clear pattern or regional difference in trends that would suggest specific incidence of disease.

### **Romania / France – February, 1954 (OSA)**

In the month of February, Romanian oil exports to France increased and their desired imports from France were steel, fertilisers, and medicines. In total, over 9 million Francs worth of petrol was imported to France from Romania throughout the month.

### **Romania – February, 1954 (OSA)**

Former Communist Romanian General Karagheorghis died in Margineni. This was after being imprisoned in 1953 for deviating from the party line. It is believed that he remained a committed Communist throughout imprisonment. He died due to an attack on his person.

### **Soviet Union – February–March 1954 (KCA)**

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union adopts decisions for reclaiming uncultivated land and increasing the output of grain.

### **Yugoslavia / Ethiopia – February 1954 (RYN)**

General Peko Dapčević, Yugoslav Chief of Staff, visits Ethiopia as a special emissary from President Tito and extends an invitation to Emperor Haile Selassie to visit Yugoslavia.

### **Romania – February 1, 1954 (KCA)**

The revaluation of the Romanian currency from 2.8 lei: 1 Soviet rouble, to 1.5 lei : 1 rouble is announced on Bucharest Radio.

### **Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – February 1, 1954 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union presents a German peace treaty calling for unification, the withdrawal of all occupation forces, and an agreement that Germany would not join any alliance directed at the WWII allies. The United States, Britain and France reject this proposal.

### **Romania – February 2, 1954 (OSA)**

The Romanian government released a decision regarding the “improvement of the system of contracts concerning the production of vegetables, fruits, and grapes.”

### **Yugoslavia / Trieste / U.K. / U.S. – February 2-May 31, 1954 (NBT)**

Talks between the Anglo-Americans and Yugoslavs on the Trieste problem take place.

### **Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – February, 2 1954 (OSA)**

Bulgarians escaping to Yugoslavia who are willing to live under communist rule were accepted as emigrants, but those who are seeking to emigrate beyond into Western Europe are generally sent back to Bulgaria.

### **Soviet Union / U.K. – February 4, 1954 (KCA)**

Business agreements are reached between British businessmen and the All-Union Chamber of Commerce in Moscow.

**Czechoslovakia – February 8, 1954 (OSA)**

Famous Czechoslovakian long distance runner Emil Zátopek is criticised for his cooperation with the Communist government.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany – February 8, 1954 (OSA)**

During January 1954, 8 Czechoslovakian refugees escape to Western Germany, all men under 50 years old.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – February 8, 1954 (OSA)**

According to confidential sources, the Polish press and propaganda organs have received orders to not criticise Yugoslavia and the Tito Government. Relations between the two countries have been restored.

**Soviet Union – February 9, 1954 (KCA)**

Moscow announces the creation of two new Ministries, for Ferrous Metallurgy and for Non-Ferrous Metallurgy.

**Soviet Bloc / U.S. – February 10, 1954 (PLC)**

The United States bans the export of surplus agricultural goods to the countries of the Soviet Bloc.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – February 10, 1954 (CWC)**

Molotov presents a Soviet draft for a European peace treaty. Any European nation can sign, which is a commitment to retaliate the use of force against any other signatory. The United States as a non-European nation was not eligible to sign the treaty. The proposal is rejected by the Western powers.

**Romania – February 11, 1954 (OSA)**

The official radio in Cluj, Romania broadcast a report of an abundance of food supplies in the town. This report comes on the heels of supply shortages in large parts of the country. Much of these shortages can be traced to the recent government abolition of the ration card system. New monetary reforms are expected.

**Kazakhstan / Soviet Union – February 12, 1954 (KCA)**

Alma-Ata, the capital of the Central Asian Republic of Kazakhstan, announces the dismissal of the First and Second Secretaries of the Kazakh Communist Party.

**Soviet Union / China / U.S. – February 13, 1954 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union sends an aide-memoir to Secretary of State Dulles, suggesting that the permanent members of the Security Council plus a few other nations, for instance China, meet to discuss the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The United States rejects the proposal.

**Czechoslovakia – February 16, 1954 (OSA)**

Televisions in Czechoslovakia spread, however, they are still in an experimental stage.

**Romania / France – February 16, 1954 (OSA)**

At this date, since their creation five years prior, the Committee of Assistance for Romanians has helped over 2,500 Romanian refugees resettle in France. At this time it is estimated that since 1939, 17,000 Romanians have entered the country including 15,000 Jews.



**Soviet Union / China / U.K. – February 16, 1954 (KCA)**

The British Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Defense, Nigel Birch, estimates that since 1951 the strength of Soviet armed forces has been increased by 150,000 men to 4,750,000, and the armies of Eastern European satellites have grown by 120,000 to 1,190,000; and the Chinese armed forces total 4,000,000.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – February 18, 1954 (CWC)**

The four power conference ends. While peace treaties with Germany and Austria are not concluded, the powers agree to meet again to resolve issues in Korea and Indochina.

**Poland – February 19, 1954 (OSA)**

Details of armed troops, garrisons and their artillery are reported here alongside information about their headquarters and military bases in several Polish cities.

**Soviet Union – February 19, 1954 (PLC)**

Khrushchev gives the autonomous area of Crimea to the Ukraine on the anniversary of the two countries' unification.

**Hungary / Greece – February 20, 1954 (KCA)**

The first batch of Greek hostages held by Hungary is handed over to the Greek Red Cross delegation.

**Poland / East Germany – February 20, 1954 (OSA)**

The impressions of the source about the Polish People's Republic during his trip to Warsaw. Description of places, restaurants, travelling expenses and general impression on the environment by the source are provided. The enthusiasm about the Kultur Palast is underlined. The source harshly states that East Germany seemed like paradise when compared to Poland.

**Poland / North Africa / France – February 20, 1954 (OSA)**

Details on the visit of the Director Baigniere of the "North African Phosphate Agency" to Poland in 1954 are provided. The report also gives personal details on the life of Director Baigniere alongside the address of his agency in Paris. The diminishing of the French commercial exports of phosphates is underlined.

**Romania / Greece / Hungary – February 21, 1954 (OSA)**

On this date a group of 1,230 Greek refugees were repatriated and arrived in Venice through Hungary. Until this date, these refugees had been living in Romania. Romania is home to a large population of Greek refugees, many of whom are children. The living conditions are thought passable; the girls are often sent to technical schools and the boys are recruited into heavy industry.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 21, 1954 (LBC)**

It is announced that in 1953 almost half of the U.S. exports to the USSR (\$320-325 million) was consumer goods.

**Poland – February 23, 1954 (OSA)**

Details on the lack of water and on the unhealthy sanitary conditions in the Sztum prison are provided. After giving general information about the history of the prison, its buildings and the treatment of prisoners, the report focuses on the water supplies issues and the resulting lack of

cleanliness. Details of prisoners' routines, poor health conditions, and personnel information from an internal source are also provided.

**Poland / Soviet Union / East Germany – February 24, 1954 (OSA)**

The postponement of the Polish Communist Party's Congress in January 1954 alongside the declared Moscow silence after the Berlin conference. Moscow's uncertainty is stated to confuse the Polish Communist Party. It also mentions the expected delay of the Nowa Huta project and of the general improvement of the life of the Poles due to the lack of precise instructions and continuous economic exploitation.

**Poland / Soviet Union – February 24, 1954 (OSA)**

Details on the 41st infantry regiment housed in Szczecin-Krzykow are provided alongside information about the organisation and the political training which consisted also in studying the lives of Lenin, Stalin and other political figures.

**Czechoslovakia – February 25, 1954 (OSA)**

Famous Czechoslovakian children's author Jaroslav Foglar struggles due to communistic regime and suffers from persecution.

**Romania – February 25, 1954 (OSA)**

A new reversal of policy by the Romanian government, taking effect on this day, allows for the sale of unrationed kerosene through the country. It fixed the price of kerosene at 1.50 lei per litre.

**Bulgaria – February 25 – March 3, 1954 (PLC)**

The 6th session of the Bulgarian Communist Party CC takes place. For tactical reasons, Todor Zhivkov is elected to be the head of the party, but in reality, Chervenkov keeps his influence.

**Poland / Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – February 25, 1954 (LBC)**

Churchill's speech in the House of Commons on East-West trade: the significant relaxation of the Western trade embargo would improve the chance for East-West coexistence. More trade with the East would avert war; friendly infiltration would be good. The U.S. closes Poland's New York, Chicago and Cleveland consulates since they serve no diplomatic purpose.

**East Germany – February 26, 1954 (OSA)**

The East German government issues a directive which allows the creation of special bank accounts, to curb the hoarding of East Marks beyond the 300-mark cash limit. Fears that these would be used as evidence against violators of the limit, as well as that the money would be partially or wholly confiscated, may be behind the meagre sums put into such accounts by late May.

**Poland – February 26, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides information about the bolshevisation of the Poznan countryside, specifically in the village of Gronska. Examples of propagandistic meetings are given alongside some names of socially active communists in the villages. The report also provides information on the council of the district Nowy Tomysil, its influential personalities and the employees and productions of some factories.

**Poland / U.S. – February 27, 1954 (KCA)**

The Polish Government asks the U.S. Government to close its Consulate at Gdansk.

**Poland – February 27, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides information about the work of some hairdressers in Poland and their sometimes-desperate search for customers defined as “suitable victims.” The report also briefly describes the “black” work of the joiners and Carpenters Cooperatives.

**Poland / Romania / Bulgaria / China – February 27, 1954 (OSA)**

Information about cargos on the chartering market in London in January 1954 are provided. Specifically, the cargo of cement, wheat and soya beans, iron ore and vegetable oil and coal are detailed. Details on the shipment, delivering ports and percentage requested are also specified.

**Romania / France – February 27, 1954 (OSA)**

On this date the Romanian Catholic Mission in Paris hosted an event on contemporary art. The presentation was given by M. Paul Scortesco in French.

**Hungary – February 28, 1954 (HC)**

Decree 1/1954 by the Minister of City and Village Economy and the Minister of Finance is announced, stating that building, renovating and expanding houses privately will be allowed.

**Hungary – February 28, 1954 (HC)**

The first blast furnace at the Stalin Ironworks in Sztálinváros (the Hungarian Stalingrad) is opened.

**March****Romania – March, 1954 (OSA)**

Mares was assigned as director of the Vasil Tudose factory in Colibasi, Romania. He had previously worked as director of the Combinatul Siderurgic factory in Hunedoara, Romanian for a period of over 15 months.

**Romania / France – March, 1954 (OSA)**

Nicolae Draghici, former Romanian member of the Legation in Paris, and his wife left Paris for Romania this month after being recalled. It is not clear if/when they will return to France.

**Romania / France – early March, 1954 (OSA)**

According to a source, the Romanian government has begun the practice of incentivising previous Jewish emigrants to Israel to return to Romania. This is done in an effort to disincentivise further Jewish refugees from leaving. This is done in conjunction with a softening of police violence.

**Romania / France – early March, 1954 (OSA)**

According to an interview conducted in the beginning of March in Paris with Romanian refugee, Vasile Dumitru, the Romanian authorities give “special privileges” to members of the Ministry of the Interior. These privileges come in the form of scarce foods, uniforms, and higher salaries.

**Soviet Union – March 1954 (KRI)**

The Ministry of State Security (MGB) is reorganized into the Council for State Security (KGB).

**Finland – March 1, 1954 (TSV)**

Coffee regulation ends. Coffee is the last product that has been regulated in Finland after the war.

**Romania / France / Soviet Union – March 1, 1954 (OSA)**

In total, in the first three months of 1954, France exported over 3 billion Francs worth of products to Romania. It is noted that the USSR prefers to import capital equipment from the West and export manufactured equipment to its satellite states.

**Romania / France – March 1, 1954 (OSA)**

Those responsible for the administration of the Romanian “Dinamo” sports program were officially given civilian status. This program is known for having military connections and is a source of much anti-Western propaganda, aimed specifically at athletes going to competitions abroad.

**Soviet Union / Italy / England / Yugoslavia / Hungary / Czechoslovakia – March 1, 1954 (OSA)**

A commercial agreement between the Italian Republic and the USSR, which was signed in Rome on 27 October 1953, resulted in the Italo-Russian clearing account being out of balance. Italy could import wheat and tobacco from the USSR in exchange for the construction of naval units for which the USSR would supply the raw materials consented by the British Admiralty.

**Kazakhstan / Soviet Union – March 2, 1954 (PLC)**

The leaders of the CPSU agree to start a program changing the natural landscape in the Volga area (Kazakhstan).

**Soviet Union – March 2, 1954 (KCA)**

Moscow Radio announces that Tretyakov, Minister of Health, has been released from his post and has been succeeded by Maria Dimitriyevna Kovrigina.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / U.S. – March 3, 1954 (LBC)**

The U.S. takes the case of the C-47 type aircraft that had been forced to land in 1951 by the Soviet Union and Hungary to the International Court in Hague. The plane’s value approaches \$100 thousand; the U.S. pays a \$123 thousand fine for the release of the crew.

**Poland – March 3, 1954 (OSA)**

Details of alleged pig slaughterhouse sabotage in Warsaw, causing a great shortage of pork, are given. It is reported by internal sources that around 200 pigs had been poisoned. The pork supplies were to be directed to the CWOP prison camp. Slaughterhouse employees were questioned in order to find the responsible party.

**Poland / Sweden – March 3, 1954 (OSA)**

The attempted escape of the sea captain Ludowski with his crew from Gdansk to Sweden is here reported alongside the consequences of his attempted escape and the subsequent condemnation to lifetime imprisonment in Poland.

**Poland / Baltic states – March 4, 1954 (OSA)**

The report gives information about the almost ceasing of shipping in the Baltic waters due to the freezing of the area along the German and Polish coasts. It is stated that the Polish vessels

are lying in the national ports or in foreign harbours waiting for better weather conditions. Details about some Polish vessels are provided as well as the iced conditions of the Kiel Canal.

**Poland / Great Britain – March 4, 1954 (OSA)**

Negotiations are taking place between Poland and Great Britain for a new trade and payments agreement.

**Poland / Sweden – March 4, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides details regarding the trade difficulties experienced by Poland with Sweden. It is reported that after a week of negotiations, a settlement has not been reached. The agreement revolved around the Swedish demand for Polish coal, which was expected to diminish in the following months, however, the negotiation was made more difficult by the Polish debt to Sweden of about 26 million kr.

**Poland – March 5, 1954 (OSA)**

A list of the crew members of the Polish vessel “Elblag” dated back to February 1954 is provided with personal details of the crew and rank position.

**Poland – March 5, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides details on the crew list of the Polish vessel “Kutno” such as rank, names and personal details.

**Poland – March 5, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides details on the crew list of the Polish vessel “Goplo” such as rank, names and personal details.

**Poland / France / Canada – March 5, 1954 (OSA)**

The Communist-sponsored Franco-Polish Friendship Association has created a campaign to protest the Canadian government’s refusal to return a few cultural objects to Poland. The organization demands that the Canadian Embassy return art which before 1939 resided in Krakow’s Wawel Palace. However, according to the Canadian Embassy in Paris the Association’s campaign is based on old facts and propaganda.

**Poland / France – March 6, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides more details on the Franco - Polish contacts during the Conseil Mondial de la Paix previously held in Vienna in November 1953. More information on the possible identity of Monsieur Jacques is given. Sources identified as possible “Monsieur Jacques” as two different men: the director of the European import and export desk Jacques Alembic and the journalist André Giraud.

**Poland / UK / Belgium / China – March 6, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides information about goods and strategic materials which export is banned in China and smuggled in by various British and Belgian firms. The transport agency in charge of this transaction was “Freight Express Ltd.” Information provided was of limited distribution.

**Soviet Union — March 6, 1954 (OSA)**

Spectators witnessed, in late summer of 1953, a training exercise by the Transport Services of the Soviet Union in Leningrad, with the participation of both instructors and students of the Motor Faculty of the Academy. There were two types of amphibian cars used by the Soviet military forces for the purpose of the training exercise: a GAZ 67 amphibian, with four-seats,

equipped with a water-pumping system and a water-steering wheel, and a larger amphibian car, able to accommodate up to 16 passengers, with two engines and two propellers for controlling each side of the vehicle.

**Finland – March 7–8, 1954 (HJH/TPE)**

New parliamentary elections are held. The Agrarian League and the Social Democrats preserve their position as the leading parties.

**Romania / Israel – March 7, 1954 (OSA)**

A Romanian refugee in Israel previously sent money back to relatives still in Romania in November of 1953. It was only on March 7th, 1954 that they received confirmation that the money was received. This money, however, was changed from Swiss Francs to Leis at a rate much less favourable than the official exchange rate. This is reticent of the norm for money sent into Romania from abroad.

**Bulgaria – March 8, 1954 (KCA)**

Todor Zhivkov is appointed to the new post of Party Secretary.

**Hungary – March 10, 1954 (HC)**

Decree 18/1954 by the Government announces that martial law can no longer be practiced.

**Poland – March 10, 1954 (OSA)**

News about the ended friendship between Cyrankiewicz, Polish Deputy Prime Minister and Szafiarska are provided. Alleged information on not platonic friendships and with other women than his own wife are reported here, confirming his treacheries.

**Poland – March 10, 1954 (OSA)**

Information about the life and accomplishments of the great Polish poet Julian Tuwim are here reported after his death in February 1954. A description of his last days is given alongside the description of his poetry in an intimate and political way.

**Poland – March 10, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides information on a murder on 19 February 1954 of a Polish man who had intervened in defence of a nurse harassed by Russian soldiers. The same soldiers were accused of the murder of the man thanks to several witnesses from the nearby hotel. The police were slow to arrive when it was specified that the attack was by Russian soldiers.

**Poland – March 10–17, 1954 (PSN)**

The second meeting of the Congress of the Polish United Workers Party is held.

**East Germany / Egypt – March 10–30, 1954 (OSA)**

An East German Industrial Exhibition in Cairo displays the satellite country's industrial machinery, scientific apparatuses, and consumer goods, in a concerted attempt to capture foreign export markets. Other exhibits in Finland and Indonesia are planned for the year.

**Poland / Soviet Union / Czechoslovakia – March 11, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides information about an official journey made by a member of the international transport conference from Warsaw to Russia in order to discuss the goods traffic between the two countries. Details on the downfall of Russian prices are given alongside examples and comparisons among different goods. In addition, the source provides details of

his journey to Czechoslovakia where it was possible to obtain, in dollars, goods not available in other countries, emphasising the growing demand for foreign goods in satellite countries.

**Romania – March 11, 1954 (PIR)**

Through the Decision of the Council of Ministers no. 337, work colonies are dissolved, the detainees from these units are freed, with the exception of those who had served the interests of the bourgeoisie, for whom investigations will be resumed. On the basis of this decision, M.A.I. can extend the measure of forced domicile on any person considered a threat to state security.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 11, 1954 (CWC)**

In an election speech in Moscow, Molotov makes the claim that the United States is using NATO as an instrument to dominate Europe and that an all-European security peace treaty would be a better alternative to the system of military blocks in Europe.

**Poland / Denmark – March 12, 1954 (OSA)**

The Polish monthly imports of Danish penicillin and its subsequent commerce is here specified alongside quantities and the specification of the marketing by “Made in Poland” stamps in order to impress the population on the quality of the medicine.

Language of the source: English

**Poland / France – March 12, 1954 (OSA)**

The possibility of the Polish Communist and progressive writer Jerzy Braun to take the place of the former secretary of the Polish Communist Embassy in Paris is stated. The former secretary Sokolak, in charge of the cultural services of the embassy, was soon to leave his office. Thus, after a meeting held at the embassy in February 1954 by Braun himself, the report points out that news began to circulate about the possibility of his new employment as Sokolak's successor. It also emphasises the possibility of contacts with Catholic circles in Paris.

**Soviet Union – March 12, 1954 (CWC)**

Malenkov gives a speech in which he is calling for the end of the Cold War and strays from orthodoxy by stating that atomic war would mean “the end of world civilization”. Many leaders in the Soviet Union do not agree with this speech.

**Hungary – March 13, 1954 (HC)**

*A paraszti világgépről* (About the peasants' world view), an article by Imre Sarkadi is published in the *Irodalmi Újság*.

**Poland / France – March 13, 1954 (OSA)**

The report states the disillusionment of two of the thirty - five sailors who, in February 1954 were charged to deliver the French boat “La volte” to Poland. Among the sailors, five were communists. The two former communist sailors openly declared to have "understood" the nature of Communism. The other three Communist sailors were also supposed to have become disillusioned with the approach to communism in Poland.

**Soviet Union – March 13, 1954 (PLC)**

The Soviet State Protection Ministry is reformed. The State Protection Authority is founded, which will exist till **October 1991**.

**Romania / France / Soviet Union (Armenia) / Argentina – March 14, 1954 (OSA)**

An Armenian man born in Bucharest arrived in Paris en route to Argentina. According to this source, the Romanian government makes a habit of separating families who hope to immigrate, often allowing only one or two members of the family to leave the country.

**Soviet Union – March 14, 1954 (KCA)**

Elections for the two Houses of the Supreme Soviet take place; a total of 1,347 deputies are elected. It is officially announced that 99.98% of the electorate went to the polls, the Communist and non-party *bloc* received 99.79% of the votes.

**Poland – March 15, 1954 (OSA)**

The report describes the inspection visit of the director of Polish ocean lines made on the vessel “Hel.” The inspection sought to understand the wellbeing of the crew, the organisation and the commercial trades. After the visit of director Golyszny, a rumour had spread among the merchant marine on the possible necessity to increase the buying of new Polish vessels.

**Poland / France – March 15, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides information about the decision of a Polish worker in France who refused to strike after an incident in the steelworks of Longwy had occurred. The report underlines that the decision was connected to the receipt by this worker of a letter from his brother. By comparison to the letter from his brother, the Polish worker in France announced his willingness not to go on strike, considering his working conditions not to be severe.

**Poland / France – March 15, 1954 (KCA)**

Warsaw announces that Stanislaw Gajewski has been appointed Polish Ambassador to France.

**Poland / Hungary / USA – March 15, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides information about the upcoming American citizenship ceremony for five Polish and Hungarian soldiers and how the Communist propaganda is still influencing their lives. The report briefly describes the experience of several soldiers who wish to obtain American citizenship. The naturalisation of soldiers born in other countries is possible thanks to a law from June 1953.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – March 15, 1954 (KCA)**

A statement on the position of Russian-born wives of British subjects, who had been prevented from leaving the Soviet Union and rejoining their husbands in Britain, is made by Eden in the House of Commons.

**Poland / West Germany – March 16, 1954 (OSA)**

An RFE report deals with the annual meeting of the “Zwiazek polakow w niemczech” the league of Poles in Germany, held in Charlottenburg. The previous meetings held by the league are briefly described alongside the elected executive board and its auditing commission. The chairman Karol Sierakowski has been re-elected.

**Soviet Union – March 16, 1954 (KCA)**

Moscow announces that Professor Georgi Alexandrov has succeeded General Ponomarenko as Minister of Culture.



**Poland / Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Turkey – March 16, 1954 (OSA)**

The Turkish Ministry for Economy and Trade announced a list of goods which could be imported from countries outside the European Payments Union, this included Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary. The Turkish Central Bank will grant import permits to these countries for specific goods.

**Poland – March 17, 1954 (KCA)**

The second congress of the Polish United Workers' (Communist) Party ends and is followed by Government changes.

**Poland / Italy – March 17, 1954 (OSA)**

The report describes an encounter between two Polish sailors and some Italian workers in the Port of Bari, whom approached the sailors affirming "Don't be afraid, You are one of us", showing the membership to the Italian Communist Party.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 17, 1954 (LBC)**

President Eisenhower announces that he would order immediate retaliation if the U.S. were attacked by any nation. On **March 1** the U.S. announces that it successfully exploded its second hydrogen bomb. The device is thought to be suitable for use as a weapon.

**Poland / China – March 18, 1954 (OSA)**

The document describes the urge of the Polish press to lie on the goods imported to Poland from China to impress the public opinion. The unrealistic and forged achievements and exports with their relative quantities are published in several Polish journals. An alleged "Socialist Competition" is also cited between several Polish ships according to national newspapers.

**Poland / Denmark – March 18, 1954 (OSA)**

Building and shipment of Danish ferries has been ordered by the Polish government to its river transports of cars and passengers. The Swinoujcie ferry represents the first ship ordered by Poland in Denmark.

**Poland / France – March 18, 1954 (OSA)**

The Polish liner "Batory" and its route to transport French children of Polish descent who were to spend their vacation in Poland is noted. Details on the stop on Le Havre are given alongside the description of the show of two colour films and the subsequent appreciation. Information is reported by the official French "Journal de la Marine Marchande."

**Romania – March 18, 1954 (PIR)**

The measures to be taken in the trial against the 'spy' group led by Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu are discussed in the Political Bureau.

**Romania / France – March 18, 1954 (OSA)**

The French government ratified the Geneva Convention with regards to treatment of refugees searching for work. This has widespread implications on the Romanian refugee community in France.

**Romania / France – March 18, 1954 (OSA)**

Hunamité organised a track meet in Paris that welcomed athletes from many Soviet satellite states including Romania. After the track meet, Vasile Dumitru, a Romanian athlete stayed in France rather than returning to his native Romania.

**Romania / France – March 18, 1954 (OSA)**

At the Humanité organised track meet in Paris, four Romanian athletes attended. They were under high security at all times and instructed not to make any contact with exiled Romanians or any other Romanian refugees. They were paid highly at the end of their trip for their loyalty.

**Soviet Union / The Netherlands – March 18, 1954 (KCA)**

Soviet Union protests to the Dutch Government against the establishment of American bases on Dutch territory in peacetime.

**Poland – March 19, 1954 (KCA)**

Prime Minister Boleslaw Bierut, who has been appointed first secretary of the Party's Central Committee, resigns the Premiership in order to concentrate on the task of putting into effect the new party statutes adopted by the congress. He is succeeded by Jozef Cyrankiewicz.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – March 19, 1954 (LBC)**

J. F. Dulles briefs the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on new U.S. foreign policy called "new look". The aim is to make the USSR understand that it would face the full U.S. nuclear potential if it threatened the U.S. or its vital interests. On **March 22** Eden announces that the British Government is no longer dealing with the Molotov proposal.

**Bulgaria / France – March 20, 1954 (LBC)**

Bulgarian-French economic agreement is signed. France delivers textile, chemicals, medicine, machines and other products to Bulgaria in return for agricultural products. The deal is worth three billion French francs.

**Romania / France – March 20, 1954 (OSA)**

On this date the Romanian Catholic Mission in Paris hosted an event on Christian humanism in Europe. The speech was given by M. Francois de la Noe in French.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – March 20, 1954 (KCA)**

The British Embassy in Moscow announces that the Soviet authorities have provided "documentary proof" that four women who married British Embassy workers have voluntarily divorced their husbands.

**Soviet Union / Greece / U.S. – March 20, 1954 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union sends a note to the Greek Government, strongly protesting both Greece's decision to allow U.S. forces to use Greek territory for U.S. air and naval bases, and the authorization of the U.S. to develop Greek roads and railways for military purposes within the NATO.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – March 22, 1954 (LBC)**

The President of the British Board of Trade declares that the British Government urges maximal trade with the Soviet Union in goods that do not involve Western security. He does not think it is desirable to maintain the "long-term, loose and ineffective blockade" of the USSR.

**Romania – March 23, 1954 (OSA)**

The Communist Romanian newspaper Scanteia published an article announcing the beginning of the sale of unrationed kerosene that had begun 25th February of the same year.

**Romania / India – March 23, 1954 (PIR)**

The first commercial and payments accord between Romania and India is signed at New Delhi.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – March 23, 1954 (LBC)**

It is announced that Britain is selling one million pounds' worth of milk wrapping machines to the USSR.

**Hungary – March 24, 1954 (HC)**

Decree no. 1954:7 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces the abolition of the College of Foreign Languages.

**Hungary – March 24, 1954 (HC)**

Session of the Hungarian Writers' Union. Chairman József Darvas resigns, Péter Veres will be the new Chairman. A Secretariat is established, its members: Sándor Erdei, Tibor Barabás, Lajos Kónya, Tibor Méray and Ernő Urbán.

**Poland – March 24, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides information about Polish emigrates which had previously left their country, or other Eastern states and were temporarily passing through the "Overseas Home" in the town of Lesum. Information on the expected departures from Bremerhaven are given alongside details on the main vessels used, their story and anecdotes on the staff.

**Romania – March 25, 1954 (PIR)**

The Romanian Government publishes "The Declaration regarding collective security in Europe".

**Romania / France – March 25, 1954 (OSA)**

There occurs at the Romanian border discrimination in which parcels are allowed to reach recipients. It appears that this discrimination is used to target specific people within Romanian by depriving them of goods from abroad and thereby making it more difficult to live. This phenomenon is not unique among parcels sent from France to Romania.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – March 25, 1954 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union grants sovereignty to the GDR stating that it needs to respond to the FRG's claims to represent all Germans.

**Poland / Soviet Union / Hungary / Czechoslovakia / France – March 25–April 9, 1954 (OSA)**

The Soviet Union and three satellite states (Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia) joined non-Communist nations to participate in the 7th International Film Festival at Cannes. The countries have all submitted various films to the festival.

**Poland – March 25–26, 1954 (OSA)**

A mine catastrophe in the 'Barbara Wyzwolenie' Mine in Chorzow occurred leaving around 700 killed. The mine collapsed due to a gas explosion. The government has announced that labor day celebrations on May 1 should be scaled down.

**Poland – March 26, 1954 (OSA)**

Some prices of basic goods such as sugar and vegetables or luxury goods such as coffee in Poland in 1954 are provided alongside a description of the average weekly salary of a worker

and a basic yet unprecise calculation of an average salary at that time. A list of most common and requested foods with their prices based on quantity is also provided.

**Poland / Soviet Union / Czechoslovakia – March 26–27, 1954 (OSA)**

A COMECON meeting was held in Moscow during which Poland and Czechoslovakia asked how to obtain more Swedish iron ore.

**Romania / Soviet Union – March 27, 1954 (OSA)**

Edgar Waldman, upon arriving in France gave a firsthand account of the Soviet attempts to turn a formerly respected university in the sciences and medicine into a university specialising in preparing party cadres and dispensing propaganda. According to the source, many of the previous faculty members were forced to leave and were replaced with less qualified party members.

**Soviet Union / Indonesia — March 27, 1954 (OSA)**

The Soviet Government announced with a written statement to the Parliament, that during informal talks at the Hague with members of the Economic Section of the Indonesian High Commissioners Office, representatives of the Soviet Union expressed the intention for purchasing 100,000 tons of smallholders' rubber annually from Indonesia. In previous discussions, the Soviet representatives insisted on purchasing high-grade rubber produced by Indonesian smallholders, appropriate for the Soviet industries following quality-level examinations.

**Albania / Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Romania / Yugoslavia / France – March, 30 1954 (OSA)**

French General Association of Students in Lyons, has reported their relations with foreign exchange students from Eastern Europe are only cultural. A.G is concerned about the students from these countries being politically exploited by Eastern European states. In addition, the Association received some 20 Russians, studying in France under a Franco-U.S.S.R. exchange students' program. A.G intends to send a group of students to Prague in the future.

**Czechoslovakia / Bulgaria / Poland / Hungary / France / Soviet Union – March 30, 1954 (OSA)**

Relations between the National Union of Students in France and those in many Eastern European countries have been reduced to strictly cultural ties due to political differences. Exchanges, however, do still take place. Most recently a delegation from Lyon went to Warsaw and a Russian delegation arrived in Lyon.

**Poland / France – March 30, 1954 (OSA)**

In the report a list of the amounts provided to various organisations in France by the Polish Communist Embassy is given. Specifically, the expenses provided concern the repatriations of Polish migrants living in different French cities. The compensations are dated back to the 15th of March 1954.

**Poland / France / Bulgaria / Hungary / Czechoslovakia – March 30, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides particulars regarding the relations of the general association of students in Lyon with other international students. It is specified that the association of students in Lyon sent a group of its students to Prague in 1951, some to Bulgaria and others to Hungary. Two of those students were sent as observers to the Congress of International Union of Students, U.I.E

in Warsaw. The report also specifies the plans to organise a group of students to visit the organisation in Prague alongside underlining the cultural nature of those meetings.

**Poland / France – March 30, 1954 (OSA)**

On 12 March 1954, a delegation of the French association “Friend of Nature” decided to rejoin from St. Étienne, other thirty - two delegates in Poland. The delegates from the association decided to organise a cultural trip. The report points out that the naturalistic organisation “Friend of Nature” was created before the war and immediately became politically close to anarchist groups. However, splits in the group had formed in the years after its creation.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – March 30, 1954 (LBC)**

The U.S., United Kingdom and France redefine their embargo on strategic shipping to communist countries in order to increase East-West trade. Eisenhower recommends more tolerance for the East-West exchange of non-strategic goods in case it does not harm his country’s security interest.

**Romania / Soviet Union – March 31, 1954 (PIR)**

Miron Constantinescu, on behalf of Romania, signs an agreement with the USSR, stipulating the sale or transfer to Romania of the Soviet part of mixed companies, with the exception of Sovrompetrol and Sovromcuart (a second agreement would be signed **September 18**).

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 31, 1954 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union again proposes a European security treaty to the United States but this time would allow American participation in exchange for the Soviet Union joining NATO. The United States rejects this proposal on May 7th.

**Soviet Union / West-Germany – March 31, 1954 (OSA)**

The Soviet Ship *TM/S Sovietskaia Neft* arrived in Hamburg from Manchuria. Its cargo consisted of 92,000 tons of soya beans.

**April**

**East Germany – April, 1954 (HWD)**

The acknowledgement of the “New Course” comes to an end at the Fourth Party Congress of the SED. First Secretary Walter Ulbricht announces that the restoration of German unity has an “an irrevocable legitimacy”.

**Romania – April, 1954 (OSA)**

Foreign fly-over planes dropped assorted leaflets over the city of Bucharest in Romania. The nationality of the planes is unknown.

**Romania – April, 1954 (OSA)**

In this month, there were reportedly 1,000 political prisoners and 500 common prisoners held at the Romanian prison in Lugoj. Many members of Cercul Negru, a subversion organisation in Romania, were among the prisoners present; most were arrested back in 1952.

**Romania – April, 1954 (OSA)**

This month, according to the World Jewish Congress in London, 40 Zionist leaders were put on trial in Romania. This figure included 6 women. This was believed to be the fifth mass trial in the last 4 years.

**Romania – April, 1954 (OSA)**

Both Chrisinevschi and Moghioros were eliminated from their positions on the Romanian Communist Party Secretariat this month. This is expected to lead to the elimination of a large number of other party leaders within the Romanian Communist Party.

**Romania / Belgium – April, 1954 (OSA)**

The Belgian football team “La Gantoise” went to Romania to engage in friendly competition. They lost their first game against “Dinamo” and tied their second against the Romanian army. While in Romania, the team was continuously accompanied by at least one Romanian official.

**Romania / France – April, 1954 (OSA)**

The French authorities received information on Romanian Communist Ion Ionescu. According to Vasile Dumitru, Ionescu served in the position of Chief of the Athletic Section and Secretary of the Central Commission of Athleticism at the C.C.F.S. (Physical Cultural and Sport Committee). He joined the Communist Party in 1944.

**Romania / France – April, 1954 (OSA)**

An investigation was launched in Romania following the defection of Vasile Dumitru while in Paris for a track competition. The investigation ended with the dismissal of Col. Balas, the former director of the club “Dinamo.”

**Romania / France – April, 1954 (OSA)**

By the beginning of April, there were 3,155 Romanian refugees registered with “Caroman,” the Committee of Assistance for Romanian Refugees. 90% of their members settled in the larger Paris region.

**Romania / France – April, 1954 (OSA)**

In the month of April, a majority of French exports to Romania fell into one of two categories: steel products and chemical and pharmaceutical products. It is noted in the monthly report that as of the end of April, no trade agreement between Romania and France had been signed.

**Soviet Union – April–June, 1954 (KRI)**

A revolt takes place at the Kingirsky prison camp.

**Poland / West Berlin – April 1, 1954 (OSA)**

The monthly meeting of the Polish League in West-Berlin was held with around 50 guests.

**Poland / West Germany – April 1, 1954 (OSA)**

West Germany has announced an embargo on exports to Poland effective today. The embargo was put in place because of Poland’s debt to West Germany exceeded 7 million dollars.

**Hungary – April 2-3, 1954 (HC)**

The 3rd general assembly of the National Confederation of Hungarian Trade Unions takes place. The National Cooperative Farm Council is formed with the aim of fulfilling the needs of

the population, broadening trade between cities and villages, and organizing the peasants into unions. The first chairman of this new council will be Imre Dögei.

**Romania / France – April 3, 1954 (OSA)**

A letter arrived in Marseille, France sent by the mother of a Romanian refugee describing her life in Romania. She focuses on her lack of money and inability to purchase foods and medicine. It is noted that medicine had previously been banned from being imported from abroad.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – April 5, 1954 (LBC)**

In a television and radio speech Eisenhower assures Americans that the U.S. will not use the H-bomb first; the danger of war, the economic crisis and the domestic communist penetration has been exaggerated. According to the President, the USSR does not want to start a war.

**Poland / France – April 6, 1954 (OSA)**

The arrivals and accommodations of the athletes of the Polish Athletics team who arrived in France to participate in the "Cross de l'Humanité" track on March 21st organised by the Polish Communist organ "l'Humanité." The details have been provided by the marital status of Polish sportsmen and women; names and information on sportsmen and women follow.

**Romania – April 6–13, 1954 (PIR)**

The trial of the Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu-Remus Kofler-Herbert Zilber group takes place.

**Romania / France / Soviet Union – April 7, 1954 (OSA)**

In the first three months of 1954, five ships from the USSR and Romania docked in the French port of Marseille. The ships were largely carrying anthracite.

**Poland / France – April 7, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides information on the routes of the ships coming from the East in 1953 which docked in Marseille. Specific information on the various ships and their transported materials are included.

**Poland / France – April 7, 1954 (OSA)**

In the report the names of actors, writers and stage directors who arrived at the Cannes film festival in March 1954 are noted.

**Poland / European Coal and Steel Community – April 7, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides information on the language of propaganda in the countries of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC). It was pointed out by the High Authority of the ECSC that the Polish communist propaganda has been translated into other languages where there are Polish immigrants living. The workers from the Communist Labour Union represented an important percentage of workers in France and Germany, expressing themselves in their national language.

**Poland / North Africa – April 7, 1954 (OSA)**

It is reported that during the first half of March, 5,000 tons of iron from North Africa were bought by Poland. The transaction was directed by the French commercial agent Pavetto.

**Soviet Union / France / U.S. – April 7, 1954 (LBC)**

General Charles de Gaulle accuses the U.S. of interfering in French domestic affairs. Among other things he accuses the U.S. of uniting other countries against the communist armies while

devoting only money and war materials for the long term defense. According to De Gaulle the European Defense Community (EDC) would cause “a state of permanent revolt in France”; make it dependent on the U.S. for defense, undermine its sovereignty and even “dissolve France by merging it with vanquished Germany

**Hungary – April 8, 1954 (HC)**

The Central Committee of the Slovak Communist Party invalidates the 1946 act of re-Slovakization.

**Hungary / Slovakia – April 8, 1954 (HC)**

Decree 2471/1954 by the Justice Deputy is announced in Slovakia stating court judgments must be provided in Hungarian if the customer(s) request(s).

**Soviet Bloc / U.S. – April 8, 1954 (LBC)**

The West initiates a new trade policy, which would increase East-West trade. Accordingly, Washington defines the strategic value of export commodities along the following lines: use in the U.S., the free world and the Soviet bloc; significance for the Russian armed forces and relative rarity in the Soviet bloc; possibility of production in the Soviet bloc; sources outside the U.S., re-export and smuggling; the possibility of conversion from peaceful to military use.

**Romania / France – April 10, 1954 (OSA)**

On this date the Romanian Catholic Mission in Paris hosted an event on cultural problems in Romania. The talk was hosted by M. Mircea Eliade.

**Soviet Union / Greece – April 11, 1954 (KCA)**

The Greek Government rejects the Soviet note of **March 20, 1954**.

**Soviet Union / Turkey – April 12, 1954 (OSA)**

Representative of the Soviet Commercial industry Fedor Krutikov arrived in Izmir, on a trip in which he visits a number of Turkish firms and inspects samples of raisins that will be exported to the Soviet Union. This visit is representative of how the 1954 trade deal between Turkey and the USSR is already in effect.

**Yugoslavia / Turkey – April 12-15, 1954 (KCA)**

President Tito and Koca Popović, the State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, visit Ankara and Istanbul.

**Romania / U.S. – April 13, 1954 (KCA)**

Constantin and Peter Georgescu, the two sons of Valeriu Georgescu, are reunited with their parents in New York after having been allowed to leave Romania.

**U.K. – April 13, 1954 (LBC)**

The United Kingdom announces that it supports the EDC.

**Romania – April 14, 1954 (PIR)**

The sentence in the Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu trial is issued: L. Pătrășcanu and Remus Kofler are sentenced to death; H. Zilber, Al. Stefanescu and Emil Calmanovici – forced labor for life; I. Mocsony-Starcea and H. Torasian – 15 years; Harry Brauner and Lena Constante – 12 years; J. Berman – 10 years and Victoria Sarbu – 8 years.



**Soviet Union / The Netherlands – April 14, 1954 (KCA)**

The Dutch Government rejects the Soviet note of **March 18, 1954**.

**Hungary – April 15, 1954 (HC)**

Governmental decree 2025/1954 announces the principles and plan of the rationalization of state administration.

**Romania – April 16-17, 1954 (PIR)**

Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu and Remus Kofler are executed in the Jilava prison.

**Romania – April 20, 1954 (KCA)**

Bucharest announces the reorganization of the leadership of the Romanian Workers Communist Party, on similar lines to Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries. The post of secretary-general of the party is abolished, and is superseded by a four-man Secretariat under the supervision of the Politburo. The new Secretariat will be headed by Gheorghe Apostol.

**Romania – April 20, 1954 (OSA)**

Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej, Communist Prime Minister of Romania, officially appointed Apostol, one of his close associates, to the post of First Party Secretary.

**Romania / France – April 20, 1954 (OSA)**

The French Ministry of Finance released a report finding that in January and February of 1954, France exported what amounted to a total of over 3 million Francs. Exports included books, medicine, electrical implements, food stuffs, among other objects.

**Soviet Union – April 20–27, 1954 (KCA)**

The Supreme Soviet meets in Moscow to approve and adopt the State Budget for 1954. Marshal Voroshilov is re-elected to chairmanship.

**Yugoslavia – April 21, 1954 (KCA)**

Belgrade reports that Milovan Djilas, one of the leading theoreticians of Communist Yugoslavia and a former close member of Tito's inner circle has resigned from the League of Yugoslav Communists.

**East Germany / Indonesia – April 21, 1954 (OSA)**

An East German trade delegation of seven representatives arrives in Jakarta to continue negotiations with Indonesian import and export firms in an official capacity.

**Romania / France / Bulgaria – April 22, 1954 (OSA)**

Five Italian tankers, "Maria Ontorato," "Lenziaunella," "Donatello," "Sardo," and "Enrico," arrived in the French port of Marseille. They were reportedly transporting various cargo to Romania and Bulgaria. They were registered to the Italian shipping company: Charles Leborgone.

**Soviet Union / Australia / Italy – April 22, 1954 (OSA)**

The world press announces that Viktor Antonov, the TASS representative in Australia, was recalled to the Soviet Union. This event was seen as symptomatic of worsening diplomatic relations between the two countries. The trip back to the Soviet Union included a stopover in Italy, staying with his colleague Leonida Makarenko in Rome.

**Czechoslovakia – April 24, 1954 (KCA)**

The Supreme Court at Bratislava sentences four former members of the Slovak board of Commissioners, the Slovak Provincial Government, and another former prominent Slovak leader to long terms of imprisonment on charges of crimes against the state.

**Poland / Hungary / Czechoslovakia / Belgium – April 24–May 9, 1954 (OSA)**

Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia will participate in the 28<sup>th</sup> International Fair in Brussels. They are expected to exhibit machine tools, glassware, textiles and wood products among other things.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. / Vietnam / Cambodia – April 26–July 20, 1954 (KCA/CWC)**

The foreign ministers and other representatives of 19 countries meet at the Geneva Conference on Far Eastern issues. Among the main objectives are the establishment of peace, unity and independence in Korea, and the restoration of peace in Indo-China. The conference results in a cease fire between France, Cambodia and the People's Republic of Vietnam on **July 20**.

**Poland / France – April 27, 1954 (LBC)**

Poland's Embassy in Paris reveals a proposal to France for a treaty of alliance and mutual cooperation. The proposal is directed against the EDC and a potential German attack.

**Poland – April 28, 1954 (OSA)**

This report issues details about the staff of the communist Polish P.K.O. bank dated back to April 1954. The details concern the successor of M. Palimaczynsky, M. Henry, the director M. Berent and the commercial counsellor M. Ruzycski.

**Poland / France – April 28, 1954 (OSA)**

Communist propaganda by the Warsaw government against the French government. The report also analyses the propaganda carried out by the French clergy to defend the freedom of religion in Poland. Details are also given of the special editions published in that period.

**Romania / France – April 30, 1954 (OSA)**

On this date the Romanian Catholic Mission in Paris hosted an event on freedom of the press. The talk was given by M. Georges Barbul in Romanian.

**May****East Germany – early May, 1954 (OSA)**

Dresden's 'Kunst Verlag', the leading art publishing house in East Germany, stated that only art with 'progressive' motives will be accepted for reproduction and sale in the GDR.

**Romania / France – May, 1954 (OSA)**

Romanian imports to France in the month of May totaled over 77 million Francs. It consisted largely of petrol. Some books were also imported.

**Romania / France – May, 1954 (OSA)**

A letter arrives in France sent by an elderly woman in Romania. The situation described by her is common for formerly well-off Romanian citizens. Her letter states that she was forced to

abandon the one-room she had been inhabiting and is not allowed to receive medicine sent from abroad.

**Romania / France / Soviet Union – May, 1954 (OSA)**

French exports to Romania in the month of May consisted mainly of machinery. The Romanian government also put in an order worth 25 thousand dollars for Italian penicillin, signalling a reluctance to use Soviet-made penicillin.

**Romania – May, 1954 (OSA)**

The Romanian government reversed policy on goods bought by sailors abroad: the new policy forbids bringing any foreign goods ashore in Romania. This information was obtained from crew members aboard the Romanian ship “Plehanov” while docked in Beirut, Lebanon.

**Romania / France – May, 1954 (OSA)**

An interview was conducted with a Romanian sailor in which he stated that the Russians had evacuated the Braila silos. The French believed this to indicate that the Soviets were moving their supply bases closer to the Stettin-Trieste line.

**Romania / Israel – May, 1954 (KCA)**

The Israeli Prime Minister Sharett expresses the Israeli Government’s shock at reports that Zionist leaders in Romania have been sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

**Romania / Sweden – May, 1954 (OSA)**

In May the list of Romanian personnel in Stockholm as part of the diplomatic mission there included: S. Exec. M. Fransisc Otroc, M. Paul Salcudeanu, M. Alexandru Ion, and M. Gheorghe Canila.

**Soviet Union / Norway – May, 1954 (OSA)**

A new trade deal is signed between Norway and the USSR, covering the period between January 1 and December 31, 1954.

**Romania / France – May 3, 1954 (OSA)**

Herant Torosian was interviewed by the French authorities after arriving in Paris. Torosian was named as a co-defendant in the trial of Patrascanu. Torosian was believed to only be included in the trial due to a close personal friendship with Patrascanu.

**Romania / France / Poland / Hungary / Czechoslovakia / Bulgaria / East Germany – May 3, 1954 (OSA)**

At the 1954 Paris International fair, stands from many USSR satellite countries could be seen. All countries, with the notable exception of East Germany, used large amounts of propaganda at their stands. The goal of these stands seemed to prove the presence of forward progress and peace within said countries rather than the more standard goal of product marketing.

**Poland / France – May 4, 1954 (OSA)**

The communist sponsored Franco-Polish Friendship Association opened an exhibition of Polish Graphic Arts in Paris. The exhibition staged Communist realist-style posters and invited four Polish Communist artists.

**Romania / Lebanon – May 4, 1954 (OSA)**

The Lebanese Archimandrite released a report on the general mood amongst the citizens of Romania. The report strengthened previous statements that much of the population feels the ill effects of shortages and are fearful of the party apparatus at all levels of society. It is noted, however, that there does exist a sizeable amount of partisans still in Romania.

**Romania – May 4, 1954 (OSA)**

The Romanian Ministry of education released a decision entitling foreign students, also referred to as political refugees, in Romanian high schools to up to 2,800 lei in wardrobe cost scholarships. This follows a previous decision to award foreign students a monthly scholarship of 600 lei.

**Finland – May 5, 1954 (HJH/FGV)**

The government headed by Ralf Törngren, of the Swedish People's Party of Finland (RKP), comes into office. In addition to RKP the government includes the Agrarian League and the Social Democratic Party.

**Poland – May 5, 1954 (OSA)**

This report provides information on the Congress held the 31st of January 1954 by the Polish Communist Embassy association “Oder - Neisse.” A bulletin provided a petition inviting Poles to sign on the security and protection of the Oder - Neisse border.

**Poland / France – May 5, 1954 (OSA)**

A report of the most relevant journalists both from Poland and France who received funds during March 1954 for their publications. Specifically, the report states the precise amount received in francs through the Polish P.K.O bank and the details of the receivers.

**Poland / France – May 5, 1954 (OSA)**

The report gives details of the economic transactions of various banks with the communist Polish P.K.O. bank dated back to 1954. The report distinguishes four different forms of collaboration among the banks: those in Poland, those outside of France, those which carry on a discount business with the P.K.O bank and those in which the Polish bank deposited money.

**Poland / France – May 5, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides details on the taxes paid by the Polish communist bank P.K.O. to the French government from 1950 to 1953. The precise amounts are listed in francs. It also highlights the variation in payments between different banks.

**Soviet Union – May 6, 1954 (KCA)**

Moscow announces that the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet has issued a decree restoring the death penalty for murder.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – May 7, 1954 (KCA)**

The three Western Powers' replies to the Soviet note of **March 31, 1954**, on the possibility of the Soviet Union joining NATO, are delivered in Moscow. The note calls the Soviet proposal “completely unreal” and “contrary to the very principles on which the defense system and the security of Western nations depend.”

**Soviet Union / U.K. – May 7, 1954 (KCA)**

The British Foreign Office accuses two employees of the Soviet Embassy in London of espionage, and demands the Ambassador to replace them within ten days. Of the two employees, Ivan Pupyshv is accused of attempting to bribe a British officer, and Andrei Gudkov of at least three attempts to recruit Soviet agents.

**Yugoslavia (Serbia) / Romania – May, 7 1954 (OSA)**

Justinian of Romania visits the Archbishop of Gibraltar, and later Vikentije II, Serbian Patriarch. Either the sanity of the Romanian Patriarch should be called into question, or the rumours of his poor mental health have been manufactured by those wishing to isolate the Romanian Church from reaching out to Western churches.

**Romania / France – May 8, 1954 (OSA)**

On this date the Romanian Catholic Mission in Paris hosted an event on the contribution of the Romanian people to the defence of the West. The presentation was given by M. Grégoire Gafenco in French.

**Hungary – May 9, 1954 (HC)**

The Tiszaölk barrage begins to work.

**Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste – May 9, 1954 (LKT)**

An article in *New York Times*, based on an interview with Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito, suggests that Tito is willing to offer Italy membership of the Balkan alliance in return for accepting his Trieste proposal, which held that Zone B of the city would be ceded to Yugoslavia. The article also suggests that Yugoslavia would be willing to join Dulles' European Defense Community if it were broadened to more than just a military organization.

**Finland – May 11, 1954 (HFP)**

Transition to a four-year legislative period in parliamentary elections takes effect.

**Romania / France / Soviet Union – May 11, 1954 (OSA)**

The Soviet ship "Nogin" left the French port of Marseille without any cargo to return to their home port of Odessa. While in port, the French authorities contacted two Romanians known to be working on the ship. Both sailors turned down the offer of emigration for fear of exposing their families in the USSR to reprisals.

**Romania / France – May 11, 1954 (OSA)**

A new branch of the pro-Communist "Association France-Roumanie" was opened in Marseille, France. As of May 11th, the organisation was known to contain over 150 young frenchmen. This organisation is known to be based in Paris, and contains a mixture of French Communists and Romanian refugees.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – May 12, 1954 (KCA)**

Malik, Soviet Ambassador in London, refutes the accusations made on **May 7** towards two employees of the Embassy.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – May 13, 1954 (KCA)**

Moscow announces that the Soviet Government has demanded the recall of Major Charles Landon, Assistant Military Attaché at the British Embassy, on the grounds of attempting espionage.

**Poland / Sweden – May 14, 1954 (OSA)**

A trade agreement was signed between Poland and Sweden exchanging coal and iron ore until 1955.

**Romania – May 14, 1954 (OSA)**

The Communist Romanian newspaper Scanteia published an article discussing the prices of grapes grown for the production of wine at state vineyards. It also discussed the contracts of these vineyards. The discrepancy between prices paid to independent and state-run vineyards is noted. This is in direct contradiction to the governmental decision of August, 1953.

**Romania – May 14, 1954 (OSA)**

The source is detailing biographical notes on a person named Patrascanu. The source offers a collection of reminiscences from the period of the signing of the Soviet-Romanian armistice on September 12 1944, and describes not only the tribulations of this former outstanding figure of the Romanian Communist Party but also explains the influence of historical circumstances and the fatal implications which affected later on Patrascanu as a servant of the Soviets.

**Czechoslovakia – May 15, 1954 (KCA)**

Bhumil Lausman, former Social Democratic leader, who fled Czechoslovakia in 1950 and returned in **December 1953**, gives a press conference in Prague, declaring that he has placed himself voluntarily at the Czechoslovak Government's disposal and has asked for political asylum. At the same time, he attacks the Czechoslovak leaders in exile, claiming that they are "in the service and pay of the Americans."

**Hungary – May 18, 1954 (KCA)**

The International Labor Organization announces that it has been advised by the Hungarian Government that a Hungarian delegation would attend the world labor conference which is to be held in Geneva in **June 1954**. They further claim that Hungary is ready to assume the obligations of membership of the Organization.

**Poland / France – May 18, 1954 (OSA)**

The report provides information about the suffering of a woman from Lower Silesia not able to receive a package previously sent by her daughter from France. It is affirmed that the material in the package was new, according to the daughter who had sent it to her mother from France. However, it is reported that by customs the material was marked as "used" and therefore the women were forced to pay a penalty. The report highlights the concern of the sender in realising that the shipment of the package could have caused so much trouble to her mother.

**Poland / Italy – May 18, 1954 (OSA)**

Polish General Wladyslaw Anders held a press conference in Rome to mark the tenth anniversary of the Battle of Monte Casino.

**Romania – May 21, 1954 (PIR)**

The international conventions for the protection of war victims, signed in Geneva on **August 12, 1949**, are ratified by decree.

**Bulgaria / Greece – May 22, 1954 (KCA)**

An agreement for the resumption of diplomatic relations between Bulgaria and Greece is signed in Paris.

**Romania / France – May 22, 1954 (OSA)**

On this date the Romanian Catholic Mission in Paris hosted an event on the men and events of the 19th century. The speech was given by M. N. J. Heresco in French.

**Hungary – May 24–30, 1954 (HC)**

The 3rd congress of the Hungarian Workers' Party takes place. The roles of the state authorities, the councils and the Central Monitoring Committee are determined. The principles of the second Five-Year Plan are defined; priority is given to proportional development and moderate industrialization. In order to ameliorate the councils' work, the bureaucracy will be reduced and the councils will become more mass-led. The leadership of the party will become more efficient. The importance of the Leninist collective leadership and democratic organization within the party are emphasized. Members of the newly elected Secretariat: Mátyás Rákosi, Lajos Ács, Mihály Farkas, János Matolcsi and Béla Vég. Members of the Political Committee: Lajos Ács, Antal Apró, Mihály Farkas, Ernő Gerő, András Hegedüs, István Hidas, Imre Nagy, Mátyás Rákosi, Béla Szalai.

**Romania / France / Soviet Union / Greece – May 24, 1954 (OSA)**

An anti-Communist rally was organised in Paris France by the Roman Catholic Church. In this rally, protestors called for the "Conversion of the Russian people." Two Romanian Greek Catholic priests, Gherman and Zapartan, spoke in support of the initiative at the rally.

**Albania / France / Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Romania / Yugoslavia – May, 25 1954 (OSA)**

French imports and exports to/from Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Romania.

**Poland – May 25, 1954 (OSA)**

Preparation and organisation of the Polish national day in Mets on the 3rd May 1954. There are speeches from M. Kyatkowski, editor of the "Narodowiec" journal and M. Nagorny.

**Hungary – May 27, 1954 (HC)**

The Hungarian Council of Ministers announces a reforestation campaign and asks the Hungarian people to aid the return of forests in Hungary.

**Soviet Union — May 28, 1954 (OSA)**

When several Soviet vessels, conveying cargo intended for the Soviet Zone, reached the port of Hamburg, an organization, known as the "Central Organization of post-war Refugees from the USSR" threw pamphlets on board the ships. The organization urged the crew members to follow the western media news while abroad and spread the truth back to their home country. The political deputies of the ships protested to the harbor authorities for these events.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – May 28, 1954 (KCA)**

Malik presents a note to the British Foreign Office protesting the activities in Britain of an Anti-Soviet Russian *émigré* group.

**Romania / France / Poland / Soviet Union (Ukraine) / Hungary / Czechoslovakia – May 29-30, 1954 (OSA)**

The annual meeting of the International Academy of Sciences and Letters was held in Paris. This year, its board was composed of M. M. Antortade - a Romanian, MM. Z. L. Zaleski - a Pole, A. Choulguine - a Ukrainian, M. I. Lajti - a Hungarian, and Th. Prochazka, a Czech. 30 people were known to attend the conference.

**Romania – May 29, 1954 (OSA)**

Nikos Benetatos died in Galati, Romania. This is following his arrest by authorities after he was caught illegally trafficking gold. It was widely believed that he was tortured and killed in custody. His death provoked protests in the town of Galati.

**Soviet Union / Turkey – May 29, 1954 (OSA)**

Soviet warships of the Black Sea fleet pass through the Turkish straits.

**June****East Germany – early June, 1954 (OSA)**

Nearly a full year later, reports reveal an increasing number of arrests for participation in the 17 June Uprising. It was also recorded that, around this time, light sentences were sometimes extended significantly.

**East Germany – June, 1954 (OSA)**

The establishment of an East German Military Court in Pasewalk is imminent; by 11 June two prosecutors and six judges had already been nominated.

**Soviet Union / Egypt / Israel – June, 1954 (KCA)**

The Soviet Legations in Egypt and Israel are raised to the status of Embassies, with similar status for the Egyptian and Israeli Legations in Moscow.

**Soviet Bloc – June, 1954 (CEC)**

Fifth session of the COMECON Assembly meets in Moscow. Among the topics discussed are national investment, unification of electricity grids, industrial and agricultural development and foreign trade.

**Romania – mid 1954 (OSA)**

Machinery was officially installed in the metallurgical factory being constructed in the Pitesti region of Romania. This machinery was installed in three of the five buildings that will make up the site.

**Romania – June, 1954 (OSA)**

At the Arsenal prison in Romania, in custody in the month of June were around 800 prisoners. All said prisoners were politicians under the course of investigation by the government.

**Romania / France – June, 1954 (OSA)**

In the month of June, France imported a total of over 181 million Francs worth of products, mostly consisting of petrol. In this same period, France exported over 14 million Francs worth of products to Romania, largely consisting of agricultural machines and medical and chemical apparatuses.

**Romania / USA – June, 1954 (OSA)**

The Romanian government has decided to allow parcels sent from the United States of America to reach their destinations in Romania. Due to the high cost of the tax, however, most parcels are returned to senders as recipients cannot afford the price.



**Yugoslavia / India – June, 1954 (RYN)**

Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, Nehru's sister and then President of the Indian General Assembly, visits Yugoslavia and meets Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito.

**Romania – June 1, 1954 (PIR)**

The Military Merit Order is instituted.

**Hungary – June 2, 1954 (KCA)**

It is announced in Budapest that Hungary has rejoined UNESCO.

**Yugoslavia / Greece – June 2–6, 1954 (KCA)**

President Tito pays an official visit to Greece, during which he is received by King Paul of the Hellenes and has political conversations with Field-Marshal Papagos and Stephanopoulos, the Greek Prime Minister and Foreign Minister.

**Yugoslavia / Greece / Turkey – June 5, 1954 (KCA)**

Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito and Secretary for Foreign Affairs Koča Popović make it clear that the Balkan pact, tripartite alliance will be open to other countries, even those outside the Balkans.

**Romania – June 6, 1954 (PIR)**

Virgil Potarcă, former Minister of Agriculture and Domains (1932, 1937-1938), dies in the Sighet prison.

**Romania – June 8, 1954 (PIR)**

The Political Bureau debates the project for the Rulebook of the Direction and Organs of Military Counter information.

**Soviet Union — June 9, 1954 (OSA)**

The Soviet market is experiencing decent access to food and goods, with the exception of the shortage of textiles. The state is making an effort to expand industrial production in an attempt to gain people's favor. The production and equipment of heavy industry are competitive and of high quality. The city roads are efficient, in contrast to the poor transportation system outside of the city districts.

**Soviet Union — June 9, 1954**

The Soviet land forces entail special camouflage units for every military district, that work during peacetime without disturbing the life of the district. The units are responsible for camouflaging large military equipment, with color-spraying techniques, constructing decoys to disorient the enemy, supervising, and maintaining already-implemented as well as new assignments, and training the army troops in the camouflaging methods.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – June 11, 1954 (LBC)**

According to a new U.S.-British-French proposal on disarmament, nuclear arms could be used for defense purposes alone. On **June 24** the Soviet Union rejects the proposal.

**East Germany / West Germany – June 11, 1954 (OSA)**

The East Germany Ministry of Interior decreed that employees of all government ministries and their subordinate branches are forbidden from travelling from West Germany except with travel permits granted for travel in the interest of the East German government or the SED.

**Poland / France – June 11, 1954 (OSA)**

After the second visit of a group of French parliamentarians to Poland, the French press reports the visit. It is affirmed in the articles written by the socialist Alix Berthet, that they were more successful in the Isere region, having described the truthful conditions of Poland.

**Romania / France – June 11, 1954 (OSA)**

In an interview with Vasile Dumitru, the French authorities learned of the leader of the Bureau of Sport Instruction responsible for the Sports Association “Dinamo,” Toan Cioban. According to the source, Cioban had been a member of the Romanian Communist Party since 1945.

**Romania / Israel – June 11, 1954 (OSA)**

A returnee to Romania, Izu Kanner, published a pro-Communist piece in the Romanian newspaper Romania Libera. The piece was an economic critique of the situation in Israel, where he had originally emigrated to from Romania. Shortly after his publication, he was made the new manager of Bucharest’s Romarta state shop.

**Romania / France – June 12, 1954 (OSA)**

On this date the Romanian Catholic Mission in Paris hosted an event on matter and energy. The speech was given by M. Dr. Ing. Aurel Berghezan in Romanian.

**Soviet Union / Turkey / Albania — June 12, 1954 (OSA)**

The Turkish Ministry of Defense releases a press statement, on May 28th, regarding the entrance of Russian warships to the sea territory of Turkey. The warships are going to exchange gun salutations with the passing Turkish cities. The ships of the Russian fleet are heading to Albania for a courtesy visit, and they will also pass through the Turkish sea waters on their way back.

**Yugoslavia – June 12, 1954 (KCA)**

The Yugoslav Federal Council passes a law abolishing State control and direction of the universities.

**Romania / France – June 13, 1954 (OSA)**

A letter arrived in France, sent from Romania, specifying restrictions to parcels being sent into Romania. Among things allowed were perfumes and jewellery, though due to the high customs cost these were rarely sent. The only remarkable difference from the Postal Circular released in 1953 was a reduction in the weight limit from 2 kilograms to 1 kilogram.

**East Germany / Poland – June 14, 1954 (OSA)**

The East Germany government sent 28 officers of their army to Poland for attending six-months courses at Warsaw military academy.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – June 14, 1954 (KCA)**

An agreement between Romania and Yugoslavia for the reopening of direct rail communications between the two countries is announced in Belgrade.

**Soviet Union — June 15, 1954 (OSA)**

In the forced-labor camps in Siberia political prisoners of various nationalities of European and Asian descent were constricted to severely harsh living conditions. The prisoners were confined in small living lodges, and they were required to wear their identification number in visible places. The daily schedule of the camp included day and night shifts, no communication

between the huts was permitted, strict health provisions were followed, and the camps were locked at night. In one of the camps, the work assignments imposed included the cutting and transportation of timber.

**Hungary – June 17, 1954 (HC)**

Decree 1043/1954 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that a Publisher Directorate will be established.

**Romania / France – June 17, 1954 (OSA)**

Vasile Georgesco, recently named the Romanian Attaché of the Legation to Paris, obtained a French visa to enter the country on June 17th. He failed to arrive in Paris on this date.

**Romania / U.N. – June 17, 1954 (PIR)**

Romania ratifies the convention on the political rights of women, adopted in the U.N. General Assembly on **December 20, 1952**.

**Yugoslavia / Romania - June 17, 1954 (OSA)**

Nicolae GUINA was appointed to be the new Romanian Ambassador to Yugoslavia.

**Poland – June 18, 1954 (PSN)**

Poland rejoins UNESCO after leaving the organization in 1949.

**Romania / France – June 18, 1954 (OSA)**

The French authorities released a report on the conditions in Romanian villages in the year 1954, after years of Communist rule. According to Vasile Dumitru, there is widespread poverty, particularly in his native village of Doljesti. In order to make quotas and feed their families, many peasants reportedly have to set their carts and livestock.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – June 19, 1954 (KCA)**

It is announced in Belgrade that the Romanian Government has proposed the resumption of normal diplomatic relations with Yugoslavia, and that the Yugoslav Government has accepted the appointment of Nikolai Guina as Ambassador in Belgrade.

**Bulgaria / Romania – June 20, 1954 (PIR)**

The bridge over the Danube between Romania and Bulgaria (The Giurgiu – Ruse bridge) is inaugurated.

**Romania – June 23, 1954 (OSA)**

Munca stated that the director of the Calan plant, “Victoria,” was Olteanu. The chief engineer of said plant at that time was Mircea Hartulescu. The plant was known to be under-filling state-set quotas.

**Romania / France – June 24, 1954 (OSA)**

Ion Vaida was just appointed the new Third Secretary at the Romanian Legation in Paris. He has previously served as Vice-President of the Committee for Physical Culture and Sport in Romania. He was responsible for organising the Romanian delegation that attended the track meet in Paris from which Vasile Dumitru defected. He is thought to be replacing Nicolae Draghici in this role; Draghici did not return to France after being recalled in March, 1954.

**Soviet Union – June 26, 1954 (PLC)**

An uprising takes place in the Kengir labor camp. The 13,000 prisoners are eventually defeated by 3,000 soldiers with tanks.

**East Germany – June 27-29, 1954 (KCA)**

A referendum is held throughout Eastern Germany in which all persons over 18 are called upon to go to polls to choose between the “EDC and 50 years of occupation; or the withdrawal of occupation troops and a peace treaty”. Figures issued by the East German authorities claim that 93.5% of votes went against the European Defense Community, and that over 98% of the electorate went to the polls.

**Soviet Union – June 27, 1954 (PLC)**

In Dubna, near Moscow, the first nuclear power station in the world starts operating.

**Romania – June 28, 1954 (PIR)**

General Mihail Racoviță, former Minister of War (1944), dies in the Sighet penitentiary.

**Poland / West Germany – June 30, 1954 (OSA)**

A Polish-West German commission is scheduled to meet today and analyze the trade situation between the two countries. The aim is to liquidate Poland's trade debt to West Germany by mutually agreed trade in commodities. As of May 1954, the Polish debt to West Germany is 6.4 million dollars.

**Romania / Indonesia – June 31, 1954 (PIR)**

The first commercial accord between Romania and Indonesia is concluded in Jakarta.

**July****East Germany / Soviet Union – July, 1954 (OSA)**

A Soviet military airfield, likely for heavy jet bombers and with an underground hangar, is being built near Zehdenick by German workers and technicians.

**Poland – July, 1954 (OSA)**

Reports of further repression against Catholic Seminaries and Ecclesiastical institutions in Poland's largest cities show that 34 out of 53 seminaries have been suppressed while only 19 are still open.

**Romania / France – July, 1954 (OSA)**

In the month of July, French exports to Romania totalled over 4 million Francs, including wines and postal packages. In this same period, France imported over 199 million Francs worth of mostly petrol products.

**Romania / Soviet Union – July, 1954 (OSA)**

Foreign ships entering the ports of Constanta and Odessa are subject to rigorous searches, both upon entry and exit. It is encouraged that sailors go into town and sell what they have to the local residents. It is also noted that there were large numbers of Russian-speaking civilians roaming the streets in the Romanian port city of Constanta.

**Soviet Union / Finland – July, 1954 (OSA)**

The Finnish Seamen's Union, following a 5-day strike carried out in January, successfully carried out an action against a Soviet owned shipping company which tried to violate the rights of Finnish seaman.

**Yugoslavia / Ethiopia – July, 1954 (RYN)**

Emperor Haile Selassie visits Yugoslavia. He is the first African leader to visit the country.

**Albania – July 1, 1954 (KCA)**

The Albanian News Agency announces that the Albanian Workers' Party has been reorganized along the lines of the Soviet Communist Party.

**Romania – July 1, 1954 (PIR)**

Romania's population is 17,040,000.

**Finland – July 1, 1954 (NJP)**

The common labor market is created between Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Iceland. Separate work and dwelling permits are no longer required in each state where a Scandinavian national may go.

**France – July 3-4, 1954 (OSA)**

The Central and Eastern European Free Youth Council met in Paris to pass a new resolution. They called, in this resolution, for Western political, cultural, and military unity to better counter the Soviet threat.

**Hungary – July 3, 1954 (HC)**

The Hungarian Workers' Party dismisses Oszkár Betlen from his office as chief-editor of the *Szabad Nép*. The new chief-editor will be Márton Horváth.

**Poland / Indonesia – July 3, 1954 (OSA)**

A trade agreement was reached between Poland and Indonesia set to expire in April 1955.

**Romania / France – July 3, 1954 (OSA)**

On this date the Romanian Catholic Mission in Paris hosted a conference run by Reverend Octavian Barlea on the topic of the Vatican. Guests were served cakes and wine. The presentation was given in Romanian.

**Romania / Israel – July 3, 1954 (OSA)**

The Israeli media reported the release of some prominent Zionist leaders imprisoned in Romania; according to the broadcast, the prisoners had been held for periods ranging between 2 months and 6 years. All leaders had been imprisoned without a trial.

**East Germany / Hungary – July 4, 1954 (HC)**

At the final of the 5th Football World Cup in Geneva, Hungary loses 3-2 to the GDR. The disappointment leads to mass demonstrations in Budapest.

**Romania / France / Poland – July 5, 1954 (OSA)**

M. Grégoire Gafenco, the exiled former Minister of Foreign Affairs for Romania gave a speech in Paris. He addressed a lack of Western unity yet praised the Western leaders for this

continuing opposition to the Soviet bloc. His speech was given at the Polish Library's Meeting Hall during a conference hosted by the Central and Eastern European Commission.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 5, 1954 (KCA)**

The State Department in Washington announces that three Soviet diplomatic officials in the United States have been declared *persona non grata* by the U.S. Government for spying activities. It is further announced that they have returned to the Soviet Union, and that the Soviet Union, in retaliation, has demanded the recall of two U.S. military attachés at the American Embassy in Moscow.

**Hungary – July 6, 1954 (HC)**

The Hungarian Government is reshuffled. New ministers: László Piros (Interior), László Háy (External Trade), József Bognár (Internal Trade), András Szobek (State Collection).

**Yugoslavia – July 6, 1954 (ACY)**

Metropolitan Arsenije Bradvarović of the Montenegrin Littoral is arrested in early July and tried on **July 27 and 28** at Cetinje. He is accused of serious offences against the people and the state, arousing religious hatred and intolerance, and is sentenced to eleven and a half years' imprisonment.

**East Germany – July 7–11, 1954 (OSA)**

The sixth annual Evangelical Church Rally is held in Leipzig following promises of abstaining from political discourse (especially with regards to the European Defence Community). The previous editions had been held in West Germany.

**Hungary – July 7, 1954 (HC)**

Decree 1052/1954 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that the Lenin Institute will become a separate higher education institute. Its educational aim remains unchanged.

**Poland / URSS / Italy – July 7, 1954 (OSA)**

Information about the crew of the Polish ship “Budionny” arriving in Trieste, Italy, is listed alongside personal details and profession of the crew members. It is reported that the ship is carrying coal from Gdynia, as well as providing details of the gross weight and the port of registry.

**Soviet Bloc / U.K. / U.S. – July 7, 1954 (LBC)**

As a result of a U.S.-British agreement the number of commodities not eligible for sale to the Soviet bloc is reduced.

**Soviet Union — July 7, 1954 (OSA)**

Heavy punishment of imprisonment awaits those that disrespected or insulted the Communist regime in any way. The harsh punishment does not correlate with the severity of the crime.

**Soviet Union / Iran – July 9, 1954 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government asks the Persian government's opinion on rumors that the U.S. and other governments had pressured Persia to join an “aggressive military bloc” based on the military alliance between Turkey and Pakistan.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – July 10, 1954 (OSA)**

The Yugoslavia government sent back 46 Bulgarians to their country of origin. Yugoslavia suspected them as spies. Before sending them back, the Yugoslavia government conducted trials on those 46 people.

**Albania – July 12, 1954 (PLC)**

In Albania Mehmet Shehu becomes the Prime Minister instead of Enver Hoxha, because it is decided that the party and the state leaders should be separated.

**Romania – July 12, 1954 (PIR)**

The Economic and Social Council of the U.N. advises the acceptance of Romania into UNESCO.

**Poland / East Germany / France – July 12–14, 1954 (OSA)**

A Polish theatre company is scheduled to take part in the International Festival of Dramatic Arts in Paris. Poland and East Germany are the only Iron Curtain countries to participate in the festival. During negotiations about the plays to be presented the Cultural Attaché at the Polish Embassy agreed to Poland staging non-political plays.

**Poland / Soviet Bloc – July 12–24, 1954 (OSA)**

Conferences were held in Warsaw with representatives of the chemical industries from the Eastern bloc as part of the development of the new 5-year plan which starts in January 1956.

**Hungary – July 13–30, 1954 (HC)**

Flood warnings at the Danube basin are issued. On **July 15** the Szigetköz area is partially flooded.

**Poland / U.K. – July 15, 1954 (KCA)**

The British Home Office announces that Andrzej Panufnik, a leading Polish composer and conductor, and Vice-President of the Association of Polish Composers, has arrived in the United Kingdom from Switzerland and has decided not to return to Poland.

**Soviet Union / Austria – July 15, 1954 (OSA)**

A second group of Austrian athletes left Vöslau airport to visit the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / Sweden – July 16, 1954 (OSA)**

A Soviet flotilla anchors in Stockholm on a goodwill visit.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary / U.S. – July 17, 1954 (LBC)**

The U.S. announces that eleven Czechoslovak and Hungarian priests are admitted into the U.S. to participate at an international ecclesiastical conference.

**Romania – July 17, 1954 (PIR)**

Works on the Danube-Black Sea construction site are closed following the Decision of the Council of Ministers number 2404. Previously allocated resources are redistributed for the “increase in agricultural and alimentary production, and the production of widespread consumption goods, with the aim of increasing the population’s living standards.”

**Soviet Union / Finland – July 17, 1954 (KCA)**

Negotiations for a new long term Finnish-Soviet trade agreement end with the signing of a five-year agreement (1956-1960) by the Finnish Foreign Minister Kekkonen, and the Soviet Foreign Minister Borisov. A joint political declaration is also issued following discussions between Kekkonen and Molotov. It is announced that the two countries raise their respective Legations in Helsinki and Moscow to Embassy status.

**Soviet Union / Iran – July 18, 1954 (KCA)**

The Persian reply to the Soviet Government is presented to the Soviet Ambassador, Lavrentiev, in Teheran. The reply expresses surprise that the Soviet Government should have presented an *aide-mémoire* based on press reports, and declares that the Persian Government is “entitled to take all measures that it judges desirable with a view to ensure Persia’s security and the defense of its independence and integrity.”

**Soviet Union / Finland – July 18, 1954 (OSA)**

A Finno-Soviet trade agreement was signed in Moscow, for an increased rate of trade exchange in the period between 1956 and 1960.

**Romania / France – July 19, 1954 (OSA)**

A letter arrives in France from Romania announcing the arrest of Teohari Georgescu and one of his subordinates. The father of this subordinate was also arrested and is reported to have died in prison after 18 months of captivity without a trial.

**Albania – July 20, 1954 (KCA)**

Tirana radio announces that the Albanian Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Defense, General Enver Hoxha, has resigned from Premiership and has been succeeded by Colonel-General Mehmet Shehu, the Deputy Premier and Minister of the Interior.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – July 20, 1954 (KCA)**

During the final phase of the Geneva Conference on Far Eastern problems, a general agreement on an armistice in Indo-China is reached.

**Poland – July 21, 1954 (PSN)**

The first blast furnace in Nova Hurta Iron and Steel Works begins operations. The furnace had been under construction since **April, 1950** and was the biggest project of the Six-Year Plan.

**Poland / France / UK – July 21-25, 1954 (OSA)**

Polish Communists in France celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the People’s Republic of Poland, these celebrations are due to take place in Paris and are organized by the Franco-Polish Friendship Association. The Polish Ambassador in Paris, M. Gajewski attended. The communist propaganda has been denounced by the Polish government in exile in London.

**Romania – July 21, 1954 (OSA)**

A report was broadcast by radio Bucharest discussing the production at the plant Clement Gottwald. It focused on the production of consumer goods and pointedly did not disparage the management, despite reports of their not meeting production quota.

**Poland / East Germany – July 22, 1954 (OSA)**

On the tenth anniversary of the Polish People’s Republic a Polish trade union group of 180 from Lodz visited East Berlin and made a presentation on the reconstruction taking place in post-war



Poland. Polish folk dances and Russian songs and dances were also presented. Around 5000 people attended the celebration.

**Yugoslavia / Turkey / Greece – July, 22 1954 (OSA)**

Turkey, Greece and Yugoslavia to expand the present Tripartite Pact into a full-fledged Military Alliance has been confronted with serious difficulties and the agreement may not be signed for some time. The problem seems to be the automatic involvement issue. Yugoslavia would be agreed to automatic involvement in a war declared upon Greece and/ Turkey by a foreign power.

**Soviet Union – July 23, 1954 (KCA)**

It is officially announced in Moscow that M. D. Riumin, the former Deputy Minister of State Security, arrested in **April 1953**, has been sentenced to death at a trial held before the Military Institute of the Soviet Supreme Court **July 2-7, 1954**, and has been executed.

**France / Czechoslovakia / Romania / Hungary / Soviet Union – July 24-28, 1954 (OSA)**

Delegations from Communist countries were welcomed to Paris to participate in the canoe world championship. The USSR was meant to send a delegation as well, but never arrived. At the games, the Hungarians performed remarkably well while the Romanians were eliminated in the first round.

**France / Romania – July 24-28, 1954 (OSA)**

While the Romanian sports delegation was in Paris for the canoe world championship, all members of the delegation were consistently monitored by what they referred to as “managers.” According to French intelligence, this included while using the bathroom. This made the Romanians the most closely guarded Communist delegation.

**Hungary / West Germany – July 24, 1954 (KCA)**

An agreement is signed in Budapest between the Bavarian shipping company *Bayerischer Lloyd* and the Hungarian-Soviet shipping company *Meszhart* permitting German and Hungarian vessels to carry passengers and traffic to the territory of the other country.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 24, 1954 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union again proposes a conference on security in Europe which would prevent Germany from militarizing. The United States rejects this proposal.

**East Germany / Turkey – July 24, 1954 (OSA)**

An East German trade delegation arrives in Istanbul, subsequently to travel to Ankara and Izmir, in order to negotiate with Turkish commercial circles.

**Soviet Bloc / U.K. – July 26, 1954 (KCA)**

Thorneycroft, president of the British Board of Trade, announces in the House of Commons that, as a result of an agreement reached by the member countries of the Consultative Group Co-Ordinating Committee in Paris, there will be a number of important relaxations in the restrictions on trade with the Soviet Union and the East European members of the Soviet bloc.

**Romania / Greece – July 29, 1954 (PIR)**

The Decision of the CC of PMR regarding the statute of the Association of Greek and Slavo-Macedonian immigrants from Greece is published.

**Hungary – July 31–August 8, 1954 (HC)**

The 12th College Summer World Championship is organized in Budapest.

**Poland / U.K. – July 31, 1954 (KCA)**

A group of Thames River Police officers board the Polish Merchant ship *Jaroslav Dabrowski* in London and take ashore a stowaway, Antoni Klimowicz, who has asked for asylum in Britain but was detained on board by the master of the ship.

**August****East Germany – August, 1954 (OSA)**

Drafting of the New East German Family Law. It stipulates marriage equality and facilitates annulling of marriages; however, it does not require any provision of pensions for divorced wives unless old age or sickness prevent her from working. It also allows district councils to injunct children to be educated by state institutions rather than by parents and seems to facilitate youth labor. Lastly, inheritance for illegitimate children is highly restricted, as is state financial support for them.

**Poland – August, 1954 (HDP)**

Political body to lead Polish emigration and Polish institutions abroad called Council of Three is established in London.

**Romania – August, 1954 (OSA)**

Throughout the month of August, and the nine proceeding months, the Malaxa factory had been laying off their workers en masse. From an original level of 20,000 workers, there remained by the end of August only 8,000 remaining.

**Romania – August, 1954 (OSA)**

As of August, 1954 in Romania, the price of milk ranged from 4 leis to 1.2 leis depending on region. The price was noticeably higher in the city regions than in the country. Medical consultations in the office cost on average 10 lei while home visits cost 20 lei.

**Romania / Greece – August, 1954 (OSA)**

Upon his repatriation to Greece, a former factory worker at the metallurgical plant in the Pitesti region stated that each building contained its own transformer to provide it with electricity, leading him to believe the factory would be used to create war material. This is in contradiction to the official listing of the factory's purpose by the Romanian government: manufacturing motorcycles.

**Romania / Greece – August, 1954 (OSA)**

A group of teenagers, originally kidnapped as children and brought to Romania, were repatriated to their native Greece. According to this source, seven of the eighth refugee camps of native Greeks in Romania had been dissolved; these camps were started back in 1948.

**Romania / Israel – August, 1954 (OSA)**

In the month of August there were numerous reports of suicides among the Jewish population in Romania that had recently returned to Romania after previously emigrating to Israel. It is believed that these suicides are caused by the recently repatriated Jews finding the widespread

propaganda incentivising their repatriations to Romania to be false. Among those named as recently deceased is musician Marcel Herman.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – August, 1954 (OSA)**

It is reported that in the past month, treatment of Romanian refugees living in Yugoslavia has sharply deteriorated. Restrictions of movement, censoring of correspondence, and several arrests mark this development. It is thought to be caused by the ameliorating relationships between the Communist governments of Romania and Yugoslavia.

**Soviet Union / France – August 2, 1954 (KCA)**

Air France and Aeroflot open a regular air service between Paris and Moscow.

**Poland / U.K. – August 3, 1954 (KCA)**

The Polish government protest at the arrest of Klimowicz aboard the Jaroslaw Dabrowski, a Polish steamer. They demand Klimowicz's release and compensation for withholding the ship.

**Romania – August 3, 1954 (PIR)**

Romania ratifies the documents of the Universal Postal Convention, concluded in Brussels on July 11, 1952.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – August 4, 1954 (KCA)**

A further Soviet note is presented in London, Washington and Paris in which it is suggested that the Foreign Ministers of the United Kingdom, the U.S., France and the Soviet Union should meet in August or September for a preliminary discussion on the question of convening a four power conference on disarmament, and on measures to promote its success.

**Czechoslovakia – August 5, 1954 (KCA)**

It is announced in Prague that Jan Pulla, Vice-Chairman of the Slovak Board of Commissioners, has been replaced by Stefan Sebesta, a member of the Politburo of the Slovak Communist Party.

**Poland / U.K. – August 5, 1954 (KCA)**

All Polish allegations against the British police concerning the case of *Jaroslaw Dabrowski* and Antoni Klimowicz are rejected by the Home Office in London.

**Romania – August 5, 1954 (PIR)**

The Law for the organization and functioning of State Arbitrage is published.

**Soviet Union / Austria — August 6, 1954 (OSA)**

A group of Austrian athletes visits the Soviet Union, where they attended a large sports event between July 17th and 19th, 1954. The Austro-Soviet Society is believed to be of communist association.

**Yugoslavia / Greece / Turkey – August 6-9, 1954 (KCA/CUY)**

The Foreign Ministers of Greece, Yugoslavia and Turkey, Stefan Stephanopoulos, Koča Popović and Professor Köprülü, meet at Bled, Yugoslavia, to complete the alliance treaty between their countries which was drafted by a tripartite commission in Athens. A joint official communiqué issued after signing a treaty for a military elaboration of the Balkan (Ankara) Pact on **September 9, 1954** announces that it was also decided to establish a Balkans Institute for the Scientific Study of questions of common interest.

**Romania / France – August 7, 1954 (OSA)**

Vasile Georgesco, the newly appointed Romanian Attaché of the Legation to Paris, after failing to arrive in Paris as scheduled by his visa has not been heard from to this date. The recently appointed Third Secretary at the Romanian Legation in Paris has also not yet arrived in the country.

**Romania / Indonesia – August 7, 1954 (OSA)**

According to the Communist Romanian newspaper *Scanteia*, a trade agreement between Romania and Indonesia had been finalised. The Romanian negotiation delegation was led by Ciobanu, who also led the delegation who had earlier negotiated an agreement with India.

**Poland / U.K. – August 8, 1954 (KCA)**

24-year-old Antoni Klimowicz states at a press conference that after he had been found on board of *Jaroslav Dabrowski*, attempts were made to persuade him to return to Poland, with offers of work and promises that he would not be punished. When he refused, he was threatened and abused.

**France – August 9, 1954 (OSA)**

The resolution passed by the Central and Eastern European Free Youth Council when they last met in Paris was officially published.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – August 10-11, 1954 (LBC)**

A delegation of the British Labour Party visits Moscow. The delegation is headed by former Prime Minister Clement Attlee and is received by Georgii Malenkov.

**Hungary – August 13, 1954 (HC)**

The leaders of Hungarian political, social and cultural life hold a meeting. They agree that it is necessary to establish a broadened popular front. It will be called the Patriotic People's Front.

**Romania / France – August 13, 1954 (OSA)**

As of this date, there are reportedly 11 Romanian publications and books available for purchase in Paris, France. They are all available at "Le Globe" on "rue des Carmes." Usually, publications arrive in France between 3 and 5 days after their original publication in Romania.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – August, 13 1954 (OSA)**

Recent information from Yugoslavia indicates that the treatment of Romanian refugees in Yugoslavia has deteriorated recently. Their freedom of movement and of correspondence is being restricted and some arrests have been reported. A comparative relaxation in the Yugoslav-Romanian relations is blamed for this development.

**Poland – August 14, 1954 (KCA)**

It is announced in Warsaw that Andrzej Panufnik has been expelled by the Polish Composers' association.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – August 14, 1954 (PIR)**

Romania and Yugoslavia conclude an accord for the re-opening of direct communication networks between the two countries (interrupted in 1950).

**Soviet Union / France – August 14, 1954 (LBC)**

A proposal is issued by the French Prime Minister Mendes-France for the modification of the EDC. The proposal is directed at reducing the organization's supranational character to facilitate its ratification by the French National Assembly.

**Romania / Greece – August 14, 1954 (KCA)**

The Greek Foreign Ministry announces that Greece has provisionally accepted a Romanian proposal to resume normal commercial and diplomatic relations, with one of the conditions being the repatriation of Greek hostages in Romania.

**Romania / Greece / Soviet Union – August 15, 1954 (OSA)**

A Greek citizen was repatriated on this date, who had formerly been living in Romania. While in Romania he had a job in a workshop specialising in railways. During his tenure the workshop repaired 200 Romanian wagons to be shipped to the USSR as war reparations.

**Romania / Greece – August 17, 1954 (KCA)**

922 Greek nationals, who were taken hostage by Communist rebels during the Greek civil war, arrive by ship at Salonika after having been repatriated from Romania.

**Romania / Greece – August 17, 1954 (OSA)**

A transport of 917 repatriated Greek citizens from Romania arrived in Salonica, Greece. This was to be the first of many transfers.

**Romania – August 18, 1954 (KCA)**

The Romanian National Assembly approves the following Cabinet changes: Josif Chisinevski, Alexandru Maghioros and Chivu Stoica are appointed as First Deputy Premiers, and Emil Bodnarus, Miron Constantinescu and Petre Borila are appointed as Deputy Premiers.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – August 18, 1954 (OSA)**

The Soviet Ambassador to East Germany, Gregory M. Pushkin, orders the “stiff political schooling” of the wives of Soviet officers in Berlin. This Soviet school for wives is intended to improve political discipline of wives as well as the behavior (incl. alcohol consumption) of their husbands and to circumvent the common practice of shopping and partaking in the social life of West Berlin.

**Poland / Denmark – August 18, 1954 (OSA)**

Poland placed a full embargo on all trade with Denmark on August 18<sup>th</sup> after the Danes refused to accept a rise in coal prices from Poland. The embargo was lifted a day later after both governments met to discuss the issue.

**Romania – August 20, 1954 (PIR)**

Iosif Chişinevski, Chivu Stoica and Alexandru Moghioroş are appointed Vice-Presidents of the Council of Ministers.

**Poland / U.K. – August 24, 1954 (KCA)**

Concerning the case of *Jaroslav Dabrowski* and Antoni Klimowicz, the British Foreign Office issues the text of a British note to the Polish Government rejecting the Polish request to hand over Klimowicz, declaring that *Jaroslav Dabrowski* was in British national waters and that the U.K. authorities have an “undoubted right” to exercise jurisdiction over persons on board.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – August 25, 1954 (KCA)**

The Admiralty in London publishes an appraisal of Soviet naval strength which estimates that if the present rate of naval construction is maintained, in two or three years' time the Soviet Navy will possess 30 cruisers, 150 destroyers, 500 submarines, 500 motor-torpedo boats, 1,000 minesweepers, 300 escort vessels and 4,000 naval aircraft. Soviet naval manpower is estimated at about 750,000.

**Poland / France – August 27, 1954 (KCA)**

It is announced in Paris that the Polish Government has suggested to France the conclusion of a treaty of alliance and mutual assistance against revival of German aggression.

**Soviet Union — August 30, 1954 (OSA)**

The Soviet Air Force, at least up until the end of 1953, was using two types of incendiary bomb mechanisms, equipped to cause a powerful explosion, that reaches a 100 meters radius. The bombs consist of a mixture of metals and explosive materials, producing a thick cloud of white or yellow smoke. The bomb remains after the ignition can burn for an additional 25 seconds.

**Soviet Union / France – August 30, 1954 (LBC)**

The French National Assembly votes against the EDC by 319 to 264.

**September****Finland – September, 1954 (FKH)**

Direct flight connections between Helsinki and London begin.

**Poland – September, 1954 (PLC)**

In Poland Gomulka is secretly released from prison.

**Romania – September, 1954 (OSA)**

According to a report, prices of women's clothes in Romanian in the month of September are as follows: overcoat - 270 lei, shoes - 50 to 65 lei, nightgown - 70 lei, hats - 40 to 60 lei.

**Romania – September, 1954 (OSA)**

The wife of the Romanian politician and historian George Bratianu was released from a Romanian prison. She had previously been held at the women's prison in the town of Mislea, Romania.

**Romania / Yugoslavia (Serbia) – September, 1954 (OSA)**

Gavrilovici, the former president of the Serbian colony in Yugoslavia died in a Romanian prison this month. He was one of only five Yugoslavian prisoners known to be held in Romanian custody between 1950 and 1954.

**Romania – September, 1954 (OSA)**

Despite increasing Romanian authority actions aimed at catching resistance leaders, there is still a large resistance force operating in Vatra Dornei, Romania. They are reportedly aided by the monks in the monasteries found there.

**Romania / France / Soviet Union – September, 1954 (OSA)**

During the month of September, due to Romania's multiple debts towards Western trade partners, they were ordered by the Soviets to keep the level of their exports to France exceeding their imports from France by at least 300% margins.

**Yugoslavia / Western Europe – September–October 1954 (CUI)**

Yugoslav Vice President Kardelj visits France, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and West Germany to promote close ties with Social Democratic parties in Europe.

**Yugoslavia / Turkey – September 1–9, 1954 (KCA)**

President Bayar of Turkey visits Yugoslavia.

**Poland / Soviet Union / Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Bulgaria – September 2–October 1, 1954 (OSA)**

The following countries will be participating in the Damascus International Fair in 1954: Poland, Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria.

**Romania / Syria / Soviet Union – September 2–November 15, 1954 (OSA)**

Romania was noticeably missing from the list of Communist countries in attendance to the international fair held in Damascus Syria. In attendance were most Soviet satellite states as well as the USSR itself.

**Yugoslavia / Italy – September 3, 1954 (NBT)**

Yugoslavia and Italy agree on all points of the Trieste negotiations except the territorial issue. Neither of the two states are prepared to renounce their claims to Cape Punta Sottile, an area of about two square miles.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 4, 1954 (KCA)**

The U.S. Defense Department announces that a U.S. Navy *Neptune* plane was shot down by Soviet fighters in the waters north of Japan, about 44 miles from the Siberian mainland.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 5, 1954 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government presents a note to the U.S., alleging that the *Neptune* violated State frontiers of the USSR in the area of Ostrovny, ignored the warnings from two Soviet machines and opened fire on them. The Soviet note asks that the persons responsible to be “severely called to account” and that the U.S. authorities take steps to avoid such incidents in future. Two U.S. notes are presented in Moscow the same day, the first note protesting the attack, and the second rejecting the Soviet Government's allegations concerning the incident as “completely unfounded”.

**Poland / Soviet Union / France – September 6–12, 1954 (OSA)**

Polish and Soviet medical specialists will attend the Fifth International Congress of Haematology in Paris. The Congress is held to facilitate the exchange of information in combatting blood diseases.

**Poland – September 7, 1954 (KCA)**

It is reported that August Zaleski, the President of the Polish Government-in-exile in London has appointed Prince Eustace Sapieha as his legal successor in the event of his resignation or death.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – September 10, 1954 (KCA)**

The replies of the British, U.S. and French Governments are issued to the Soviet note of **July 24**. They are presented in Moscow. The Western Powers state that they can be prepared to agree to a four-power conference of Foreign Ministers if the Soviet Union agrees to sign the Austrian State Treaty on the basis of previously agreed text, and to hold free elections throughout Germany as an “essential first step” towards German unification.

**Poland / Czechoslovakia / France – September 13–17, 1954 (OSA)**

Poland and Czechoslovakia are set to attend the annual general assembly of the international Air Transport Association held in Paris.

**Soviet Union – September 16, 1954 (KCA)**

Moscow announces that an atomic weapon test has been carried out in the USSR to study the effect of an atomic explosion and that valuable results have been obtained which will help Soviet Scientists and engineers to solve problems of defense against atomic attack.

**Yugoslavia – September 16, 1954 (KCA)**

President Tito holds a speech on Yugoslavian foreign policy in Ostrožno, Slovenia. Tito declares that Yugoslavia approves of a European Community, which would remove antagonisms and bring about economic and other kinds of cooperation. On the subject of German rearmament he comments that “those who want to keep Germany forever in chains are not in the right. Germany is entitled to sovereignty.” Tito also rejects the possibility of Yugoslavia joining NATO.

**Hungary / U.N. – September 17, 1954 (HC)**

The Government sends a memorandum to the General Assembly of the United Nations, asking for membership.

**Yugoslavia – September 18, 1954 (KCA)**

It is reported in Belgrade that the Supreme Court of Montenegro has reduced the sentence of Bishop Arsenije Bradvrević from 11½ years of hard labor to 5 years.

**Hungary – September 20–22, 1954 (HC)**

The Parliament accepts Law 1954: VIII. about the modification of the constitution and Law IX. about the councils and the way council members are elected.

**Soviet Union — September 20, 1954 (OSA)**

The speculations and conspiracies about the circumstances of Stalin’s death are fueled by circumstantial evidence regarding the behavior of the Soviet Leader before his death. The extension of the members of the Secretariat confused the hierarchy and as a result, the line of succession was not clear. The case of Beria, chief of security, and the arrest of the 9 doctors of Jewish descent, supposedly coordinated by Stalin, pose as indications for Stalin’s attack on his own party members.

**Soviet Union / Sweden — September 20, 1954 (OSA)**

During a negotiation meeting regarding the details of a Swedish-Soviet football match, the Russian delegation recommended that each player should receive a 100 rubles grant. Much to their surprise, the Swedish representatives declined their offer. After a recent trip from Moscow, the chairman of the Olympic committee, A. Brundage, stated that the Russian athletes were amateurs and should not be considered a threat.



**Hungary – September 21, 1954 (HC)**

Decree 1077/1954 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers determines the rights and duties of the heads of industrial firms. They are given more freedom in decision making.

**Poland / France – September 21, 1954 (OSA)**

In this confidential report a list of French organs which received money from the Polish P.K.O bank is provided. The report provides the names of both journalists and press organs and the exact sums of money received by them during the month of August 1954.

**Soviet Union —21 September 1954 (OSA)**

Efforts of mitigating Stalinist practices, by seeking to make amends with the international community, outline the tactical methods of the new group of Soviet Leaders. Remains to see the fulfillment of promises for greater freedom and better living conditions, since there is no change in foreign policy yet.

**Hungary – September 23, 1954 (HC)**

Decree no. 1954:28 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces the new regulation system of pensions. The pension base is 50% of the wage, and an additional 1% a year is given for the years after 1945. The minimum pension is 500 Forints.

**Hungary – September 23, 1954 (HC)**

The Hungarian Council of Ministers calls for the 5th peace loan program. The program ends on **October 2** with 1,123,634,300 forints.

**Poland – September 25, 1954 (PSN)**

The Diet introduces a three-level administration of the country abolishing the commune.

**Hungary / Romania / Soviet Union – September 25, 1954 (KCA)**

A joint communiqué is issued in Moscow and Bucharest, announcing that the Soviet Union has agreed to transfer to Romania its half-shares in the 12 joint Soviet–Romanian (*Sovrom*) industrial companies created after the war.

**Poland / U.S. – September 28, 1954 (PSN)**

Lt. Col. Joseph Swiatlo appears at a press conference in Washington. The same day Radio Liberty begins transmitting his texts usually related to the hidden functioning of the Communist Government to Poland. In particular he describes relations between Polish and Soviet institutions and the power of Soviet emissaries.

**Romania / Greece – September 29, 1954 (OSA)**

A 49 year old Greek prisoner of war was repatriated to his native country from Romania on this date. He was originally a native of Pitalia in the region of Triccala and of the Orthodox religion. He worked as a professor at the Greek high school in Bucharest.

**Soviet Union / U.S. — September 30, 1954 (OSA)**

The specifics of the nuclear energy networks, such as the location of the testing areas and laboratories, have not been made public, and the locations of the energy plants can only be speculated. The announcement for the implementation of an electric power network utilizing nuclear reactors serves as a way to highlight the nonviolent means of atomic energy as opposed to the United States military practices involving nuclear power. Even though, formally, there is

no concrete civil defense plan, the framework for a rapid defensive reaction exists and the vast subway system could serve as a safe place in case of an attack.

## **October**

### **Hungary – October, 1954 (HC)**

Lectures start at the TTIT Attila József Free University in Budapest.

### **Hungary – October, 1954 (HC)**

*Fel a fejjel* (Keep your chin up!), a film directed by Márton Keleti and *Rokonok* (Relatives) by Félix Máriássy are first shown.

### **Yugoslavia / U.S. – October, 1954 (LKT)**

Foreign Operations Administration (FOA) director Harold E. Stassen visits Yugoslavia. Tito assures him that Yugoslavia's influence on the Balkan satellites will increase because of the Soviet's change in policy toward his country.

### **East Germany – October, 1954 (HWD)**

Elections to the People's Chamber take place. A participation rate of 98.4% is registered, the result is a 99.45% 'yes' vote for the candidates of the unified lists.

### **East Germany / Czechoslovakia – October–November, 1954 (OSA)**

A barbed wire fence with soldier-manned watchtowers is erected by Czechoslovak work gangs, policemen, and soldiers along the East German border with Czechoslovakia. This is intended to prevent smugglers and escapees from crossing.

### **Poland / East Germany – October, 1954 (OSA)**

Polish Prime Minister Josef Cyrankiewicz visited East Berlin to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the German Democratic Republic. During his visit he went to a Polish-owned bookshop and commented on the need to reorganize the Polish diplomatic delegation in East Berlin given the difficulty of Poles living in East Germany to get visas to visit relatives in Poland.

### **Romania – October, 1954 (OSA)**

The Soviet government shakeup is largely regarded as the largest factor behind the postponement of the Romanian Communist Party Congress. The Party Congress was meant to take place in the month of October.

### **Romania – October, 1954 (OSA)**

In the town of Braila, Romania, venereal diseases were widespread amongst the population. A hospital operating in this area specialised in treating these diseases. This hospital, reportedly, did not contain any beds and functioned more as a dispensary for necessary medicines.

### **Romania – October, 1954 (OSA)**

During this month in Romania, it is reported that the average worker's salary does not exceed 450 lei per month. A majority of the work-class population, however, earn no more than 270 lei per month. Taxes, rent, and transportation costs often equaled close to 133 lei per month during this same time.

**Romania – October, 1954 (OSA)**

For all citizens in Romania, there was a government sponsored, obligatory subscription to the Communist newspaper Scanteia. The cost of this compulsory subscription totals to 4 lei a month.

**Romania / France – October, 1954 (OSA)**

The French government became aware of rumours within the ranks of recent refugee arrivals from Romania that Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej would be replaced in his role as Communist Prime Minister of Romania at the next Party Congress. There is no evidence supporting the rumours. Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej's picture is still present at all Party meetings.

**Romania / France – October, 1954 (OSA)**

By the end of October, 87 known Romanian publications were available for paid subscription within French territory. All 87 publications were available through "Le Globe" bookstore.

**Hungary – October 1, 1954 (HC)**

Declaration 12/1954 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces that Miskolc, Debrecen, Szeged and Pécs will be administered directly by the Presidential Council.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – October 1, 1954 (KCA)**

A barter agreement, ending the Soviet Unions' six-year economic blockade of Yugoslavia, is signed in Belgrade.

**Romania / China – October 1, 1954 (PIR)**

A Romanian Governmental delegation is received by Mao Zedong on the occasion of the 5th anniversary of the proclamation of the Popular Republic of China.

**Soviet Union —October 1, 1954 (OSA)**

After Stalin's death, increased cases of thefts and drunkenness have been reported in major cities in Russia, as a result of the cut in alcohol prices, and the grant of amnesty to petty criminals. As a response, the Soviet Government imposes a series of measures against the crime wave and the restoration of the death penalty for murder. The press campaigns to highlight the damaging consequences of alcohol consumption, especially to young people. The systemic phenomenon of petty bribery also affects higher-level officials, that resort to these practices to reach the annual plan quotas or for personal gain.

**Soviet Union — October 2, 1954 (OSA)**

The severity of censorship practices in the Soviet Union is diverse and volatile but considerably lighter under the new administration, compared to Stalin's rule. The shadowing of foreigners still continues, but some travel restrictions have been lifted. After Stalin's death, comments concerning the prices and quality of goods and living conditions are free to be published, even though soviet foreign policy and soviet public figures are still a sensitive topic. Lastly, the arrests of correspondents taking photographs are a common phenomenon, although photographs of all objects except military or industrial are allowed.

**U.S / West Germany – October 3, 1954 (LBC)**

A decision is made on the FRG's NATO membership.

**Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste / U.K. / U.S. – October 3, 1954 (LBC)**

The U.S., United Kingdom, Yugoslavia and Italy sign an agreement (the so-called Memorandum of Understanding) on Trieste. According to the agreement zone A will be under Italian control, while zone B will be under Yugoslav control. The agreement states that the Italian peace treaty could not be implemented, under which Trieste would have been a free zone.

**Soviet Union / U.N. – October 3, 1954 (LBC)**

The Soviet Union presents a new disarmament proposal to the U.N. According to Vishinsky an international agreement needs to be signed to ban atomic and hydrogen bombs as well as other weapons of mass destruction. This would be controlled by an international organization. Armed forces would have to be reduced by 50% in six months to one year. A provisional organ needs to be established under the aegis of the U.N., which would be empowered to request information on compliance.

**Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste – October 6, 1954 (NBT)**

In his speech at a meeting of the Communist League in Sarajevo, Marshal Tito points out that Yugoslavia must make sacrifices in order to reach the agreement. But even so, the Yugoslav Government is satisfied because the agreement contributes to the consolidation of peace and stability in Europe.

**Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste – October 7, 1954 (NBT)**

The Yugoslav federal executive council approves the Memorandum of Understanding on Trieste.

**Romania / France – October 9, 1954 (OSA)**

The French government published an internal report discussing the rumoured suicide of Dorel Livianu in Romania. He was both a well-known Communist spy and polemist.

**Hungary – October 10, 1954 (HC)**

Decree no. 1954:29 by the Hungarian Presidential Council states that the Ministry of Heavy Industry will be abolished and instead the Ministry of Coal Mining and a Ministry of Chemical Industry and Energy will be established. The new ministries' ministers are Sándor Czottner and István Hidas.

**Hungary – October 10, 1954 (HC)**

Decree 1086/1954 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that the Economics Institution will be established.

**Romania – October 10, 1954 (PIR)**

Vasile Luca is condemned to death, but his sentence is commuted to life imprisonment.

**Romania – October 10, 1954 (PIR)**

Eugen Țurcanu is sentenced to death in the trial against the 'reeducators'. His personal estates are confiscated and he is executed at Jilava prison on **December 17**. Țurcanu was the leader of a group of prison guards who, with support of the prison administration, tortured prisoners in the Pitesti prison between 1949 and 1951.

**Bulgaria / Soviet Union – October 11, 1954 (KCA)**

A joint communiqué issued in Sofia and Moscow announces that the Soviet Union has agreed to transfer to Bulgaria half of its shares in three joint Soviet–Bulgarian industrial companies.

**Romania / China – October 11-29, 1954 (PIR)**

Petru Groza, President of the Presidium of the Grand National Assembly, meets in Beijing for discussion with Mao Zedong, Liu Shaoqi and Zhou Enlai.

**Soviet Union / China – October 12, 1954 (KCA)**

A joint Sino-Soviet communiqué is issued in Moscow and Beijing, announcing that as a result of discussions held in the Chinese capital between **September 29** and **October 11**, it has been agreed that the Soviet Union will restore Port Arthur to China by **May 1955**, China will be granted a long-term Soviet credit of 520 million roubles, the Soviet Union will assist in the construction of two new railway links between China and the Soviet Union, and finally the Soviet Union will relinquish its share in the joint Sino-Soviet companies which have been formed to assist Chinese economic development. The two countries also fully agree on matters of foreign policy and in their attitude towards Far Eastern problems.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste – October 12, 1954 (NBT)**

The Soviet Union also recognizes the Second London Agreement because it believes that the agreement would restore normal relations between Yugoslavia and Italy.

**East Germany – October 12, 1954 (OSA)**

The East German government announces the ‘Cultural Five-Year Plan’. This includes an increase in spending for cultural pursuits, as well as state endorsement of socialist realism, greater cooperation with Western artists, and the creation or re-establishment of more cultural centers (like a film academy and opera house).

**Soviet Union / U.S. – October 13, 1954 (KCA)**

The U.S. Navy Secretary Charles S. Thomas states that the Soviet Union possesses 20,000 aircraft in which it could deliver atomic weapons. It is the first official U.S. announcement crediting the Soviet Union with possessing supersonic aircraft capable of carrying atomic bombs.

**Soviet Union / Italy — October 14, 1954 (OSA)**

A Soviet Engineer named Kartov was sent to the Ansaldo San Giorgio of Genoa to oversee the commission of 50 electric power stations constructed for Soviet Russia. The engineer stated that he is going to be held responsible for the outcome of the mission, insisting that all the electric stations should be technically identical, even though the Italian engineers explained that some small variations were inevitable. In the end, they had to alter the tests for the aspects of the power stations to seem identical, in order to secure the implementation of the agreement.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – October 14, 1954 (KCA)**

Belgrade officially states that Soviet jamming of Radio Belgrade’s Russian language broadcasts had ceased some days before.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – October 15, 1954 (KCA)**

It is announced in Belgrade that the Soviet Government has informed Yugoslavia that it is ready to agree on the return of a number of Yugoslav orphan cadets who were sent for training to the Suvorov Military Academy in Moscow before Yugoslavia’s break with the USSR in 1948.

**Poland / Switzerland – October 15, 1954 (OSA)**

Trade talks between Poland and Switzerland have broken down due to the Polish government's refusal to consider the fulfilment of a 1949 agreement to pay compensation for Swiss-owned property that was seized by the state.

**East Germany – October 17, 1954 (KCA)**

General elections are held in Eastern Germany for a new *Volkskammer* of 400 deputies.

**Romania / Greece – October 17, 1954 (OSA)**

The Romanian freighter "Mangalia" docked at the Greek port city of Piraeus carrying 800 cubic metres of timber. This cargo was bound for an importing firm in Athens. According to the captain of the ship, there were at least four political officers on board whose role it was to maintain regime loyalty on board.

**East Germany – October 18, 1954 (KCA)**

The results of the elections in Eastern Germany are announced, reporting that 98.41% of the electorate went to the polls and 99.46% of the votes cast went to the National Front.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Yugoslavia / Western Germany / Egypt / Bulgaria / Greece – October 19, 1954 (OSA)**

Summary of the exports of Czechoslovak timber to Egypt; West German electric generators to Bulgaria; and Hungarian oak to Greece.

**Romania / Greece – October 19, 1954 (OSA)**

A Greek citizen was repatriated on this date and returned from Romania. He had previously spent over two years in a Romanian prison. He provided much important information on the Romanian prison system to Greek authorities.

**Soviet Union — October 19, 1954 (OSA)**

The intense government campaign against religion has not affected the numbers of worshippers and church ceremonies in Moscow, where the Churches are crowded and in good condition. The Soviet press publishes warnings on the dangers of superstitious beliefs to the Communist ideals. However, churches are free to continue their operation, but representatives of the Church cannot hold positions within the communist party, the Church must rely on endowments for its followers, while religious teaching is not included in school curriculums.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – October 20, 1954 (LBC)**

The Soviet Union rejects the Western disarmament proposal, which would have sought a compromise between the Soviet proposal on one hand and the British-French one on the other.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. / West Germany – October 23, 1954 (LBC)**

An agreement is signed in Paris on the restoration of the sovereignty of the FRG. West Germany and Italy will be part of the Western European Union, the FRG receives NATO membership, and its limited rearmament is permitted. The agreement, which is made up of four parts, is signed by 15 states. The USSR condemns the agreement and recommends a four-power conference.

**Hungary – October 23–24, 1954 (HC)**

The founding congress of the Patriotic People's Front takes place. Chairman of the national council: Pál Szabó. Deputy Chairmen: József Darvas, István Dobi, Ferenc Harrer, Imre Nagy and Mátyás Rákosi. General Secretary: Ferenc Jánosi.

From **November 14**, the *Magyar Nemzet* becomes the newspaper of the Patriotic People's Front.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – October 23, 1954 (KCA)**

Soviet notes are presented to the U.S., British and French Ambassadors in Moscow, in which the Soviet Government proposes that the Foreign Ministers of the United Kingdom, the U.S., France and the Soviet Union meet in November to examine questions of German unification, the withdrawal of occupation troops of the four Powers from both Eastern and Western Germany, and the organization of a general conference to examine the creation of a system of collective security in Europe.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia / Trieste – October 25, 1954 (RYN)**

On the eve of his departure to Burma and India, Tito delivers a lengthy address to the Federal Assembly on the solution of the Trieste question, the normalization of relations with the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, and the negotiation of the Balkan Pact.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – October 26, 1954 (KCA)**

The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission announces that the Soviet Government has been conducting a series of detonations of nuclear explosives on Soviet territory.

**Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste / U.K. / U.S. – October 26, 1954 (NBT)**

Italian troops enter Trieste and the British-American occupation comes to an end.

**Czechoslovakia / Israel – October 27, 1954 (KCA)**

The Israeli Legation in Vienna announces that Simon Orenstein, an Israeli national who had been sentenced on **August 17, 1953**, by a Czechoslovak court, to life imprisonment on charges of crimes against the security of the Czechoslovak state, has been released after having spent three years in prison.

**Romania / France – October 28, 1954 (OSA)**

The French government released an internal report describing the relaxation of controls of foreign citizens on Romanian territory. This is believed to be a result of the implementation of the Romanian government's "New Course" policy. Work permits for foreigners are still hard to receive.

**Hungary – October 30, 1954 (HC)**

The Hungarian Presidential Council dismisses András Hegedüs from his office as Agricultural Minister, Ferenc Erdei from his office as Minister of Justice, István Hidas from his office as Minister of Chemical Industry and Energy, Árpád Kiss from his office as Minister of Light Industry, Béla Szalai from his office as head of the State Planning Office and Erik Molnár from his office as head of the Supreme Court. At the same time, István Hidas is elected to be the Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Béla Szalai the Minister of Light Industry, Árpád Kiss the Minister of Chemical Industry and Energy, Ferenc Erdei the Minister of Agriculture, Erik Molnár the Minister of Justice, György Pogácsás the Minister of State Farms, Andor Berei the head of the State Planning Office and József Domonkos the head of the Supreme Court.

**Romania / Greece – October 30, 1954 (OSA)**

According to a group of Greek citizens repatriated on this date, the soap and cosmetics for sale in Romania are of decreasing quality. According to these sources, this refers to toilet soap, shaving cream, beauty cream, and toothpaste.

**Romania / Greece – October 30, 1954 (OSA)**

A transport of 568 newly repatriated Greek citizens arrived from Romania in that Greek port of Salonica. Only approximately 380 Greeks had been approved for repatriation by the Greek government. Of those, 308 arrived to be transported. The other 260 Greeks aboard reportedly boarded the ship at Constanta at the last minute. The International Red Cross forced the Greek government to accept these additional 260 non-approved citizens.

**Hungary – October 31, 1954 (HC)**

Decree no. 1954:30 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces that a Ministry of State Farms will be established.

**November****Poland – November, 1954 (PSN)**

At a secret meeting of party activists, many lower-level activists attack the Ministry of Public Security in the wake of Beria's execution and the Swiatlo broadcasts.

**Poland / Denmark – November, 1954 (OSA)**

After trade negotiations between the two countries broke down in August the governments have agreed to restart trade negotiations in January 1955.

**Romania – November, 1954 (RFN)**

The Soviet Union calls for the General Assembly to request the Security Council to review the application of Romania and a number of other states.

**Romania / France – November, 1954 (OSA)**

In the month of November, Romanian imports to France totaled at more than 142 million Francs worth of products, consisting mostly of petrol and books. In this same period, the monetary value of French exports to Romania totaled close to 10 million Francs.

**Hungary – November 1, 1954 (HC)**

The Pedagogic Science Institute opens in Budapest.

**Romania – November 3, 1954 (OSA)**

The source describes that the Romanian artists enjoy privileged positions. They belong to the Arts and Culture Committee, which merged with the new Ministry of Culture on October 30, 1953. The artists are divided into three categories: in the first are those who for a long time had expressed their sympathy for Communism and are Party members; second category is comprised of those who joined the Party after Communists had ascended to power; and in the third category, which represents the majority, are opportunist and those who are obliged to sympathize with Communism in order to keep their jobs. The source also mentions the salaries of artists, composers and directors.



**Yugoslavia / Indonesia – November 4, 1954 (KCA)**

It is announced in Belgrade that Yugoslav and Indonesian Governments have agreed to establish diplomatic relations and exchange envoys with the rank of Minister.

**East Germany / West Germany – November 5–7, 1954 (OSA)**

East Berlin was site to an “All-German Meeting”, organized by the central committee of the SED and funded by the East Berlin committee for national unity. The event hosted East and West German intellectuals and artists for discussions and performances.

**Romania / China / Soviet Union – November 5, 1954 (OSA)**

The source consists of five anecdotes in Romanian language, which act as a critique of the regime, while having such themes as Jews, China, and the USSR.

**Yugoslavia / Italy – November 6, 1954 (KCA)**

Rome and Belgrade announce that the Italian and Yugoslav Governments have agreed to raise their diplomatic missions from Legation to Embassy level in order to create closer and better mutual relations.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – November 7, 1954 (KCA)**

A joint communiqué is issued in Moscow and Budapest, announcing that the Soviet Government has agreed to transfer to Hungary half of its shares in the five joint Soviet-Hungarian industrial companies set up in 1945.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 7, 1954 (KCA)**

A U.S. *Superfortress* plane is shot down by Soviet fighters off the northeastern tip of Hokkaido while on a routine photographic reconnaissance flight; one airman is killed.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 8, 1954 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union sends a protest to the United States, alleging that the *Superfortress* flew over Tanfilyev Island in the southern Kuriles, ignored warnings by two Soviet planes to leave the air space of the Soviet Union immediately and opened fire on them. On the same day a strong U.S. note is presented in Moscow concerning the shooting down of the *Superfortress* over Japanese territory in the Hokkaido area.

**Romania – November 9, 1954 (OSA)**

The Soviet air training camp is located 25 km from Bucharest in the woods near the village of Otopeni. The source supplies details on the camp, such as the size, number of staff and other details. It also refers to the barracks of a regiment which is near the camp, and finally to the fact that one rarely sees Soviet officials in the uniforms in Bucharest, since the majority wear civilian clothes.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – November 9, 1954 (LBC)**

British Prime Minister Winston Churchill inspires East and West to try and coexist in friendship. He deems the strength of the West as the token of peace and states that communism is the Russians’ own affair as long as they do not endanger the freedom of other nations.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – November 10–17, 1954, KCA, (CUY)**

A Yugoslav delegation visits the United States for discussions on economic relations including US economic assistance and the possibility of an extension of Yugoslavia’s repayment of earlier debts. The Yugoslav delegation is headed by Svetozar Vukmanović-Tempo. Following the

talks, an agreement is signed under which 425,000 tons of wheat and \$10 million worth of cotton from surplus stocks are provided to Yugoslavia.

**Poland / U.K. – November 11, 1954 (KCA)**

It is announced in London that negotiations between the British and Polish Governments have resulted in the signing of a financial agreement in Warsaw and a trade agreement in London.

**Soviet Union – November 11, 1954 (KCA)**

A directive is issued in *Pravda* by Khrushchev, in which it is admitted that certain Soviet newspapers and anti-religious organizations have made “insulting attacks” on the clergy and religious believers and have “baselessly represented certain ministers of religion and believers as people unworthy of political trust”. Khrushchev further declares that “insulting acts regarding the Church, clergy and believing citizens are incompatible with the line of party and State in carrying out scientific atheistic propaganda, and contradict the Constitution of the USSR granting freedom of conscience to citizens.”

**Romania / Israel – November 12, 1954 (OSA)**

Viata Noastra, a Romanian refugee run paper published in Israel claimed that the Romanian authorities had recently reviewed and commuted sentences of many imprisoned Zionist leaders in Romania. Among those who had their sentence commuted were A. Zissu, Edi Kanner, and Jean Cohen. Suzanna Benvenisti and Jean Littmann had requested to be released but were turned down due to the opposition of the prosecutor general.

**Soviet Union / Western Bloc – November 13, 1954 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government sends notes to the United States and European countries with which it maintains diplomatic relations, proposing that a conference on the organization of collective security in Europe be convened in Paris or Moscow on **November 29, 1954**.

**Romania – November 13, 1954 (OSA)**

The Air Force Regiment 1076 is based in Tecuci, in the Ialomita province. Details are provided regarding the regiment's technical and administrative structure, its armed vehicles, as well as the officers' and soldiers' uniforms, and the situation and the arrangement of the barracks.

**Soviet Union — November 14, 1954 (OSA)**

The ability to speak the Russian language grants an advantage when it comes to communicating with locals about life in the Soviet Union and the reported improvement of the conditions after Stalin's death. Still, a general feeling of suspiciousness seems to be persistent in Soviet society. The members of Comedie Francaise encountered an interest and curiosity regarding all things French, while the Russian media coverage of their trip was favorable.

**Soviet Union — November 14, 1954 (OSA)**

“Dom Detskoy Knigi”, the adjunct of a publishing house for children's books, conducts efforts to assist writers and editors regarding the release of books for children, publishes bibliographies and research in the history and theory of children's literature. The house welcomes criticism and new ideas from its young readers. There is a call for the improvement of children's books to better illustrate the communist ideals. A look in the library contents indicates that kids in both capitalist and socialist societies are interested in the same topics and share the same heroes.

**Soviet Union — November 16, 1954 (OSA)**

The Russian market is experiencing a boost in spending, evident from the long queues formed outside of stores and departments in major cities. The clothes available - to a westerner's eye - are distinguished by their uniformity and poor quality and the merchandise of the jewelry stores seems to be stuck in time. The food shops provide a wide variety of goods, even if the supply process is sometimes unstable. Lastly, the bookstore, with quick and attentive service, attract many customers, mainly young people, as do the phonographs, intended for both classical and modern Russian music.

**Hungary / U.S. – November 17, 1954 (KCA)**

The Hungarian Government informs the U.S. Legation in Budapest that American citizens and Mrs. Noel Field have been released from imprisonment because the charges brought against them were found to have been unjustified. This is the first official intimation since the disappearance of and Mrs. Noel Field that they have been in a Hungarian prison.

**Soviet Union — November 17, 1954 (OSA)**

Sochi is a vast bathing resort with wide avenues, parks, rest residences, and Soviet monuments, that attracts thousands of Soviet workers annually, to spend there their paid vacation, while Stalin himself had a vacation house in that area. The extensive number of spas and sanatoria with gyms, concert halls, and private beaches, is intended not just for sick people, but also for those with a need of rest under doctor's supervision. A large portion of the fees is paid by Social Security and belong to trade unions.

**Bulgaria / Austria – November 18, 1954 (KCA)**

It is announced in Vienna that Austria and Bulgaria have initiated a Danube shipping agreement providing for the free and reciprocal use of the river for ships of both countries in each other's territory.

**Finland / Soviet Union – November 18, 1954 (EKF)**

J. K. Paasikivi is awarded the Order of Lenin for his 'outstanding services for the cause of peace'.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – November, 19 1954 (OSA)**

A personal opinion on relations between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia and comments about Tito's character and actions.

**Albania / Austria / Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Romania / Yugoslavia – November, 20 1954 (OSA)**

Communist organisation in Wien which acts as Cominform's front company. It had transactions directly with Soviets. Leading persons in the shadow company are Hans Siegenthaler, Rudolf Siegenthaler and Dr. Piet Fruehwald

**Finland – November 20, 1954 (HJH/FGV)**

The government headed by R. Törngren falls and a new cabinet is formed by the Agrarian League Leader Urho Kaleva Kekkonen. The governmental coalition is formed between Agrarians and Social Democrats.

**Soviet Bloc / France – November 23, 1954 (LBC)**

French Prime Minister Mendes-France would support the establishment of an East European defense organization if it were directed at arms control and supervision and would operate on the principle of openness like its Western counterpart.

**Romania / France – November 24, 1954 (OSA)**

Mgr. Octavian Barlea, head of the Paris Romanian Catholic Mission, gives a speech to the Association of Christian, Refugee Intellectuals in France. He emphasised the importance of refugee intellectuals spreading truths about their home country in the West. He declares that the West will determine the future of Soviet satellite states.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – November 25-26, 1954 (KCA)**

Yugoslav delegation travels to London and has talks on economic relations.

**Finland – November 26, 1954 (TSL)**

Väinö Linna's novel *The Unknown Soldier* is published. The book is about a machine gun company in the 1941-44 Continuation War between Finland and the Soviet Union. However, its unvarnished depiction of war sparks an exceptionally heated debate about its truthfulness. It is to become one of the most-read novels in Finland.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – November, 26 1954 (OSA)**

This report confirms that since at least until mid-October 1954, the situation had not changed and the life of refugees shows the same characteristics as two years ago when the organisation of Hungarian refugees was created. A 17 year old Hungarian refugee in Yugoslavia has depicted the treatment and interrogation of Hungarian refugees by the Yugoslav police. He talked about Hungarian refugees and the hostilities they have faced in Yugoslavia, which was an enemy in World War II. He tells about the Yugoslav propaganda about the people's democracy, and fights and protests between Yugoslav and Hungarian youth.

**Hungary – November 28, 1954 (HC)**

National council elections take place. The Patriotic Popular Front receives 97.9% of the votes.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – November 29, 1954 (KCA)**

The British, U.S., and French replies to the Soviet note of **November 13th** are presented in Moscow. The notes point out that the Soviet proposals for European Security contained no points that had not already been discussed at the Berlin conference, emphasize that the Western countries do not intend to be “deflected” from ratifying the Paris agreements, and lay down prerequisites for a four-power conference or a wider European conference:

1. The signing of the Austrian State Treaty
2. A “clarification” of the Soviet Government’s position with regard to free all-German elections
3. Exchanges through diplomatic channels on any other questions, particularly those relating to European security, which might be examined at an eventual four-Power meeting.

**Soviet Bloc – November 29–December 2, 1954 (KCA)**

A conference on “the safeguarding of peace and collective security in Europe” is held in Moscow. Although all the European countries and the United States are invited, the only representatives that come from Communist States in Eastern Europe are Poland, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Albania. An observer represents the People’s Republic of China. During the conference, Molotov attacks

the London and Paris agreements and calls for their abandonment. The Conference ends with the signing of a Declaration by all the countries represented saying that the creation of a West German army headed by “Hitler generals” and the inclusion of Western Germany into NATO and the West European alliance would constitute a threat to the security of the countries represented at the conference, and that if the Paris agreements were ratified, those countries would meet again to adopt measures for safeguarding their security.

## **December**

### **Hungary – December, 1954 (HC)**

The Fifth Hungarian Fine Arts Exhibition is opened

### **Soviet Union – December, 1954 (KRI)**

Former Minister of State Security Abakumov is shot for his role in fabricating the “Leningrad Affair”.

### **Poland / Austria – December 1, 1954 (KCA)**

The Austrian and Polish Governments announce that they have agreed to raise their respective Legations in Warsaw and Vienna to the status of Embassies.

### **Yugoslavia – December 1954 (KCA)**

Milovan Djilas, the former Vice-President of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council and Vladimir Dedijer, a member of the Central Committee of the League of Communists publish statements in the foreign press demanding greater freedom of discussion. Djilas also calls for the establishment of an opposition party of democratic socialists and attacks President Tito for opposing democratization.

### **Romania – December, 1954 (OSA)**

In line with the government’s announced “New Course,” the conditions in which prisoners from foreign satellite states are held in Romanian prisons is improving. This is considered a part of a general softening on the part of the security apparatus.

### **Romania / France – December, 1954 (OSA)**

During the month of December, the monetary value of all Romanian exports to France totaled close to 89 million Francs. Products were mainly petrol based.

### **Romania / India – December 1, 1954 (KCA)**

It is announced in New Delhi that the Indian and Romanian Governments have decided to exchange diplomatic representatives with the rank of Minister and to open Legations in Bucharest and New Delhi.

### **Soviet Union —December 3, 1954 (OSA)**

The conditions of economic and social security observed in Soviet Russia leave a notable impression on the foreign visitor. The state-provided children care, the efficient pension system, and the refusal to be exploited by wealth inspire a sense of pride for the people of Russia. The efforts of the people of Leningrad to rebuild the city after the destruction of the war and the government-led propaganda against alcoholism are also considered impressive. However, it is noted that Russian citizens, in general, maintain a narrow-minded and uninformed stance about

life outside of the Soviet Union, something that is mainly attributed to the propaganda of the media.

**Soviet Union — December 4, 1954 (OSA)**

A visit to the Soviet Union creates the impression of a people that are friendly but long interaction with the international community. Moscow, a city with wide streets, renovating churches, and a new university is a place that prioritizes culture and tidiness. The ballet theater and opera houses are attended by numerous people.

**Poland – December 5, 1954 (PSN)**

Elections to the People's Councils take place. They are marked by Communist intimidation and a low turnout.

**Soviet Union / France / U.S. – December 6–7, 1954 (LBC)**

The West wants non-official talks with the USSR. Secretary of State Dulles instructs the U.S. Ambassador in Moscow Charles Bohlen to establish informal contact with the Soviet leaders. France instructs its Ambassador in Moscow to find out whether Moscow is willing to sign the Austrian treaty on the basis of the French proposal.

**Poland – December 7, 1954 (PSN)**

The minister of public security is replaced by the minister of internal affairs. A state commission on public security subordinated to the government is established. The act tried to distance the party from the security services.

**Romania – December 9, 1954 (OSA)**

According to an article published by the Communist Romanian newspaper, Scanteia, on this date, Stefan Bontea was the director general of the Combinatul Siderurgic factory in Hunedoara, Romania. The article also states that Ion Moraru was the Secretary of the Factory Party Committee and that Ion Chesa was the President of the Enterprise Committee.

**Romania / France – December 9, 1954 (OSA)**

The French Ministry of Labour circulated a report outlining the conditions under which Romanian refugees can work in their chosen professions in France. In accordance with the Geneva Convention, those who have lived in France over three years, are married to a French citizen, or have naturalised French children are freely able to choose their professions. It was most difficult for Romanians who had settled in France in the pre-war dates to get permission from authorities to work.

**Poland – December 14, 1954 (HDP)**

Gomulka is secretly freed from house arrest.

**Yugoslavia – December 15, 1954 (KCA)**

Vladimir Dedijer refuses to appear before the Control Commission of the League to answer charges of slandering the League of Communists, Yugoslav Socialist democracy, the Central Committee of the League and certain of its members.

**Soviet Union — December 16, 1954 (OSA)**

In an interview, Soviet Union's Prima Ballerina Galina Ulanova talks about her personal experience with a world reputation, being idolized by young people, and the harsh and dedicated

practicing schedules. Ulanova also obtains the position of deputy on the city council of Moscow. Russian Ballet dancers are among the highest paid professions in the USSR.

**Yugoslavia / Burma / India – December 16, 1954–January 25, 1955 (KCA)**

President Tito of Yugoslavia pays a visit to India and Burma.

**Poland / Finland – December 17, 1954 (OSA)**

A trade agreement was signed between Finland and Poland for the exchange of goods in 1955.

**Soviet Union —December 17, 1954 (OSA)**

Russia's astounding domination in athletic events is closely related to the sports facilities that exist in every major city. Schools, trade unions, and civic organizations throughout the Soviet Union are taking part in competitions of various sports fields. Athletes, that do not normally grand interviews, do not receive special rewards for their accomplishments, with the exception of professional football players. The major sports clubs are benefiting greatly from the high demand for tickets.

**Soviet Union — December 18, 1954 (OSA)**

A series of new cultural centers, opera houses, ballet theaters, museums, and planetariums can be spotted in all major Russian cities. Ballet and classical music have a prominent position in the cultural scene, while the state restrictions concerning satire in theater and movies have been softened. Considering the different standards of what is considered cultural, cheering is forbidden in racetrack races.

**Soviet Union — December 20, 1954 (OSA)**

The censorship culture in the press causes correspondents to apply self-imposed restraints and generate a sense of uncertainty. The topics and questions available for discussion with journalists are greatly filtered in comparison to the Western world.

**Hungary – December 21, 1954 (HC)**

The ceremonial session of the Parliament in Debrecen. Law 1954: XI. is accepted stating that the 1944-1945 temporary parliament is historically significant.

**Soviet Union — December 21, 1954 (OSA)**

The campaign against divorce highlights the intention of the Russian government to emphasize the importance of family and parental values. Morals have a direct correlation with the interests of the state. The anti-religious propaganda is opting for persuasion rather than punishment and the churches are functioning without restraints.

**Yugoslavia – December 21, 1954 (KCA)**

Dedijer gives an interview to the Belgrade correspondent of *TheTimes*, stating that he refuses to boycott Djilas and stating that "there can be no development of Socialism without struggle of opinions".

**Yugoslavia / India – December 21, 1954 (RYN)**

Tito delivers a speech to the members of the Indian Parliament. It introduces the pronouncements of the unaligned nations an activist ingredient. Tito argues that the grave threat to world peace inheres in the formation of blocs along military and ideological lines.

**Yugoslavia / India – December 23, 1954 (KCA)**

A joint statement by Tito and Nehru summarizing the results of their talks and affirming their support for peaceful coexistence is laid before the Indian Parliament.

**Hungary – December 24, 1954 (KCA)**

The Hungarian Government announces that Noel Field and his wife, Herta Field, have been given political asylum in Hungary at their own request.

**Romania / France – December 24, 1954 (OSA)**

Romania officially signed a commercial agreement with France in Paris. According to the deal signed, Romanian exports to France will total 5 billion Francs while French exports to Romania will total 4.7 billion Francs. There were 55 products listed as potential French exports to Romania and 40 products listed as potential Romanian exports to France.

**Soviet Union — December 24, 1954 (OSA)**

The foreign correspondents deduce that Russia is neither willing nor ready for a global war outbreak. The disarmament of the army forces is highly unlikely since they are imperative for exercising control over the satellite states. Russia's intention is to accent as the world champion in all aspects of international competition, from sports to industrial productivity, in a way that avoids a war conflict between the capitalist and the communist blocs. The state of co-existence poses an opportunity for the USSR to gain knowledge from the western ways of production.

**Yugoslavia – December 24, 1954 (KCA)**

In an interview with a *New York Times* correspondent Djilas describes the measures against Dedijer as “an attempt to frighten the democratic elements of the party” adding that “such elements exist, but they are unorganized, whereas the party itself is in the hands of undemocratic forces”.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – December 24, 1954 (KCA)**

Belgrade announces an agreement on the revision of the Yugoslav repayment

**Romania – December 26, 1954 (PIR)**

The supply system on the basis of ration cards and ratios is abolished.

**Romania – December 26, 1954 (OSA)**

The Romanian government decreed new prices for education. This fixed the costs of elementary and technical schools at between 90 and 230 lei. The costs of high school were given as not exceeding 270 lei.

**Yugoslavia – December 27, 1954 (KCA)**

The Yugoslavian Vice-President Kardelj strongly condemns Djilas and Dedijer, describing them as “bankrupt politicians who have lost all feeling of responsibility towards their own people”.

**Soviet Union — December 28, 1954 (OSA)**

The design of radio sets for Soviet railways - granted not a Russian invention- was awarded the Stalin prize in 1948. The designers of the radio sets are employed at the Kozicki Factory in Leningrad, where the production of these sets takes place, and the sets are already distributed to railway engines, especially those involved with military transportation. The radio sets facilitate the communication between the engine driver and the passing stations. A small metal



box, securely sealed, contains the transmitting and receiving parts, while the driver's cabin is equipped with a switchboard for the operation of the loudspeaker and the microphone.

**East Germany / Germany– December 31, 1954 (KGD)**

184,198 people flee from the GDR to the FRG and West Berlin in 1954.

**Romania / Soviet Union – late 1954 (OSA)**

The Soviet government shakeup following the death of Stalin began to make headway in the fall of 1954. This caused widespread indecision in the restructuring of the Romanian Workers Party.

**Romania / Greece – late 1954 (OSA)**

At the Alien's Department of the Romanian Ministry of Internal Affairs, around 3,500 applications for Greek repatriations of citizens living in Romania were pending. Over 1,500 Greeks had already been repatriated with the expectation that 1,000 more permits would be granted soon. All citizens hoping to be given Greek citizenship are required to surrender Romanian citizenship.

## 1955

### **East Germany – 1955 (NNT)**

Industrial production is doubled and labor productivity is increased by 55% by the end of the first five-year plan demonstrating the acceleration of the nationalization of industry.

### **Finland / Soviet Union – 1955 (HJH)**

The Soviet leaders are exhibiting a change of attitude with respect to the role that neutral Finland could play in Scandinavia.

### **Poland – 1955 (HDP)**

Successful intelligentsia discussion club Crooked Circle Clu is established in Warsaw. The meetings are held in the Warsaw Old City Market until its closing in 1962.

### **Soviet Union (Uzbekistan) / Greece – late 1955 (OSA)**

Armed clashed between factions in a group of Greek Communist exiles living in a colony in Tashkent result in a number of deaths and wounded. The destitution of their living space coupled with their inability to return to Greece is thought to have contributed to the violent outburst.

### **Soviet Union / Israel – 1955 (OSA)**

The Union of Emigrants of Russian Jews is formed in Israel, the first Jewish emigre community in Israel of its kind.

### **Soviet Union / Turkey – 1955 (OSA)**

Renewal of a trade deal between Istanbul and Moscow.

## **January**

### **Poland – January, 1955 (OSA)**

The Council for Mutual Economic Aid of the Soviet Bloc states meets in January 1955 in Warsaw. The Council will discuss the situation of the light industry across the Eastern bloc.

### **Romania – January, 1955 (OSA)**

The Romanian security apparatus has reportedly offered immediate release to certain ex-officers in custody in exchange for their joining the Romanian Communist Party. The offer goes on to state that they would be given in exchange reputable job placements. Convicts were given until the end of January to respond, the majority, however, rejected the offer.

### **Romania / France – January, 1955 (OSA)**

In the month of January, the monetary value of products exported by France to Romania totaled a little bit over 108 million Francs. In this same period, the value of Romanian exports to France totaled a little over 132 million Francs.

### **Soviet Union – January, 1955 (KRI)**

Khrushchev starts his “corn campaign” to increase corn output for use as silage for livestock.

**Soviet Union / Denmark – January, 1955 (OSA)**

Danish-Soviet trade resumes after the expiration of the previous Danish-Soviet trade agreement of July 21, 1954.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – January, 1955 (CUY)**

With U.S. encouragement, Yugoslavia formally applies for observer status in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

**Yugoslavia / Algeria / Saudi Arabia / U.N. – January, 1955 (RYN)**

The Yugoslav delegation votes in favor of a Saudi Arabian proposal to bring the Algerian problem before the Security Council.

**Hungary – January 1, 1955 (HC)**

The Magvető, the publishing house of the Hungarian Writers' Union is founded.

**Romania / France – January 1, 1955 (OSA)**

The trade treaty between Romania and France officially went into effect on this date. The agreement is set to last for the next three years. Nothing was added about an extension to the treaty.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 1, 1955 (CWC)**

In a press conference, Soviet Prime Minister Malenkov states that the Soviet Union wants to cultivate closer relations with the U.S. but that the actions of the latter with regard to Germany make this difficult.

**Soviet Union / China – January 1, 1955 (KCA)**

The Soviet shares in the former joint Sino-Soviet undertakings are transferred to the Chinese People's Government, as agreed on October 11, 1954.

**Soviet Union / Iraq – January 3, 1955 (KCA)**

A Soviet note is presented in Baghdad after the Iraqi decision to suspend diplomatic relations between the two countries.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – January 5, 1955 (KCA)**

A Soviet-Yugoslav commercial and payments agreement is signed.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – January 5, 1955 (KCA)**

An agreement for the sale of U.S. surplus farm commodities to Yugoslavia is signed in Belgrade.

**Yugoslavia / Burma – January 6-17, 1955 (RYN)**

President Marshall Tito visits Burma.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – January 6-8, 1955 (PVC)**

General Cook, Deputy Commander of U.S. Forces in Europe visits Belgrade.

**Romania / France – January 9-12, 1955 (OSA)**

The Romanian folklore ballet was in Paris. Within the company were 115 performers and no fewer than 10 Romanian guards. Reportedly, between 30 and 40% of the performers were

members of the Romanian Communist Party. Special police forces were requested to be posted both at their hotel and the theatre during their performances.

**Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Yugoslavia / U.S. – January 10, 1955 (LBC)**

The U.S. gives food aid to Hungary, Czechoslovakia, East Germany and Yugoslavia, the latter to the value of \$32 million.

**Soviet Union / China – January 10, 1955 (KCA)**

Belgrade announces that diplomatic relations to embassy level will be established between Yugoslavia and the Chinese People's Republic.

**East Germany – January 10, 1955 (OSA)**

Broad price reductions in H-O stores across the German Democratic Republic announced by the H-O administration, mainly for products that are no longer up to the expectations of customers.

**Poland / Finland / Soviet Union / Hungary – January 11, 1955 (OSA)**

(A First-Grade Lesson in Triangular Agreements)

The triangular agreement is common among satellite countries. For example, when Finland and Poland engage in a trade agreement, Finland will export to Poland goods to the value of dol. 1000, while the exported goods from Poland amount to dol. 2000. Poland's surplus will be paid partly by the USSR in goods or cash or services. In real life, in the Finnish-Hungarian agreement, a difference of one million dollars will be settled through Hungary.

**Romania / France – January 11-12, 1955 (OSA)**

The Romanian folklore ballet performs at the "Empire" theatre in Paris. According to official sources, no one in the ballet company was allowed outside of their hotel except for performances and rehearsals. The decorations of the ballet were described as "propagandistic" while the performance was considered "artistic" and "first-class."

**Soviet Union / Belgium / France / Holland / Italy / Luxembourg / U.K. – January 11, 1955 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government sends a note to Britain, France, Italy, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg, alleging that the Paris agreements violate the Geneva Protocol of 1925 by permitting the Western European countries to stockpile bacteriological and chemical weapons. The Western Powers answer that the allegations of the Soviet Union are unjustified.

**Poland / Sweden / Finland / Soviet Union / UK – January 13, 1955 (OSA)**

The report provides details a timber competition going on between Polish and Soviet timber against the Swedish and Finnish one in the Western markets. It is recorded that the former could have sold more due to their convenient prices compared to the Swedish and Finnish ones. The sales were mainly concentrated in the British market.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – January 14, 1955 (KCA)**

A Yugoslav-Hungarian trade agreement is signed.

**Poland / Romania / Satellite countries – January 14, 1955 (OSA)**

The attempt from the Communist direction to obtain the support of the "Jewish Popular Front" against German rearmament. A Jewish meeting was held in Iasi with the aim to create unification against the German rearmament. Although delegates from Romanian, Polish and

other satellite nations were allowed to attend the meeting, the document specifies the low probability of success of the objectives set. Moreover, the report specifies the Communist efforts to organise French Jews.

**Soviet Union – January 14, 1955 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government issues a statement claiming that the first industrial electric power station working on atomic energy has gone into operation in the USSR in 1954. Furthermore, the Soviet Union is willing to submit scientific and technical experience findings to the international conference on the peaceful utilization of atomic energy in Geneva in 1955.

**Poland / France / China – January 15, 1955 (OSA)**

It is here reported the alleged participation of the Communist China in the Lyon Trade Fair taking place in Paris in the Spring of 1955. It is reported that an application to participate was sent to the organisers by the “Committee for the promotion of International Trade.” The report underlines that the acceptance of the participation of the Chinese delegation is not to be interpreted as recognition of the regime of Mao Tse Toung. It is reported that until that moment the French government had refused to grant import and export licences.

**Soviet Union / East Germany / West Germany – January 15, 1955 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union issues a statement criticizing the Paris agreements restoring sovereignty to West Germany. The Soviet Union states that Germany would remain divided if the agreements were ratified.

**Yugoslavia / Burma – January 16, 1955 (RYN)**

Tito gives a speech at Rangoon University. He specifically includes references to the common revolutionary heritage and quest for security and independence of the two countries. He also calls attention to the vast changes wrought by decolonization.

**Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Poland / Romania / Soviet Union – January 17, 1955 (KCA)**

Moscow announces its readiness to give scientific and technical assistance to Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Poland and Romania in the utilization of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

**Poland – January 17, 1955 (KCA)**

The dismissal of three leading officials, Jacek Rozanski, Roman Rokowski and Anatol Feygin, of the Ministry of State Security of Poland is announced in the official newspaper of the Polish Communist Party, *Trybuna Ludu*.

**Poland / Sweden – January 17, 1955 (OSA)**

This report provides information on the cargo of the M/S Oksywie from Poland to Sweden in the period from the 19th to 30th of January 1955. The quantities of goods and the destination ports are also provided.

**Yugoslavia / Burma – January 17, 1955 (KCA)**

It is announced that President Tito has offered to supply the Burmese infantry brigade with equipment as a gift, and that Burma in return would supply Yugoslavia with rice.

**East Germany – January 18, 1955 (NNT)**

A law on “The Establishment of the National People’s Army” (Nationale Volksarmee) is passed.

**Poland / Germany – January 18, 1955 (OSA)**

This confidential report requests details on the alleged list of names of the Poles living in Berlin at the time; a list in the possession of Behm - Bem, founder of the “Rada Naczelna Polakow w Berlinie.” The acquisition of the list of names is stated in the first point of the report, whereas the second point focuses on the financing of the organisation. It is reported that the monetary donations are either anonymous or very modest.

**Poland / Hungary – January 18, 1955 (OSA)**

In this confidential source, information is provided on the increase of imports of Polish coal in December 1954. A delegation to Budapest has visited in order to obtain more coal supplies for Hungary.

**Poland / Soviet Union – January 18, 1955 (OSA)**

It is reported that between 1953 and 1954, eighteen ships of the “Nogat” type were delivered to the Soviet Union by a Polish ship - building yard.

**Poland / Soviet Union – January 19, 1955 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report describes the catastrophic delays in the production and export of glassware in Poland (such as bottles, jars, etc.). As a result, those goods which have to be packed into these containers will not be delivered in time to markets such as Soviet Russia and others of the Communist bloc. It seems that the authorities realised too late that the output of State glass factories has not been high enough even to cover export trade, and homemarkets are even poorer in these commodities and campaigns to collect bottles and similar articles are being organised all over the country.

**Poland – January 19, 1955 (OSA)**

The report provides brief information on a letter received from Poland confirming the dismissal of a Polish captain of the Infantry due to familial reasons. It also underlines the concern of the former captain on his future as a civilian.

**Poland – January 19, 1955 (OSA)**

The report gives information about the distribution of the “Kapitan” and “Morskie” cigarettes on Polish ships beginning in January 1955. There are multiple issues listed, including; logistic difficulty to open the packages, the difference in the former American types of cigarettes, alongside specifying the inferior quality compared to the American types, even if it is of superior quality to other Polish cigarettes.

**Poland / East Germany / West Germany – January 19, 1955 (OSA)**

After the death of the priest of the Heilige Antonius Kirche in East Berlin, the Church remained without a pastor for a long time. The pastor Nowakowski was replaced for a short time and was then invited by the bishop to remain in the service of that Church. The report underlines the proposal to hold masses in one Church for the Poles of East Berlin and another for those of West Berlin. It also specifies the search for a new director for the Polish choir in the Church of West Berlin.

**Hungary – January 20, 1955 (HC)**

Decree 101/1955 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that a fund for rural development will be established.

**Poland – January 20, 1955 (OSA)**

The report gives details on the reorganisation of the Polish merchant marine from “Polskie Linie Oceaniczne” to “Polska Zegluga Morska, which will administer the ships making shorter runs. The names of the ten ships to be transferred are listed.

**Poland – January 20, 1955 (OSA)**

The report highlights the appearance of two important persons, Rola Zimierski and the former premier Osobka - Morawski. The report also underlines the circulating rumours about a third person, Bierut. The report analyses the rise of the dollar on the black market in Poland due to the signing of the Paris agreement and on the rumours about a possible upcoming currency reform.

**Poland / Bulgaria / Syria / India / – January 20, 1955 (OSA)**

this report it is stated the willingness of the Polish government to increase its participation at the International Trade Fairs in 1955 to a greater extent compared to 1954. Moreover, it is specified that the intention is to also participate in the Bulgarian Fair, the Damascus Fair, the New Delhi Fair and the one in Poznan. The dates in which the fairs took place are specified alongside the goods exhibited by Poland.

**Poland / Sweden – January 20, 1955 (OSA)**

It is reported that on the 14th of January the newly repaired Polish ship “Narocz” began its return to Poland with Captain Korornacki in charge. It is reported that the ship was destroyed under unfortunate circumstances. The ship had been previously repaired in a Swedish shipyard after having spent eight months at the Gdansk shipyard. According to Swedish authorities the malfunction was due to defective materials.

**Poland / Turkey – January 20, 1955 (OSA)**

It is reported that a former Polish merchant marine mechanic went insane months after his escape from hospital. The man had previously shown signs of acute hypochondria and had convinced himself he had a serious illness. The names of various hospitals confirming his good health are provided. It is believed that after his escape the mechanic, Bartnicki sought refuge at the Polish embassy in Istanbul, likely awaiting return to Poland.

**Poland / Soviet Union – January 21, 1955 (OSA)**

Information on the steel works in Poland are given by two former technicians working at Siemianowice. Details of the plant, the management, the outputs and the production are provided. The report also specifies complaints from the Russian government before giving details on different steel works, their outputs and their manufacturers. Information on military steel works are also provided.

**Poland – January 21- 24, 1955 (PSN)**

A plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Polish Communist Party looks into “distortions in the functioning of state and the state administration”. It concludes that the security services “interfered in various spheres of state and social life in situations that do not justify such interference”. This action is meant to separate the party from the secret police in public opinion.

**Poland – January 22, 1955 (OSA)**

In this confidential report, information on the prices of different food and general supplies are given. The prices specified referred to the city of Poznan. As prices are so high, people cannot afford a high standard of living. Even the medicines were very expensive.

**Poland – January 22, 1955 (OSA)**

It is reported that in December 1954 after its return to Poland, the decision to break up the “GoPlo” was taken due to all the accidents that occurred to it.

**Hungary – January 23, 1955 (KCA)**

Zoltán Vas is removed from the post of First Secretary to the Council of Ministers and is appointed Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade. He is succeeded by Gergely Szabó.

**Poland – January 24, 1955 (OSA)**

This report tells of a joke told before a cabinet minister by a group of Polish labour heroes, a joke to which the prime minister responded back.

**Poland – January 24, 1955 (OSA)**

This report tells of an episode that occurred in the summer of 1954 when, after calling the technician for the repair of the echo - sound of the Polish ship "Pilica", he was forbidden to consult the sound scheme which is considered a confidential document. The technician, however, called the producers personally and the scheme arrived in a letter the following day.

**Poland – January 24, 1955 (OSA)**

It is reported that in June 1954 a military expedition took place in Poland against a partisan group operating in the Bialystok Area. Details on the number of soldiers and on the outcome of the expedition are provided.

**Soviet Union – January 24, 1955 (KCA)**

Anastas Mikoyan resigns from his post as Minister of Trade, and is succeeded by Dimitri Pavlov.

**Yugoslavia – January 24, 1955 (KCA)**

The trial of Djilas and Dedijer takes place. Both are accused of attempts to damage Yugoslavia's reputation and create difficulties in its international situation in the hope of bringing about foreign interference in its internal affairs. Both accused admit making the incriminating statements, and both are found guilty of having conducted propaganda hostile to Yugoslavia. Djilas and Dedijer are sentenced to 18 and six months' imprisonment respectively.

**Yugoslavia / France – January 24, 1955 (PVC)**

Tito accepts an invitation to visit France.

**Soviet Union – January 25, 1955 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union ends the state of war with Germany.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – January 25, 1955 (KGS)**

The Soviet Union officially announces the end of war with Germany.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – January 26–February 15, 1955 (PVC)**

A party of senior Yugoslav trade unionists visits the U.K.



**Poland / Argentina – January 28, 1955 (OSA)**

A new trade agreement between Poland and Argentina has been signed.

**Poland / Denmark – January 31, 1955 (OSA)**

Danish-Polish negotiations reopened in Copenhagen after the expiration of a trade agreement. The previous trade negotiations broke down because Polish coal prices were deemed too high.

**Romania / France – January – February, 1955 (OSA)**

Before the end of February, the total monetary value of French exports to Romania in 1955 totalled close to 656 million Francs. This counts all exports in January and February. The products were largely postal parcels, scientific instruments, and textiles.

**February****Hungary – February, 1955 (HC)**

The *Hintón járó szerelem* (“Love travels on a chaise”), a film directed by László Ranódy, is first shown.

**Poland – February, 1955 (PSN)**

In the February issue of *Nowe Drogi*, the theoretical organ of the party, Jerzy Morawski, the newly appointed Secretary General of the party, admits that innocent people had been arrested by the security services.

**Romania / France – February, 1955 (OSA)**

The monetary value of Romanian exports to France in the month of February totalled close to 173 million Francs. This consisted largely of petrol products, as well as wooden products and books.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt – February, 1955 (RYN)**

The first meeting between Presidents Tito and Nasser takes place. The meeting is held on Tito's yacht (Galeb), as it passes through the Suez Canal.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – late February, 1955 (OSA)**

Soviet advisors are installed in seven key ministries of the East German government (Agriculture and Forestry, Communications, Finance, Heavy Industry, Machine Construction, Reconstruction, and State Planning), despite Soviet guarantees of the GDR's full sovereignty.

**Poland / Germany – February 1, 1955 (KCA)**

The Polish Government announces the termination of the state of war with Germany.

**Romania – February 1, 1955 (OSA)**

A Romanian engineer who fled the country and got to Trieste at the end of October, 1954, describes how the permit necessary to enter the frontier zones is obtained. All the citizens from RPR need an authorization from the Militia (Romanian police force) to enter the frontier zones. Many documents and certificates are required and the applicant has to fill in a form. Priority is given to those who have work related travel. Then, it's given to people who have relatives in that region. The record also details the procedure of obtaining the permit for a state worker, and

classifies two types of authorisation: simple (issued for 1-30 days) and special (issued for 3 months, but only for seasonal work-related reasons).

**Poland / West Germany – February 3, 1955 (OSA)**

West Germany has announced that telephone communications with Poland have been resumed after 10 years, after telephone communications were disconnected in 1945.

**Czechoslovakia / Germany – February 3, 1955 (KCA)**

Prague radio announces that the Czechoslovak Government has ended the state of war with Germany.

**Soviet Union – February 3–9, 1955 (KCA)**

Marshal Bulganin is appointed as the Prime Minister and Marshal Zhukov as the Defense Minister of the Soviet Union.

**Poland – February 4, 1955 (OSA)**

The report lists the official schedule of some routes of the Polish Airlines in Eastern Europe.

**Poland – February 4, 1955 (OSA)**

The report provides information and details about the Polish Airlines LOT service and its correlated air traffic dated back to February 1955.

**Soviet Union / Italy – February 4, 1955 (OSA)**

The Soviet Ship *S/S Rjev* arrived in Trieste with a cargo of 2510 tons of ore.

**Poland / France – February 5, 1955 (OSA)**

The report provides information about the gala evening arranged in Paris where several musicians and guests were invited by the Polish Communist Embassy to listen to Chopin music played by the Polish pianist Sztompka. Among the audience, French members of the jury of the upcoming Chopin competition were present. Details on the restrictive visit of the Polish pianists in Paris are provided.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria– February 5, 1955 (OSA)**

There are 432 Bulgarian political refugees currently in Yugoslavia. Some are students, some are industrial workers, some are political prisoners.

**Romania – February 6, 1955 (PIR)**

Constantin Argetoianu, former Prime Minister of Romania (1939), dies in the Sighet penitentiary.

**Romania / France – February 7, 1955 (OSA)**

Nicolae Dragu gave a speech at the University of Paris on this date. His speech focused on information and propaganda in Romania. He formerly served as the Head of the Press and Propaganda Section of the Foreign Ministry of Romania.

**Yugoslavia / France / U.K. / U.S. – February 7, 1955 (KCA/LBC)**

The diplomatic representatives of Britain, France and the U.S. inform the Yugoslav Government that the countries intend to continue to give economic assistance to Yugoslavia during the current year, a combined sum of \$89 million.

**Soviet Union – February 8, 1955 (CWC/LBC)**

In a speech to the Supreme Soviet, Molotov claims that the Communist states are getting stronger under the leadership of the Soviet Union and China and that the Soviet nuclear arsenal is growing. He states that if the West goes to war it would mean the end of capitalism. Subsequent reactions to the speech include Eisenhower stating that there is hopeful speculation, although no actual evidence, that Russia's hold on Red China and its European satellites is weakening. Averill Harriman thinks, "It now appears that the Kremlin [is] into the Stalinist policy of developing heavy industry and armament at the expense of consumer goods".

**Soviet Union – February 8, 1955 (KCA)**

The Supreme Soviet of the USSR announces the resignation of Malenkov from the post of Chairman of the Council of Ministers and the appointment of Marshal Bulganin as the Prime Minister.

**Soviet Union / Austria – February 8, 1955 (PLC)**

At the session of the Supreme Soviet Molotov announces that there is no reason to further postpone the declaration of an Austrian state. Later he adds that there is one condition, that Austria must become neutral.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria / Austria – February 9, 1955 (OSA)**

A 25-year-old Bulgarian refugee in Austria has been reporting that Yugoslavia is repatriating Bulgarian exiles to Bulgaria against their will in exchange of Yugoslavian refugees in Bulgaria. This agreement has been kept secret by these two governments.

**Hungary – February 10, 1955 (KCA)**

The official Communist Party organ *Szabad Nep* aligns with Soviet Policy in an article declaring the need to strengthen heavy industry and military potential.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – February 10, 1955 (PIR)**

The accord between Romania and Yugoslavia regarding the establishment of navigation rules in the common sector of the Danube is signed in Belgrade.

**Yugoslavia / India / Burma – February 12, 1955 (PVC)**

President Tito returns to Belgrade from his tour of India and Burma.

**Yugoslavia / Poland – February 12, 1955 (PVC)**

Yugoslavia and Poland sign a one-year trade and payments agreement.

**Czechoslovakia – February 14, 1955 (KCA)**

Siroky, Czechoslovak Prime Minister, announces that heavy industry will be the basis of Czechoslovak industry in the future, and that an extra 500,000 acres of land should be brought under cultivation by 1957. To overcome the rural labor shortage, he also urges the mass recruitment of women for agricultural work.

**Poland / East Germany – February 14, 1955 (OSA)**

A trade agreement between Poland and East Germany was concluded today for the year 1955.

**Romania – February 14–15, 1955 (PIR)**

Romanian emigrants, led by sculptor Olaviu Beldeanu, attack the Romanian Legation in Bern in order to liberate political detainees who had been taken hostage.

**Romania – February 15, 1955 (OSA)**

According to the Communist Romanian newspaper *Scanteia*, elections for all local Party organs would take place in the months of February and March, 1955. This is before the expected holding of the Party Congress, delayed from October of 1954.

**Bulgaria – February 18, 1955 (KCA)**

Bulgarian Prime Minister Chervenkov announces that the country's agricultural development will be ensured "on the basis of its industrialization".

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 19, 1955 (LBC)**

The Soviet Government announces that it will propose the freezing of the armed forces of each nation based on the level of January 1, 1955, the liquidation of nuclear arms and the convening of a conference on disarmament under U.N. auspices. Western powers refuse the proposal because it would impede the rearmament of West Germany and the U.S. would have to surrender its nuclear arsenal, which balances Soviet conventional superiority.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia - February 19, 1955 (OSA)**

Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia signed a new trade agreement that will be valid until the end of 1955.

**Hungary – February 20, 1955 (HC)**

Decree 1023/1955 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that the health care system and the situation of doctors will be improved

**Hungary – February 20, 1955 (KCA)**

Imre Nagy, the Prime Minister of Hungary, is officially reported to be seriously ill with coronary thrombosis, and is unable to return to work before the end of April.

**Romania / France – February 21, 1955 (OSA)**

A speech was given at Charles 1st University in Paris by Father Gherman, a Romanian Catholic priest. In his speech he stated that the Communist government had successfully infiltrated the Church in Romania and stated that Communism in Romania was now "working through" the Church.

**Soviet Union / Italy – February 22, 1955 (OSA)**

The Soviet Ship *S/S Irkutsk* arrives from Batum into the port of Bagnoli, Italy. It carried a cargo of 6,500 tons of manganese ores.

**Soviet Union / Italy – February 23, 1955 (OSA)**

The Soviet Ship *S/S Mironych* arrived in Cagliari, from Durazzo, without carrying cargo.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. / Canada – February 25, 1955 (LBC)**

The subcommittee of the U.N. Disarmament Committee begins talks on disarmament and nuclear control in London. Participants: the U.S., France, the U.K., the Soviet Union and Canada.

**Hungary – February 27, 1955 (KCA)**

It is announced that Ferenc János, the son-in-law of the Hungarian Prime Minister Nagy, has been relieved of his post as Chief Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Popular Culture (the

Propaganda Ministry) and has been succeeded by a strong supporter of Mátyás Rákosi, György Hon.

**East Germany / Soviet Bloc / Albania / Bulgaria / China / Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Romania / Soviet Union – February 27–March 9, 1955 (OSA)**

The Leipzig Spring Fair displays merchandise from across the Communist world (PRC, USSR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Albania, East Germany, ...).

**Yugoslavia / Greece / Turkey – February 28–March 2, 1955 (KCA)**

The first meeting of the Permanent Council of the Balkan Alliance Treaty is held in Ankara, Turkey.

**March**

**Romania – March, 1955 (RFP)**

The first protest marches are intended to force the Soviet leadership to withdraw its troops from Romania. Because the brutality of the response, the Romanians entrench themselves, waiting for a more favorable moment.

**Romania / France – March, 1955 (OSA)**

During the month of March, the monetary value of products exported from Romania to France totalled a little over 103 million Francs. This was largely photography products and petrol.

**Romania / France – March, 1955 (OSA)**

French exports to Romania in the month of March were valued close to a total of 749 million Francs. This included postal parcels, films and other cinematographic products, perfumes, and pharmaceuticals. This brings the total monetary value of French exports to Romania in the first quarter of 1955 to almost 1.5 billion Francs.

**Soviet Union – March, 1955 (KRI)**

Lazar Kaganovitch, a Malenkov ally, loses his post as the head of economic planning.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – March–April, 1955 (KCA)**

Statements indicating the possibility of a four-power conference on international problems are issued by governmental leaders of Britain, the U.S., Soviet Union and France.

**Soviet Union (Estonia) / UK – Spring, 1955 (OSA)**

An Estonian who fled the Soviet Union to live in London gives data relating to the wages and salaries of employees, and the prices of commodities and clothes in Tallinn.

**Hungary – March, 1955 (HC)**

*Liliomfi*, a film directed by Károly Makk, is first shown.

**East Germany – March, 1955 (OSA)**

The East German Chamber of Industries and Trade announce upcoming speeches about a 'newest course', and the promotion of heavy industry. This is relevant given that the 'New Course', despite its abandonment in practice, was then still the official economic policy of the German Democratic Republic.

**East Germany / Poland – March, 1955 (OSA)**

The secretariat for State security instructs the district council of Neubrandenburg to resettle those individuals considered to be ‘security risks’ from the area of the German border with Poland by late March.

**Bulgaria / Germany – March 1, 1955 (KCA)**

The state of war between Bulgaria and Germany ends.

**Romania / France / Austria / Greece / Italy / Switzerland / Yugoslavia (Macedonia) / Turkey – March 1, 1955 (OSA)**

The French government released an internal memo listing foreign prisoners held in Romanian captivity between the years 1950 and 1954. Among those listed were five French citizens, one British citizen, one American citizen, three German citizens, five Austrian citizens, two Turkish citizens, four Greek citizens, five Italian citizens, one Swiss citizen, five Yugoslavian citizens, and two Macedonian citizens.

**Romania – March 1, 1955 (OSA)**

Two Romanian exile newspapers, *La Nation Roumaine* and *Vocea Libertatii*, published an article stating that the postponed Romanian Communist Party Congress would take place before the date of May 1st, 1955.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – March 1, 1955 (KCA)**

*Pravda* and *Izvestia* disclose that the British atomic scientist Dr. Bruno Pontecorvo, who disappeared in 1950, has since been working for the Soviet Union with “research work in the sphere of using atomic energy for peaceful purposes”.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – March 1, 1955 (LBC)**

Churchill gives a speech at the House of Commons where he states that the British Government’s decision on developing the H-bomb is the “only sane policy” for the West’s “defense through deterrence”. He also states that the East-West atomic arms race might “lead to a stage...where security will be the sturdy child of power and survival the twin brother of annihilation”.

**Romania – March 2, 1955 (OSA)**

Source reports the peculiar language used by wired radio stations in peasants programs, and the local character of the problems treated, among them collectivisation. The rest of the program is dedicated to folk songs. Source believes that this system is meant to eliminate the effects of Western broadcasts but says that the installation of a loudspeaker is not compulsory, nor is its owner hindered from buying a normal radio set. Source states that this system operates even when the electrical current is cut off. The people are said to be against these controlled broadcasts and prefer news transmitted by Western radio stations to wired radio programs or even broadcasts of normal RPR radio stations.

**Yugoslavia / Greece / Turkey – March 3, 1955 (KCA)**

An official communiqué of the Balkan pact discloses that the negotiations in Ankara resulted in an agreement to establish a Balkan Consultative Assembly and strengthening the tripartite cooperation between Yugoslavia, Greece and Turkey.

**Romania – March 3, 1955 (OSA)**

Gheorghiu-Dej gave a speech at the Agricultural Conference in Romania that stated that the open-market prices of corn had dropped below the price ceiling implemented by the government. He also stated that the prices of meat and fats were down. This is part of a larger effort by the government to show positive economic change since the abolition of the rationing system.

**Hungary – March 4, 1955 (HC)**

Decree 18/1955 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that those farmers who join the cooperative farms will not have to pay income taxes in 1955.

**Hungary – March 4, 1955 (KCA)**

The Central Committee of Hungarian Workers' Communist Party condemns Prime Minister Imre Nagy for “rightist deviation” in implementing the “new course” economic policy introduced in June 1953. A resolution is passed in which the decisions of 1953 are seen as correct and valid, but “distorted” by the “rightist deviationist, anti-Marxist and opportunistic attitude” of Nagy, especially in belittling the role of heavy industry.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – March 4, 1955 (KCA)**

Nuclear scientist Dr. Pontecorvo gives a press conference to foreign correspondents, disclosing that he relinquished his British nationality and became a Soviet citizen in 1952.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – March 4, 1955 (OSA)**

Report of a Hungarian refugee feeling to the USA via Yugoslavia. According to refugee, Hungarians in the West have been marked as fascists and sent back to Hungary as Hungarian spies.

**Albania / U.S. – March 7, 1955 (KCA)**

Tirana announces that Albania has rejected a U.S. food offer to alleviate the current food shortage on grounds that it is unacceptable foreign interference in internal affairs.

**Romania – March 7, 1955 (PIR)**

The MAN Presidium adopts a decree regarding the end of the state of war between Germany and Romania (declared on August 24, 1944).

**Yugoslavia / Burma / Egypt / India – May 7, 1955 (RYN)**

Tito delivers a speech to the National Assembly in his meetings with leaders of India, Burma and Egypt.

**Romania / Germany – March 8, 1955 (KCA)**

The state of war between Romania and Germany ends.

**Yugoslavia – March 8, 1955 (PVC)**

A major foreign policy speech by President Tito is given to the Federal Assembly.

**Poland / Denmark – March 9, 1955 (OSA)**

The trade deal between Poland and Denmark has concluded but given the price of Polish coal the agreement is much smaller than previous ones.

**Hungary – March 11, 1955 (KCA)**

Addressing a meeting of the Budapest Committee of the Party, Mátyás Rákosi associates himself with the Central Committee's condemnation of Nagy.

**Soviet Union – March 11, 1955 (KCA)**

Moscow Radio announces the appointment of ten new Marshals of the Red Army and Air Force and the promotion of Marshal Zhigarev, chief of the Red Air Force, to the new rank of Chief Marshal.

**Yugoslavia – March 12, 1955 (OSA)**

Political unrest in Yugoslavia over the Djilas-Dedier case. Rising food prices and food shortages among the general population as a result of the opening of agriculture to foreign trade which had formerly been self-sufficient. This insufficiency was supposedly caused by pro-Marxist and moderate rulers who tried to dominate the country upon Tito's return.

**Romania / France – March 13-20, 1955 (OSA)**

Between these dates, fifteen Romanian refugees in France were officially naturalised. The ages of the refugees in question range from 61 years old to 24 years old. Only 40% of these refugees hail from Bucharest.

**Albania / Germany – March 14, 1955 (PLC)**

Albania declares in a decree that it is no longer at war with Germany.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – March 14, 1955 (KCA)**

Prime Minister Attlee, Herbert Morrison, and other Labour members speak to the House of Commons, urging the British Government to approach the Governments of the U.S. and USSR to arrange high-level meetings that lessen world tension and prepare for effective world disarmament.

**Yugoslavia – March 15, 1955 (KCA)**

The Yugoslav Federal Executive Council decides to set up a Federal Nuclear Power Commission to coordinate development of nuclear research for peaceful purposes in Yugoslavia.

**Poland / Belgium / UK – March 15, 1955 (OSA)**

The Belgian press has reported that Queen Elizabeth is staying at the Belweder Palace in Warsaw. The Queen's decision to visit Poland was made without consultation and has caused some controversy in both countries, although the Queen has stated that her visit was devoid of any political character.

**Soviet Bloc / U.S. – March 16, 1955 (LBC)**

At a press conference President Eisenhower signals that in the case of war the U.S. would not hesitate to use tactical nuclear weapons. According to Eisenhower, the probability of war is now greater than it used to be.

**Hungary / Germany – March 18, 1955 (HC)**

Decree no. 1955:9 by the Hungarian Presidential Council states that Hungary is no longer at war with Germany.



**Romania / France – March 18, 1955 (OSA)**

Andre-Joyel Faure, a former member of the French military mission in Romania recited a poem of his own making. It was given at a meeting of French and exiled Romanian cultural leaders. The poem touched on the issue of French-Romanian spirituality and reportedly described the “enslavement” of the Romanian state.

**Soviet Union / Italy / Algeria – March 18, 1955 (OSA)**

The movement of several Soviet and Italian ships in the ports of the two countries, during the month of February 1955, is reported. In particular, the Soviet Ship S/S “Irkutsk” arrived in Italy, with a cargo of manganese ores, the Soviet Ship S/S “Budiennyj” left Italy for Algeria in order to load a cargo of phosphates and the Soviet Ship S/S “Mirnych” reached the port of Cagliari without carrying any shipment. Lastly, the Italian ship “Motia” arrived in Civitavecchia from Odessa, conveying a cargo of clinker.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – March 18, 1955 (PVC)**

The signing of a one-year Yugoslav-Bulgarian trade agreement in Belgrade takes place.

**Hungary – March 19, 1955 (HC)**

Mihály Károlyi, the President of the first People’s Republic of Hungary, dies in France.

**Soviet Union – March 19, 1955 (KCA)**

Moscow announces that the Soviet Navy’s highest rank, Admiral of the Fleet, is to be raised to that of Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union, with no promotions made to the new rank.

**Yugoslavia / Greece / Turkey – March 19, 1955 (KCA)**

An agreement on postal communications between Greece, Turkey and Yugoslavia is signed, providing for a reduction of postal and telephone tariffs.

**Albania / Eastern Europe – March 21, 1955 (KCA)**

The Soviet Foreign Ministry announces that an agreement on the principles of a mutual defense treaty is reached between the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Eastern Germany, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Albania.

**Czechoslovakia – March 21, 1955 (KCA)**

The economic plan for 1955 states that the planned yields for 1954 have not been met, partly because of bad weather.

**Poland / Sweden – March 21, 1955 (OSA)**

In March 1955, Poland makes clear its interest in increasing the levels of imports from Sweden of various goods, however there are difficulties in trade between the states. Poland also endeavours to find a market in Sweden for Polish cars. Information is provided about the agreements proposed by Alexandrowicz, the centre-trade representative. There were also rumours about the possible appearance of the truck "Star" on the Swedish market.

**Romania / Eastern Europe – March 21, 1955 (KCA)**

The Soviet Foreign Ministry announces an agreement on the principles of a mutual defense treaty reached between the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Eastern Germany, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Albania.

**Soviet Union / Poland – March 21, 1955 (KCA)**

Moscow announces that Professor Alexandrov, the Minister of Culture, has been dismissed and succeeded by Nilolai M. Mikhailov, Ambassador to Poland.

**Romania – March 22, 1955 (OSA)**

According to the new constitution of Romania, every young Romanian has the right to a complete education in the Senior High Schools. This, however, is only in theory and not in practice, as not all students are admitted to these schools. In order to be admitted to these schools there are three essentials: background, political conduct and financial position. These essential factors are also taken into consideration when providing a scholarship.

In the Universities, additional procedures like security clearance are introduced. Those admitted are mainly sons of industrial workers, peasants from farms, party members, officers of the Ministry of Armed Forces, Ministry of the State Security and Ministry of the Interior.

**Soviet Union – March 22, 1955 (KCA)**

In the Soviet Union, V. V. Kuznetsov is appointed as a First Deputy Foreign Minister, and MM. V. Semeonov and M. K. Fedorenko as Second Deputy Foreign Ministers.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 23, 1955 (KCA)**

Speaking at a press conference, President Eisenhower supports the idea of exploratory talks between the U.S., Britain, the Soviet Union and France on all questions affecting world peace, excluding Communist China and Germany from the conference, and proposes setting up an agenda in advance. President Eisenhower also emphasizes that the U.S. Government desires to see positive results from a four-power conference.

**East Germany – March 25, 1955 (KCA)**

The East German Government issues a declaration announcing that it has begun to take “measures to protect the German Democratic Republic” as a result of the ratification of the Paris agreements by the West German Government. It stresses the cancellation of the Paris treaty which is a prerequisite for German unification.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 26, 1955 (KCA)**

Marshal Bulganin, the Soviet Prime Minister, is asked by a Tass correspondent to comment on President Eisenhower’s statement. Bulganin replies in support of such a conference.

**Hungary – March 27, 1955 (HC)**

The Chairman of the Budapest City Council announces in *Népsport* that Budapest will apply for the right to organize the 17th Summer Olympics.

**East Germany – March 27, 1955 (KGS)**

The first SED initiation rites (Jugendweihen) are held in East Berlin.

**Romania / France / Greece / Belgium / Luxemburg / Italy – March 28, 1955 (OSA)**

In an internal communication, the French government named the lawyers who voluntarily defended the Romanian exiles who attacked the Romanian Legation in Bern in February. Among the lawyers were M. Calogeropoulos Stratis, lecturer at a University in Greece, Theo Collignon, the president of Belgian and Luxembourgish lawyers, and M. Augusto Gastaldo, a member of the Council of the Order of Lawyers in Rome.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – March 29, 1955 (KCA)**

Sir Winston Churchill is asked by a Labour representative whether he would make “fresh proposals for a four-power conference”. Churchill replies that things have taken a “friendly turn”, and expresses his wish for such a conference, but gives no proposal for a date.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / West Germany / Baltic States – March 29, 1955 (OSA)**

The “Committee for the Return to the Homeland” is made public by Soviet officials in East Berlin. This is supposed to act to repatriate emigrants from the Soviet Union, including those from the Baltic States, through a propaganda campaign directed mainly at West Berlin. It is likely that this organization serves also to collect information on emigree organizations.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – March 29-31, 1955 (PVC/ LKT)**

Admiral Cassidy, U.S. Commander-in-Chief of the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Fleet, visits Yugoslavia and holds bilateral talks with Tito and other Yugoslav officials.

**Czechoslovakia – March 30, 1955 (KCA)**

The Czechoslovakian Government orders price reductions affecting 1,600 items, largely consumer goods.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – March 30, 1955 (KCA)**

Moscow announces the return of 750 paintings to the Zwinger Museum in Dresden which had been taken by the Red Army to the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union – March 30, 1955 (KCA)**

Moscow announces that K. M. Sokolov, Chairman of the State Committee for Building, has been released from his post and succeeded by V. A. Kucerenko, his deputy.

**Hungary – March 31, 1955 (HC)**

The Borsodi Vegy kombinát (chemical industry) is tested.

**Romania – March 31, 1955 (OSA)**

The source gives an account of the arrest of a political detainee in Romania and the months preceding his trial. He also describes the trial, and ends with the fact that he was sentenced to 20 years of labor, 10 years of prohibition of resting, and confiscation of property.

**Yugoslavia / Italy – March 31, 1955 (KCA)**

A number of economic and financial agreements between Italy and Yugoslavia are signed in Rome.

**Yugoslavia / Romania – March 31, 1955 (OSA)**

A new trade agreement was signed between Romania and Yugoslavia on March 24, 1955 which provides for an exchange of goods worth 6 million dollars between the two states. Yugoslavia has thus resumed normal trade relations with all countries of the Eastern Bloc, with the exception of Albania. Trade is mainly based on heavy industrial imports from Yugoslavia, however the volume of trade is still considerably below the Western-Yugoslavian trade value.

## **April**

### **Hungary – April 1955 (HC)**

*Diszelőadás* (“Gala performance”), a film directed by Márton Keleti, and *Budapesti tavasz* (“Spring in Budapest”) by Félix Máriássy are first shown.

### **Romania / France – April, 1955 (OSA)**

In the month of April, the monetary value of Romanian exports to France totalled a bit over 341 million Francs. This included mostly petrol products. In this same period, the monetary value of French exports to Romania totalled close to 275 million Francs, including products such as the following: postal parcels, scientific instruments, motorcycles, and agricultural equipment.

**Soviet Union / France – April 1955 (KCA)** French Prime Minister Edgar Faure gives an interview to *Pravda* where he describes Marshal Bulganin’s statement as “an important, positive event”.

### **Soviet Union – April 1955 (KCA)**

Moscow officially announces that a Permanent Commission on Interplanetary Communications has been set up in the Soviet Union by the Astronomical Council of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR.

### **Hungary – April 1-4, 1955 (HC)**

Nationwide celebrations on the 10th anniversary of the country’s liberation take place.

### **Hungary – April 1, 1955 (HC)**

*Szabadság, szerelem* (“Freedom, love”) by Jenő Huszka is presented at the Opera House.

### **Soviet Union – April 2, 1955 (KCA)**

A new Ministry of the General Machinery Industry, under Peter Goremykin, is set up by the Soviet Government.

### **East Germany – April 3, 1955 (KCA)**

*Neues Deutschland*, official organ of the Socialist Unity Party in the German Democratic Republic, announces that East German youths between the ages of 18 and 22 will be called up for two years’ service in the garrisoned People’s Police for “the protection of homeland”.

### **Soviet Union – April 3, 1955 (KCA)**

Moscow announces that a Soviet scientific expedition led by N. A. Volkov of the Soviet Arctic Research Institute has left to set up “Station North Pole 5” on an Arctic ice flow.

### **Yugoslavia – April 3, 1955 (PVC)**

In an interview, Vice-President Aleksandar Ranković states that the basic plans for the utilization of nuclear energy now exists in Yugoslavia.

### **East Germany / West Germany – April 5, 1955 (OSA)**

The kidnapping of East German journalist Karl Fricke calls attention to the 132 kidnappings by deceit or force perpetrated by agents of the GDR government and its agencies in West Berlin, since the sector division.

**Poland – April 5, 1955 (PSN)**

A law is passed which transfers some of the offenses under the domain of the military courts to civilian courts.

**Poland / Finland – April 5, 1955 (OSA)**

The celebrations for the 25th anniversary of the birth of the Polish-Finnish Society are described. Details of the opening ceremony, planned meetings, activities and films screened during the "Polish Film Week" are provided. A concert concluded the celebrations, following the list of artists exhibited.

**Soviet Union – April 6, 1955 (KCA)**

A new Ministry for Construction in the Coalmining Industry, under Melnikov, is created by the Soviet Government.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – April 6, 1955 (OSA)**

Hungarians' listening habits to Radio Free Europe.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary / UK / China / Italy / Egypt / UK – April 7, 1955 (OSA)**

Intelligence describes how an Italian owned ship loaded with copper sulphate from Hong-Kong left cargo in the Port of Trieste. Although it seems that the final destination of the Italian ship is London, it changed hands in Port Said (Egypt) then arrived in Trieste. The cargo has been sold in Hungary.

**Hungary – April 14, 1955 (HC)**

Session of the leaders of the Hungarian Workers' Party takes place. Imre Nagy is excluded from the Political Committee and dismissed from all his offices because of his anti-Marxist ideology and anti-party activities. Mihály Farkas, a supporter of Imre Nagy, is also excluded from the Political Committee and dismissed from his offices. István Kovács and József Mekis are elected to be members of the Political Committee. László Piros will be a deputy member.

**Soviet Union – April 15, 1955 (OSA)**

The propaganda mechanism has been proven quite effective. The "Agitator's Notebook", published once a month, indicates the party line and the topics that should be discussed during political meetings.

Several people volunteer for tor difficult activities, convinced that it is a service to the benefit of the country and the people. In the construction of a bridge in Eastern Siberia, 10.000 young people, most of the volunteers, lost their lives, freezing to death from the cold. Lastly, it is noted that, in the USSR, the elections for the composing of the election lists are as important as the general elections.

**Soviet Union / Austria – April 15, 1955 (PLC)**

The Austrian-Soviet memorandum is signed in Moscow, stating that Austria will become neutral.

**Soviet Union / Romania – April 15, 1955 (PIR)**

A.A. Gromyko and Marshal G.K. Zhukov visit Romania.

**Yugoslavia (Serbia) / Hungary / Soviet Union – April 15, 1955 (OSA)**

Anti-Soviet propaganda brochures have been dropped in Szabadka (Subotica in contemporary Serbia). People there enjoyed every attack on the Soviets and hope very much the day the USSR

will leave Hungary, as they believe that communism will end once the Soviet forces leave Hungary.

**Poland – April 17, 1955 (KCA)**

Warsaw announces that Franciszek Jozwiak-Witold has been relieved of his post as Minister of State Control and has been appointed a Deputy Premier, whilst Ramon Zambrowski succeeds him in this post.

**Yugoslavia – April 17, 1955 (PVC)**

Formation of a commission of the Federal Executive Committee for nuclear energy is established.

**Hungary – April 18, 1955 (KCA)**

Imre Nagy, the Hungarian Prime Minister, is dismissed from the Premiership by a unanimous vote of the National Assembly, the decision being taken on the joint recommendation of the Government and the party's central committee on the grounds that Nagy had "not fulfilled his duties altogether satisfactorily". Nagy is succeeded by András Hegedüs.

**Hungary – April 19, 1955 (KCA)**

Hungarian Prime Minister András Hegedüs outlines to the National Assembly the Government's Policy, and stresses the development of heavy industry and his support for the socialist sector of agriculture.

**Poland / Denmark – April 19, 1955 (OSA)**

Official details on the diplomatique corps of Denmark, their offices and addresses dated back to 1954. An updated list was expected.

**Poland / Soviet Union / East Germany / West Germany – April 21, 1955 (OSA)**

The report from the anniversary of the Kidnapping of Dr. Trouchnovitch in Berlin on the 13th of April 1954, provides more detailed information on this event. It is underlined the reason behind the kidnapping of the former president of the aid committee for Eastern refugees, a crime committed by the Soviets. The report also stresses the need to combat these crimes in order to bring peace. It reiterates the need for protection from totalitarian regimes on its own territory and on allied ones.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – April 21, 1955 (KCA)**

Washington announces that the Soviet Union has agreed to return 62 small naval vessels to the U.S. which were obtained under Lend-Lease during the Second World War.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – April 21, 1955 (PVC)**

In an interview with President Tito, British Ambassador Ivo Mallet mentions, among other things, the possibility of resuming defense talks. Tito says that such talks would not in present circumstances be useful.

**Bulgaria – April 22, 1955 (KCA)**

The Bulgarian Government orders price reductions for a number of foodstuffs and consumer goods.

**Poland – April 22, 1955 (KCA)**

The Polish Government issues price reductions for commodities and services.

**Romania – April 22, 1955 (PIR)**

The Decision of the Council of Ministers number 661: “The Regulations regarding the maintenance and employment of monuments of culture” which stipulates that “the demolition of monuments of culture cannot take place without the previous accord of the Council of Ministers given to the competent organ,” a law flagrantly broken precisely by those who had issued it.

**Soviet Union / Austria / U.S. – April 22, 1955 (CWC)**

The U.S. accepts a Soviet proposal that the Ambassadors to Austria of the Western powers, meet with the Soviet and Austrian representatives to complete the Austrian treaty.

**Finland – April 23, 1955 (PIP)**

In an interview with a correspondent from Die Welt, a daily newspaper published in West Germany, Prime Minister Urho Kaleva Kekkonen refers to the development of the policy of neutrality and to the desire of neutrals to remain outside power groups.

**Soviet Union / Austria – April 24, 1955 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government informs the Austrian Government that as a token of its wish “to contribute to a further strengthening of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet and Austrian peoples”, it would release 613 Austrian prisoners held in the USSR. Furthermore, 74 prisoners would be handed over the Austrian authorities as "war criminals", and another 39 Austrians would be handed over when the Soviet occupation forces would leave Austria.

**Yugoslavia – April 24, 1955 (KCA)**

The Yugoslav National Assembly elects three new members of the Federal Executive Council, Colonel-General Peko Dapčević (Chief of Staff), Milentije Popović (Chairman of the Assembly’s Economic Committee) and Velimir Stojnić (Secretary of the Assembly).

**Yugoslavia / Greece / Turkey – April 24, 1955 (KCA)**

The Yugoslav National Assembly ratifies the agreement on creating a Balkan Constituent Assembly.

**Czechoslovakia – April 25, 1955 (KCA)**

A reorganization of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Slovak Communist Party is announced.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – April 25, 1955 (KCA)**

Plans for a Western approach to the Soviet Union for a four-power conference are issued in London, Washington and Paris.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – April 25, 1955 (PVC)**

In an interview with the U.S. Ambassador, President Tito repeats his refusal to hold defense talks but suggests that high-power political talks in June might be useful.

**East Germany – April 27, 1955 (KCA)**

The East German Government Press office announces the formation of a civil air service named the Deutsche Lufthansa.

**Soviet Union / France / Germany / U.K. / U.S. – April 27–May 5, 1955 (KCA)**

A preparatory conference of British, French, American and German for the upcoming four-power conference is held in London.

**Yugoslavia – April 27–28, 1955 (PVC)**

First congress of the Yugoslav War Veterans' Federation is held in Ljubljana.

**Soviet Union / Austria – April 28, 1955 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union relaxes controls on Danubian shipping and on personal travel as well as goods traffic between the Soviet and Western occupation zones of Austria.

**Poland / Czechoslovakia – April 30, 1955 (OSA)**

A monthly report listing French motors and cars firms with transactions in Czechoslovakia and Riand. The firms with their addresses alongside the precise amount of the transactions are named.

**Poland / France – April 30, 1955 (OSA)**

In this confidential monthly report are listed the payments done in March 1955 by the French security institutions to the Polish social security. The precise amounts of the payments are given.

**Yugoslavia / Poland – April 30, 1955 (OSA)**

A complete list of goods covered by the Warsaw-Belgrade Trade and Payment agreement, which was signed in Belgrade on February, 12 1955.

**May**

**East Germany – early May, 1955 (OSA)**

Representatives of the Protestant Church send a letter of complaint to Otto Nuschke, the East German Plenipotentiary for Church Questions, detailing the prohibitions imposed upon religious officials. This includes fining clergymen for not registering gatherings which occurred within church grounds and bans on the common practice of collecting money in the streets (Strassensammlungen), or at least in major streets and busy areas.

**East Germany – early May, 1955 (OSA)**

Fighting groups are being established in East German Universities, in parallel to those established in factories. Twice-weekly meetings involve infantry training and those skills required of members of the people's police forces. Participation is mandatory for those students called upon (in Leipzig, those in legal and medical faculties), at risk of expulsion from the university.

**East Germany – May, 1955 (OSA)**

A new trade union is to be established in East Germany by the FDGB ('Freier Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund'). It is primarily geared at the previously un-unionized employees of private enterprises and firms.



**East Germany – late May, 1955 (OSA)**

Dr. Hans Loch, the East German Minister of Finance, discloses that private businessmen owing more than 3,000 East Marks to the government, who are unable to provide evidence that they will be able to pay their dues by December 31, 1955 will have their trade licenses revoked. These cases are to be decided upon by late September.

**Soviet Union / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Romania / China – May 1, 1955 (KCA)**

Moscow Radio announces that agreements on Soviet aid for atomic research with China, Czechoslovakia, East Germany and Romania have been signed.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / West Germany – May 1, 1955 (LBC)**

Soviet Minister of Defense Zhukov's speech states that Soviet politics "is aimed at solving controversial international questions by peaceful means," but West German rearmament "hampers the lessening of international tension".

**East Germany – May 1, 1955 (JWG)**

Worker's Militia (Betriebskampfgruppen) appear for the first time at May Day celebrations under the slogan "Ready for work and the defense of the homeland".

**Poland / France – May 2, 1955 (OSA)**

This confidential monthly report provides information on the operations of the Polish Communist P.K.O. bank in Paris. The press agencies, the offices and their addresses alongside the precise amount of the transactions are named.

**Hungary – May 3, 1955 (HC)**

The State Peace Council presents to the Hungarian Presidential Council the peace memorandum containing 7,146,800 signatures.

**Yugoslavia – May 3, 1955 (KCA)**

It is announced that President Tito has appointed Lieut.General Ljubo Vučković to succeed Colonel-General Dacevič as Chief of Staff of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – May 4, 1955 (KCA)**

Budapest announces that the Soviet Government has offered assistance to Hungary in developing atomic research for peaceful purposes, and that the offer has been accepted.

**Poland / Sweden – May 4, 1955 (OSA)**

Negotiations between Poland and Sweden to extend their trade deal to 1956 begin.

**Yugoslavia / Turkey – May 4-9, 1955 (KCA)**

A Turkish delegation, headed by Prime Minister Menderes, visits Belgrade for discussions with President Tito, Kardelj (Vice-President of the federal Executive Council) and Popović (State Secretary for Foreign Affairs).

**Soviet Union / Poland – May 5, 1955 (KCA)**

Moscow announces that Poland will receive in 1956 a 2,00-kilowatt reactor for nuclear research work.

**Yugoslavia – May 5-9, 1955 (PVC)**

The third congress of the Yugoslav Trade Unions is held in Sarajevo.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – May 6, 1955 (OSA)**

Accounts of how people live in the part of Yugoslavia inhabited by Hungarians. They describe the politics of nationalities, how the land reform was eased, and of the difference between Belgrade and Zagreb: Belgrade is full of trade delegations from satellite countries of the USSR while Zagreb is a quiet cultural town.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. – May 7, 1955 (KCA)**

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union issues two decrees abrogating the treaties of mutual assistance concluded between Britain and the USSR on May 26, 1942, and between France and the USSR on December 10, 1944.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. / West Germany – May 8, 1955 . (LBC)**

On the anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) day, Zhukov states in *Pravda* that Anglo-American ruling circles are planning nuclear war against the Soviet Union and its allies, and attacks West German rearmament.

**Yugoslavia / Turkey – May 8, 1955 (KCA)**

A communiqué issued in Belgrade says that in the Yugoslav-Turkish talks “special consideration was given to the development of cooperation” and “stress was laid on the role played by the Balkan alliance”.

**Czechoslovakia – May 9, 1955 (KCA)**

A far-reaching political amnesty is announced in Prague on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of Czechoslovakia’s liberation from German occupation.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / West Germany – May 9, 1955 (LBC)**

The Federal Republic of Germany enters NATO. U.S. veterans arrive in Moscow to commemorate their meeting the Red Army at the river Elbe at the end of World War II.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – May 10, 1955 (KCA)**

The French, British, and American Ambassadors to Moscow present identical notes to the Soviet Government, inviting it to a “two-stage” conference of heads of Government and Foreign Ministers.

**Bulgaria / Eastern Europe – May 11-13, 1955 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Eastern Germany, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Albania hold a three-day conference in Warsaw resulting in signing a 20-year treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance and the creation of a unified military command except for Eastern Germany. Marshal Ivan Koniev of the Soviet Army is appointed Commander-in-Chief of the joint armed forces.

**Poland / Sweden – May 12, 1955 (OSA)**

Trade negotiation between Poland and Sweden concerning coal deliveries and the conditions of payment. Details on the machines and the quantities to be exported are given alongside the forecasts of the values of the same.

**Romania – May 12, 1955 (OSA)**

The source consists of two anecdotes in Romanian language, which acts as a critique of the regime, focusing on the USSR and resource distribution.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – May 12, 1955 (PVC)**

Agreement is reached between the U.S. and Yugoslavia on programming of balance of U.S. aid for 1954/55 and delivery of surplus wheat.

**Czechoslovakia – May 14, 1955 (DCO)**

Viliam Siroky, the prime minister of Czechoslovakia claims, on the occasion of the Conclusion of the Warsaw Treaty, that the Pact is based on principles of peaceful relations and represents the guarantee that Czechoslovakia will not be attacked by any aggressor in the future.

**Eastern bloc – May 14, 1955 (CAC/UNW)**

Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, GDR, Poland, Romania Hungary and the Soviet Union sign an agreement on friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance – the Warsaw Pact. The signatories are joined by China, North Korea and North Vietnam as observers.

**Romania / Austria – May 14, 1955 (KCA)**

An agreement regulating Danube traffic between Austria and Romania is signed in Bucharest, opening the way for free navigation along the whole lengths of the Danube from the Austro-German border to the Black Sea.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – May 14, 1955 (KCA)**

It is simultaneously announced in Belgrade and Moscow that the Soviet and Yugoslav Governments have agreed on a meeting of their representatives at the highest level in Belgrade in May in order to improve relations between the two countries. The Soviet delegation, it is announced, will be led by Khrushchev and the Yugoslav mission by Tito.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – May 14, 1955 (PVC)**

Agreed minute on trade covering the year April 1955 to March 1956 is signed between the U.K. and Yugoslavia, after talks in Belgrade.

**Soviet Union / Austria / France / U.S. – May 15, 1955 (HC)**

The foreign ministers of the U.S., the U.K., France and the Soviet Union sign the Austrian state treaty in Vienna. Austria will become an independent, democratic and neutral state as of July 27.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – May 15, 1955 (PVC)**

In a speech at Pula, President Tito welcomes the decision of the Soviet leaders to visit Belgrade, but makes it clear that Yugoslavia can only talk to them as an independent country on equal footing, and that the Soviet leaders have accepted talks on this basis.

**Poland / Sweden – May 17, 1955 (OSA)**

The boxing match scheduled for December 1955 in Stockholm between Poland and Sweden is detailed.

**Yugoslavia / Albania – May 17, 1955 (PVC)**

Trade and payment agreements are signed with Albania in Belgrade.

**Hungary – May 18, 1955 (HC)**

Session of the leaders of the National Council of the Patriotic People's Front takes place. Pál Szabó, the Chairman, announces that Imre Nagy, Ferenc Jánosi and Iván Boldizsár abdicate from their posts. The new General Secretary will be Ernő Mihályfi.

**East Germany – May 18, 1955 (OSA)**

A new secret directive (Secret No. 11/4) by the East German government repeals the two greatest concessions made to workers following the June 17<sup>th</sup> Uprising in 1953. The abrogated directives, from 23 and 25 July 1953 respectively, prohibited the retrospective reduction of wages and halted the trend of increase in production norms.

**East Germany / West Berlin – May 20, 1955 (OSA)**

13,600 cases of unlawful expropriation committed by authorities of the German Democratic Republic are registered by the Committee of Free Jurists in West Berlin.

**Hungary – May 21, 1955 (HC)**

The renovated Budapest-Újpest Danube rail bridge is opened.

**Yugoslavia – May 21, 1955 (PVC)**

President Tito speaks to the First Proletarian Division at Postojna, Slovenia, and stresses the importance of Communist leadership in national life.

**Yugoslavia / West Germany – May 23, 1955 (PVC)**

A parliamentary delegation from West Germany leaves Yugoslavia after a week's visit.

**Yugoslavia / Greece – May 23, 1955 (PVC)**

The Greek Chief of Staff arrives for a short formal visit to Yugoslavia.

**Soviet Union – May 24, 1955 (KCA)**

The Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union decrees the of a new Commission to advise the Council of Ministers on questions concerning labor and wages, the task of the Commission being “to strengthen State control over the work of Ministries and Directorates and to improve their work in all questions of labor and wages”.

**Hungary – May 25, 1955 (KCA)**

The Hungarian National Assembly ratifies the Warsaw Treaty.

**Poland / France – May 25, 1955 (OSA)**

This confidential report contains information regarding the membership fees paid by Polish organisations to international bodies. Specifically, a payment to the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures of Sevres, concerning the Polish membership to the Convention Internationale Métrique and to other scientific organisations. The precise amounts of the payments are provided.

**Soviet Union – May 25, 1955 (KCA)**

Moscow announces that the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet has decided to divide economic planning into two different sectors and to set up a State Commission for Long-Term Economic Planning, *Gosplan*, and a State Commission for Current Economic Planning, *Gosekonommissia*.

**Romania / Soviet Union – May 26, 1955 (OSA)**

The source consists of two anecdotes in Romanian language, which act as a critique of the regime, surrounding the newspaper “Scinteia” and the USSR.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – May 26, 1955 (KCA)**

The proposals of three Western powers for a “Big Four” conference of Heads of Government and Foreign Ministers are accepted by the Soviet Government.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – May 26, 1955 (KCA)**

The Soviet delegation arrives in Belgrade for a high-level meeting between the Soviet and Yugoslav Governments. The delegation stays until June 3, 1955.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia / Hungary – May 27, 1955 (OSA)**

A conference held in Opatija, Yugoslavia between April 22 and 26, 1955. The Czechoslovak State Railways, the Austrian Federal Railways, the Hungarian and Yugoslavian State Railways all attend and discuss the reestablishment of a railway association - the CSR-Rijeka-Overseas. They took the decision to initially introduce a provisional tariff analogous to the seaport traffic between Hungary and Rijeka and between Hungary and Trieste.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – May 29-30, 1955 (KCA)**

Discussions between Soviet and Yugoslav Governments take place at Marshal Tito’s villa on the Island of Brioni.

**Romania – May 30, 1955 (PIR)**

MAN ratifies the Warsaw Treaty.

**June****East Germany / People’s Republic of China – early June, 1955 (OSA)**

China demands the fines due from East German private and state-owned plants who failed to deliver their export merchandise by the stipulated dates in the first quarter of 1955. The government of the German Democratic Republic is powerless to intervene against the terms of the agreement. By June 1, fines for the failure to deliver machines for sugar production alone amount to over 480,000 East Marks.

**East Germany – early June, 1955 (OSA)**

The Deutsche Notenbank, under control of the GDR government, issues a directive limiting loans to private enterprises with a significant contribution to the East German economy. This favors the expansion of state-owned manufacturing.

**Soviet Union / Bulgaria – June, 1955 (KCA)**

An agreement on Soviet assistance in establishing atomic energy installations in Bulgaria for peaceful purposes is signed between the USSR and Bulgaria.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – June, 1955 (OSA)**

A cultural exchange between these two countries is underway as a number of Polish artists and journalists have been invited to visit Yugoslavia.

**East Germany / Poland / Czechoslovakia – late June–early July, 1955 (OSA)**

Polish and Czech Army delegations, comprised of 17 and 23 high ranking officers respectively, visit KVP units in East Germany.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – June 2, 1955 (KCA)**

A joint declaration of the Soviet and Yugoslav governments is issued, saying that the negotiations had taken place “in a spirit of friendship and mutual understanding”. The two governments agree on mutual respect and non-interference in internal affairs, development of mutual and international economic cooperation, taking all necessary measures for the normalization of Soviet-Yugoslav relations.

**Soviet Union / Israel – June 3, 1955 (OSA)**

The Union of Emigrants from the Soviet Union in Israel attempts to assist in the emigration process, to the extent that the Soviet Union allows it. The Union alleges that it operates as a medium between the USSR and Israel, supporting the advancement of the Jewish cultural identity, fighting against the ban of the Jewish language in the Soviet Union, demanding amnesty for the imprisoned Zionists, and facilitating contact with family relatives in the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Bloc / U.S. – June 5, 1955 (LBC).**

The Warsaw Pact enters into force. According to U.S. Secretary of State Dulles, Moscow may use the Warsaw Pact for a new type of occupation of its satellites.

**Soviet Union – June 6, 1955 (OSA)**

The act of purchasing a car is a long process, that requires staying in queues for special permits for the limited number of cars produced. The wide demand is evidence of the growing purchasing power of the Soviet citizens since the war. The standards of life and health of the people in Moscow have also improved significantly. These developments make easier the distinction between the highest paid, the middle ranks, and the poorest divisions. The sense of relaxation and the better living conditions, after Stalin’s death, have brought a kind of normalization of life.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – June 6, 1955 (KCA)**

The western Powers present notes in Moscow proposing that the four-Power conference should be held in Geneva from July 18 to July 21, 1955, and stating that the Swiss Government has agreed to hold the conference.

**Yugoslavia / Burma – June 6-16, 1955 (PVC)**

Prime Minister U Nu from Burma pays a visit to Yugoslavia. A joint declaration is issued on June 16.

**Hungary – June 7-8, 1955 (HC)**

Session of the leaders of the Hungarian Workers’ Party takes place. The amnesty for some political prisoners is discussed.

**Soviet Union / West Germany – June 7, 1955 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government presents a note to the Federal German Government inviting Chancellor Adenauer to visit Moscow and proposing the normalization of relations between the USSR and the Federal Republic.

**Soviet Union – June 7, 1955 (OSA)**

The Christian Action Delegation to the Churches in Russia had the opportunity to gain an insight into life in Soviet Russia. Russian people are eager to talk, and they feel relatively secure, but they will quickly change the topic regarding sensitive subjects. An emphasis has

been given to the forming of an educated elite, mainly thanks to the Theological College of the Orthodox Church in Leningrad, which employs professors of great intellectual distinction. Furthermore, there are plans for the reunion of the Anglican and the Russian Orthodox Church, and the anti-religious government propaganda does not hinder the functions of the Church.

#### **Soviet Union – June 7, 1955 (OSA)**

Night sanatoria, meant for relaxation and treatment after an 8-hour workday, are available to workers. A portion of the fee is paid by the workers themselves and the rest is provided by the trade unions, which are, in charge of organizing workers' vacation, medical security, meeting for matters of work, and further education. The fulfilment of the annual plan requirements by the workers is a legal commitment, also facilitated by the trade union.

#### **Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – June 7, 1955 (OSA)**

The intensification of Yugoslavia's trade relations with the satellite states and with the Soviet Union. It is particularly noticeable in the increased handling figures of the Yugoslavian ports. The significant upswing can be attributed to increased transit.

#### **Poland / Sweden – June 8–16, 1955 (OSA)**

The Third Plenary Session of the International Organization for Standardization is held in June with delegates from Poland attending the session in Stockholm.

#### **Soviet Union – June 8, 1955 (OSA)**

Conferences of industrial workers, with the participation of directors and local party chiefs, from around the Soviet Union were summoned to Kremlin. The participants expressed complaints regarding the complicated bureaucratic system and the shortcoming of factories, but those complaints seemed to be already known to the high-level officials. They also expressed their concerns about the shortage of time in installing new equipment, the lack of autonomy of the factory directors regarding administrative decisions, and the lack of motivation of the workers to work at a consistent pace.

#### **Soviet Union – June 9, 1955 (OSA)**

An exemplary collective farm in Russia, that includes several households, typically with a 12-hour working day, conveys the production to Moscow in order to sell it in the collective markets. Part of the production goes to the State with various price ranges, while another part goes to the district Machine and Tractor Stations (MTS) that tend to the heavy work of the farms. MTS are also the political centers of the region and provide agricultural training and practical advice as well as political lectures.

#### **Yugoslavia – June 9, 1955 (PVC)**

A Yugoslav delegate attends the meeting of the OEEC Council in Paris for the first time as an observer.

#### **Hungary / Austria / Romania / Soviet Union / U.S. – June 10, 1955 (LBC)**

US Secretary of State John F. Dulles states in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the US seriously considers requesting the USSR to withdraw its forces from Romania and Hungary when the Austrian occupation ends.

#### **Soviet Union – June 10, 1955 (OSA)**

Responding to the long queues forming outside of food stores and the calls for the improvement of the agricultural system, Khrushchev's administration proposes a threefold solution. Firstly,

the provision of incentives for cultivating maize, followed by a campaign to exploit the virgin regions of the East, mainly by volunteers, members of the Communist party, and set the necessary transportation network. Lastly, a group of 30.000 organizers is to be deployed in order to provide the established farms with their expertise and raise their efficiency levels.

#### **Yugoslavia / Finland – June 10, 1955 (PVC)**

Yugoslav–Finnish trade agreement is agreed upon.

#### **Romania – June 11, 1955 (OSA)**

French police are investigating an advertisement that was recently published by the secretary of the Association of Romanian Lawyers in Exile, G. Serbanescu. In this advertisement Serbanescu asks the readers of the Paris periodical “La Vie Judiciaire” to contribute towards the payment of lawyers engaged in the defense of the Romanians to be tried for their attack upon the Romanian Legation in Berne. The Advertisement mentions Professor V. Veniamin as President of the Association of Romanian Lawyers in Exile, although he had declined to fill this position.

#### **Soviet Union / West Germany — June 11, 1955 (OSA)**

The new administration members do not entirely abandon the previous policies but make efforts to appear more active and engaging, while emphasizing their crucial role in increasing the efficiency and the organizational structure of both industry and agriculture. Even though security vigilance is the norm, more open conversations on controversial matters are now being detected. There are talks about the possibility of a war outbreak and the role of Germany as a neutral force. At the same time, the broader disparities in the social structure are more evident.

#### **Soviet Union / USA – June 12, 1955 (OSA)**

Foreigners in public spaces, easily spotted when carrying a camera, typically attract a crowd of friendly local people, curious about the juxtaposition of the American and Soviet way of living. Appreciative of the efforts to speak the Russian language, they state sentiments of pride for their country and their sincere desire for peace, even touching upon sensitive subjects such as the government structure and the concept of democracy. It is noted that a biased image of the American way of life was formed, as a result of the filtered and selected information published in the Soviet press.

#### **Soviet Union / Western Europe – June 13, 1955 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government agrees that the “summit” talks should take place in Geneva in July.

#### **Hungary – June 15, 1955 (OSA)**

‘Obscurantism and gimmicks’ – The article describes the hidden class struggle within the community of a provincial town. It agitates people against the local priest and his ‘followers’ and attacks their views and dealings in various ways.

#### **Romania – June 16, 1955 (OSA)**

A Romanian woman writes to her aunt. The aunt sends her a parcel with clothes, which are not affordable for the former. However, the woman cannot receive the parcel because of the customs fees. The woman is an accountant at a clothing cooperative, earning 612 lei monthly, while her husband is employed as an accountant at one of the ministries and earns 720 lei. However, the customs fees for a coat in a parcel is 800 lei. She explains the situation and thanks the aunt for sending the parcel, despite being unable to receive it.



**Romania – June 16, 1955 (OSA)**

A Romanian woman sends a letter to her brother confirming that she received the parcel sent by him, and mentioning the heavy customs fees she had to pay to receive the parcel. For 10 razor blades she paid 36 lei, while 10 good quality blades cost only 15 lei in the store. However, she mentions that it was worthwhile paying the customs fee for the shoes she has been sent, because the fee was 40 lei, while a pair in the store costs 400 lei.

**Romania – June 16, 1955 (OSA)**

The letter is sent by a woman to her nephew who is living in Italy. She states that the ration cards were abolished in December 1954 and this has brought about an increase in prices. She compares the former prices and the current ones, citing foods, clothing and fuel prices. From her description the prices have doubled, while the salary of her husband is insufficient. Additionally, the aunt asks her nephew to share similar aspects of life in Italy and send some clothes if he can afford it.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 17, 1955 (KCA)**

Washington announces that the U.S. Government has withdrawn three Assistant Military Attachés from their Embassy in Moscow in accordance with the request from the Soviet Government.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – June 17, 1955 (PVC)**

The direct Belgrade-London air service opens.

**Romania – June 18, 1955 (OSA)**

The source details the fact that Romania's former Foreign Minister, Gregory Gapenco, gave a lecture in French on June 10 1955 at the Romanian Catholic Mission in Paris on "En attendant la conference de quatre," that is "Before the Big Four Meeting." The lecture is recorded.

**Yugoslavia / USSR / Greece – June 21, 1955 (OSA)**

This article from right-wing Greek newspaper "Kathermerini" told of the difference of Comrade Chrouschof's figure in Moscow and Belgrade in a satirical tailor story.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 22, 1955 (LBC)**

Two Soviet fighters open fire on the U.S. *Neptune* type aircraft which was on patrol over the Bering-straits. According to the U.S., the plane was making a routine flight over international waters in the Bering-strait area. The plane was forced to make a crash landing and three out of the four-member crew were injured. The White House issues the announcement on June 24. President Eisenhower instructs Secretary of State Dulles to discuss the issue with Molotov who is in San Francisco on the U.N anniversary. On June 25 Molotov presents a note to the U.S. Government in which the Soviet Government expresses its sorrow over the incident and its willingness to pay 50% of the damages. Dulles expresses his satisfaction over the Soviet Government's statement, although the Soviet offer is less than requested amount in light of the information it received. According to the Secretary of State, this is the first time the Soviet Union publicly expressed its sorrow at the action of its own armed forces.

**Poland / India – June 23–27, 1955 (PSM)**

Prime Minister of India Jawaharlala Nehru visits Poland. In joint declaration issued on June 25 Poland states that it accepts and supports the Pancza Szila as the basis of peaceful coexistence of nations. A year later, on June 10 – 15, 1956 Vice-Prime Minister of India Sarvepalli

Radhakrishnan visits Poland. In this period many protocols and agreements are signed, among them a trade agreement (April 3, 1956) and a cultural agreement (on March 27, 1957).

**Romania – June 23, 1955 (PIR)**

The Decision of the Council of Ministers no. 1160, defining the statues of historical monuments as goods “of archeological, historical, architectonical or artistic importance, representing material evidence of the development of culture on the territory of our country” is decided upon. The decision however, does not impede the demolition of statues, buildings and even churches of historical value.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 23, 1955 (KCA)**

A Soviet aircraft opens fire on a U.S. navy plane over the Bering Straits, crashing on St. Lawrence Island in the U.S. territory.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – June 24, 1955 (OSA)**

Improvement in relations between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. In view of their common disregard for the value of human rights, the "compensation" deal for the exchange of political refugees is to be expected. The cases of forced return of Bulgarian refugees from Yugoslavia to be expected as early as August 1954.

**Yugoslavia / France / U.K. / France – June 24-27, 1955 (KCA)**

A meeting takes place between Prica, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs in the Yugoslav Government, and the Ambassadors in Belgrade of the U.K., the U.S. and France, dealing with the international situation and “questions of direct mutual concern”.

**East Germany / West Berlin – June 25, 1955 (OSA)**

The State Secretariat for the Administration of the State Reserves demands that all of its employees sign a directive stating that they and their families are forbidden from entering West Berlin. Those who refuse to do so are to be dismissed.

**Soviet Union / USA – June 25, 1955 (OSA)**

An American correspondent recollects about his encounter and conversations with a large crowd in Moscow. The reluctance to be associated with an American seemed to be substantially lessened and when the police intervened in the gathering, the talks were not halted. Strong declarations about the desire for peace and cooperation amongst countries of Europe and the United States were made, followed by an opinion exchange about the role of Wall Street.

**Yugoslavia / Sweden – June 25, 1955 (PVC)**

Yugoslavia signs a one-year trade agreement with Sweden.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia / Hungary – June 28, 1955 (KTS)**

Tito delivers a speech at Karlovac sharply criticizing the Czechoslovak and Hungarian leadership, without explicitly mentioning Mátyás Rákosi, hindering the possibility of the normalization of bilateral relations with Yugoslavia.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – June 28, 1955 (PVC)**

It is announced that President Tito has accepted an invitation to visit the Soviet Union.

**Yugoslavia / Greece – June 28, 1955 (PVC)**

Yugoslav Instrument of Ratification for the establishment of a Balkan Consultative Assembly is deposited with the Greek Government.

**Poland / Finland – June 29, 1955 (OSA)**

An announcement in June 1955 in the Finnish Communist Gazette about the upcoming youth festival in Warsaw is aimed at young Finns. It emphasises the invitation to obtain a "Scarf Festival" through collecting signatures for the Vienna Appeal or other propagandistic activities.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 29, 1955 (LBC)**

At a press conference US President Dwight Eisenhower declares that “there can be no real peace in the world,” as long as the peoples of the satellite states cannot choose their own form of government.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – June 29-July 20, 1955 (PVC)**

A delegation of Yugoslav mayors visits the U.K.

**Czechoslovakia – June 30, 1955 (KCA)**

The Central Committee adopts resolutions calling for increased food production, mainly by creating new collective farms.

**East Germany – June 30, 1955 (KCA)**

The *Tägliche Rundschau*, organ of the Soviet High Commission in Eastern Germany since 1945, ceases publication.

**Soviet Union – June 30, 1955 (KCA)**

The Supreme Soviet of the USSR decides to join the Inter-Parliamentary Union and to form a “national parliamentary group” for this purpose, headed by Dimitri Shepilov, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission and the editor of *Pravda*.

**Yugoslavia / India – June 30-July 7, 1955 (PVC)**

Indian Prime Minister Nehru visits Yugoslavia. A joint declaration is issued on July 7.

**July****East Germany / Yugoslavia – early July, 1955 (OSA)**

A directive issued by the GDR's Ministry of Education states that public, school, and factory libraries are to return copies of books now deemed unavailable to the public, that these may be reinterpreted along the now-acceptable lines of Communist history. This is in part a result of the recent shift in the Soviet-bloc's relations with Yugoslavia. The list also includes a publication by Walter Ulbricht himself.

**East Germany / West Berlin – early July, 1955 (OSA)**

Drafting of a law in the East German Parliament to restrict movement of employees of the East German government from visiting West Berlin in absence of special authorization.

**Poland – July, 1955 (KCA)**

The Palace of Science and Culture is opened in Warsaw.

**Soviet Union – July, 1955 (KRI)**

Foreign Minister Molotov is forced to admit mistakes on his resistance concerning the restoration of relations with Yugoslavia and the Austrian state treaty.

**Poland / Vatican – July, 1955 (OSA)**

A group of communist-allied ‘progressive’ Catholics set up its new official organ ‘Dzis i Jutro’ which has been excommunicated by the Vatican. The group’s leader Boleslaw Piasecki has said he will publish the weekly magazine again under a different title.

**Soviet Union / Burma – July 1, 1955 (KCA)**

A three-year trade agreement between the Soviet Union and Burma is signed in Rangoon.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – July 1, 1955 (PVC)**

The head of the Yugoslav air force, General Ulepić, leaves Belgrade to spend ten days in Moscow at the invitation of the Soviet Minister of Defense after earlier visits to Paris and The Hague.

**Poland / Italy – July 1, 1955 (OSA)**

The Italian Exchange Department has amended an Italo-Polish Payment Agreement first signed in Rome in 1949, now extended to 1956.

**Albania / Greece – July 2, 1955 (KCA)**

The Albanian News Agency announces that Albania has asked the U.N. Secretary-General, Dr. Hammarskjöld, to convey to the Greek Government, Albania’s desire to establish “normal diplomatic and good neighborly relations” with Greece.

**Poland – July 3–24, 1955 (OSA)**

The Polish international goods fair is set to take place in Poznan this July and is usually visited by around a million people.

**Poland – July 4- 6, 1955 (PSN)**

Trial of former Minister of Food Distribution Wladyslaw Lechowicz begins, despite the steps taken against such show trials.

**Romania – July 5, 1955 (PIR)**

A portion of the former dignitaries, arrested on May 5–6 1950 and imprisoned at Sighet as political detainees, are set free.

**Soviet Union / China – July 5, 1955 (KCA)**

Beijing radio announces that the Chinese People’s Republic and the Soviet Union have signed an agreement for the exchange of scientific and technical information.

**Poland / East Germany – July 5–9, 1955 (OSA)**

The General Secretary of the Polish United Workers Party Boleslaw Bierut visited East Germany.

**Czechoslovakia – July 6, 1955 (KCA)**

Changes take place in the Slovak board of Commissioners.

**East Germany / Poland – July 6, 1955 (KCA)**

An East German-Polish joint statement declares that the frontier between Poland and Germany has been “definitely and irrevocably” fixed on the rivers Oder and Neisse.

**Romania – July 6, 1955 (OSA)**

The source gives an account of how anti-religious propaganda is carried out among Romanian children, who are taught that religion is a bourgeois means to exploit the working class.

**Albania / Italy – July 7, 1955 (KCA)**

Rome announces that the negotiations between Italian and Albanian Governments for the settlement of Italian reparation payments to Albania have been concluded, and that the total payment has been reduced to \$2.6 million from \$5 million.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 7, 1955 (KCA)**

Washington announces U.S. Government acceptance of the Soviet offer to pay half of the damage sustained by the crashed US aircraft on June 23, 1955.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 7, 1955 (LBC)**

Some details of Dulles’ secret speech come to light. According to the politician, “the Soviets are overextended;...now they are seeking...new policies which will grant them some respite against strains which they have been under in trying to...keep up the pace which has been set by the free world”.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – July 7, 1955 (PVC)**

In his speech at Strasbourg, British Foreign Secretary Macmillan welcomes the possibility of Yugoslav association with the Council of Europe.

**Hungary – July 8, 1955 (HC)**

Decree 38/1955 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that the state purchase of bread grain will be regulated. The producers are required to give all their surplus production to the state. The free trade right will be given only to those villages which completed every state requirement.

**Soviet Union – July 8, 1955 (KCA)**

The Soviet representative to the U.N Economic and Social Council in Geneva announces that the USSR intends to rejoin the World Health Organization, and will make its first contribution to UNICEF amounting to 2 million rubles (\$500.000).

**Czechoslovakia / U.K. – July 9, 1955 (KCA)**

Mrs. Phyllis Sispara, the British-born wife of a Czechoslovak pilot, is allowed to leave Czechoslovakia with her three children after a number of appeals have been made on her behalf by the British Government.

**Romania – July 9, 1955 (OSA)**

The pharmacist Iosefsohn was arrested by the Romanian police towards the end of May or beginning of June 1955. Iosefsohn used to be the owner of the big pharmacy “La Cerb” on Calea Victoriei, next to the “Select” cinema in the city of Bucharest.

**Romania – July 10, 1955 (PIR)**

The Committee for nuclear energy is founded as an annex to the government.

**Yugoslavia – July 10, 1955 (KCA)**

The Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia announces that the Yugoslav Government has decided to increase the price of grain as an incentive to the peasants to grow and sell more grains to the State. It would also end the subsidies for lard and oil, introduce higher retail prices for bread, fats and tobacco, increase passenger transport fares and finally increase wages, pensions, invalid benefits and children's allowances.

**Romania – July 12, 1955 (PIR)**

Romania is initiated into the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

**Soviet Union – July 12, 1955 (KCA)**

Tass Agency announces that the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party has appointed two new members to its Presidium, Alexei Kirichenko, First Secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party, and Mikhail Suslov, Secretary of the Central Committee.

**Soviet Union / West Germany —July 13, 1955 (OSA)****Date of Observation: July 12, 1955**

The emphasis of the official Russian policy on maintaining a peaceful coexistence is largely attributed to a combination of factors. The unexpectedly high expenditure for the atomic power race, the failed attempts to halt the rearmament of West Germany and its affiliation to NATO, the inadequacy of Soviet technocracy and agriculture, and the increasing demands of the new allies, point to the need for coexistence. Furthermore, the political scene has not still recovered from the recent internal turbulences, while the military leaders are acquiring more power.

**Soviet Union (Kazakhstan) – July 14, 1955 (OSA)**

A campaign to exploit vast areas of intact regions in Siberia and Kazakhstan aims for the greater provision of food quantities and varieties for both Russian people and livestock. The Komsomol, groups of trained young Communists, are voluntarily being dispatched in order to sow these new lands, establishing the system of state farms, that operate in the same manner as a factory unit. The outcome of these efforts is dependent primarily on the weather conditions of the harsh Siberian terrain.

**Yugoslavia /U.K. – July 15, 1955 (KCA)**

Four British destroyers, two submarines and a frigate arrive at Split to take part in the first combined exercises to be held with Yugoslav naval squadron.

**Hungary – July 16, 1955 (KCA)**

Budapest announces that the Hungarian Government has agreed to "interrupt" the life sentence of Cardinal József Mindszenty, Primate of Hungary, on grounds of ill health in response to a request by the Hungarian bench of bishops.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – July 16-August 6, 1955 (PVC)**

A group of Yugoslav journalists visits the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 16, 1955 (LBC)**

A 12 member Soviet agricultural delegation arrives in the U.S. According to the opinion of the Soviet delegation, the American agricultural methods are more economical than Soviet methods, but they are not more efficient.

**Hungary – July 17, 1955 (HC)**

The media announces that the Minister of Justice allowed the prison sentence of József Mindszenty, Archbishop of Esztergom, to be reduced.

**Germany / Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. / West Germany – July 18-23, 1955 (LBC)**

A summit of the great powers takes place in Geneva. The agenda of the conference is German reunification, European security, arms reduction and East-West relations. In his opening speech President Eisenhower criticizes “artificial barriers such as new interfere” with East-West communication. He brought up “the right of peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live and of restoring sovereign rights and self-government to those who have been deprived of them”. “The American people feel strongly that certain peoples of Eastern Europe...have not yet been given the benefit of this pledge of our wartime declaration, reinforced by other wartime agreements.” French Prime Minister Faure states that the key for international harmony is the solution of the German question. Soviet Prime Minister Bulganin states that a debate over the East European governments would “move us towards interference in the internal affairs of these states”. German unity must be preceded by the establishment of an all-European security system, since “the remilitarization of the FRG and her integration into military groupings of the Western powers is the main obstacle” to German reunification.

**Soviet Union / USA – July 18, 1955 (OSA)**

Young American people, that work in the American embassy in Moscow, are being accommodated in separate quarters according to gender. The insufficiency of the income that they receive is attributed to the artificial rate of 4 rubles to 1US\$. In general, Russians tend to spend a large portion of their salaries on food, since the rent rates are fixed and the residents of a flat combine their earnings to pay for covering the grocery needs. Market places serve as a selling point for the farmers after giving a portion of the production to the state.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – July 18, 1955 (PVC)**

Combined exercises of British and Yugoslav navies begin off the shores of Split.

**Hungary – July 19, 1955 (HC)**

Decree 1065/1955 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces details regarding the maternity leave of members of cooperative farms. The maternity support is 400 Forints after the first child and 300 Forints for further children.

**Yugoslavia – July 19, 1955 (OSA)**

Yugoslavia's economic difficulties, which is affecting its ability to increase its exports.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – July 20, 1955 (KCA)**

In the Geneva Conference, the Heads of Government agree that the Foreign Ministers should draft directives for further study of the questions of European Security and the reunification of Germany, as well as the following: the unification of Germany, with regard to the security of all concerned; a security pact for Europe or a part of Europe; the limitation and inspection of forces and armaments in Germany and bordering countries; the possibility of creating a demilitarized area.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / U.S. – July 21, 1955 (LBC)**

President Eisenhower's disarmament plan is as follows: the U.S. and the Soviet Union should exchange the full description of military installations found in the two states. As the next step the possibility of supervision by way of aerial photographs must be ensured. Yet on August 14,

1955, according to Budapest radio, 15 people are tried for espionage on behalf of the U.S. The sentences range from ten years in jail to death sentence.

**Poland – July 21, 1955 (PSN)**

The Soviet Government hands over the Palace of Science and Culture to Poland

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 21, 1955 (CWC)**

Eisenhower makes his “Open Skies Proposal” to the Soviet Union, calling for an exchange of military blueprints and for the two nations to freely and legally launch reconnaissance flights.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 21, 1955 (CWC)**

Premier Bulganin suggests that the NATO and WTO states sign a mutual non-aggression agreement until a more permanent European security agreement can be reached.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. / U.S. – July 21, 1955 (PVC)**

Pro-Memoria, suggesting bilateral negotiations for scheduling the repayment of Yugoslavia's post-war debts, is delivered to the French, British and American embassies in Belgrade.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 22, 1955 (LBC)**

The U.S. President on the normalization of East-West relations states that lowering barriers to “the interchange of information and ideas between our peoples,” lowering the barriers “which now impede the opportunities for people to travel anywhere...for peaceful, friendly purposes, so that they all will...know each other face-to-face,” creation of conditions “to increase the exchange of peaceful goods throughout the world” is urged.

**Poland – July 23, 1955 (PSN)**

Prime Minister Bierut receives a delegation of expatriate Poles and declares that “we do not remember, nor want to remember, faults and transgressions. Everyone who sincerely wants to return to their motherland may do so in peace”.

**Soviet Union / Western Powers – July 23, 1955 (KCA)**

The four-Power conference in Geneva ends with an agreement to a meeting between foreign ministers in Geneva in October 1955.

**Soviet Union – July 24, 1955 (KCA)**

Moscow announces that the Ministry of the Automobile, Tractor and Agricultural Machine-Building Industry will be divided into two separate Ministries, one for the Automobile Industry under Strepin and another for the tractor and agricultural machine-building industry under Khlamov.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – July 24-26 (KCA)**

Marshal Bulganin and Khrushchev visit East Berlin for discussions with East German Prime Minister Grotewohl. A joint statement declares that the Soviet Government has informed the East German Government about the Geneva discussions with special reference to the German question.

**Czechoslovakia / Burma – July 25, 1955 (KCA)**

It is announced that the Burmese and Czechoslovak governments have decided to establish full diplomatic relations.



**East Germany / Soviet Union – July 26, 1955 (HWD)**

The Soviet leaders Nikita Khrushchev and Nikolai Bulganin unveil the “Two-State Theory” in East Berlin. They declare that the Soviet Union should agree a reunification of Germany only if the “socialist achievements” of the GDR are preserved.

**Bulgaria / Israel – July 27, 1955 (KCA)**

Bulgarian fighters near the Greco-Bulgarian frontier shoot down a constellation airliner of Israel Airlines, killing all 51 passengers.

**Yugoslavia – July 27, 1955 (PVC)**

President Tito makes an important speech at Karlovac. It is notable for its carping tone and sour remarks about aid from Western countries.

**Yugoslavia / France – July 27, 1955 (PVC)** France and Yugoslavia agree upon an economic co-operation in Paris.

**Bulgaria / Israel – July 28, 1955 (KCA)**

The Bulgarian Government issues a communiqué on the Israeli plane shot down by Bulgarian fighters, saying that the airliner had “departed from its route and entered Bulgarian airspace without warning”, and that a ministerial committee of investigation has been set up under Foreign Minister Neichev. The Israeli Government sends two strong notes to Bulgaria denouncing the shooting as “shocking recklessness” and demanding a punishment for those responsible and compensation for the families of the victims.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – July 28, 1955 (KCA)**

President Tito of Yugoslavia makes a speech at the celebration of the tenth anniversary of Yugoslavia’s liberation from German occupation. In his speech he announces that the Soviet Union has cancelled the Yugoslav debt of over \$90 million, criticizes West Germany’s attitude in negotiations with Yugoslavia, and contrasts the new attitude of the Soviet Union towards Yugoslavia with that adopted by some “satellite” countries.

**Yugoslavia / Cominform – July 28, 1955 (PVC)**

An article in *Komunist* by Velko Vlahović calls, among other things, for the disbanding of the Cominform.

**Bulgaria / Israel – July 29, 1955 (KCA)**

In a note to the Israeli Government, the Bulgarian Government reiterates its regret in shooting down an Israeli aircraft and expresses its willingness to accept responsibility “for part of the material damage caused”.

**Hungary – July 29, 1955 (HC)**

The Borsod Thermal Power Station is opened.

**Romania – July 29, 1955 (OSA)**

This report describes the leader of the Iecia Mica kolkhoz from Timisoara, a fanatical Communist woman named Dinu. She used to be the most active communist from her local community, was spreading communist propaganda and was working on the identification of citizens that should be deported from Iecia Mica, whilst also being the President of the Communist Women Organisation. She became the president of the established local kolhoz as

a reward for her active duty. However, she is hated among the population of Iecia Mica for her deeds.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 29, 1955 (LBC)**

The White House announces that the U.S. is planning to launch small satellites around the earth in the framework of the International Geophysical Year. The results of the research will be placed at the disposal of all scientists, (including Soviet) around the world since the plan has civilian and not military objectives. The move prompts criticism from Republican and Democrats alike, both citing the security risks involved.

**Poland / Norway – July 29, 1955 (OSA)**

A trade agreement between Poland and Norway has been signed for 1956.

**Bulgaria / Israel – July 30, 1955 (KCA)**

Three Israeli civil aviation experts are allowed to enter Bulgaria to inspect the wreckage of the Israeli plane that was shot down by Bulgarian fighters on July 27, 1955.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – July 30, 1955 (PVC)**

The joint British-Yugoslav naval exercise is concluded.

**Austria / Soviet Union – July 31, 1955 (KCA)**

The Soviet Defense Minister, Marshal Zhukov, announces that all Soviet occupation troops will be withdrawn from Austria by October 1, 1955.

**Poland / Norway / Finland / Yugoslavia – July 31–August 15, 1955 (OSA)**

The Fifth International Youth and Student Festival was held in Warsaw this summer. The festival has included delegations of young people from Western Europe and has seen around 500 young people apply to visit from Norway. Around 2000 Finnish youths will also participate in the festival. The only country that declined to send a delegation was Yugoslavia.

**August**

**East Germany / Yugoslavia – early August, 1955 (OSA)**

History and geography schoolbooks issued in early 1955 by the East German Ministry of Education are recalled from schools without prior notice, as ordered by the same institution. It is likely this was due to critical remarks about Tito's Yugoslavia.

**Romania – August, 1955 (RUR)**

Khrushchev visits Romania. Khrushchev disagrees with Gheorghiu-Dej in the question of collective leadership. Khrushchev insists on a division of function between the party and the state.

**Bulgaria / Israel / U.K. – August 1, 1955 (KCA)**

Israeli civil aviation experts publish their report on the shot down Israeli aircraft, stating that the plane was riddled by machine-gun bullets, that the Bulgarian authorities had tampered with the wreckage in an obvious attempt to remove incriminating evidence, and that the investigators were allowed to stay in Bulgaria only for six hours. The British Government sends a note to Bulgaria condemning the incident.

**East Germany / West Germany – August 1, 1955 (OSA)**

The East German Ministry of Culture lowers the royalties received by West German playwrights and publishers. This will be paid partly in East Marks, given a cut in funding to the Ministry of Culture by the East German Notenbank, and that portion will be in a GDR blocked account with withdrawal/transaction limits.

**Romania – August 1, 1955 (PIR)**

The Ministry of Collecting (Ministerul Colectărilor), responsible for collecting quotas from peasants, is founded.

**Soviet Union – August 1, 1955 (KCA)**

*Pravda* announces that Kazakov, Minister for Heavy Mechanical Industries, has been relieved of his duties and replaced by Constantine Petukhov.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – August 1-23, 1955 (PVC)**

A Yugoslav parliamentary delegation led by Vladimir Bakarić visits the Soviet Union.

**Albania / Greece – August 3, 1955 (KCA)**

The Greek Government informs the U.N. Secretariat that under certain conditions, it is ready to resume normal diplomatic relations with Albania, as proposed on June 30.

**Bulgaria – August 3, 1955 (KCA)**

The Bulgarian Government issues a statement admitting that the Israeli airliner was shot down by two Bulgarian fighters. The Government pledges to “discover and punish those responsible for the catastrophe” and pay compensation to the families of the victims.

**Soviet Union / West Germany – August 3, 1955 (KCA)**

A Soviet note welcomes the German Federal Government’s willingness to discuss the establishment of diplomatic, trade, and cultural relations between the USSR and the Federal Republic.

**Romania – August 4, 1955 (OSA)**

A Romanian refugee in a Trieste camp receives a letter from a relative who shares events from her life. The sender notes the increase in the fiscal taxes as well as the fact that the “Atlantis” (now “Bar Continental”) and “Colorado” bar-cocktail lounges are re-open after having been closed since 1952. There is American jazz performed by Joe Rainingher as well as Romanian jazz performed by Malineanu, Vasilescu and others.

**Soviet Union – August 4, 1955 (KCA)**

Marshal Bulganin gives a report on the Geneva conference of Heads of Government to the Supreme Soviet. He states that the conference took place in an atmosphere of cooperation and mutual understanding among the Four Powers, all of whom showed the desire to end “the cold war”, and that the conference marked a turning point in the relations between the Soviet Union and the West. The Supreme Soviet unanimously adopts a resolution approving the work of the Soviet delegation at the Geneva conference.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – August 6–27, 1955 (PVC)**

Edith Summerskill and John Cooper of the Trade Unions’ Congress Executive Commission visit Yugoslavia on invitation of the Socialist Alliance.

**Hungary – August 7, 1955 (HC)**

Decree 1070/1955 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that a State Technical Development Committee will be established.

**Romania – August 8–21, 1955 (PIR)**

Romania participates in the first International Geneva Conference regarding the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

**Romania / Syria – August 9, 1955 (PIR)**

Romania and Syria establish diplomatic relations at the level of legation.

**Bulgaria / U.S. – August 11, 1955 (LBC)**

In a note Bulgaria expresses its sorrow to the U.S. concerning the 12 American victims of an Israeli civilian airliner shot down by Bulgaria.

**Hungary – August 11, 1955 (HC)**

The first ocean liner made in Hungary after the war is launched.

**Romania – August 12, 1955 (KCA)**

Romanian Prime Minister Gheorghiu-Dej, announces that Soviet troops will continue to be stationed in Romania after the withdrawal of the Soviet occupation forces from Austria.

**Romania – August 12, 1955 (OSA)**

The report deals with the control of the border zones, divided into three categories, according to their proximity to the neighboring country. Controlling bodies are the railway militia, the people's security forces and the frontier guards.

**Soviet Union / West Germany – August 12, 1955 (KCA)**

The German reply to the Soviet note of August 3, 1955, suggests that Soviet-German talks should begin in Moscow on September 9, 1955, accepting the agenda suggested by the Soviet Government, to discuss the question of German Unity and the release of those Germans still held in the USSR.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 12, 1955 (LBC)**

The USSR announces that until December 15 it will reduce its armed forces by 640 thousand. According to Dulles it is hard to evaluate the military significance of the announcement when lacking information on the size of the Soviet armed forces. However, the Soviet army will still remain larger than the U.S. armed forces

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 14, 1955 (LBC)**

According to presidential disarmament advisor Harold Stassen, the U.S. is unable to work out an efficient method to identify and control nuclear arms, but is willing to combine Soviet proposals for ground control with the Eisenhower plan.

**Bulgaria / Greece – August 16, 1955 (KCA)**

An agreement to avoid incidents between Bulgaria and Greece is signed by the joint border commission of representatives of the two countries.

**Hungary – August 19, 1955 (OSA)**

The article reports on new Catholic priest swearing their allegiance to the constitution. On one of the occasions the archbishop of Kalocsa was also present.

**Poland – August 19, 1955 (PSN)**

The weekly *Nowa Kultura* publishes Adam Wazyk's *A Poem For Adults*. The Poem is considered to be too critical by the authorities, and the editor of the publication is fired.

**Soviet Union / West Germany – August 19, 1955 (KCA)**

In a further note the Soviet Government agrees that the Moscow talks between the USSR and West Germany shall begin in Moscow on September 9, 1955, but makes no specific mention of the German prisoners of war.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 19, 1955 (LBC)**

The USSR announces the release of three U.S. political prisoners.

**Poland – August 19, 1955 (OSA)**

Posters directed against Radio Free Europe and other foreign broadcasts have appeared in public spaces across Poland such as railways and post offices.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 20, 1955 (LBC)**

A three member Baptist delegation to the USSR returns to the U.S.

**Romania / Soviet Union – August 22, 1955 (PIR)**

Khrushchev delivers a speech in Bucharest on the occasion of the 11th anniversary of the “liberation” of Romania “with the support of the USSR”.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – August 23-September 1, 1955 (KCA)**

A meeting takes place in Moscow between a Yugoslav delegation headed by Svetozar Vukmanović and a Soviet delegation led by Mikoyan, dealing with commercial exchanges and economic cooperation between the two countries. It is agreed that: Soviet-Yugoslav trade exchanges during the next three years will amount mutually to \$70 million; an agreement will be signed as soon as possible on technical cooperation and the exchange of technical knowledge; Soviet credit and loans will be administered to Yugoslavia.

**Czechoslovakia – August 24, 1955 (KCA)**

Prague Radio announces that the Czechoslovak armed forces will be reduced by 34,000 men by the end of 1955 as a result of “certain lessening of international tension”.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 24, 1955 (LBC)**

In a speech delivered in Philadelphia, the President points out that oppression of the captive people due to security reasons is no longer justifiable.

**Romania / Greece – August 25, 1955 (PIR)** Romania and Greece sign an economic accord and a declaration regarding the resumption of diplomatic relations in Athens.

**France / Poland / Czechoslovakia – August 27, 1955 (OSA)**

The regular monthly report concerning the payments made to and/or by several French firms trading with Poland and Czechoslovakia for July 1955. Significant amounts have been

transferred to various travel agencies as a consequence of the Poznan Fair and the Warsaw Youth Festival.

**Poland – August 27, 1955 (OSA)**

A confidential monthly report dated back to July 1955 with a list of payments made through the Polish communist P.K.O bank. The press agencies, the offices and their addresses alongside the precise amount of the transactions are listed.

**Hungary – August 28, 1955 (OSA)**

The article reports on the 5th anniversary of an agreement struck between the Catholic church and the state. It writes about the importance of a harmonious unity and the collaboration towards achieving peace and a better life for everyone.

**Hungary – August 29, 1955 (KCA)**

The Hungarian Government issues a decree setting up a new Ministry of State Supervision, appointing Árpád Házi as Minister of State Supervision. It is stated that the new Ministry will supervise the implementation of the Second Five-Year Plan and deal with infringements of the law and with mistakes and deficiencies in carrying out the Government's economic policy.

**Romania – August 29, 1955 (OSA)**

The mother of a 27-year-old Romanian refugee, who escaped from Romania in March 1951, writes to him to return home. She informs him about the amnesty for refugees announced by the Communist Government, while also threatening him not to write anymore if he stays abroad.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 29, 1955 (LBC)**

A five-power disarmament conference begins in New York in the framework of the U.N Disarmament Committee. The U.S. urges the acceptance of Eisenhower's plan for the exchange of information, which would be based on aerial reconnaissance. The Soviet representative cites the lack of confidence as the main obstacle to disarmament.

**Czechoslovakia / Austria – August 30, 1955 (KCA)**

The Czechoslovak National Assembly unanimously approves the accession of Czechoslovakia to the Austrian State Treaty.

**Romania – August 30, 1955 (KCA)**

The Romanian Government announces that the strength of Romanian armed forces will be reduced by 40 thousand men by December 1, 1955, due to the recent easing of international tension.

**Romania / Greece – August 30, 1955 (OSA)**

The source details the accounts of a person who went to the State Opera in Bucharest in May 17th, 1955, together with a group of 56 Greek deportees. The report gives her positive impressions. It also supplies the name of some singers, the admission fees to the opera and other entertainment like theatre and cinema, as well as the method of obtaining tickets.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 30, 1955 (LBC)**

The Soviet Union seeks large exchange of tourists with the U.S. if the financial arrangements can be agreed upon by both sides. According to Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Valerian Zorin, the Soviet Union wants to open tourist offices in the U.S.

**Albania / Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Poland / Romania / Soviet Union – August 30 September 7, 1955 (LBC)**

Poland, Hungary, Romania and Albania announce arms reductions. The Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia had done the same at an earlier date.

**Romania – August 31, 1955 (OSA)**

The source lists the prices charged in Giurgiu and Bucharest for various foods, textiles, cigarettes, toilet articles, bicycles, motorcycles and other things. Additionally, there are listed details of fares paid on the railroads, streetcars and the taxes paid by the owners of houses.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 31, 1955 (LBC)**

Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Kaganovich and Deputy Minister Malenkov claim that the Soviet Union is ready to give information on the USSR's strategic mineral reserves. The pledge is made to Senator Malone.

**Soviet Union / China / U.S. – August 31, 1955 (LBC)**

The Soviet disarmament plan is announced. The U.S., China and the Soviet Union should reduce their armed forces to 1.5 million troops each; nuclear weapons should be banned after 75% of the troop's reduction has been carried out; a full ban and liquidation of nuclear arms after the remaining 25% reduction is carried out. In the meantime, the West may use nuclear arms only in cases deemed aggressive by the U.N. Security Council. There should be an immediate ban on nuclear tests.

**September**

**Hungary – September, 1955 (HC)**

*Gázolás* ("Crush"), a film directed by Viktor Gertler, is first shown.

**Yugoslavia – September, 1955 (KCA)**

Belgrade and Cairo announce that the Yugoslav and Egyptian Governments have decided to raise their respective Legations to Embassies.

**East Germany / People's Republic of China – September, 1955 (OSA)**

In order to aid the establishment of several energy plants in the PRC, eight political and administrative advisers and twenty-four technical experts left the German Democratic Republic for Peking. Another group of fourteen technicians is to join them later in the year. Correspondence from the September volunteers indicate that insufficient provisions were made for housing and for the schooling of their children in the German language, leading candidates for the second group to withdraw their applications.

**East Germany / Soviet Bloc – September, 1955 (OSA)**

Founding of the East German "Staatliches Vermittlungskontor für Konsumgüter", what is to be a branch in a wider inter-bloc distribution center. This will serve to absorb the 'dead stock' of each of the Eastern bloc countries, through shipping of said stock, paid by offering countries to receiving countries, where these are to be sold and the value returned in Rubles to the offering country's distribution center.

**Hungary / U.S. – September 1, 1955 (LBC)**

The U.S. Government orders Hungary to end all propaganda activities in the U.S. in retaliation for restrictions on American activities in Budapest.

**Yugoslavia – September 1, 1955 (PVC)**

The new law on communes enters into force.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary - September 1, 1955 – September 5, 1955 (OSA)**

For the time being no official figures are available on the amount which the Yugoslav Government will ask from Hungary as compensation for the Hungarian debt and the losses suffered following the break of relations between the two countries. An (incorrect) figure of 70 million dollars has been given by some sources.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia / Austria – September 1, 1955 (OSA)**

Josef Roušar (delegation of the Minority Council of Czechs and Slovaks in Austria) and Josef Jirava (City Counsellor) left Vienna to visit the Czechoslovaks minority in Yugoslavia.

**Hungary – September 2, 1955 (HC)**

The leaders of the Hungarian Workers' Party choose Béla Szabadi to be secretary. Replacing him at his previous position, as of September 8, Józsefné Nagy will be the Minister of Light Industry.

**Yugoslavia – September 2, 1955 (PVC)**

Opening of the Zagreb fair takes place.

**Albania – September 3, 1955 (KCA)**

The Albanian Government announces the reduction of Albanian armed forces by 9,000 men.

**Poland – September 3, 1955 (KCA)**

The Polish Government announces the reduction of Polish armed forces by 47,000 men.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – September 3, 1955 (KCA)**

An agreement is signed between Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union on re-establishing air services between the two countries.

**Poland – September 4, 1955 (PSN)**

The September 4 issue of *Po prostu*, until that time a weekly publication for students, appears with a new subtitle, "A Weekly for Students and Young Professionals". The editorial states that they are a group of dissatisfied people who want more, who want wisdom.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 5, 1955 (LBC)**

Senator Malone declares in Moscow that he found no proof that the people are rebelling against the Soviet system and thus it is propaganda spread by American organizations in order to increase dissatisfaction and to incite resistance.

**Bulgaria – September 6, 1955 (KCA)**

The Georgi Dimitov hydroelectric scheme in the Kazanluk plain between the Balkan and Sredna Gora mountain ranges is officially opened.



**Hungary – September 6, 1955 (HC)**

The Pest county committee of the Hungarian Workers' Party chooses János Kádár to be the First Secretary of the County Political Committee.

**Hungary – September 7, 1955 (KCA)**

The Hungarian Government announces the reduction of the Hungarian armed force by 20,000 men.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – September 7–11, 1955 (OSA)**

On the above dates, heavily guarded trains containing arms shipments leave the station of Braniewo, for East Germany. Each of the trains numbers about twenty railcars.

**Poland – September 8, 1955 (PSN)**

Hugon Hanke, the recently appointed Prime Minister of the Polish émigré Government returns to Poland.

**Yugoslavia / Greece – September 8-14, 1955 (KCA)**

King Paul and Queen Frederika of Greece pay an official visit to Yugoslavia at the invitation of President Tito.

**Soviet Union / West Germany – September 9-13, 1955 (KCA)**

A meeting between the Chancellor of the German Republic Adenauer, and the Prime Minister of the USSR Marshal Bulganin, is held in Moscow, resulting in an agreement on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Marshal Bulganin also declares that the Soviet Government would return nearly 10,000 prisoners to Germany, who committed war crimes on Russian territory during the Second World War.

**Poland – September 10, 1955 (KCA)**

Warsaw Radio broadcasts a statement by Hanke in which he explains his reasons for returning to Poland, criticizing the émigré Government in London, and appeals to all Polish émigrés to return to Poland.

**Poland – September 12, 1955 (KCA)**

The Polish Council of National Unity in London issues a statement describing Hanke's return to Poland as an "act of treachery and stupidity" and calling upon Polish émigrés to resist Communist appeals to return to Poland.

**Romania – September 12, 1955 (OSA)**

Information about black market currency rates in Romania. Many Communist leaders are afraid of currency depreciation, are buying hard currency such as gold on the black market. The report lists the latest black-market rates for paper money and gold coins.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 12, 1955 (LBC)**

Soviet Prime Minister Bulganin and First Secretary Khrushchev inform five U.S. Senators that the Soviet Union is willing to develop commercial relations with the U.S.. According to Khrushchev, trade would improve political relations.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – September 13-October 14, 1955 (PVC)**

A delegation of Soviet journalists visits Yugoslavia.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia / U.S. – September 13, 1955 (LBC)**

U.S. Senator Bridges recommends aid to those nations alone that participate in the fight against communism. He quotes a congressional resolution that denies more aid to Yugoslavia because Belgrade has improved its relations with Moscow despite obtaining several hundreds of million dollars in aid.

**Finland / Soviet Union – September 15, 1955 (HJH)**

President Juho Kusti Paasikivi visits the Soviet Union. The trip results in an extension for twenty years of the 1948 Treaty between Finland and the Soviet Union.

**Poland / France – September 15, 1955 (OSA)**

A list of miners and agricultural workers returning from France to Poland. The list names two hundred and sixty - three Polish men who departed in the period between the 1st of January 1955 and 15th of August 1955 alongside brief details on the reasons for their departures.

**Soviet Union / West Germany – September 15, 1955 (KCA)**

Moscow announces that the Soviet Government regards Germany's present frontiers as immutable.

**Yugoslavia / Greece – September 15, 1955 (KCA)**

In an interview with Greek press, President Tito expresses Yugoslavia's support for Cypriot independence and concern for anti-Greek rioting in Turkey.

**Czechoslovakia / Finland – September 16-19, 1955 (KCA)**

President Paasikivi and Prime Minister Kekkonen of Finland, together with other members of the Finnish Government, visit Moscow. The meetings result in signing an agreement extending the Finnish-Soviet treaty of friendship and mutual assistance for another 20 years, and an agreement whereby the Soviet Government will evacuate and return to Finland the naval base of Porkkala, leased to the USSR for 50 years under the Finnish Peace Treaty.

**Romania – September 16, 1955 (OSA)**

The source is a detailed record about the fact that a Frenchman who took part in Bucharest sporting events on August 19-21, came back convinced that his pro-Communist compatriots should visit Bucharest to be cured of their Communist leanings. From personal experience he now is aware that Romanians live under a police terror, which makes it dangerous for people even to approach a foreigner on the streets. He also sees the low standards of living, the general attitude of the population, the fear of openly discussing the conditions of life in the country, the strict police supervision, the desperate propaganda efforts directed at visiting foreigners. The only man whom the French visitor saw smiling was Petru Groza, the Romanian Communist head of the State, but nobody from the general public.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – September 16, 1955 (OSA)**

An account of what was heard regarding the Tiro-Hakosi affair; the general opinion in Yugoslavia after the Four Power Conference; the abundance of food and the scarcity of consumer goods. Further description of the way of life of the Hungarian minority in Yugoslavia.

**Soviet Union – September 17, 1955 (KCA)**

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet issues a decree granting amnesty "to those Soviet citizens who, from faint-heartedness or irresponsibility, collaborated with the invaders during the 1941-1945 war."

**Soviet Union / East Germany – September 17-20, 1955 (KCA)**

Discussions between the Soviet Government and the Government of the German Democratic Republic are held in Moscow. The Soviet Union is represented by Marshal Bulganin and Khrushchev, and East Germany by Prime Minister Grotewohl. At the end of the talks Bulganin and Grotewohl sign an agreement providing for mutual respect of sovereignty, strengthening economic, scientific and cultural relations, and contributing to finding a solution to the German question.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 19, 1955 (CWC)**

The Premier of Bulgaria writes to Eisenhower that the Soviet Union conditionally accepts an exchange of military blueprints, but any reconnaissance agreement would have to be part of a comprehensive arms control package.

**Soviet Union / Austria – September 19, 1955 (PLC)**

The last Soviet troops leave Austria.

**Soviet Union / Finland – September 19, 1955 (PLC)**

The 1949 Finnish-Soviet treaty on friendship and mutual assistance is prolonged for 20 years. The Porkkala Udd military base is given back to Finland, but the Karelia area remains a part of the Soviet Union.

**Poland – September 19–23, 1955 (OSA)**

A Polish Delegation of University Rectors will attend the Second General Conference of the International Association of Universities.

**Bulgaria – September 20, 1955 (KCA)**

The Bulgarian Government announces the reduction of Bulgarian armed force by 18,000 men.

**Romania / Soviet Union – September 20, 1955 (OSA)**

The source is a record of the “Pro-Basarabia” Association in Paris founded in 1955 by N. Dianu, which is made to cease its activities after a French foreign office demand. The association was created to fight the annexation of Bessarabia and North Bucovina to the USSR as well as to denounce the massive deportations of the Romanians from these two regions.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – September 20, 1955 (PVC)**

U.S. Senator Kefauver visits Belgrade and is received by President Tito.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – September 20-October 4, 1955 (PVC)**

Anastas Mikoyan, Soviet First Deputy Prime Minister, visits Yugoslavia.

**Poland – September 21, 1955 (PSN)**

The Government announces a resolution on assistance to repatriates.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / West Germany - September 22, 1955 (KCA/PLC)**

West German Chancellor Adenauer announces the Hallstein doctrine, stating the termination of diplomatic relations with all states recognizing the German Democratic Republic. The Soviet Union is not included in the doctrine.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 23, 1955 (LBC)**

Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs Molotov declares at the U.N. General Assembly that his country is studying the Eisenhower plan, which Molotov deems as the “sincere manifestation” of the will to disarm.

**Soviet Union / Libya – September 25, 1955 (KCA)**

The Libyan Foreign Minister announces that the Soviet Union and Libya have agreed to establish diplomatic relations.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 26, 1955 (LBC)**

A Chicago dentist arrives in Moscow in a car with a trailer. According to U.S. sources the dentist, who wanted to reach Afghanistan through the Soviet Union, is the first tourist that has arrived in the USSR by car since the war.

**Poland / Bulgaria / Turkey – September 26–October 1, 1955 (OSA)**

The tenth International Roads Congress took place in Istanbul and welcomed delegations from Eastern bloc states Poland and Bulgaria.

**Hungary – September 27, 1955 (HC)**

Decree 18/1955 by the Minister of Agriculture announces that the farmers joining the cooperative farms will be paid in exchange for the animals, equipment or forage they provide to the cooperative farm.

**Romania – September 27, 1955 (PIR)**

The replacement of Gheorghiu-Dej from the function of President of the Council of Ministers and his election as First Secretary of the Central Committee of PMR, and the appointment of Chivu Stoica as Prime Minister, are discussed in the session of the Political Bureau.

**Hungary – September 27, 1955 (HC)**

The Council of Ministers calls for the 6th peace loan program. The program ends with 1,510 million forints.

**Yugoslavia – September 27, 1955 (PVC)**

In a speech at Zvornik, President Tito speaks of a new economic policy that emphasizes the production of consumer goods and a general relaxation of industrial development.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – September 27–October 1, 1955 (LKT)**

U.S. Deputy Under-Secretary of State, Robert Murphy, discusses both military and economic aid with Tito and other Yugoslav officials. The Murphy mission ends with each side affirming its desire for "friendly cooperation" in economic and military matters. Economic discussions, which result in an additional \$260 million for the Yugoslavs, are concluded later in Washington.

**Romania – September 28, 1955 (OSA)**

The source is a report surrounding a letter sent by an important personality from the field of Romanian arts to their daughter. The author of the letter, fearing that their daughter in Paris might be fooled by the new amnesty decree, advises in very urgent terms against her return to Romania, stressing the fact that it's the right decision to move to another country.

**Soviet Union / East Germany / West Germany – September 28, 1955 (KCA)**

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet announces in response to the requests made by the Governments of the German Democratic Republic and the German Federal Republic, that it has decided to release and repatriate 8,877 German citizens who are serving sentences for war crimes and to hand over to the East or West German governments 749 German war criminals.

**Hungary – September 30, 1955 (HC)**

Decree 12/1955 by the Minister of State Collection announces that grain can be traded freely.

**Romania – September 30-October 1, 1955 (PIR)**

Plenary of the Central Committee of PMR through which Gheorghiu-Dej returns at the head of PMR.

**Romania – September 30 – October 1, 1955 (PIR)**

The 2nd Congress of PMR is convoked for the date of December 26, 1955.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 30, 1955 (LBC)**

The Soviet pianist Emil Gilels arrives in the U.S.. He is the first Soviet musician who visited the U.S. since WWII.

**October****Romania – October, 1955 (TCR)**

Gheorghiu-Dej reassumes the position of First Secretary, Constantinescu is removed as head of the State Planning Commission. The premiership is entrusted to his subservient Chivu Stoica.

**Romania – October, 1955 (RFP)**

The Soviet army in Romania consists of 35 000 soldiers, 2000 soldiers in security troops, the infantry troops, 111 jet planes and 10 transport planes.

**Soviet Union – October, 1955 (KRI)**

Molotov is forced to make a public apology after stating that the Soviet Union has “only laid the foundations for a Socialist society”.

**Poland / Soviet Union – October, 1955 (OSA)**

There are reports that over 2,000 Polish political prisoners held in Moscow have been released and returned to Poland from Soviet camps and prisons.

**East Germany – October, 1955 (OSA)**

The leaders of East Germany’s so-called ‘bourgeois’ political parties (the Christian Democratic Union and the Liberal Democratic Party) are required by a recently issued directive to report on all discussions on political affairs held by their party members, by means of ‘Stimmungsberichte’ reports.

**Yugoslavia – October 1, 1955 (KCA)**

Belgrade issues an official statement on Yugoslavia’s new economic policy, stressing further social and economic development and gradually improving the standard of living.

**Romania / Korea – October 2-5, 1955 (PIR)**

An official Romanian delegation headed by Gheorghiu-Dej visits the People's Democratic Republic of Korea.

**Romania – October 3, 1955 (PIR)**

Chivu Stoica replaces Gheorghiu-Dej as the President of the Council of Ministers. Emil Bodnăraș, Miron Constantinescu and Petre Borilă are appointed Prime Vice-Presidents of the Council of Ministers.

**Soviet Union / UK — October 5, 1955 (OSA)**

The Russian fleet of tankers is relatively small, when compared to the Western maritime forces. However, there is a tendency for expansion, and the same intention is observed in other countries of the Soviet Bloc. Contracts for the shipment and exchange of goods are at work between Great Britain and Russia, while there is a ship-construction deal with a French firm.

**Poland / Sweden / West Germany – October 6, 1955 (OSA)**

Information on the trade exchange between Poland and Sweden and its prices. Coal, food and kroner and other materials are imported from Poland while Sweden exports wheat. It is alleged that the payment of wheat was made by West Germany.

**Soviet Union – October 6, 1955 (OSA)**

An Egyptian publisher named Ali Amin issues an article regarding a recent visit to the Soviet Union. He notes the contrast between the powerful and technologically advanced military aircraft and the outdated civilian airplanes, that need frequent refueling, cannot withstand high pressure, and lack comfort. The impressive outline of Moscow is compared with the poor districts that surround the city. The Russian people, typically interested in ballet, classical music, and arts, seemed to feel uneasy in the presence of a state agent that accompanied the delegation.

**Romania – October 6, 1955 (PIR)**

General Constantin Ilasievici dies in the Văcărești prison.

**Romania / Mongolia – October 6-8, 1955 (PIR)**

A Romanian delegation led by Gheorghiu-Dej visits the People's Republic of Mongolia.

**Poland / Israel – October 8, 1955 (OSA)**

The activities of the special envoy Adolf Berman in Israel is reported, nominated as a trustee of the Polish Communists. The previous activities of Dr. Berman in the Second World War is described as well as his career as an agent.

**Poland / Turkey – October 8, 1955 (OSA)**

The report provides information about the Polish Pavilion and its exhibition taking place at the XIV Izmir Fair in Turkey. The main aim of the Polish Pavilion is to convince the Turkish businessmen of the increasing importance of the Polish industrial sector internationally. The Polish industrial power defined itself as the fifth in the world. The report continues with the description of the firm's exhibitions at the fair as well as the description of the materials present from export and outdoor exhibitions.

**Soviet Union – October 8, 1955 (KCA)**

A letter by Molotov, dated September 16 1955, is published in *Communist*. The letter admits that Molotov made a statement that was “theoretically mistaken and politically harmful” before the Supreme Soviet on February 8, 1955, the day that Malenkov resigned as Prime Minister.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – October 10, 1955 (LBC)**

According to Dulles the historical record shows that unilateral disarmament does not bring peace. According to the Secretary of State it is unclear whether Soviet politics means a real change in the aims or whether it is purely a maneuver: “The U.S. must prepare for both eventualities. The U.S. cannot refuse a change the whole world desires, at the same time it cannot expose itself to mortal danger either”.

**Romania – October 12, 1955 (OSA)**

Three people in Bucharest were arrested in September 1955. There are no specified reasons for the arrests. The three are sons of Matei Bals, former Counselor at the Court of Cassation.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – October 12, 1955 (LBC)**

President Eisenhower conditionally accepts the Soviet proposal concerning arms inspection teams to be sent to American and Soviet territory. Beside the U.S. plan for aerial inspection, Eisenhower accepts that based on a previous Soviet proposal, control units would be sent to Soviet and American areas of key importance.

**Hungary – October 13, 1955 (KCA)**

Budapest officially announces the release of Archbishop Grosz, The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Kalocsa, sentenced to 15 years of imprisonment in 1951 for “conspiring to overthrow the democratic regime”.

**Soviet Union / Austria – October 13, 1955 (KCA)**

About 350 industrial enterprises which were seized by the Soviet Government as former German property at the end of the Second World War are formally handed over to Austrian public administration.

**Soviet Union – October 16, 1955 (OSA)**

The sense of improvement is evident, despite the long queues for consumer goods and the inconvenient system of acquiring different items from different locations. The security police are adopting a behavior of discretion and the government moves to minimize its influence, thus creating a wider sense of relaxation. One intense complaint is the extent of the complicated bureaucratic system. Class divisions in the social structure tend to form, while young people appear more open-minded than the older generation.

**Soviet Union / Egypt – October 17, 1955 (KCA)**

The Egyptian Ambassador in Washington announces that the Soviet Union has offered Egypt a loan of \$200 million for building a dam on the Nile.

**Poland – October 18, 1955 (PSN)**

The society for Contacts with Emigrants is established in Warsaw with Stanisław Kulczyński, Deputy Speaker of the Diet and activist of the Democratic Party, elected as speaker.

**Poland / Israel – October 18, 1955 (OSA)**

Israeli discovery of oil in the north-Negev area and the subsequent Polish interest in the matter. The discovery was dated back to September 1955. The official request initiated by the Ministry of Foreign Trade to start trade, with the proposal to provide equipment to improve the oil industry by Poland is reported here. It also highlights the interest of other Western states in Israeli oil.

**Romania – October 18, 1955 (PIR)**

Gavril Vatamaniuc, leader of the anti-communist resistance in the Mountains of Bukovina, is arrested.

**Soviet Union / Finland – October 19, 1955 (KCA)**

An aviation agreement is signed, providing a direct Moscow-Helsinki airway.

**Yugoslavia / U.N – October 20, 1955 (PVC)**

Yugoslavia is elected to the Economic and Social Council of the U.N.

**Austria – October 21, 1955 (PLC)**

The last Western troops leave Austria.

**Hungary – October 23, 1955 (HC)**

Decree 1092 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that a Wage and Labor Committee will be established.

**Yugoslavia / Italy / Greece / Turkey – October 23, 1955 (KCA)**

The Yugoslavian National Assembly ratifies the Italo-Yugoslav agreement on Trieste and the treaty of alliance concluded between Greece, Turkey and Yugoslavia.

**Yugoslavia / Greece – October 23, 1955 (PVC)**

A delegation of the Serbian Orthodox Church, led by the Patriarch, leaves for Greece.

**Yugoslavia / U.N. – October 24, 1955 (RYN)**

Speaking on the occasion of U.N. Day, Kardelj states that "there can be no doubt" that Moscow's making amends with Yugoslavia "has freed many peoples of fears for their independence, and enabled the alleviation of bloc antagonisms, while increasing prospects for international cooperation and the creation of the necessary conditions for active coexistence of peoples with different social systems[...]."

**Soviet Union / Poland – October 25, 1955 (KCA)**

Moscow reports that the Soviet Government has agreed to release 3,000 Polish officers, some of whom have been kept in captivity in the Soviet Union since 1939. (14588C)

**Austria – October 26, 1955 (HC)**

Austria announces permanent neutrality.

**Poland / France – October 27, 1955 (OSA)**

A letter from the 13th of October 1955 describes the previous announcement of the creation of the Franco - Polish parliamentary group. The letter was sent at the time by president of the Franco - Polish parliamentary group, Pierre Lebon.



**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – October 27, 1955 (KCA)**

The Geneva four-power Foreign Minister conference begins with the agenda of European security and German reunification, disarmament, and contacts between the East and the West.

**Finland – October 28, 1955 (PLC)**

Finland joins the Northern Council.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – October 28, 1955 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union introduces a proposal for a European security treaty. The Western powers reject the proposal.

**Soviet Bloc / U.S. – October 31, 1955 (LBC)**

The U.S. announces the cancellation of the restrictions that were introduced in 1952 on travelling to Iron Curtain countries. This does not include Bulgaria or Albania, countries with which the U.S. does not maintain diplomatic relations.

**November**

**Hungary – November, 1955 (HC)**

*A 9-es kórterem* (“Ward 9”), a film directed by Károly Makk, is first shown.

**Poland / Burma – November, 1955 (PSM)**

Poland and Burma establish diplomatic relations.

**Yugoslavia – November, 1955 (KCA)**

The Federal Council of the Yugoslav National Assembly ratifies Yugoslavia’s accession to the Austrian State Treaty.

**Hungary – November 2, 1955 (HC)**

Decree 1095 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that the payment of the employees of machine stations will be modified. The price of using the machinery will also be changed.

**Romania / Italy – November 3, 1955 (OSA)**

During the International Congress of Historians, which took place in Rome at the beginning of September 1955, five Romanian professors participated. Among them was a well-known archeologist who was interviewed by an Italian citizen of Romanian origin. The source gives the substance of the conversation during which the visitor states that it is erroneous to assert that all Romanians are communists; the government does not require all to be confident communists, especially the intellectuals, who are allowed to work if they are loyal. He also states that he was opposed to the attitude taken by Radio Free Europe (RFE) towards the Romanian writers Cezar Petrescu, Sadoveanu, Galaction and others who give their support to the regime.

**Soviet Bloc / U.S. – November 3, 1955 (LBC)**

The U.S. Secretary of Commerce announces that from the end of 1955 the licensing procedure of non-strategic commodities to the Soviet bloc will be similar to those for non-communist

countries. According to present rules each shipment requires a separate license. After the changes, a "general licensing system" will be introduced.

**Poland / West Germany – November 4, 1955 (OSA)**

Around 800 Germans will receive Polish exit permits to move to Germany. There are also 8,000 requests for exit which are being considered.

**Poland / France – November 4, 1955 (OSA)**

This report provides information regarding the funeral of the former Polish General Piasecki. It gives a brief biography of family life and war successes, alongside details of the funeral ceremony. The funeral was held in Nice after the death of the general on January 26th, 1954.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – November 5, 1955 (PVC)**

A Yugoslav Trade Union delegation leaves for a visit to Moscow.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – November 6, 1955 (LBC)**

A meeting between President Tito and US Secretary of State Dulles takes place. One of the themes of the discussion is the future of the satellite states. They agree about having to reinstate these countries' independence.

**Romania – November 7, 1955 (RFP)**

Khrushchev suddenly leaves Romania. Romanian leaders have to postpone any discussion about a Soviet withdrawal from Romania. Gheorghiu-Dej refuses to take part in the protest on November 7, appointing Bodnarus as a chief of the delegation. Bodnarus returns to Bucharest, announcing that Khrushchev and Bulganin agree with the Romanian position to withdraw its troops in 2 years.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 7, 1955 (LBC)**

For the first time a U.S. President greets the Soviet Union on the anniversary of the Great October Revolution. According to Minister of Defense Zhukov, the Soviet Union is threatened by aggressive Western circles. At the reception given in the honor of November 7, Molotov expresses his doubts concerning the Geneva meeting.

**East Germany / Poland – November 8, 1955 (KCA)**

An agreement between the Polish and East German governments is announced, with Poland agreeing to return to the GDR the eastern part of the city of Görlitz, whilst the East German Government undertakes to settle in that district of the city Germans who are at present living in Poland. The opening of Polish consulates in Leipzig, Dresden, Görlitz, Erfurt and Rostock, and opening of East German consulates in Gdansk and Wroclaw is also agreed upon.

**Poland / East Germany / West Germany – November 8, 1955 (OSA)**

It is reported that on October 25th 1955, a press conference was held on the reunification of Germany and the eastern problems. The conference was chaired by Naegelen, President of the French Free Europe Committee and saw the participation of different journalists emigrated from Eastern countries, the majority of whom were Polish. Details on the questions posed by the journalist are provided alongside the answers provided by the President Naegelen himself.

**Poland / UK / Middle East / Far East – November 8, 1955 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report describes how British middlemen were excluded from Polish trade with the Middle East. The incident refers to a time when two Warsaw export firms "Paged"

and "Metalexport" started direct trade proceedings with several Middle East and Far East markets by excluding various British Export Houses. These houses had until now, in many cases, been the sole intermediaries for Polish paper and allied products and for Polish wire nails exported to these markets. Recently, the Warsaw Government-owned firms will negotiate business with Middle and Far East importers exclusively by direct contact or correspondence, excluding many London intermediary traders, and ultimately making the goods more competitive.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 8, 1955 (LBC)**

The USSR rejects the Western plan for German unification. As its precondition Moscow wants the dissolution of Western integrations (NATO, WEU).

**Bulgaria – November 9, 1955 (KCA)**

Sofia announces that the Bulgarian Government has decided to reduce the period of military service from May 1, 1956, as follows: from three to two years for all men serving in the Army and Air Force and from four to three years for men serving in the Navy.

**Soviet Union / Italy / South America – November 9, 1955 (OSA)**

Two members of the Soviet diplomatic delegations, named Siergiej Dodobov and Andrei Konamariov, arrived in Genoa on October 26, 1955, traveling on the Italian ship "Augustus". The two diplomats headed to Rome by train. Their destination is an unknown port in South America.

**Hungary – November 9-12, 1955 (HC)**

Session of the leaders of the Hungarian Workers' Party takes place. János Matolcsi is dismissed from his office as Secretary of the Party, because he is the new Minister of Agriculture. István Kovács and Gyula Egri become secretaries.

**East Germany – November 10, 1955 (KCA)**

The East German Government announces that it has entrusted responsibility for all atomic questions to Deputy Prime Minister Willi Stop, and that a Scientific Council for the Peaceful Application of Atomic Energy has been set up under Professor Dr. Gustav Hertz.

**Poland / Vietnam / China – November 11, 1955 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report describes Chinese and Red Vietnamese commercial missions in Warsaw. The report begins by describing the negotiations that have been carried on in Warsaw regarding the delivery of goods from Poland to North Vietnam with a special delegation of the Hanoi government arriving a few months ago to conduct these negotiations. The progress is thought to be slow as Poland is reluctant to export the goods in which Vietnam is interested such as lathes, rails, and other railway equipment, as well as cement and machinery for coal mines. Representatives of China are also taking part in these negotiations, thus highlighting the fact that Vietnam is playing the role of a Chinese satellite. Besides the delivery of these goods, Vietnam would also like to employ Polish technical experts, though this project also comes with difficulties.

**Poland / West Germany – November 11, 1955 (OSA)**

A committee made up of the three Polish exile organisations in Mannheim (Caritas, ZPU, and ZPwN) arranged a solemn ceremony to celebrate the Polish Independence Day. The celebrations included performances by the Orchestra of the Guard Company as well as recitals of poetry by children and the Polish choir "Echo". It is of note that in the German women as

wives of Policemen also sang in the choir despite Polish being a difficult language to pronounce for them.

**Yugoslavia / Austria – November 11, 1955 (PVC)**

The Federal Assembly ratifies the Austrian State Treaty.

**Albania – November 12, 1955 (KCA)**

Tirana radio announces that the population of Albania is 1,394,310.

**Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – November 12, 1955 (KCA)**

A barter agreement between Yugoslavia and Bulgaria is signed.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – November 14, 1955 (KCA)**

A number of economic agreements are signed in Warsaw.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – November 14-20, 1955 (KCA)**

Edvard Kardelj, Senior Vice-President of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council, visits London.

**Yugoslavia / Poland – November 14, 1955 (KCA)**

A number of economic agreements are signed in Warsaw.

**Hungary – November 15, 1955 (HC)**

János Matolcsi will be the new head of the Agricultural Portfolio. Ferenc Erdei is chosen to be Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers.

**Soviet Union – November 15, 1955 (KCA)**

Leningrad's first underground railway, the V.I. Lenin Metro, is opened.

**Soviet Union / Syria – November 16, 1955 (KCA)**

A one-year trade and payments agreement is signed in Damascus, and the Syrian and Soviet Governments decide to raise their respective Legations in Damascus and Moscow to the rank of Embassies.

**Soviet Union / India – November 18, 1955 (KCA)**

Bulganin and Khrushchev arrive for an official visit to India.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 18, 1955 (LBC)**

Dulles' evaluation of the Geneva meeting of foreign ministers is as follows: The danger of war has been diminished, the cold war continues in the spirit of competition, the military and the mutual security policy of the U.S. remains unchanged, the doctrine of "long haul" is maintained.

**Soviet Union / India – November 21, 1955 (KCA)**

Bulganin and Khrushchev address a joint session of the two Houses of the Indian Parliament.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 21, 1955 (LBC)**

According to New York Governor Harriman, the spirit of Geneva lived for only three months, while the Soviets achieved what they wanted: the reduction of tension for their own purposes without yielding in any of the basic issues.

**Yugoslavia / Italy – November 21, 1955 (PVC)**

Yugoslav Vice-President Aleksandar Ranković strongly attacks the forthcoming trial of certain former partisans in a speech at Udine, Italy.

**Romania – November 22, 1955 (KCA)**

Bucharest announces a reduction in the period of military service from three to two years, and in the Navy from four to two years.

**Soviet Union – November 22, 1955 (KCA)**

Tiflis radio announces that six leading security officials in Georgia, including two former Ministers of the Georgian Soviet Republic, have been executed after being found guilty on charges of “high treason, terrorism and counter-revolutionary activity”.

**Poland / Soviet Union (Ukraine) – November 23, 1955 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report describes the largest Polish frontier-town, Przemyśl. The report highlights how the proximity of the town to the Soviet border is far from advantageous and has a detrimental effect on its economic conditions. No industry is in operation, and the co-operative stores rarely have any goods to sell. The number of inhabitants is now larger than before the war, but this is mostly due to the number of peasants giving up farming and trying to find employment in towns. Przemyśl is now wholly Polish as the Jewish population was exterminated by the Germans and Ukrainians were deported by the Bolsheviks. There are no synagogues or Orthodox Ukrainian churches, and the remaining Ukrainians are attending services in Roman-Catholic churches. The Soviet frontier remains closely guarded and if someone happens to escape from the USSR to Poland the whole town is searched by the UB.

**Poland / France – November 23, 1955 (OSA)**

On November 12th, 1955, the Amitié Franco-Polonoise organised a banquet for the youth festival for 267 people.

**Soviet Union / India – November 23-24, 1955 (KCA)**

Bulganin and Khrushchev visit Bombay.

**Romania / France – November 25, 1955 (OSA)**

The free Romanian “Association Culturelle Roumaine du Nord de la France” in Lille commemorates the 500,000 Romanian soldiers that fell during the war, the Romanian veterans and the 1918 armistice. A special prayer to deliver Romania from the Soviets is said. The religious service is followed by a reunion of all Romanians from Lille and other French guests that are invited

**Soviet Union / India – November 25, 1955 (KCA)**

Bulganin and Khrushchev visit the Indian National Defense Academy at Kharakvasla.

**Poland / Denmark – November 26, 1955 (OSA)**

A new trade agreement was signed between Denmark and Poland for the export of Polish coal.

**Poland / Italy – November 26 - 27, 1955 (OSA)**

Two gatherings are organised by the free Poles in Rome to commemorate the centenary of the death of the Polish poet Adam Mickiewicz. On November 26 a wreath was laid at the commemorative plaque which adorns the outer wall of the house where the poet lived in 1848. The Polish Ambassador to the Holy See and numerous Polish residents were present at the

ceremony. On the morning of November 27, a Mass was held in the Chapel of the Resurrectionist Fathers by the General of the Order, Father Mix, a Polish-American. Ambassador Paper, Archbishop Gawlina and many other Poles were present. The sermon was preached by Father Kosinski who spoke of Mickiewicz as a patriot, poet, and Catholic.

**Soviet Union – November 26, 1955 (KCA)**

Moscow officially announces that hydrogen bomb tests have been carried out in the Soviet Union, and wide research has also been carried out on the protection of the population in case of a hydrogen bomb explosion.

**Soviet Union / Bulgaria – November 26, 1955 (OSA)**

In Sofia, Bulgarian and Soviet government delegations agree on the granting of Soviet shares of the GORUBSO mining company, active in the Kardzhali region, to Bulgaria.

**Yugoslavia / Romania / Czechoslovakia / Poland / Bulgaria / Hungary – November 26, 1955 (OSA)**

Belgrade broadcasted that Yugoslavia closed the Gerovo camp. The camp has been served for the internees from Soviet captive countries. Following the liquidation, Yugoslavia sent 25 refugees to the west.

**Poland / Italy – November 27, 1955 (OSA)**

An Italian National Committee for the celebration of the centenary of the death of Adam Mickiewicz was set up a few months ago. This Committee is under the auspices of several important Italians and is widely financed by the Polish government; of about 30 people thought to be on the Committee, only eight are Communists. Among the commemoration events was a competition for an article, an essay, and three designs inspired by the life of the poet. A series of commemorative meetings were also arranged with the most important taking place on November 27 at the Campidoglio with speakers including the representatives of the Commune of Rome, the Polish professor Romano Pollak, and Professor Della Seta. The poor attendance at this gathering (120 in all, including 20 Poles) is said to be due to the fact that the Polish Embassy in Rome has very little prestige and because it was known that eight Communists were on the National Committee.

**Soviet Union / India – November 27, 1955 (KCA)**

Khrushchev confirms from India that the Soviet Union has exploded a bomb “of unprecedented power” and reiterates that the USSR desires the total prohibition of all atomic and thermo-nuclear weapons.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 27, 1955 (LBC)**

A five-member Soviet delegation arrives in New York in order to purchase hybrid maize and agricultural machines.

**Yugoslavia – November 27, 1955 (PVC)**

President Tito expounds at length the new economic policy in a statement before the 4th plenum of the Federal Committee of the Socialist Alliance.

**Romania – November 28, 1955 (OSA)**

This is an account of Vida Nedici, a young Communist woman, imprisoned for life in Mislea. She used to work at the Bucharest Ministry of Interior, where she was a lieutenant before she started to spy for Tito. A couple of days after she was caught, a cousin of hers, Olga Martinov,

who was serving at the Timisoara Security, was also caught for espionage. When Vida Nedici was caught, she was sentenced to death but her verdict was later commuted to perpetual hard labor. Although she has been in prison for several years, Vida Nedici still declares herself to be a fanatical Communist and will be this way forever.

**Soviet Union – November 28, 1955 (KCA)**

A Moscow Radio Commentator declares that the Soviet Union cannot discontinue the production and testing of nuclear weapons as long as the U.S. and Britain continue to do the same.

**Soviet Union / India – November 29-30, 1955 (KCA)**

Bulganin and Khrushchev visit Calcutta.

**December**

**Finland / Soviet Union – December, 1955 (FFS)**

The Soviets changes their vote on Finland's admission to the United Nations.

**Hungary – December, 1955 (HC)**

The Sixth Hungarian Fine Arts Exhibition opens in Budapest.

**Romania – December, 1955 (TCR)**

Gheorghiu-Dej asserts his determination to adapt Marxist-Leninist principles to the specific national interests and problems of Romania. The intellectuals are downgraded, the workers, both in industry and in agriculture, are heralded as the actual leaders of the massive process of socialist construction.

**Romania – December, 1955 (RUR)**

The Second Party Congress is held. Gheorghiu-Dej states that the party completely supports the idea of peaceful coexistence and interest of party to maintain ties with other Eastern bloc countries.

**Soviet Bloc – December, 1955 (CEC)**

The six session of the COMECON Assembly meets in Budapest, Hungary. Coordination of production plans to 1960, long term trade agreements and engineering specialization are discussed.

**Poland – December, 1955 (OSA)**

It has been reported that Wladyslaw Gomulka who had been removed from the Polish government in 1949, had been offered a cabinet post under Premier Jozef Cyrankiewicz but declined. However, Gomulka's return to politics is possible as noted by Western diplomats.

**Poland – December, 1955 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report (Regime relaxes reins, but keeps firm grip on whip, April 9 1956) ruminates on the impacts of easing punishments for economic crimes which has led many people to bravely find new methods to increase their income. Some of the examples given include workers stealing materials they have access to in the factories e.g. by hiding small pieces of leather in their shoes or, more daringly, in their hats as guards pay more attentions to

briefcases, clothes, and pockets rather than shoes or hats when workers leave the factory. Workers in state shops earn extra by telling their friends or acquaintances what time and day a certain good will be sold such as radios purchasable without vouchers, cheaper meats, or textile materials, sometimes taking a bribe if the “friend” is not wholly trustworthy. The report puts forward the idea that with this new taste of freedom, there is the potential that people will not so easily submit themselves again if the whip was to crack down.

**Poland / USA / Mexico / France / Italy – December, 1955 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report describes how from the spring of 1922, the “new course” has loosened restrictions on entertainment such as light plays in theaters and movies, operettas, and the opening of several cabarets is the effect of the milder course in Poland. The “Syrena”, a satiric theater in Warsaw, as well as the newly opened cabarets are even permitted slight criticism of institutions or conditions in the people’s republic. More foreign films are being shown in cinemas including American, Mexican, French, and Italian films with fewer Russian productions which has increased the number of people attending the cinema so much that it is now difficult to get a ticket. Similarly, tickets to the theater were hard to come by on Saturdays, Sundays, and on holidays and required purchasing them a week before. The more well-to-do enjoy the privileges granted by a better financial position such as visiting nightclubs, cabarets, and recreation centers. Night life in Warsaw - compared with Lodz or Krakow - is dull and the return of semi-official prostitutes has worsened the reputation of formerly favoured night clubs.

**Poland / East Germany – December, 1955 (OSA)**

The Polish Embassy in East Germany has been allowed to issue short-duration entry permits for citizens whose relatives have died in Poland, enabling them to visit for funerals.

**Poland / West Germany – December, 1955 (OSA)**

A representative from the Red Cross has reported that Poles will be able to make visits to West Germany to see relatives during the Christmas period.

**Hungary – December 1, 1955 (HC)**

Governmental decree 2253/1955 announces that a History of Literature Institute will be established.

**Romania – December 1, 1955 (PIR)**

The Council of Ministers of the People’s Republic of Romania decides the reduction of the country’s armed effectives with 40,000 men.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / West Germany – December 1, 1955 (LBC)**

In a speech given in Burma, Khrushchev accuses the Western powers of unleashing Nazi Germany on the Soviet Union in 1941. He states it is not unimaginable that they are preparing for something similar with West Germany now.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt / Ethiopia – December 1, 1955 (PVC)**

President Tito, accompanied by the Foreign Secretary Koča Popović, Petar Stambolić and others, leaves Belgrade for his State visit to Ethiopia and Egypt.

**Hungary – December 3, 1955 (HC)**

The Hungarian Workers’ Party excludes Imre Nagy from the party.



**Poland / Italy – December 5, 1955 (OSA)**

A commemoration celebration of the Mickiewicz centenary is organised in Milan by the Polish Communist Embassy with the collaboration of local Communist intellectual circles. Only about 80 people attended the "Casa di Cultura" of Milan, including several Poles. The Communist Prof/ Arnold spoke and introduced the Polish writer Markowska who had come from Warsaw for the occasion and read her essay on Mickiewicz. Following this, Piumatti recited "The Ode to Youth" and other pieces by the poet translated by the Italian Communist poet Quasimodo. The Rector of the University of Milan, Prof. Francesco refused to grant permission to use the auditorium of the university for this celebration, saying that it would serve the purposes of Communist propaganda.

**Poland / France – December 6, 1955 (OSA)**

During the Congress for Cultural Freedom in Paris, a discussion was arranged on Adam Mickiewicz. Professor Jean Fabre was the chair and speakers included Mile M. Czapska, M.C. Miłosz, and M.A. Robin, a French poet and translator of Mickiewicz's works. Two French publications - "Le Journal des Poètes" and "Preuves" - sponsored the meeting.

**Romania – December 7, 1955 (PIR)**

The Decision of the Council of Ministers no. 2694 stipulates the return of goods, houses and terrains to the Schwabs in Banat, formerly deported in Bărăgan.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – December 7, 1955 (PVC)**

A delegation led by Gustav Vlahov returns from London after talks on the conclusion of the Anglo-Yugoslav Agreement on Social Security.

**Poland / UK – December 8, 1955 (OSA)**

Radio Free Europe reports that the Warsaw regime plans to purchase, on the British market, a large amount of machinery to serve as prototypes, as well as manufacturing licenses and the technical documentation required for the manufacture of the equipment in Poland. As the regime is mostly interested in machinery that may be regarded as strategic materials, it is expected that they will encounter some difficulties.

**Poland/ France – December 8, 1955 (OSA)**

Jerzy Żuławski is nominated as the cultural attaché to the Paris Embassy. Żuławski had previously served as the second secretary and press attaché between 1947-1948. Prior to his nomination, Żuławski was not thought to be a communist. His return to Paris where he made connections during his previous stay coincides with a period of deeper penetration into France and that of unfolding emigration.

**Romania – December 8, 1955 (PIR)**

Romania recognizes the "permanent neutrality" of Austria.

**Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / Greece – December 8, 1955 (RFN)**

The Greek government expresses the view that Bulgaria, Romania, and Hungary does not fulfil the undertaking they assumed under the Treaties of Peace signed in Paris on February 10, 1947.

**Hungary – December 12, 1955 (HC)**

The Borsodi Vegy kombinát (chemical industry) is opened in Kazincbarcika.

**Poland – December 12, 1955 (PSN)**

Hilary Minc declares, a few days before the end of the Six-Year Plan, that “Polish industry as a whole has exceeded the plan and attained targets specified to it”. Later it is admitted that the plan did not succeed in agriculture and that agricultural production had fallen from 1951 to 1953.

**Poland / UK – December 12, 1955 (OSA)**

Reports reach Radio Free Europe that the regime-owned chemical firm “Ciech” wants to purchase and smuggle about 5,000 lbs. of pure zirconium to Poland from Great Britain and other western continental markets. The zirconium is said to be urgently needed by the Warsaw regime.

**Soviet Union – December 12, 1955 (KCA)**

Moscow Radio announces that the Soviet Union has reduced the armed forces by 640 thousand men to aid industry and agriculture.

**Czechoslovakia – December 13, 1955 (KCA)**

The new National Assembly of Czechoslovakia meets and unanimously re-elects Dr. Zdenek Fierlinger as its President.

**Finland / Soviet Union – December 13, 1955 (GNI)**

The Soviet Union vetoes Finland’s application to the United Nations for a third time.

**Soviet Union – December 13, 1955 (PLC)**

Citizenship rights are given back to the German minority relocated from the Volga area.

**Yugoslavia – December 13, 1955 (PVC)**

Decision by the Federal Executive Council establishes an Informational Secretariat of the Council.

**Albania / Austria / Bulgaria / Finland / Hungary / Romania – December 14, 1955 (PLC)**

Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Albania, Austria, Finland, Italy, Spain, Portugal and Ireland join the U.N.

**Finland / Soviet Union – December 14, 1955 (LJF)**

The Soviets drops their opposition to Finland’s membership in the Nordic Council.

**Soviet Union / Afghanistan – December 15-18, 1955 (KCA)**

Bulganin and Khrushchev visit Afghanistan.

**Romania – December 15, 1955 (RFN)**

Romania assumes its seat at the plenary meeting of the 10th regular session of the General Assembly.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – December 16, 1955 (PVC)**

Talks on the conversion of Yugoslav debts to the U.K. are initiated in London.

**Poland / West Germany – December 16-22, 1955 (OSA)**

Around 732 German nationals have left Poland to resettle in West Germany.

**Yugoslavia / Italy – December 18, 1955 (KCA)**

An Italo-Yugoslav agreement is signed, which regulates all economic and financial obligations arising from the Italian Peace Treaty and lays down the framework for a number of economic agreements.

**Soviet Union – December 19, 1955 (OSA)**

A visiting official comment on the friendly behavior he encountered during his visit to the Soviet Union. The idea for exchanging populations, especially students, for learning purposes and the expansion of trade relations was emphasized on several occasions. The Russian press propaganda is accused as responsible for the inadequate knowledge regarding the rest of the world.

**Poland – December 20, 1955 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report describes the depravity of the young people living in the Students' Settlement in Szczecin. This includes heavy drinking, hooliganism and sexual debauchery which has reached such a degree that the matter was raised by the local and students' press in Szczecin. The youth in reply to critical articles appearing in the press started sending letters to editors defending their right to so-called "free love". University authorities are said to be helpless as the leadership of the settlement rests with young Party members who disregard their professors.

**Poland / Middle East / Far East / Latin America – December 20, 1955 (OSA)**

Reports reach Radio Free Europe that Poland intends to offer long-term credits on imports of goods from Poland. At the same time, the regime plans to purchase large quantities of raw materials on barter terms, particularly from the Middle and Far East as well as Latin America, though the actual aim of these trade activities is a political penetration of these areas.

**Yugoslavia / U.N. – December 20, 1955 (PVC)**

After 36 inconclusive ballots, Yugoslavia is elected to the vacant seat on the U.N. Security Council, on the understanding that it will resign after one year in favor of the Philippines.

**Poland / UK – December 21, 1955 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report on the basis of information from the Board of Trade and British Council for the Promotion of International Trade shows the trend of transactions between Poland and Great Britain during the first nine months of 1955. While exports from Poland to Great Britain show an increase of approximately 40 per cent to about £22 million, exports from Great Britain to Poland (which in 1954 equaled only 1/3 of Polish exports to the UK) have decreased by 20% and amount to less than £5 million. Therefore, the trade balance between Poland and Great Britain shows a proportion of 4 to 1 in favor of Poland.

**Poland / Soviet Union – December 22, 1955 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report describes how the membership of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society has increased by more than 3,000,000 in the last three years and now totals over 7,000,000 members. The report outlines that this increase is due neither to the popularity of the Society or of its goal but rather due to the advantages that can be derived from it.

**Hungary – December 23, 1955 (HC)**

The Madách Theater in Budapest presents *Szeptember* ("September") by Imre Sarkadi.

**Romania – December 23-28, 1955 (PIR)**

The 2nd Congress of PMR (and 7th of PCR) reconfirms Gheorghiu-Dej as First Secretary of the Central Committee of PMR. In the report presented, Gheorghiu-Dej accuses Ana Pauker, Vasile Luca and Teohari Georgescu of “a combination of right-wing deviation and an adventurist orientation towards the left” and of “the ridicule of the principle of voluntary peasant participation in the socialist transformation of agriculture”. The report additionally contains data relating to the party situation, the propagandist activity, and the relation between the party and the working class. The Congress added to the composition of the Central Committee Iosif Chiºinevski, Nicolae Ceauºescu, Janos Fazekas and Ion Cosma.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – December 23, 1955 (LBC)**

The USSR permits the distribution of 500 thousand Russian language “America” journals in the Soviet Union. The Soviet Embassy in Washington may issue its information bulletin in the U.S. again.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt / Ethiopia – December 24, 1955 (PVC)**

President Tito leaves Ethiopia for Egypt. A joint communiqué is issued on general principles agreed.

**Soviet Bloc / U.S. – December 25, 1955 (LBC)**

Eisenhower on Eastern Europe: “The American people recognize the trials under which you are suffering, join you in your concern for the restoration of individual freedoms and political liberty and share your faith that right in the end will prevail to bring you once again among the free nations of the world.”

**Romania – December 26, 1955 (KCA)**

Bucharest announces the immediate abolition of food and clothes rationing, and of fixing prices of goods above the previous level, but still lower than the prices prevailing in the free peasants’ market.

**Yugoslavia / China – December 27, 1955 (PVC)**

A delegation of Yugoslav journalists arrives in Beijing.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt – December 28, 1955-January 6, 1956, (RYN)**

Tito's first visit to Egypt. He strongly upholds Egypt's opposition to the Baghdad Pact and Nasser's purchase of Soviet arms as a legitimate exercise of the right of self-defense.

**Yugoslavia / Romania – December 28, 1955 (PVC)**

A Yugoslav-Romanian trade agreement is concluded in Bucharest.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – December 29, 1955 (LBC)**

In a speech given to the Supreme Soviet, Khrushchev rejects Eisenhower’s “Open Skies” plan. The “Open Skies” plan would have been directed at increasing confidence between the two superpowers by allowing almost unlimited reconnaissance in each other’s airspace. According to Khrushchev the Eisenhower plan fails to devote substantial attention to disarmament. Khrushchev denounces Eisenhower’s December 25 speech devoted to the East European people.

**Albania / Yugoslavia – December 29, 1955 (PVC)**

A Yugoslav-Albanian trade agreement is concluded in Tirana.

**Poland / France – December 29, 1955 (OSA)**

On December 15th, 1955, the association of free journalists of Central Europe held a conference on the “l’Esprit de Geneve” in Paris. The conference was chaired by M. Marian Czarnecki. The aim of the meeting was to inform the French public about what is happening in the countries under the Communist regime. This was emphasised at the conferences in Geneva, where the Western approach to the issue had been considered with too much illusion, while the Yalta conference of 1945 was characterised by much political cynicism. Recalling the entry of some communist states into the UN, as a protest, one minute of silence for the rights violated in the states of Central Europe was observed.

**Poland – December 30, 1955 (OSA)**

Radio Free Europe sources give information on the arrival of 850 Polish ex-deportees from Russia via Przemysl. The group arrived at the “shunting” point for repatriation from Russia in Giżucko near Olsztyn in Pomerania. The repatriated have a hard time finding lodgings when they arrive at their destinations and all agree that the cost of living here is higher than in the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – December 30, 1955 (LBC)**

According to the Press Secretary of the White House, Eisenhower and Dulles declare that the peaceful liberation of the captive people will continue to be the main goal of American foreign policy until this effort is successful. According to Dulles, the year 1955 did a lot for peace and 1956 will bring more liberty to the world. Bulganin’s view is as follows: The year 1956 will bring new success in the struggle against the cold war. According to the historical example the American and Soviet people are capable of living peacefully side by side.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – December 30, 1955 (PVC)**

Notes are exchanged in London postponing the repayment to the U.K. of the December instalment of Yugoslav debts for three months.

**Hungary – December 31, 1955 (HC)**

Decree no. 1955:71 by the Hungarian Presidential Council determines the details of the workers’ health insurance. It is decided that complete health care will be provided.

**East Germany / Germany– December 31, 1955 (KGD)**

252,870 people flee to the FRG and West Berlin in 1955.

**East Germany / Germany – December 31, 1955 (OSA)**

279,000 people flee to the FRG and West Berlin in 1955.

**Poland / China / Vietnam / Soviet Union – December 31, 1955 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe describes the present situation of Polish railways. Before 1939, Polish railways were some of the bests in Europe and renowned for their punctual running. The report outlines how the railways are in a desperate state with the most important problem being that of the total lack of sleepers. While Polish railways are suffering from a lack of the most essential materials and installations, the country is forced by Russia to send its equipment to Asiatic countries such as India, China, or Vietnam. As a result, Poland is required to buy simple products such as sleepers in foreign countries despite having large forests and a great reserve of wood.

**Poland – December 31, 1955 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report describes the passive resistance of country-folk. The report outlines how almost 100 per cent of peasants are anti-communist, as substantiated by the fact that even Party members responsible for the organisation of cooperatives use a variety of tricks to keep away from kolkhozes. The sabotage of elections also supports this as peasants send only their wives to vote and so deprive the act of any importance. Though peasants are responsible for furnishing vehicles for the transportation of excursionists from villages to towns on May Day, most of these vehicles arrive almost empty at their destinations since peasants who are forced by their village activists to go to town take the first opportunity en route to return home. Peasants also outwit authorities with regards to the persecutions of kulaks by fictitiously dividing their farms between relatives to avoid persecution by tax inspectors.

## 1956

### **Hungary – 1956 (OSA)**

It is declared that if either party of a married couple defects while the other remains in Hungary, the marriage will be legally annulled.

### **Romania – 1956 (OSA)**

The Romanian government released a decision aimed at improving Communist Party propaganda. The move underlined the importance of workers having a “scientific-materialistic conception” of the world. This is to say a strengthening of education about the scientific creation of the world to counter religious narratives.

### **Romania – 1956 (TCR)**

Romania’s second Five Year Plan is approved by the Romanian Workers Party (PMR)

### **Romania – 1956 (SRR)**

Romanian relations with Poland deteriorate.

### **Romania / Soviet Union – 1956 (RFP)**

Soviet First Secretary Khrushchev claims that the Romanian abolition of Stalinism has begun during Stalin’s time and that there are no victims of Stalinism in Romania. Romanian First Secretary Gheorghiu-Dej, afraid that de-Stalinization would mean replacing compromised leaders, refuses to accommodate the Romanian system of the “new course”.

### **Romania / U.S. – 1956 (RCN)**

The White House establishes a Foreign Claims Commission in order to begin work on Romanian claims.

### **Yugoslavia – December 28, 1955-January 6, 1956 (RYN)**

Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito makes his first state visit to Egypt. He strongly upholds – the first national leader to do so – Egypt’s opposition to the Baghdad Pact and Nasser’s purchase of Soviet arms as legitimate exercise of the right of self-defense. In the joint communiqué issued on January 5, the two presidents affirm their commitment to the U.N. Charter, their opposition to military pacts and blocs which they blame for creating international tensions, and their intention of pursuing a policy, designed to promote worldwide collective security.

## **January**

### **Yugoslavia – January, 1956 (MOL)**

A festival of old Russian movies takes place in Belgrade.

### **Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – January-February, 1956 (MOL)**

A Yugoslav economic delegation visits Czechoslovakia. During the negotiations, some financial matters pending are settled and an agreement on economic cooperation is signed on February 12, 1956.

**Poland – January, 1956 (OSA)**

Around 8,000 people have been repatriated to Poland from the USSR since the August 22, 1955 amnesty.

**Poland / China – January, 1956 (OSA)**

The Polish regime decides to close down the consulate in Tianjin and immediately moves to Shanghai with the Tianjin consulate, Józef Abramowicz becoming the new consul in Shanghai. The new consulate is, according to the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to become a bridge to aid Warsaw in establishing normal commercial and consular relations with Japan.

**Poland / Soviet Union – January 1956 (OSA)**

A Warsaw Pact Command unit is being organized in the Polish city of Legnica where several Soviet generals and officers arrived in January.

**Poland – January 1, 1956 (OSA)**

Radio Free Europe reports that since January 1, the employees of the planning office of the coal mining industry in Walbrzych are no longer being paid bonuses when exceeding their work norms. These individual premiums have been replaced with lump-sum premiums granted to the office as a whole when its overall production has been surpassed. This has significantly decreased individuals' income and has resulted in employees countering by slowing down during regular work hours and overestimating their overtime needed within the month to come.

**Poland / Italy – 1 January, 1956 (OSA)**

Quotas of mutual trade from the Italo-Polish Trade Agreement were extended for a further year from January 1 1956 to December 31 1956. Exports from Poland include large quantities of coal, oats, barley, rye, alcohol, seeds, sugar, medicinal plants, dried mushrooms, casings, liquid gas and refined paraffin, chemical products, pulp wood. Imports to Poland include large quantities of wines and vermouth, medicinal plants, tobacco, tartar and cream of tartar, natural slate, silk fabrics, ball-bearings, textile machinery needles, side cars and accessories for motorcycles, component parts, tires, and inner tubing for motor vehicles and tractors, industrial and domestic sewing machines, printing machinery, dyes for textiles, pharmaceutical products, chemical products, as well as mechanical, laboratory, electrical, measuring, optical and precision instruments.

**Hungary / Austria – January 3-5, 1956 (KAC)**

Frigyes Puja, the Hungarian minister in Vienna, visits Burgenland and meets the regional leaders.

**Poland – January 3, 1956 (OSA)**

A letter from a Polish correspondent in Nantes describing a visit of a Polish ship ("Nowa" or "Stalowa Huta") to Nantes where the crew stayed for three days.

**Poland / France – January 3, 1956 (OSA)**

Polish writers Aleksander Wat and Szelburg-Zarembina go to Paris with their spouses. The former is visiting for medical treatment and the latter is visiting on official business connected to the (rumoured) eventual creation of a new Polish Communist library for the distribution of Communist literature among Poles in France. The Wats received permission and funds from the regime to stay abroad for 6 months in order to seek a medical profession to help with Wat's brain ulcer. They are not said to be in touch with many people in Paris. Szelburg-Zarembina, on the other hand, has been in touch with her pre-war contacts to put across to emigrated Poles



that Poland has returned to a sense of normalcy. Rumours circulated of the Zarembina couple being given the tasks of seeking out locations for a bookshop to allow for a greater distribution of Communist literature among French Poles than has been organised to date with Zarembina visiting at least a couple of potential locations.

**Poland / France – January 3, 1956 (OSA)**

A Polish ship ('Nowa' or 'Stalowa Huta') visits Nantes where the crew stays for three days. A Polish correspondent described in a letter how, when asked if any of the crew wanted to stay in France, the crew responded that "What do we need France for, we have it good in Poland and better than you in France ". On the question of how people live in Poland they responded that they are better off than those who are emigrating, and that there may be some who are worse off, but this is their own fault as they don't want to work.

**Poland – January 3, 1956 (OSA)**

An article in Szczecin local press described the working conditions at the farm cluster PGR-Krzypow where there have been eight deaths over the course of nine months. The article reveals the lack of accountability of management in forcing workers to engage in tasks they are not qualified for, to work for up to 18 hours continuously, or else not providing workers with adequate safety and hygiene measures. Reveals shortcomings of training work for safety and hygiene positions which is limited to filling out post-accident forms and working with daily and periodical statistical data regarding incidents.

**Poland / Soviet Union – January 4, 1956 (OSA)**

A confidential source in London informs Radio Free Europe of the continued state of readiness of the Soviet maritime base in Swinoujscie despite evacuating from Port Arthur and Porkkala in Finland. The source outlines the extent of preparations in the number of naval units held permanently at the base and in the training of Polish troops designed to prepare them for an amphibian mission in Denmark.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – January 5, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

The Hungarian-Yugoslav Tourism Agreement is signed.

**Poland – January 5, 1956 (OSA)**

The Polish government - sourced from a meeting of the Polish Ministerial Council - is ready to make small rectifications on its Western border in returning Szczecin and by making smaller changes in lower Neisse. The government and those in party circles deny any news on the topic.

**Poland / Greece – January 5, 1956 (OSA)**

The source comes from a Greek youth who left Poland in the Autumn of 1955 and describes the conditions of forcibly displaced Greek partisans in the aftermath of the collapse of the Greek Communist reform. Some 11,000 Greek people were forcibly transported to Poland with some 5,000 (mostly disabled people as a result of the civil conflict) being sent further to Russia. The source describes the existence of the Greek collective farm, "Nowy Żywot" in the east of the country and the inequality between the majority in the Greek community and its leaders (two Greeks and a Pole).

**Yugoslavia / US – January 9, 1956 (CUY)**

The National Security Council of the United States discuss the draft of the document entitled *United States Policy Toward Yugoslavia* (NSC 5601). Among the objectives, the document suggests that any further programming of military aid be dependent on the degree on which

Yugoslavia provides better information to the United States on its defense planning or participates with appropriate NATO countries in joint defense planning. It also suggests that further economic assistance be reduced to minimum amounts necessary to assist Yugoslavia in maintaining sufficient economic strength. The document is adopted on January 18 and approved by President Eisenhower on January 24.

**Hungary / Italy – January 10–February 18, 1956 (KAC)**

Italian-Hungarian economic negotiations in Hungary, aiming to expand the existing trade agreement.

**Poland / France – January 11, 1956 (OSA)**

A meeting takes place organized by the Union of Free Polish Journalists in Paris with parts of the talks being broadcast by the Polish section of Radiodiffusion Française.

**Poland / Greece – January 13, 1956 (OSA)**

A report outlines a meeting at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The conversation between the Warsaw and Athens delegations reaches an understanding that there is no reason why a normalization of relations is not possible, pointing to the role of personal matters (such as no candidate put forward by Warsaw receiving Moscow's approval) as the reason for a lack of normalization to date.

**Hungary / China – January 14–16, 1956 (KAC)**

A Chinese delegation stays in Budapest led by Marshal Zhu De, the Vice President of the Peoples' Republic of China, the President of the Parliament, the member of the Political Committee and the Secretary of the CC.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – January 16, 1956 (MOL)**

Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union reach an agreement on the construction of industrial sites with Soviet material help.

**Poland / France – January 17, 1956 (OSA)**

It is reported in this confidential source the creation of former inmates of Soviet Camps Association in Paris on 29 December 1955. The report names the articles of the statutory document and specifies the aims such as financial and moral help for the repatriation.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – January 18, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

An agreement is signed in Belgrade between the Hungarian and Yugoslavian governments on the renovation and maintenance of boundary marks.

**Poland / Middle East – January 19, 1956 (OSA)**

Poland, through the Warsaw firm "Centromor", is offering several types of sea vessels for Middle East markets with prompt delivery (18-24 months) and on favorable credit terms. This includes 450-ton trawlers, 900 ton small-cargo vessels, and 5,000-ton coal-carrying vessels. There is also the offer of full training of officers and crew in Poland during the construction of the vessels as well as the possibility to "rent" instructors for the first year.

**Romania / Soviet Union (Armenia) – January 20, 1956 (OSA)**

The report contains a biographical sketch of Balgian Vaschen, a former Bishop of the Armenian Church in Romania, who was elected Patriarch of the Armenian Church in 1955.

**Hungary / Austria – January 23, 1956 (KAC)**

Hungarian-Austrian negotiations about the laws of possession start in Vienna.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 23, 1956 (LBC)**

Soviet Prime Minister Bulganin recommends a friendship and mutual cooperation treaty to the U.S. According to Bulganin Soviet-American cooperation should be based on fundamental and lasting interest. There are no unsolvable disputes, the present points of contention came about because of European security, the German question and certain Far Eastern problems.

**Poland – January 24–25, 1956 (OSA)**

The plenary meeting of the Association of Polish Journalists took place and commented on strategies to deal with Western propaganda and capitalist ideology.

**Poland – January 24–February 6, 1956 (OSA)**

The Polish Winter Olympic team in Italy competed in several sports. Alongside athletes a team of journalists was also sent.

**Hungary / Austria – January 26, 1956 (KAC)**

Frigyés Puja, the Hungarian Minister in Vienna, meets the regional leaders of South-Austria. His aim is to improve bilateral relations.

**Romania – January 26, 1956 (OSA)**

The source gives information received from prisoners transferred from various jails to Pitesti prisons. The information includes: the death of several bishops in the Sighet prison; the scattering of political prisoners from Bicaz throughout other prisons or forced labor camps in Romania; the presence of several former ministers in the lead or salt mines; the fall of Colonel General Sergiu Nikolski, the chief of secret police; mass arrests of young Communists after the Youth Festival held in Bucharest in August 1953; the activity of the anti-Communist partisans, and the death in prison of a well-known Romanian Jewish industrialist.

**Poland / Middle East / Far East / Central America – January 27, 1956 (OSA)**

Warsaw firm "Cekop" offers enormous amounts of various kinds of plant equipment to the Middle East, Far East and some Central American markets. These are currently offered on the condition of suitable credit or on the basis of mutual trade, though the terms of delivery, payment, etc. will be determined on an individual basis.

**Hungary – January 28, 1956 (KAC)**

The Chinese-Hungarian Cultural Agreement for 1956 is signed in Beijing.

**Poland – January 28, 1956 (OSA)**

Reports brought by Polish emigrants reach Radio Free Europe and illustrate the dire economic situation of the country. The black-market rate of the dollar has jumped from 100 to 120 zloty and is now on par with the so-called "Pekao" dollar which is usually at least 30 zł higher. The official exchange rate of 4 zł to the dollar is more and more unreal and was not observed in dealing with foreign guests at the Youth Festival (exchange rates were reported as high as 65 zł to the dollar). The cost of living has risen threefold since the last monetary reform in 1951, despite propaganda heralding the reduction of food prices. The report also highlights the continued elimination of private business with the five private shops remaining in 1955 being said to have closed down as a result of heavy taxation.

**Poland – January 28, 1956 (OSA)**

The Radio Free Europe News Bureau documents that Poland is preparing for a new international campaign to bring in Western tourists and expand its propaganda activities (exemplified by the Warsaw Festival in the summer of 1955 and the Poznań Fair in autumn of 1955) and bring it to the level of e.g. Bulgaria, Hungary, or even the USSR. Tours will include the country's largest towns, the Silesian industrial region, the Baltic coast, and the Tatra mountains. However, the high cost of living proves a great inhibition for the project due to the exorbitant official rate of the Polish złoty (tied to the rouble) that even "Orbis" (the government travel agency) tourist vouchers cannot remedy the situation.

**February****Czechoslovakia – February, 1956 (RUR)**

Czechoslovakia issues a directive to assist the industrialization of the lesser-developed counties.

**Yugoslavia / China – February, 1956 (MOL)**

A Chinese economic delegation visits Yugoslavia and signs the economic and payment agreement for 1956.

**Yugoslavia / Romania – February, 1956 (MOL)**

An agreement on air traffic regulations is signed between Yugoslavia and Romania in Belgrade.

**Soviet Union / West Germany – February, 1956 (OSA)**

Forty German diplomats, who were foreign office employees before the Second World War, return home from the Soviet Union to West Germany.

**East Germany / USA / Soviet Bloc / Albania – early February, 1956 (OSA)**

Complaints about American balloons flying over the territory of several communist countries are recorded in newspapers, radio, government announcements, and even in an Albanian letter to the United Nations. These balloons are, for the most part, launched in West Germany, and are said to serve for espionage (being equipped with cameras and radio transmitters and receivers), or to deliver propaganda leaflets, and are filled with inflammatory material. These were to be seen as early as January, 1956 (or speculatively even October, 1955), and provoked protest among leaders wanting to defend their airspace.

**East Germany – February–March, 1956 (OSA)**

Following a decision made in January, the administration of the East German ministries of mining (Berg- und Huettenwesen), chemical industry (Chemische Indutrie), and coal and energy (Kohle und Energie) will be moved out of East Berlin in February and March. They had recently been created upon the partition of the Ministry of Heavy Industry into these three units at a previous government meeting.

**Yugoslavia – February 1, 1956 (LKT)**

United States Ambassador to Yugoslavia James R. Riddleberger reports that the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia are rumored to be negotiating a date for Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito's visit to the Soviet Union, announced the previous June.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 1, 1956 (LBC)**

Speech by U.S. Democratic Senator Jackson: peace is in jeopardy, “the Soviets may win the race” for the production of Intermediate-range Ballistic Missiles. The IRBM would enable the “ballistic blackmail” of the U.S. and its partners, says the Senator.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – February 2, 1956 (MOL)**

A trade loan agreement between Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union is signed in Moscow.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 3, 1956 (LBC)**

Bulganin repeats his offer concerning a Soviet-American treaty, which was previously rejected by the U.S. According to Bulganin the Soviet Union is ready to sign a similar agreement with Great Britain and France and he maintains the proposal for an agreement between NATO and the Warsaw Pact as well.

**Hungary / U.S. – February 3, 1956 (LBC/KAC)**

The U.S. reintroduces the travel ban that had been cancelled for Hungary on October 31, 1955. The U.S. suspend the “consideration of talks on outstanding U.S.-Hungarian problems” as well and warns that new travel restrictions will be introduced for Hungarian diplomats in the U.S., all because two Hungarian employees of the U.S. Legation in Budapest were jailed for alleged espionage.

**Poland / West Germany – February 4, 1956 (OSA)**

A new trade agreement was concluded between Poland and West Germany for the delivery of grain from West Germany in exchange for Polish coal, steel, wood and other products.

**Hungary / US – February 7, 1956 (KAC)**

The Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs refuses the US note of February 3 in which Washington defends Hungarian citizens convicted for espionage.

**Hungary / France – February 8, 1956 (KAC)**

The media announces that the French-Hungarian Trade Agreement was signed in Paris.

**Hungary / US – February 8, 1956 (KAC)**

The Hungarian government protests in a note against the sending American surveillance balloons to Hungarian air space.

**Romania / France – February 10, 1956 (OSA)**

A letter from Galati confirms that the Radio Free Europe’s (RFE) Romanian Christmas messages have been heard in Romania. The letter is sent by the mother from Romania to her daughter in France. The mother alleges that she did not hear the message herself but one of her friends told her about it. She also writes that she had dreamt that her daughter was calling her.

**Hungary / Austria – February 11, 1956 (KAC)**

The Interior Minister issues an order for more cooperation between the border guard units and the state security organs in order to control the west borders more efficiently.

**Poland / US – February 11, 1956 (OSA)**

The Polish Ministry of Foreign affairs has issued a note to the US Embassy in Warsaw expressing concern over Americans sending balloons over Polish territory. The balloons often

carry leaflets calling for resistance against the regime and western literature. They are also reported to have caused damages to telecommunications structures and people's properties.

**Romania – February 13, 1956 (OSA)**

An exhibition of paintings by Anna de Noailles, a Romanian poet, was opened in Paris on February 2, 1956. The show was organised by the son of the latter and her great French friend, the duchess de la Rochefoucauld. The latter also published the biography of Ana de Noailles.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 14-25, 1956 (LBC)**

The Twentieth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU). During the congress Khrushchev holds a secret speech denouncing Stalin and the crimes of Stalinism.

**Poland / France – February 15, 1956 (OSA)**

Following the agreement signed on February 7 relating to shipping service between North Vietnam and Poland, "French Navigation" concluded an agreement with Poland on February 14. The commercial attaché of the Polish embassy in Paris, Stroczan, agreed to the firm receiving a 25% partnership in the shipping line Haiphong-Polish ports. "French Navigation" will have to make a considerable contribution to the exploitation of the line as Poland is short on ships, crew, and trained freight accountants.

**Hungary / Austria – February 16, 1956 (KAC)**

The Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Leopold Figl initiates an unofficial meeting with the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to talk about releasing Hungarian minority politician in Slovakia János Eszterházy.

**Poland / France / Hungary / Soviet Union (Ukraine) / Yugoslavia – February 17, 1956 (OSA)**

It is reported that on the 28th of January 1956, the East - European International Academy of Science and Letters gathered at the Polish Library in Paris to discuss the influence of Communist on historical studies, with a focus on the countries of the Eastern Bloc. The meeting was chaired by historians from the Academy, among which included the Ukrainian Choulguine, the Hungarian Lajti, the Yugoslavian Popovitch and the Polish Nowosad.

**Hungary / Austria – February 18, 1956 (KAC)**

The Austrian legation in Budapest informs the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs that Austria is willing to set up a joint border committee.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – February 20, 1956 (MOL)**

Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito sends his message to the 20. Congress of the Soviet Communist Party.

**Poland / Switzerland – February 23 (OSA)**

The Polish delegation to the UN submits a protest to the European Office of the UN in response to a report prepared by a special Committee of Three set up in June 1955 by the International Labour Organisation. The report points to Poland as one of the countries using forced labour for political and economic purposes which the delegation argues is based on slanderous information. The report and its findings regarding forced labour will be discussed at the June 6 1956 session of the ILO in Geneva.

**Soviet Union / Denmark – February 23, 1956 (OSA)**

A reception was held at the Soviet Embassy in Kristianiagdae, Copenhagen. Attendees included diplomats from Eastern Europe, representatives of the association, Friends of the Soviet Union, Allied and Danish Officers, and Danish royals.

**Hungary / Austria – February 24, 1956 (KAC)**

The Hungarian Deputy Interior Minister announces that the western border will be split into four areas from March 15.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 24, 1956 (LBC)**

U.S. Secretary of State Dulles's opening speech in the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The strength and unity of the free world forced the Russians to change their policy towards states outside Soviet influence. This applies to the Soviet's policy of aiding third world countries. Dulles receives a lot of criticism on his speech, especially on the view that the Soviets would have changed for the better.

**Poland / East Germany – February 26–28, 1956 (OSA)**

The Leipzig Fair took place with exhibitions from Poland from various industries.

**March****Romania – March, 1956 (RUR)**

First Secretary Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej expresses general criticism of Stalin's personality cult and once again accuses Ana Pauker of being a Stalinist.

**Yugoslavia – March, 1956 (RYE)**

Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito summons the Central Committee to its 6th Plenum to take action against various negative phenomena within the Party.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – March, 1956 (MOL)**

An agreement on navigation and trade on the Danube between Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union is made public.

**Poland – March, 1956 (OSA)**

It has been reported that the likely replacement for Boleslaw Bierut is Edward Ochab.

**Poland / West Germany – March, 1956 (OSA)**

As part of the February 1955 trade agreement between Poland and the German Federal Republic, Poland has agreed to repatriate 135,000 Germans living in Poland in exchange for \$10,000,000 worth of trade credit.

**East Germany – March, 1956 (OSA)**

Prime Minister Grotewohl's press office announced that all East German newspapers wishing to contact government officials are instructed to do so through the government's press department. Only the Socialist Unity Party (SED)'s own newspaper, the 'Neues Deutschland', is exempt from following these official channels.

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – March 1–14, 1956 (KAC)**

A delegation of the Hungarian Parliament led by Sándor Rónai, Speaker of the Parliament, visits the Presidency of the Czechoslovak Parliament.

**Soviet Union / West Germany — March 1, 1956 (OSA)**

A group of 40 former employees of the pre-war Foreign Office is being relocated to West Germany from the Soviet Union, after President Adenauer's visit to Moscow. The officials held high-level positions both in Moscow and Germany.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 1, 1956 (LBC)**

In a letter to Bulganin, Eisenhower proposes arms reduction: the U.S. would consider freezing the accumulation of fissionable materials for military purposes if the Soviet Union accepts the “open skies” principle.

**East Germany – March–April, 1956 (OSA)**

Several farmers in the Dresden district are forced to cede their land for the construction of an atomic station (‘Atom-Meiler’). Preparation of the construction ground began in April. The farmers were resettled along the Oder river.

**France / USA / UK – March 2, 1956 (LBC)**

French Foreign Minister Pineau announces he will try to synthesize the East-West proposals for arms reduction during his visit to Moscow in May. According to Pineau there is, despite friendship and solidarity, no common American-French-British foreign policy. He condemns the fact that the West overemphasizes the role of military strength. Pineau urges giving up the “Iron Curtain” mentality, and pleaded the increase of East-West cultural and commercial ties.

**Poland / East Germany – March 2, 1956 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe confidential source reports data relating to the economic cooperation between Poland and East Germany. Cooperation has become increasingly intensive during the last 12 months, particularly in the field of chemical industry as well as in the production of India-rubber and synthetic fuel.

**Soviet Union / USA – March 4, 1956 (OSA)**

Despite the harsh weather conditions, people gather in the Red Square to see the tomb of Lenin and Stalin, even if Stalin as a public figure is considered a sensitive topic. The people’s views on the new leadership, which recently abandoned the one-man rule in favor of the concept of collective leadership, are difficult to detect, even though in general they seem favorable. During conversations with the bystanders, questions about the way of life in the US were raised and there were talks of the accomplishments of the previous year.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 6, 1956 (LBC)**

Bulganin calls the Eisenhower letter on arms reduction “interesting and good.”

**Poland – March 7, 1956 (OSA)**

A report by a Radio Free Europe Polish reporter discusses the emigration of Jews from Poland. Of the 50,000 Jews living in Poland, more than 10,000 have submitted a request for emigration, with requests growing considerably as a result of the international relaxation of tensions and with many Jews being repatriated from the Soviet Union. During 1955, 120 immigrants left Poland whereas in the first two months of 1956 117 have already left. The report describes the “wailing wall” on Stalin Street and the degrading treatment of those seeking to leave,



highlighting that most of the emigrants are anti-Communists but Communists have also recently begun to seek permits.

**Poland – March 7, 1956 (OSA)**

A large military airport is being built near the national road “Ochocka” in Warsaw. Many peasants were sent away from their land in order to construct airport runways.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – March 8, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

The Hungarian government abolishes the frontier zone and discontinues the technical sealing of the Hungarian-Yugoslav frontier.

**Hungary / Austria – March 9, 1956 (KAC)**

The Political Committee of the Hungarian Workers’ Party decides to end the mine barrage at the western (Austrian) border.

**Poland / Romania / France – March 10, 1956 (OSA)**

On February 25th, a meeting was held in Paris at the Polish Library organised by the Academie Internationale Libre des Sciences et des Lettres de l’Europe Centrale. The meeting focused on efforts to create a federation of European states by the most distinguished men of the time, discussing the ideas of the precursors of federalism such as Adam Czartoryski and Balcescu, who are considered the main representatives of the federalist idea in the nineteenth century. It is also specified the work done so far in this regard, as the elaboration in 1861 of a federation of states of the East Etats Fédéraux Danubiens until confirming the patriotic inclination to commitment to the federal and European ideas. The conference was chaired by former ambassador Morawski and Professor Marinescu.

**Yugoslavia / West Germany – March 10, 1956 (MOL)**

An economic agreement is reached between Yugoslavia and the Federal Republic of Germany.

**Poland – March 12, 1956 (UNW)**

Polish First Secretary Boleslaw Bierut dies in Moscow.

**Poland – March 14, 1956 (OSA)**

Radio Free Europe collects a report on the reconstruction, or lack thereof, of and around Warsaw. The report describes several localities around Warsaw, no further than 50 km from the capital, and illustrates that (with the exception of places where Party dignitaries have their villas and where Party training centers etc..) Poland does not look better than it did in 1945. This includes the highways which are neglected and only those parts of roads which run near to buildings used by the Party or its highest officials have been repaired.

**Poland / Soviet Union – March 15, 1956 (OSA)**

A report is collected by a Radio Free Europe reporter from a group of Polish immigrants recently arriving from Italy and summarises the effect or and reaction to Bierut’s death. The sources emphasise that there is a generally held idea in Poland that Moscow was behind Bierut’s death, especially in light of the other Communist leaders such as Dimitrov and Gottwald also dying during or soon after a visit to Moscow. The sources depict an atmosphere where no one was inclined to give their true opinion of Bierut in public.

**Poland – March 15, 1956 (OSA)**

The internal relaxation of tensions in Poland has allayed some fears of ordinary people with regards to the political police which have been avoiding arbitrary arrests in fear of a strong reaction from Party organs. The official propaganda line seeks to attribute this easing to the Party but Radio Free Europe reports a contrasting public opinion. The general consensus is that the political police is being put under control in the context of splits in the Central Committee of the Party and fear that an opposing faction may use the police apparatus to their own ends.

**Poland – March 17, 1956 (OSA)**

Five days after the death of Bierut, a source tells Radio Free Europe that nobody mentions him in Warsaw anymore as everyone is busy standing in queues for meat, sausage, bread, and other foodstuffs. Queues can be seen everywhere, even in front of a toy shop where crowds wanted to see the first electric toy train. Queues seem to again be becoming a feature of daily life with similar reports coming from all parts of the country.

**Soviet Union – March 17, 1956 (LBC)**

The disarmament proposal of Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko: the halting of H-bomb tests; the freezing of conventional forces on the 1955 level and their consequent reduction to a lower level.

**Poland/ France – March 19, 1956 (OSA)**

A trial is to be held concerning the publication of several communist papers in Polish which have been banned by French authorities.

**Romania – March 19, 1956 (OSA)**

The report is about a subject who supplies information on the founding and activity of artisans cooperatives in Bucharest.

**Poland – March 20, 1956 (HDP)**

Edward Ochab is elected First Secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party.

**Poland / France / USA – March 20, 1956 (OSA)**

Exiled journalists from different countries discuss communist propaganda on the repatriation at a meeting in Paris. The meeting was attended by the main public and political figures of the moment, General Kaepelin and the Ambassador of the United States.

**Poland / Iceland – March 20, 1956 (OSA)**

A new trade agreement was signed between Poland and Iceland.

**Hungary / Austria – March 23, 1956 (KAC)**

Walther Peinsipp, the Austrian minister, presents his credentials to István Dobi, the Chairman of the Presidential Council.

**Romania – March 24, 1956 (OSA)**

The report describes the “bazar” of Bucharest, and gives some information about the fear of new monetary reform. People try to invest even the smallest sums of money in order not to have cash at home or in the bank.

**Romania – March 24, 1956 (OSA)**

Information about the life of Opera House artists in Bucharest, controlled by Communists.

**Romania – March 26, 1956 (OSA)**

The source records the fact that many people in Italy receive letters from their relatives or friends in Romania, in which they describe the terrible winter hardships which aggravate the sufferings of the Romanian people. The last letter describes the fact that the snow was one metre high in Banat at the beginning of March.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – March 27, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

First Secretary of The Hungarian Workers' Party Mátyás Rákosi publicly announces in Eger that the Rajk trial, in which members of the Yugoslav Communist leadership were slandered, are based on provocation. According to him, the rehabilitation has already taken place.

**Poland – March 27, 1956 (OSA)**

Sources inform Radio Free Europe that there were coal shortages everywhere in Poland at the end of the winter months as the reserves were exhausted.

**Poland / Norway – March 28, 1956 (OSA)**

A new trade agreement was signed between Poland and Norway for 1956-1957.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / Western Europe – March 29, 1956 (LBC)**

According to a U.S. congressional report the Soviet Union has 890 thousand scientists and engineers, the U.S. have 760 thousand, Western Europe has 925 thousand. In 1954, 104 thousand scientists and engineers graduated from Soviet universities, 53,500 from American, 43,500 from West European universities. The U.S. would need 30-35 thousand engineers annually, but in 1954 only 22,329 graduated. The Soviet standard of training scientists is of a high standard and is comparable to the best in the West.

**Poland / US – March 31, 1956 (OSA)**

Polish newspapers *Trybuna Ludu* and *Glos Pracy* have reported on American balloons which have crashed in Poland, describing their contents and the danger they can cause.

**April****Poland / Cambodia – April 1956 (PSM)**

Poland and Cambodia establish diplomatic relations.

**Yugoslavia – April 1956 (LKT)**

The Yugoslavs inform U.S. Ambassador to Yugoslavia James R. Riddleberger that the changes within the Soviet Union have reduced world tension and made disarmament a genuine possibility.

**Romania – April 3-12, 1956 (RFP)**

A meeting of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Romanian Workers Party takes place in Bucharest. It is claimed that the abuses, crimes, and cult of the individual are all due to the deviationist group, but events in Romania cannot be compared to those in the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Poland.

**Romania / France / Switzerland – April 7, 1956 (OSA)**

The source describes the Romanian Aurelian Neagu, who escaped in September 1955 to Geneva and is living in France.

**Poland / Europe / Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia / France – April 9-15, 1956 (OSA)**

Despite official announcements, the Polish delegation did not show up at the International Students' Festival at Lille April 9th-15th. Rumours circulated that the students reached as far as Paris, though a number of Eastern diplomats attended the Festival. 13 countries attended the festival including Romania, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia from "behind the iron curtain" with 21, 44, and 95 students respectively in addition to 11 Soviet students.

**Romania / France – April 9, 1956 (OSA)**

The former professor of French at the universities of Iasi and Bucharest lectured at the Paris Carol I University Foundation on Bessarabia as he had seen it between the two World Wars. The lecturer, M. E. Beau De Lomenie, emphasises the cultural and other achievements of the Romanians in the given province.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – April 9, 1956 (OSA)**

A former border guard escaped in September 1955 through Yugoslavia and supplies details about the Officers' School in Oradea, including an eyewitness report of armed resistance in various parts of Transylvania. He adds a few observations on balloons shot down over Romanian territory.

**Poland / Italy – April 12-27, 1956 (OSA)**

The Polish Light Industry Delegation attended the Milan Fair.

**Romania – April 13, 1956 (OSA)**

The "Gheorge Gheorghiu-Dej" clothes factory in Bucharest is described as a modern establishment, employing the best workers from all over Romanian and being equipped with machinery of the most recent design. The factory works mainly for the Romanian Army and the Ministry of the Interior. While the workers are pleased about their modern factory, they complain about low salaries, bad and insufficient food in the canteen and long workdays.

**Romania – April 14, 1956 (OSA)**

The source describes the fact that Italian Aldo Solini, a singer in the night clubs of Bucharest, is an agent of the secret police. Being a friend of the Chief of the State, Petre Groza, Solini is living in a luxurious apartment in the Wilson Palace in Bucharest. This information is unconfirmed.

**Poland – April 16, 1956 (OSA)**

The intervention of the Polish Communist Embassy led to the suspension of the trial of publishers of Polish newspapers in France. They had been accused of successively evading the French ban on these newspapers by publishing new ones under changed titles. The latest Communist paper, "Nasz Dziennik" was banned by the French on April 4 and replaced by a weekly "Przegląd Tygodniowy" and a daily "Express Poranny" which is scheduled to appear four times a week. This issue has continued since 1951.

**Poland – April 17, 1956 (OSA)**

The Polish Sejm committee for education, science and culture has announced its draft budget which has increased by 43 million zlotys to cover the construction of a large new broadcasting station.

**Romania – April 17, 1956 (OSA)**

The source states that in Bucharest the blind who have no other infirmities are obliged to work in factories. The Romanian customs send back packages containing medicines which come from abroad. Electoral methods of the Communist Party are also mentioned.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – April 17, 1956 (MOL)**

A Yugoslavian parliamentary delegation visits Bulgaria.

**Hungary / Austria – April 18, 1956 (KAC)**

The Austrian legation in Budapest invites the Chairman and several scientists of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences to the celebrations of the 150th anniversary of the Austrian Cartography Office.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – April 18, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

The “Night of Yugoslav literature” organized by the Petőfi Kör (Petőfi Circle) demonstrates its commitment to Hungarian-Yugoslav friendship.

**Soviet Bloc – April 18, 1956 (LUY)**

*Pravda* announces the dissolution of the Information Bureau of Communist and Workers' Parties (Cominform).

**Soviet Union / U.S. / U.K. – April 18–27, 1956 (LBC)**

Khrushchev and Bulganin visit London. Khrushchev states that Eisenhower's “open skies” plan belongs to the realm of fantasies. In his speech on April 19 he emphasizes the necessity of a policy of peaceful coexistence.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – April 20, 1956 (KAC)**

A Hungarian parliamentary delegation led by Sándor Rónai visits the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / Denmark – April 21, 1956 (OSA)****Date of Observation: April 10, 1956**

An agreement between the Danish and the Soviet authorities foresees a Soviet marine visit to Copenhagen and a Danish visit to Leningrad. The visit of a Soviet cruise ship with approximately 2000 members crew, is to take place at the beginning of August. The exact date and the details of the Danish call have not been specified.

**Poland / Czechoslovakia – April 22, 1956 (OSA)**

The Polish-Czechoslovak tourist agreement came in effect today, permitting visits between the two countries with a special permit. Polish tourists can stay in Czechoslovakia for six days, and vice versa.

**Poland / USA / Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Romania / Bulgaria / East Germany / West Germany – April 24, 1956 (OSA)**

Juliusz Katy-Suchy, a member of the Polish delegation to the Eleventh Session of the UN European Economic Commission made a speech in which he appealed to the solidarity of all

Europeans for closer economic and cultural cooperation. In doing so, Katz-Suchy implied that the Europeans could settle their differences if only the USA stopped interfering in European matters. Katz-Suchy also appealed for setting aside political problems during this session, but the Czech and other Soviet Bloc countries suggested the inclusion of the GDR into the European Economic Commission in hopes of starting a discussion about the equality of East and West Germany in the Commission. Due to the opposition of the Western delegations, they suggested that East German observers be invited, though both of these moves were defeated.

**U.S. – April 26, 1956 (LBC)**

U.S. Secretary of Commerce Weeks announces that 700 articles in 57 categories of goods will fall under general licensing rules and will become freely exportable to the Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – April 27, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

Dalibor Soldatić, the Yugoslav minister, asks Endre Sík, the Hungarian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, to arrange an unofficial meeting with Mátyás Rákosi to discuss how to improve Yugoslav-Hungarian relations.

**Poland – April 27, 1956 (UNW)**

Amnesty is given to thousands of political prisoners.

**Poland / France – April 27, 1956 (OSA)**

On invitation from the French organisation “Amicale des Anciens de l'Oder ” and other French resistance associations, a Polish delegation composed of three Communist personalities travelled to France. The delegation made up of Ozga-Michalski, Matysik, and Sidor visited the Lyons Fair, Clermont Ferrand and Paris. The delegates are reportedly attending an unpublicised meeting of the International Organisation of Resistance Writers and not Peace Fighters as earlier rumoured.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – April 27, 1956 (LBC)**

According to Bulganin the Soviet Union will be ready to purchase one billion pounds worth of British ships, industrial equipment and raw materials in the next year, if the commercial restrictions and discrimination against the Soviet Union are lifted. – According to British Prime Minister Eden the talks might mean the “beginning of the beginning”. One third of the shopping list submitted by the Soviets is not included in the embargo on strategic goods and thus there is a real chance to increase Anglo-Soviet trade.

**Poland / Sweden – April 28, 1956 (OSA)**

“Lot” increases traffic to Sweden with a flight arriving from Stockholm every Saturday. A further increase of additional flights every Tuesday are foreseen under the assumption that refugees and immigrants from Scandinavia will travel to Poland to visit relatives or even to vacation there. Special flights are also organised to transport Polish children from Scandinavia for summer camps.

**Poland – April 29, 1956 (OSA)**

A letter reaches Radio Free Europe which talks of the new abortion law in Poland which allows for the termination of pregnancy when the woman is experiencing “difficult living conditions”.

**Poland – April 30, 1956 (OSA)**

A new television station opened in Warsaw in the Palace of Science and Culture. It is viewable within 100 kilometers.

**Poland / France – April 30, 1956 (OSA)**

Two new Communist papers “Express Poranny” and “Przegląd Demokratyczny” are banned by French authorities. They will, however, be replaced by two “new” publications with the names “Wiadomosci” and “Gazeta Demokratyczna”. This brings the total of Polish Communist newspapers banned by French authorities up to twenty-two.

**Soviet Union (Uzbekistan) / Greece / Hungary – April 30, 1956 (OSA)**

Several people were killed and injured when a non-violent quarrel between warring factions turned lethal, at the Greek Communist refugee colony in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. After the episode, the correspondence was paused briefly but word of the incident was spread from a letter to the Greek village, Beloyannis, in Hungary. The underlying cause of the conflict has to do with the hopeless material and moral condition of the exiles, who have no hope for returning to Greece. Strong feelings of resentment were expressed against the Greek Communist Leader, Zachariadis, who is rumored to have been injured during the fight.

**May****COMECON – May, 1956 (CEC)**

A very long meeting of COMECON is held in Berlin. Measures to facilitate trade and transport, coordination as well as specialization in engineering, raw materials, fuel and foodstuffs are adopted. Preliminary recommendations on multilateral clearing agreements, and electricity integration are adopted. Institutional changes are made, most notably the conversion of COMECON’s 12 temporary working groups into “standing commissions”.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – May, 1956 (LKT)**

The Yugoslavs finally inform U.S. Ambassador James R. Riddleberger that Yugoslavia does not wish to fully implement the agreements reached with U.S. Deputy Undersecretary for Political Affairs Robert Murphy in October 1955 calling for an increase in the number of American Military Assistance Staff (AMAS) personnel within Yugoslavia.

**East Germany – early May, 1956 (OSA)**

Nearly 40,000 tons of meat from the ‘Staatsreserve 2’ stock were distributed by the East German government to tackle the meat shortage in the country. This follows the withdrawal of unrationed meat to private restaurants and shops.

**Poland / Soviet Union – May 1, 1956 (OSA)**

During May 1<sup>st</sup> celebrations at the Military Technical Academy in Warsaw the Commander and Soviet Brigadier-General Leoszenia announced that the Soviet Union had surpassed the West in atomic research and that a Soviet unit with atomic weapons would be shared with the Polish Army.

**Poland / France / Hungary – May 3, 1956 (OSA)**

The “thaw” between East and West had made travel from France to behind the Iron Curtain possible. The “Transtour” tourist office organises mainly travels to the Soviet Union, whereas

“Tourisme et Travail” (directed by the French Communist Party and the CGT - Communist trade union) deals with travels to Poland and Hungary.

**Poland / France – May 3, 1956 (OSA)**

Polish National Day ceremonies in Paris are organised by Polish exiles and attended by an unusually large number of people with the Archbishop of Paris, Cardinal Feltin, attending the Mass at the Polish Church.

**Romania / U.S. – May 4, 1956 (LBC)**

The U.S. State Department announces that talks will begin with Romania about the improvement of commercial ties and about the realization of the 88.5 million dollar U.S. indemnification claim, which stems from the post-war nationalization of U.S. property. The U.S. signaled that it would raise political issues as well, such as the imprisonment of U.S. citizens in Romania.

**Yugoslavia / France – May 7-12, 1956 (LBC/MOL)**

The Paris visit of Yugoslav President Tito. Tito wants the French to license the Yugoslav production of the *Mystere IV* fighter.

**Hungary / France – May 9, 1956 (KAC)**

An employee of the French legation, Márta Tauszki, who was arrested during the Rajk trial, is released from prison.

**Hungary / Austria – May 10, 1956 (KAC)**

Hungarian Prime Minister András Hegedüs announces that the mine barrage at the western border will be removed.

**Poland – May 11, 1956 (OSA)**

The editor-in-chief of *Trybuna Ludu* Roman Werfel has been removed from his post. He was replaced with Jerzy Morawski, secretary of the Party’s Central Committee.

**Poland – May 12, 1956 (OSA)**

Radio Warsaw has reported on the statistics for radio production and ownership in Poland. There are 1.7m subscribers of tube sets, over 1.4 subscribers of wired-radio loudspeakers, and 50,000 subscribers of crystal sets. There are 75,000 huge loudspeakers installed in cities and smaller towns. However, radio ownership in rural areas is still less common.

**Poland / East Germany – May 12–16, 1956 (OSA)**

A Polish Agricultural Delegation visited East Germany.

**Soviet Union – May 14, 1956 (LBC)**

The USSR announces that it will reduce its armed forces by 1.2 million troops until May 1, 1957.

**Yugoslavia / West Germany – May 14–16, 1956 (MOL)**

A delegation of the members of the Yugoslav government visits the Federal Republic of Germany.



**Soviet Union / U.S. – May 15, 1956 (LBC)**

According to Dulles the reason for the Soviet arms reduction is the labor shortage in industry and agriculture. The reorientation of people to the industry may increase the Soviet military strength. According to American estimates the Soviet armed forces number 4.2 million people, while the U.S. army numbers 3 million.

**Soviet Union / France – May 15-20, 1956 (LBC)**

French Prime Minister Mollet's and Pineau's five-day visit to Moscow. Mollet is the first Western Prime Minister that pays a visit to Moscow since December 1944.

**Poland / Sweden – May 18, 1956 (OSA)**

A Polish delegation of scientists arrived in Stockholm for the International Arctic Conference.

**China / Soviet Union / UK – May 20, 1956 (OSA)**

It is believed by a non-Marxist British economist who visited Communist China not so long ago that the Soviet Union is aiding China massively and is on track to becoming a leading superpower. Nicholas Kaldor who is a Fellow of the King's College, Cambridge University, was visiting China after dedicating three months on a tax analysis project in India.

**Poland / West Germany – May 20, 1956 (OSA)**

Poland imports rubber truncheons from West Germany for the Militia. "Trybuna Ludu" reports on May 26 an instance of misuse of truncheons and subsequent assurances of the Militia chief about disciplinary action against trespassers.

**Poland / East Germany – May 21, 1956 (OSA)**

The Polish Regime organisation "Zgoda" arranges a song and dance performance as the performers return from a Danish tour. About 400 people attended the performance including 30 members of the Hamburg MSO. The song and dance group consists of 50 school children dressed in Polish national costumes and performed Polish folk dances, songs, and recitations which were enthusiastically applauded. The opportunity was used by "Zgoda" representatives Tadeuz Smietana, his deputy Pawlak, and the editor of "Głos Polski", Wagner, to make political speeches encouraging Polish refugees to join "Zgoda" and give cheers for Communist Poland and the regime.

**Soviet bloc / U.S. – May 21, 1956 (LBC)**

According to a Washington report the Soviet bloc export to the West increased by 35% to an estimated 2.3 billion dollars. The Soviet bloc export to the U.S. grew from 42 million dollars in 1954 to 55 million dollars, but this is still only 50% of the 1948 figure. The Soviet bloc's import from the U.S. went up from 6.1 million dollars in 1954 to 7.2 million dollars in 1955. In the period between January and March 1956 licenses were given out in the U.S. for the East European export of 8.5 million dollars' worth of commodities, including automobiles and agricultural machinery.

**East Germany / Third World / Argentina / Chile / Uruguay / India / Indonesia / Egypt / Lebanon / Sudan / Syria – May 25, 1956 (OSA)**

Heinrich Rau, the East German Minister of Exports, calls for greater trade with capitalist countries before the staff of his ministry. He specifically cites countries in South America (Argentina, Chile, Uruguay), the Far East (India, Indonesia), and the Near East (Egypt, Lebanon, Sudan, Syria) as targets for East German exports. This continues the trend of expansion followed in 1955 with regard to the preceding year.

**Poland / France – May 25, 1956 (OSA)**

After his visit to Poland, French Deputy and Mayor of Metz Raymond Mondon shared three key impressions with Radio Free Europe regarding the country. Firstly, Poland, particularly through her contacts with France, is helping to narrow the gap between East and West. Secondly, Cardinal Wyszyński's imprisonment is due to his political activity and, finally, Mondon was surprised by the extravagance of the Regime Catholic prelate Łaosz's palace.

**Bulgaria / U.S. – May 26, 1956 (LBC)**

The U.S. State Department reports that the U.S. rejected Bulgaria's overtures for the restoration of Bulgarian-U.S. diplomatic relations.

**Poland / Soviet Union – May 26, 1956 (OSA)**

Reports reach Radio Free Europe that a Centre of Atomic Studies in Poland is to be built in collaboration with the Soviet Union. Two Soviet scientists Weksler and Jefremov have been assigned to the project with the Polish group being headed by Prof. Leopold Infeld and Eng. Tennenbaum in addition to a great number of Soviet experts and technicians working on the project. The site of the atomic centre is known only to top-level Party members.

**Poland / France – May 27, 1956 (OSA)**

At the yearly commemoration ceremonies at the La Targette World War I memorial in northern France, speakers representing Polish emigré organisations protest the projected official visit of Polish Communist Premier Cyrankiewicz to France. They do so on account of his having "no right to speak in the name of the Polish nation".

**Hungary / Austria – May 28-June 8, 1956 (KAC)**

Negotiations about mutual property claims are continued in Budapest.

**Poland – May 28, 1956 (OSA)**

A new hydro-electric power station began construction on the Brda river near Bydgoszcz this month with a large artificial lake, fed by the Brda, being scheduled to be built near Koronowo. The main power station will also be located near Koronowo with a further two power stations to be built in Tryszczyna and Kielpiny.

**Poland / Switzerland – May 28, 1956 (OSA)**

Three Polish delegates attend the First International Congress of Tourism in Bern. Poland places great importance on workers' holidays and so the delegation attended the congress in Bern to learn about organisational methods of holiday resorts, transport, camping etc. Currently, Polish tourism is centred on old Pre-War resorts and spas, whilst in some areas (especially in former East Prussia) these are non-existent due to economic backwardness and bad organisation. Tourism abroad has been discussed in official Warsaw circles but has thus far been limited to Polish-Czechoslovak exchanges as international tourism is hindered by foreign currency limitations.

**Poland – May 29 (OSA)**

The UB office in Gdynia is renamed as the Municipal Office for the Affairs of Public Security. This is in line with the change in name of the former Ministry of Public Security to Committee for the Affairs of Public Security (Decree of the Council of Ministers of December 7 1954). The UB is henceforth referred to as the SB by Poles.

**Poland / China – May 29, 1956 (OSA)**

Reports reach Radio Free Europe that economic collaboration between China and Poland is to be expanded which will include groups of experts from both countries exchanging visits and information regarding industrial or scientific developments. Poland will most likely advise China on coal mines, heavy industry, engineering industry, fertiliser production, consumer goods, and food industries. The Chinese are to offer their collaboration in non-ferrous metal production, hydroelectric power plant construction, cotton industry, paper industry, and ceramics for industrial use. Polish deliveries of industrial equipment to China are also being expanded as the country sends 500 silos for rice, sugar refining equipment, and some chemical industry equipment.

**Romania / France – May 30, 1956 (OSA)**

The source describes the tenth death anniversary of the Romanian poet Ilarie Voronca, which is celebrated in Paris by the pro-communist “France-Roumanie” Association. During the commemoration, a restricted number of people were present, among which the new minister of Romania to France. The source briefly enumerates some guests and indicates some aspects from the life of Ilarie Voronca.

**Romania – May 30, 1956 (OSA)**

A refugee from Paris receives a letter from Romania from his relative, a former high officer, about the fact that used to stay in the hospital and weigh 44 kg but now he works as an accountant and likes this job very much.

**Hungary / Austria – May 31, 1956 (KAC)**

The Political Committee of the Hungarian Workers’ Party decides to strengthen the Austrian-Hungarian border.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – May 31, 1956 (LUY)**

As a gesture before Tito's arrival in Moscow, First Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Nikita Khrushchev replaces Molotov with Shepilov as Foreign Minister.

**June****Hungary / Poland – June, 1956 (KAC)**

Hungarian citizens are allowed to travel to Poland without a passport or visa, only carrying their national identity cards. (Kádár on November 4, 1956 restores the old passport system.) Zoltán Szántó, the Hungarian ambassador in Warsaw, returns to Budapest. For a year Hungary does not have an ambassador in Warsaw, the Hungarian embassy is led by Péter Baló, the ambassador’s deputy.

**Czechoslovakia – June, 1956 (OSA)**

The Writers’ Congress begins to question Socialist Realism’s ubiquity and canonical status.

**East Germany / West Germany – June, 1956 (OSA)**

The East German Ministry of Justice hindered the provision of restitution payments for Jewish victims of the Nazi regime by forbidding notaries from providing official documentation that would facilitate claims or allow for the amounts to be collected. It appears that this refers particularly to those who would receive restitutions in West Germany.

**East Germany – June–August, 1956 (OSA)**

Although a decree limiting private trade was issued by the government on 14 July 1956, the months leading up to June 30, 1956 saw the closure of 1700 ‘Konsum’ retail cooperative stores which had proved unremunerative. This was followed by a landmark announcement on August 18, 1956 calling for a reversal in SED policy and a decrease in ‘excessive’ centralization of planning.

**Poland – June 1, 1956 (OSA)**

Custom duties on parcels from abroad are reduced. Gramophone records are now duty free and, according to an announcement over the Polish regime radio, medication is also free of tax.

**Soviet Union – June 1, 1956 (OSA)**

A three-week concert tour of English musicians gave the opportunity for the experience of Russian hospitality and a close look at the art scene in the Soviet Union. The requests of the guest were eagerly fulfilled, and the reception and appreciation of the musicians were most favorable. Between the concerts, the guests were invited to various art festivities, including a night in the ballet, a comedy performance, and a banquet in the Club of Art Workers. The concerts were fully booked and broadcast, while high-level officials such as Khrushchev and Bulganin were among the attendees. The aim of the delegation is to facilitate the flow of music between England and Russia.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary / Romania / Soviet Union – June 2-20, 1956 (BER/LKT/KAC)**

Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito's lengthy stay in the Soviet Union. During his stay, inter-party relations between the Yugoslav and the Soviet Communist parties are settled. At the end of Tito's visit, a joint communiqué is issued. Expressing his discontent with the policy of Mátyás Rákosi, First Secretary of the Hungarian Workers' Party, Tito avoids Hungary and travels to the Soviet Union through Romania. Talks between the Soviet and Yugoslav delegations start on June 7.

**Romania – June 4, 1956 (OSA)**

The source explains the extraordinary effects of Western leaflets and broadcasts, especially those of Radio London and Radio Free Europe. These programs are listened to at the risk of losing one's freedom and even one's life. In speaking of a future organisation of Romania if the present regime should change, the source states that the Romanian people lean towards a federation along the lines of a Swiss and American form. King Mihai's popularity is at an ebb. He is blamed for his passive, if not ambiguous, attitude. First, at the arrest and execution of Ion Antonescu, and second at the arrest and sentencing of Iulie Maniu.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 4, 1956 (LBC)**

The Voice of America broadcasts the text of Khrushchev's secret speech given on 25 February to the nations of the Soviet bloc.

**Hungary / Austria – June 5, 1956 (KAC)**

The first scheduled flight arrives to Budapest from Vienna.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – June 6, 1956 (LKT)**

At a press conference, the President of the United States, Dwight D. Eisenhower sidesteps the issue of American aid to Yugoslavia, while making even more ambiguous comments on neutralism. He admits that the United States will have to re-evaluate its policy toward Yugoslavia.

**Soviet Union / France – June 7, 1956 (LBC)**

According to Pineau the Soviet Union attributes great significance to raising the Iron Curtain and therefore it would be a great mistake if the West wanted to maintain it.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – June 7, 1956 (LBC)**

The U.S. House of Representatives reduces the amount of foreign aid to Yugoslavia recommended by the President by 1.1 billion dollars. The House continues to support aid to Yugoslavia, because it is in the interest of U.S. security. The Senate rejects the House's proposal on Yugoslav aid.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – June 7-14, 1956 (KAC)**

Suslov, a member of the Presidium of the Soviet Communist Party, is in Hungary. He visits Mátyás Rákosi, András Hegedüs, István Dobi and Sándor Rónai. He also meets János Kádár and Imre Nagy.

**Hungary – June 8, 1956 (KAC)**

Jean Paul-Boncour, the French minister in Budapest, gives a conciliatory speech when presenting his credentials. He talks about “releasing tension between the East and the West and reconsidering all French-Hungarian relations”.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 8, 1956 (LBC)**

The Soviet Union delivers an invitation to Moscow to the U.S. Chiefs of Staff. Eisenhower does not see it timely for the Chiefs to visit Moscow, although the Chiefs of Staff had already accepted the invitation.

**Hungary / France – June 10-17, 1956 (KAC)**

A French Film Festival is organized in Budapest.

**Soviet Union / USA —June 10, 1956 (OSA)**

The assumptions of the American people about the Soviet Union are generally disproved with the partial lift of the Iron Curtain. The technological and scientific progress is much greater than expected, due to the extensive campaign for science and education as an investment for the industrial forces. The speed of the economic recovery and the technical efficiency of the Soviet leadership were also underestimated. Lastly, the feelings of discontent of the Soviet people towards the regime must not be ignored.

**Hungary / Austria – June 11, 1956 (KAC)**

The Hungarian Interior Minister orders to strengthen the surveillance activity of the state security services on the west border.

**Poland / Greece – June 13, 1956 (OSA)**

Diplomatic ties between Poland and Greece were ‘reactivated’ with the arrival of a new Polish delegation.

**Poland / Soviet Union / Finland – June 13, 1956 (OSA)**

It was announced that a tri-lateral clearing agreement was signed between Finland, the Soviet Union and Poland.

**Poland – June 17–July 16, 1956 (OSA)**

The Poznan International Goods Fair is being held for foreign firms to exhibit their goods.

**Poland – June 17–July 1, 1956 (OSA)**

Businessmen attending the Poznan International Goods Fair report protests taking place in the city.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – June 17, 1956 (OSA)**

Népszava published about the tear down of border fortification between two countries. At once, it implied about the plan to reopen the small border traffic for the local population.

**Soviet Union / Eastern Europe / China / France / U.S. – June 18, 1956 (LBC)**

During his visit in Washington Pineau recommends the relaxation of trade restrictions towards the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and China.

**Poland / Italy / Czechoslovakia – June 19, 1956 (OSA)**

The Party decides to appoint Minister of Shipping Mieczysław Popiel as Polish Ambassador to Rome. The vice-Minister Stanisław Bukowski will be assigned some other post while department chief Jerzy Panski will become Polish Consul in Prague.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – June 20, 1956 (KAC)**

József Köböl, the head of the Hungarian Workers' Party's Party and Mass Organizations Department, suggests readmitting those to the party who were dismissed without a real reason during the anti-Yugoslav campaign.

**Soviet Union / France / U.S. – June 20, 1956 (LBC)**

According to Pineau the U.S. must exploit the “irreversible changes” in the Soviet Union and must try to improve relations. Otherwise it risks the maintenance of the Iron Curtain.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – June 20, 1956 (LUY)**

Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito and First Secretary of the CPSU Nikita S. Khrushchev issue a Declaration on Relations Between the League of Communists of Yugoslavia and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

**Hungary – June 21, 1956 (KAC)**

A Chinese trade delegation arrives to Hungary led by Nan Han-Chen, Chairman of the International Trade Development Council of China.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – June 21, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

The Yugoslav-Hungarian Trade Agreement for 1956 and 1957 is signed in Belgrade.

**Soviet Union /Greece – June 21, 1956 (OSA)**

A Soviet steamboat names “Pobeda”, carrying Russian tourists reached the port of Piraeus the previous week. The same ship is scheduled for three more cruise tours around the Mediterranean during the same and it is arranged to enter the port of Piraeus each time.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – June 24, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

The Soviet Union informs the leaders of its East European satellites currently in Moscow on the policy of rapprochement between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia and makes it clear that the issues in the joint Soviet-Yugoslav communiqué of June 20, 1956 are valid in Soviet-Yugoslav relation only. The Soviet leaders have a separate discussion with First Secretary of the Hungarian Workers' Party Rákosi Mátyás.

**Poland / France – June 24, 1956 (OSA)**

Polish exile students represent their country at the students' rally "Garden-Party des Nations" in Paris. At the students' stall Polish books in French as well as vinyls with Polish folk songs could be purchased. A group from the Polish Students' Organisation also took part in performances of folk dances with the Polish dances being greeted with enthusiasm by students of other nationalities.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 24, 1956 (LBC)**

The Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air force, General N.F. Twining, arrives in Moscow for the Soviet Aviation Day celebrations.

**Yugoslavia / Romania – June 24–26, 1956 (MOL)**

On his way back from the Soviet Union, Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito visits Romania.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – June 26, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

In his note, Chairman of the Supreme Soviet Kliment Vorosilov informs the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party that First Secretary of the Hungarian Workers' Party Mátyás Rákosi expressed his reservations and mistrust concerning the normalization of relations towards Yugoslavia.

**Poland / Italy – June 26, 1956 (OSA)**

A list of the staff of the Polish embassy in Rome is provided, alongside their assignments and contacts.

**Soviet Union / West-Germany – June 26, 1956**

The first Soviet tourist group arrives in Frankfurt, West Germany.

**Hungary / U.K. – June 27, 1956 (KAC)**

A Hungarian-English Trade Agreement is signed for three years.

**Poland – June 28, 1956 (UNW)**

Demonstrations in Poznan. They are the result from unrest among workers, whose demands for better working conditions were constantly ignored. Demonstrators take the building of the city branch of the National Council and Central Committee, as well as the prison. Over 10,000 soldiers enter the city to crush the demonstrations. As a result, 74 people are killed and over 500 injured.

**Poland / France – June 28, 1956 (OSA)**

A list of the diplomatic and consular Polish personnel present in France is provided in this confidential report.

**Poland – June 28–July 10, 1956 (OSA)**

Reports from Gdansk, Gdynia and Szczecin describe UB secret police forces making arrests to prevent any strikes and protests from breaking out as a result of the Poznan protests.

**Romania – June 28, 1956 (OSA)**

The source documents a series of questions and answers, addressed to a student, Nicolae Chiriac. The questions are related to people's perception in Romania about the present Soviet and Western policy, co-existence at the end of the cold war, destalinisation, people's inclination to work with Communists, and other topics.

**U.S. – June 29, 1956 (LBC)**

Eisenhower approves the National Security Council's program to improve East-West relations.

**Poland – June 29, 1956 (OSA)**

Polish Prime Minister Cyrankiewicz speaks to the population of the Poznań uprising stating that workers' grievances are valid but also that recent protests in the city were started by 'imperialist agents'.

**Hungary / France – June 30, 1956 (KAC)**

The employees of the French legation are given a multiple entry visa for 6 months. On July 1 they are given further travelling allowances.

**July****Eastern Europe / U.K. – July, 1956 (KAC)**

Selwyn Lloyd, the British Minister of Foreign Affairs, calls a meeting in July 1956, where the leaders of the Foreign Office debate whether to change the relations with the countries of Eastern-Europe.

**Soviet Union / UK – July, 1956 (OSA)**

A Soviet commercial delegate visits the shipping circles of Bristol-Avonmouth, in anticipation of an expansion of contacts and commercial activity between Britain and the Soviet Union.

**East Germany – July, 1956 (OSA)**

The Institute of Organic Chemistry Industries in the University of Leipzig founded a new department for the separation of isotopes. This follows a much-advertised increase in endorsement for nuclear research in East Germany.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – July 1, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

In an article published in *Politika*, Julius Djuka criticizes the Hungarian party leadership and reports on the activity of the Petőfi Kör (Petőfi Circle).

**Poland / East Germany – July 2, 1956 (OSA)**

A letter is sent to all members of the ZPU (anti-Communist refugee organisation) in Germany calling for protest action as a reaction to the crushing of the uprising in Poznań. The letter stresses that the free world cannot coexist with these murders and that such represents an insult to the whole Christian and civilised world. May the blood of the victims of Poznań awaken the conscience of the free world and lead to a break of diplomatic relations with the whole Soviet Bloc, the letter goes on.

**Poland / East Germany – July 3, 1956 (OSA)**

Refugees at the Hannover-Bothfeld camp organise a large protest meeting at 19:00. A priest, Father Dubiel, reads a Mass and afterwards all camp inhabitants, of various nationalities, marched through the camp carrying banners and streamers with anti-Communist slogans. The march took place in complete silence and hymns were sung afterwards.



**Poland / Italy – July 3, 1956 (OSA)**

Italian free trade union leaders back Poznań rioters. Specifically, the Assistant Secretary General of the CISL, Dr. Bruno Storti, issues a statement in the weekly paper “La Conquista del Lavoro” and Dr. Bellotti, one of the leaders of the CISL for foreign contacts, gives a fuller statement to Radio Free Europe.

**Soviet Union / Greece / Kazakhstan – July 3, 1956 (OSA)**

An Ethnic Greek in the Soviet Union provides a personal testimony regarding the anti-Greek pogroms in 1935 and the wrongful conviction by the Communist regime. The constant relocations included the settling of a Greek minority to Kazakhstan, for forced labor on the cotton-growing State-farms. The repatriation process took years to be finally approved by the Soviet authorities, in 1956.

**Poland / East Germany – July 4, 1956 (OSA)**

Exile Poles in Frankfurt demonstrate in solidarity with Poznań rioters and carry signs reading, in Polish and German, “Poland Hasn’t Died Yet” (a reference to the national anthem), “Fight With Us Against Communism”, “We Demand Freedom and Bread”, and “Out With Communism”.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – July 6–7, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

Gavro Altman criticizes the policy of the Hungarian leadership in an article published in *Borba*. Yugoslavia demands the normalization of the situation concerning the South Slavic minority in Hungary.

**Romania – July 6, 1956 (OSA)**

The Bucharest National Theater ensemble arrived in Paris on June 18 and is welcomed at the railway station by members of the Romanian Legation and representatives of the Third International Festival of Dramatic Arts in which it participates. The artists are granted complete freedom. They are permitted to go to any hotel they want to, even to stay with Romanian refugees. Almost all members of the group have already been talking to refugees. The performances of “The Lost Letter” and “The Last Hour” are very warmly received by the French public and critics.

**Poland / GDR – July 7, 1956 (OSA)**

A protest meeting and service for the victims of the Poznań uprising is held in the chapel of the Polish Labour Service in Lueneburg. Over 250 Poles take part and listen to an address given by Chaplain Hoppe in which he stresses the Polish love of freedom and devotion to the Roman Catholic Church which gives them the courage to fight against the red terror.

**Poland / Israel / East Germany – July 7, 1956 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report outlines the situation of Jewish and German ethnic minorities in Szczecin. The Jewish community in Szczecin is the third largest in Poland with more than 3,000 Jews in the city, almost all of whom live in the suburb of Niebuszewo. Until 1950, almost all were businessmen but now, after the liquidation of private enterprise, most of them have gone into State industry or business or else have organised artisan cooperatives. These Jews would like to emigrate but the Communists are using every propaganda weapon to convince them to stay in Poland - even the 280 pupils in the Jewish school are under constant pressure for propaganda against the State of Israel. The report describes the activity of the Jewish propagandists who are collaborating with the Regime to spread propaganda to their fellow Jews.

The report also describes the situation of Germans in Szczecin who are more numerous than the Jews and are envied by them since Germans can easily leave Poland to go to East Germany. The Regime grants them special concessions and so Germans can take all their belongings with them and exchange their savings for goods bought at special stores. As a result, the number of Germans in Szczecin is rapidly declining with a few thousand of them having already left Szczecin since the end of 1955.

**Yugoslavia / West Germany – July 7-17, 1956 (MOL)**

Economic talks take place in Belgrade between Yugoslavia and the Federal Republic of Germany.

**Poland / East Germany - July 8 – 10, 1956 (OSA)**

Spontaneous meetings to protest against the repression of the Poznań uprising takes place in refugee camps in Oldenburg and Hannover. At the Hamburg-Fischbek Camp further protest meetings are held and a children's choir sings Polish hymns. Refugees were warned by speakers against the explanation of the uprising which is to be circulated in a leaflet form by the Regime friendly "Zgoda" organisation.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – July 9, 1956 (KAC)**

Because of the warnings from Andropov, the Presidium of the Soviet Communist Party discusses the situation of the Hungarian Party on July 9 and July 12. This is the first time during the year when the question of the Hungarian Party appears separately on the agenda of the Soviet Communist Party.

**Poland / Israel – July 9, 1956 (OSA)**

Around 20,000 Polish Jews are to be granted permission to emigrate to Israel by the Polish Government. It is estimated that by January 1957 around half will have left Poland for Israel.

**Poland / Italy – July 9, 1956 (OSA)**

New headquarters of the Polish War Veterans Association are inaugurated in Rome, Italy. Present at the ceremony were the Polish Ambassador to the Holy See, Dr. Kazimierz Paper, and members of the Polish colony in Rome.

**Poland / Greece – July 11, 1956 (OSA)**

A Polish trade delegation arrived in Athens for talks with the Greek Ministry of Commerce.

**Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia – July 11, 1956 (OSA)**

In a memo detailing the Yugoslav press' anti-regime stance regarding popular uprisings in East Germany, Radio Free Europe researchers note that even the Yugoslav Communist Party's newspaper Borba had taken a similarly anti-regime perspective on the Czech worker rebellions of 1953, including the Škoda workers' revolt in Plzen.

**Eastern Europe / U.S. – July 12, 1956 (KAC)**

The U.S. National Security Council accepts resolution 5608, laying down the principles of American foreign policy towards the countries aligned with the Soviet Union.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – July 13, 1956 (KAC)**

Mikojan, member of the Soviet Communist Party's Presidium, arrives in Budapest to talk informally with Mátyás Rákosi, Ernő Gerő, András Hegedüs and Béla Végh. He attends the Hungarian Workers' Party CC session when Rákosi is dismissed. He says: "I feel tension in our

Central Committee and everywhere in the Socialist bloc because of the Hungarian situation. We cannot tolerate any unexpected and undesired event in Hungary. [...] Our Central Committee is willing to give any necessary help and advice to assist our Hungarian comrades in the resolution of the problem.”

**Hungary / Soviet Union – July 13, 1956 (KAC)**

Khrushchev informs Rákosi in a letter that he believes that the negotiations with Yugoslavia have been successful.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – July 13, 1956 (KAC)**

Khrushchev in a note tells Tito that he believes it was a mistake to expel Imre Nagy from the party. Still, he promises to hold on to Rákosi. He states that Moscow is ready to use any necessary means if the political crisis in Hungary deepened.

**Hungary / France – July 14, 1956 (KAC)**

The whole government and Mátyás Rákosi attend a reception organized at the French legation.

**Poland / France – July 14, 1956 (OSA)**

Several free Polish organisations in France hold a protest meeting against the Poznań terror in Lens.

**Hungary – July 15, 1956 (KAC)**

The State Security Department of the Interior Ministry arrests two American citizens who supposedly spied on Hungary (Gyula Tarló and Sándor Halmi).

**Hungary / West-Germany – July 15, 1956 (OSA)**

Seven Hungarian citizens hijack the plane HA-LIG flying between Budapest-Szombathely-Zalaegerszeg. Their names are József Jakaby, György Polyák, Ferenc Izsák, his wife Emese Izsák, Károly Pintér, József Balla, and Gábor Kiss. The hijackers hit all passengers with metal beams because they knew a member of the secret police would also be present. After gaining control of the plane, Polyák flies the plane to Ingolstadt. All injured persons are admitted into hospital. Among the passengers, Ilona Antal and Béla Horváth also decided to stay in Ingolstadt and request political asylum, even though they were not part of the original plot. Four flight crew members and six other passengers return to Hungary.

**Poland / GDR – July 15, 1956 (OSA)**

A Mass is held in Polish at the St. Joseph's church in Hamburg by the refugee priest Golniewicz. The Mass is attended by over 250 people and a protest meeting is held at the Pinneberg Camp with a collection of contributions to help relatives of the dead.

**Soviet Union – July 17, 1956 (OSA)**

Race Discrimination and Deportations Pogroms against ethnic minorities as a standard practice in the USSR. The Ethnic-Greeks underwent mass arrests, deportations, relocations, forced labor, and other extreme restrictions, for a period from 1935 till also after the end of World War 2. Motions for repatriation to Greece were denied or severely delayed by the Soviet Authorities

**Hungary / Soviet Union – July 18, 1956 (KAC)**

Mikojan, still in Budapest, attends the meeting of the Hungarian Workers' Party CC on July 18-21. Rákosi asks to be removed from his office for medical reasons. On July 21 Mikoyan talks with Imre Nagy about his potential return to politics.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – July 18, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

After the resignation of Mátyás Rákosi, Ernő Gerő is elected First Secretary of the Hungarian Workers' Party. In his speech at the session of the Central Committee Gerő announces that he has written a letter to Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito intending the normalization of the Yugoslav-Hungarian relationship.

**Poland / France – July 18 – 21, 1956 (OSA)**

The 14th Congress of the French Communist Party takes place at Le Havre. Edward Gierek is the chief delegate of the Polish Communist Party and it is thought that the reason for sending him was due to the interest among members of the Congress in the Poznań events. During his stay, Gierek had a bodyguard appointed by the Polish Embassy in Paris and was accompanied by one of the Soviet delegates, Ponomarev, almost all of the time. Gierek initially avoided making definite statements on the subject of the cause of the Poznań uprising. However, at a party given by the TASS correspondent in Paris, he is said to have stated that there was no proof that groups of disreputable people who caused the riot had received directives from abroad but had no doubt acted under the impact of Western propaganda.

**Poland – July 18 – 27, 1956 (OSA)**

The 7th PUWP Central Committee meeting (Plenum) takes place.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt – July 18–19, 1956 (RYN)**

Nasser visits Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito in Yugoslavia. This is the first of Nasser's five visits. The others take place in July 1958, June 1960, August 1961, and May 1963. At the same time, Nehru is also in Yugoslavia. He visits the country three times. The other two dates are July 1955 and September 1961. In the official communiqué of July 19, the three leaders express their commitment to the principles of Bandung and agree on the need for economic development and independence for colonial areas. They express „their sympathy for the desire of the people of Algeria for freedom.” They also support greater efforts to facilitate disarmament, the admission of Communist China to the U.N., and the establishment of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development (SUNFED). It is there that Nasser learns that U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles has abruptly withdrawn the U.S. offer to help Egypt build the Aswan Dam.

**Poland / Soviet Union – July 18–27, 1956 (OSA)**

The 7th Plenary Session of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party takes place. The session is attended by a Soviet delegation with Bulganin, Zhukov and others who make speeches at the session.

**Hungary / U.S. – July 19, 1956 (KAC)**

Péter Kós, the Hungarian minister and the permanent representative of Hungary in the U.N., presents his credentials to President Eisenhower in Washington D.C.

**Poland / France – July 19, 1956 (OSA)**

This confidential report provides details of an encounter that happened between Polish government leaders and twelve members of the French parliament, discussing various topics from May 17 - 21st 1956. The report also contains details of the discussion with the Polish Prime Minister Cyrankiewicz. The topics discussed are: the important issue of disarmament of Germany (point a), the reopening of the French institute in Warsaw (point b), the return of French citizens and the travel of Polish citizens to France (point c), the censorship of many

Polish publications in France and the hope that this will stop (point d) as well as discussing Poland's overall role in international relations. The second part of the report focuses on the speech from the Polish Prime Minister.

#### **Hungary / Yugoslavia – July 21, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

The representatives of Hungary and Yugoslavia sign an agreement on air traffic regulation.

#### **Hungary – July 21, 1956 (OSA)**

Clerk Pál Csatai is robbed of his 26000 HUFs by unemployed József Nagy. The robber attempts to cross over into Austria but is caught by the police.

#### **Soviet Union — July 21, 1956**

A striking difference is observed between the generosity and hospitality of the Russian people and the uncooperative and obstructive way that the Russian authorities confront foreign visitors. The police surveillance of the correspondents and the complicated and hard-to-navigate bureaucratic system put barriers on the free movement of journalists, even within the officially permitted boundaries. These conditions further perplex the unofficial visits to the Soviet Union and reveal the concerns of the authorities about opening up to the outside world.

#### **Poland / France – July 22, 1956 (OSA)**

Several free Polish organisations in France hold a protest meeting against the Poznań terror in Metz.

#### **Poland / Great Britain – July 22, 1956 (OSA)**

The so-called Polish National Day is celebrated in London by the initiative of the Communist "British-Polish Friendship Society" to commemorate the Lublin Committee's Manifesto of July 22 1944. Unlike previous occasions when praises were sung of the Communist Regime and its alleged achievements in welfare and freedom of the working class, this year's celebration had no political emphasis in light of the Poznań uprisings. No mention was made of socialism and its achievements in Poland and the program was not dissimilar to a pre-war celebration of the National Holiday of May 3rd. A team of artists came from Poland for the occasion and gave performances of national dances and songs from the classical pre-war repertoire.

Polish émigrés in London boycotted the show, though purchase of tickets was made difficult as organisers feared counter-demonstrations. Despite this, a demonstration took place in front of the theatre with members of the Polish ex-Combatants Association carrying posters and distributing leaflets to passers-by and those arriving to attend the celebrations.

#### **Hungary / Poland – July 23-August 6, 1956 (KAC)**

A Polish delegation led by Stanislaw Kulczynski, the Vice President of the Parliament, arrives to Budapest.

#### **Soviet Union / U.K. – July 23, 1956 (LBC)**

Eden states in a speech given in the House of Commons that the international situation changed fundamentally the past year and that England will pursue a more flexible policy towards the Soviet Union.

#### **Poland / Lebanon – July 25, 1956 (OSA)**

The Polish-Lebanese trade agreement signed on January 4 1956 is ratified by the Lebanese Council of Ministers. The agreement is thought to have greater political and propaganda than

commercial importance due to the poor quality of goods offered by Poland and the inability of Lebanon to export large quantities of its articles outside of traditional markets.

**Romania – July 25, 1956 (OSA)**

A resistance organization called “The Woods of Free Carpathians” (in Romanian: “Codrii Carpatilor Liberi”), recalls to the people in its manifesto some courageous sermons made by Romanian priests at Easter services, and appeals to the patience and spirit of resistance until the tools of the Soviets will be annihilated.

The leaflet says that the “Soviet monster” is already shaken and that it will soon be doomed. It also mentions the arrested and assassinated priests and concludes with national slogans for the country and the King.

**Soviet Union – July 25, 1956 (OSA)**

The discrimination of Jewish people in the Soviet Union follows typical practices and does not differ from the treatment of other minorities, regarding state-practices.

Despite the claims about the exclusion of Jewish cultural representation in mainstream sources, minorities can still maintain aspects of their cultural identity, despite the pressure for Russification. Zionism is condemned as a reactionary and anti-proletariat movement.

**Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia – July 26, 1956 (OSA)**

Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia sign an economic cooperation pact on July 3, 1956, focusing on scientific-technological cooperation.

**Hungary – July 27, 1956 (KAC)**

Dániel Nagy, the Deputy Chairman of the Presidential Council, meets Christian M. Ravndal, the American minister in Budapest. Rawndal visits also Prime Minister András Hegedüs on July 31.

**Czechoslovakia – July 27, 1956 (OSA)**

Czechoslovakia is recruiting 13,000 new coal miners following a recent fall in production after a good start to the year.

**Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia – July 27, 1956 (OSA)**

The first Czechoslovak merchant navy ship is set to dock at the Yugoslav port of Rijeka, carrying goods including ore.

**Poland / Italy / Israel – July 27, 1956 (OSA)**

A report reaches Radio Free Europe regarding the current wave of antisemitism aimed at driving Jews from key governmental posts. The report describes the great rise in the number of Jews arriving in Rome from Poland and talk of a rise in anti-Semitism since the fall of Berman. In October an option will be given to all Jews of either leaving freely for Israel or staying in Poland. RFE analysis suggests that this latest anti-Semitism is not directed towards all Jews but rather those occupying key positions in public administration. This same anti-Semitism was used as a pretense to remove Berman who up until now had been the strongest man in the Polish Communist Party.

**Hungary – July 28, 1956 (KAC)**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs sends a note to the American legation in Budapest protesting against the balloons sent to the Hungarian air space from West Germany with political messages.

**Soviet Union – 29 July 1956 (OSA)**

Noticeable changes since the war are evident all around the Soviet Union. Moscow, with the newly constructed buildings dedicated to the accomplishments of the Soviet regime and the increase in traffic, is no exception. These changes are attributed in part to the educational progress reported in the USSR. Lastly, the new government makes efforts seem more approachable, with high-level officials making a number of public appearances.

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – July 31, 1956 (KAC)**

The Slovak Parliament accepts the 33/1956 constitutional law about the Slovak national institutions. This states that in Slovakia the national organ of state power is the Slovak National Council, and the governing and executive power is the Deputy's Council, appointed by the Slovak National Council. This is the first constitutional law in Slovakia mentioning the Hungarian minority separately.

**Poland / Greece – July 31, 1956 (OSA)**

Poland and Greece signed a new trade agreement that will expire in a year.

**August****Poland – August, 1956 (UNW)**

Wladyslaw Gomulka returns as a member of the PUWP.

**East Germany – August, 1956 (OSA)**

The Ministry of Education ordered that all history textbooks in elementary and high schools be completely and rapidly withdrawn by the deadline of September 30. East German educators are henceforth forbidden from teaching any content later than 1922 until the issuance of new textbooks, which present “new perspectives” on the history between 1922 and 1956.

**East Germany – early August–September, 1956 (OSA)**

Construction works begin near Finsterwalde, what is to be East Germany's largest ammunition plant to date. The cost of the building project exceeds 20 million East marks.

**Soviet Union / West Germany – August 1, 1956 (OSA)**

USSR Travel Agency “Intourist” offers organized tours from West Germany to various destinations in the USSR, providing travelers with the opportunity to experience life in the Soviet Union. The agency offers a wide range of tour packages and services that vary according to the paying price.

**Poland – August 2, 1956 (OSA)**

Reports reach Radio Free Europe that the Regime has made certain attempts to make life easier in the aftermath of the Poznań Uprising. This has primarily been in the form of price reductions with the, for example, the price of pepper being reduced from 10 to 7 zł per ten-gram package. Regime papers containing self-criticism are very popular with a copy of the farmers' paper “Nowa Wieś ” being in high demand because of its photographs comparing various buildings in 1945 and their state of deterioration in 1956.

**Poland – August 2, 1956 (OSA)**

A new radio set "Stalica" is being manufactured in the Warsaw "Kasprzak" works and is available on the market for 1,400 zł a piece. The same factory produces another new type ("Wola ") and will soon start production of a portable receiver ("Szarotka ").

**Czechoslovakia – August 3, 1956 (OSA)**

Communist Party inner workings are becoming less dogmatic and, slowly, more decentralised although there is some bureaucratic resistance, according to Radio Free Europe's report.

**Poland – August 3, 1956 (OSA)**

Radio Warsaw reports fragments of a speech delivered by Edward Ochab, First Secretary of the PUWP CC who mentioned the 'bourgeois press and hostile radio' referring to Western broadcasts such as Radio Free Europe.

**Poland / Lebanon / Turkey – August 3, 1956 (OSA)**

Information on the diplomatic relation between Poland and the Embassy of Lebanon concerning the proposal of Paszkowski as Polish Minister in Beirut is discussed. No position is provided by Lebanon on this issue. It is specified that the Polish People's League in Cairo will soon become the seat of the embassy and personal and family information is reported of the new minister of People's Poland in Damascus, M. Wilski. In addition, information is provided about the life of Gutkowski, consul of Poland in Istanbul.

**Hungary / Austria / Yugoslavia – August 8, 1956 (KAC)**

Ernő Gerő, the First Secretary of the Hungarian Workers' Party states that relations with Austria are especially important. He appoints Ferenc Münich as the Hungarian minister in Belgrade instead of Sándor Kurimszki.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – August 9, 1956 (KAC)**

The Political Committee of the Hungarian Workers' Party passes a resolution on the normalization of relations with the Alliance of Yugoslav Communists.

**Romania – August 10, 1956 (OSA)**

The source depicts the conditions in prisons, and the story of a young man from Bucharest who is moved from one prison to another. He has been transferred from Baia Spire prison to Jilava prison, where he finds better conditions of work. From Jilava, he is transferred back to Baia Spire, where the inmates are still fighting for better conditions by refusing to work.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – August 10, 1956 (OSA)**

Politika reported about the process of decentralisation which is taking place in Czechoslovakia.

**Poland – August 11, 1956 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report describes the poor condition of railroad workers. Some of the railway conductors are said to earn as little as 600 zł per month with the best wages being enjoyed by engine drivers who profit from a variety of premiums resulting in wages of up to 3,000 zł per month, especially when they know how to economise on fuel by using coal dust. University-educated engineers earn 2,400 zł at most. Premium systems are misused and ticket agents' earnings too greatly depend on the number of railway tickets sold. Officials with university degrees do not earn more than 800 zł a month.



**Poland – August 11, 1956 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report outlines the wages of fishermen and the fishing industry in the Mazury Lake District. Some fishermen, particularly those working in small cooperatives (for example, four men sharing one fishing boat) have the best possibilities for earning earnings. Sometimes these can reach 15,000 zł a month. The report goes on to describe the poor organisation of fishing in freshwater and the misery in the Mazury Lake District. The “Mazurzy”, particularly the inhabitants of East Prussia, are not willing to fraternise with the Polish population. They still speak German and the local administration neglects their needs and also the resources in this part of their country.

**Poland / Turkey / Azerbaijan – August 11, 1956 (OSA)**

Reports reach Radio Free Europe that the Foreign Service School in Warsaw continues its special course about Middle-East countries. Similar studies are also offered in the Oriental Institute of the Warsaw University for military and civil employees of other branches of the state administration. Two Turkish “scholars” who arrived in Warsaw are said to be Communists working for the Soviets on the staff of a radio station broadcasting in Turkish. The visitors delivered in the Oriental Department of the Polish Academy of Science on the subject of Atatürk’s reforms which they criticised as well as on the struggle of Azerbaijan and Gilan peoples against the Persian rule.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt – August 11, 1956 (RYN)**

At a conference convened in London to resolve the Suez crisis, Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito upholds Egypt's right to nationalize a company operating on its territory and asserts that no conference, i. e., the London Conference, have the authority to discuss the legality of Egypt's action.

**Poland / UK / Czechoslovakia / Hungary – August 13, 1956 (OSA)**

Reports reach Radio Free Europe regarding propaganda organisations in Great Britain. It describes that Polish-British Friendship Society, Polish Cultural Institute, and the Warsaw Club are particularly active. Their role is said to be more important and difficult than that of satellite institutions as in Czechoslovakia and Hungary because there are numerous Polish émigré organisations in Great Britain which effectively cripple the activities of Polish pro-Communist societies. In order to mislead these sections of British communist, the Polish-British Communist institutions have to use more subtle means than that of the propaganda used in other satellite regimes.

**Poland – August 14, 1956 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report describes the difficult living conditions of elderly people in Poland. The source interviewed is a widow of a white-collar worker and receives a pension of 110 zł per month which is the price of one liter of milk and two bread rolls a day. Such is the typical position of pensioners in Poland who cannot make ends meet and so many try to work odd jobs to get extra earnings. This includes work as hawkers, giving lessons, or being employed as housekeepers. Many also struggle with obtaining a room for themselves as they are only entitled to 10 square meters and if the room is larger than that, the old person must have a room-mate.

**Hungary / Romania – August 15, 1956 (KAC)**

Hungary and Romania mutually agree to abolish visa requirements.

**Hungary / Romania – August 15–25, 1956 (KAC)**

A Hungarian delegation visits Romania.

**Hungary / Romania – August 16, 1956 (KAC)**

Ferenc Keleti, the new Hungarian ambassador in Bucharest, presents his credentials to the Romanian government.

**Poland – August 18–23, 1956 (OSA)**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Plenary Session of the Polish Youth Association (ZMP) was held and discussed the revolutionary aims of the organization. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Congress of the ZMP will be held in February 1957.

**Yugoslavia/ / Poland – August 19, 1956 (OSA)**

Politika praised Poland's on-going economic development while criticising its past shortcomings. It stated that Poland owed its achievement to the workers who got lack of attention from the government.<sup>7</sup>

**Austria / Czechoslovakia / Hungary – August 21, 1956 (OSA)**

Four passengers aboard the ship Pioneer sailing between Bratislava and Dévény jump into the Danube in an attempt to swim over to the Austrian side. A police boat monitoring escapees started shooting at the men, only one of them manages to enter Austria requesting political asylum. The remaining three have most likely drowned.

**U.S. – August 21, 1956 (LBC)**

The Republican Party's election platform is published. The party's foreign policy platform, among other things, is "to end the injustices of nations divided against their will...subject to foreign domination...We...look forward to the eventual end of colonialism." "Free flow of news, information and ideas" and "exchange of persons" between the "free" and "captive" worlds are Republican Party objectives.

**China / Soviet Union — August 22, 1956 (OSA)**

A plan for joint development of the electric power and navigation potential of the Amur River basin of the Far East was made between the Soviet Union and Communist China. This was broadcasted by the Peiping radio as the Soviet newspaper Izvestia published the outline of the project that was drawn up after lengthy negotiations between both parties. The three major rivers called the Amur, the Argun, and the Ussuri were involved in this project.

**Czechoslovakia – August 22, 1956 (OSA)**

The decentralisation of Czechoslovakia's state administration is taking place slowly and cautiously, with regional and eventually local committees taking on greater responsibilities.

**Soviet Union – August 22, 1956 (OSA)**

It is reported that Ilja Ehrenburg, the former Soviet writer, has been interrogated several times by the Soviet NKVD, as responsible for the act of liquidation of Jewish authors.

Since the war, Ehrenburg has expressed negative views for any kind of Yiddish-language culture within the Soviet Union, and he was a member of the Board of the "Yiddish-Anti-Fascist Committee". He is the only member of the Board that, after the disbandment of the organization and the liquidation of all Board members, remains free.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – August 23, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

A delegation of the National Alliance of Cooperatives, headed by Zoltán Vas, leaves for Yugoslavia.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – August 27, 1956 (OSA)**

The document reports an article of a Yugoslav paper discussing various measures of democratisation and decentralisation occurring in Poland, defined by the author as exaggerated. The report provides information about the administration of the Party and the correlated critics to the work, alongside providing details on the decisions taken during the 7th Plenum and on the gradual participation of workers in management and decisional committees.

**Poland / East Germany – August 28, 1956 (OSA)**

A sharp decrease in the number of Polish tourists from and to Germany is noted. Border officials ascribe this decrease to the restrictions introduced by the Polish Regime in connection with the military games of the Polish Army being currently held in Silesia. Radio Free Europe reports posit that the Regime has become less generous with issuing passports to private travelers after the Poznań uprising.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia / Poland – August 29, 1956 (OSA)**

A newspaper article in the state-owned newspaper Vjesnik compares Poland's and Czechoslovakia's economic strategies, highlighting that Poland faces greater challenges of inequality. Czechoslovakia planned to increase agricultural cooperative investment while Poland would focus on industrial infrastructure and encouraging 'loyal kulaks'.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – August 30, 1956 (KAC)**

Andropov describes the Hungarian situation to the Soviet Communist Party's Presidium. He mentions the critical articles published and the debates of the Petőfi Kör.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – August 30, 1956 (OSA)**

Writing for Yugoslav youth journal, Omladina, a young person who has recently travelled to Czechoslovakia, argues that the over-centralised economy, while bolstering its strength, hampers citizens' living standards although Czechs have a sense their country is superior.

**Romania – August 31, 1956 (OSA)**

The source tells the story of two young Romanians who fought some police officers, among which one died because of the inflicted wounds. After some years of being fugitives they were caught in 1953 by the security police.

**September****Hungary / Yugoslavia – September, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

It is announced that those who were forcefully relocated from the Hungarian-Yugoslav border zone can safely return to their homes.

**Soviet Union / Greece – September, 1956 (OSA)**

Soviet Minister of Internal Trade D.V. Pavlov obtains assurances that the Greco-Soviet Friendship Society would found a Russian language institute in Greece.

**Hungary – September 1, 1956 (OSA)**

János Varga, Antal Babella, Imre Virág, István Sajtos steal a taxi in an attempt to defect. They are caught by the police and sentenced to prison.

**Poland / France - September 2 – 7, 1956 (OSA)**

A meeting of some 30 Polish YMCA leaders from several Western European countries takes place at the YMCA camp near Paris. The group discusses YMCA activity among Polish refugees and emigrants.

**Poland / Hungary / West Germany – September 2–8, 1956 (OSA)**

The International Association of University Professors and Lecturers has organized a plenary session in Munich, where academics from Poland and Hungary were represented.

**Soviet Union / Greece – September 2-4, 1956 (OSA)**

Salonika Fair hosts a Soviet exhibit, including tractors, combines, trucks and automobiles of Soviet origin, and depictions of what consumer goods were available in the USSR.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria - September 4, 1956**

A Yugopress ("semi-official" news agency) commentary dated August 24 criticising Bulgarian developments. The decisions of the 20th Congress of the C.P.S.U. have been met in Bulgaria with a reception which greatly differs from the reception in other East European countries. Bulgaria may be described as belonging among those countries in which the decisions of the 20th Congress provoked the least palpable changes and disturbances.

**Poland – September 5, 1956 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report describes the town of Mielec and its jet plane factory in the southeast of Poland on the banks of the Wisloka river. The famous "WKS" works produces jet planes and interceptors of the Soviet "Mig" type. The plant consists of six large assembly hall, a variety of administrative buildings, and its own airfields for test flights. More than 10,000 workers work in the 57 sections of the plant which is equipped with the most modern machines from East Germany. Skilled workers receive a basic salary of approximately 1,100 zł and subscription to the factory's daily paper "Głos Załogi" (Voice of the Crew) is mandatory for all workers and employees. The Mielec plant is central to the WSK enterprises with local sister factories in Rzeszów and Dębica as well as Psie Pole near Wrocław.

**Poland / Greece – September 5, 1956 (OSA)**

Poland participated in the Salonika Fair with a symbolic exhibition of automobiles, a few models of Christmas decorations, and national costumes.

**Poland – September 5–12, 1956 (OSA)**

The 9<sup>th</sup> session of the Polish Sejm starts, Prime Minister Cyrankiewicz delivers a speech in which he discusses the Poznan uprising and the inability of officials who did not 'react in time to the right demands of workers'.

**Poland / USA / West Germany – September 6, 1956 (OSA)**

Radio Warsaw reported the Polish Press Agency's (PAP) statement on balloons carrying leaflets from Western Europe. The statement cites incidences of balloons interfering with aerial navigation and places the responsibility for the balloons on the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States.

**Poland / Italy – September 6–11, 1956 (OSA)**

The Polish economic delegation attended the International Economic Congress in Rome.

**Hungary / Austria – September 7, 1956 (KAC)**

Austrian Chancellor Julius Raab publishes a declaration about Hungarian-Austrian relations in the *Szabad Nép*.

**Poland / Belgium – September 7, 1956 (OSA)**

The Polish Legation in Belgium and its Communist agencies exploit the disaster at Marcinelle mines in which many Poles lost their lives in order to persuade Polish miners in Belgium to return to Poland.

**Hungary / Romania – September 9, 1956 (KAC)**

Pál Pándi publishes an article titled “On our common things” about the Hungarian minority living in Transylvania after travelling there for a month.

**Soviet Union / USA – September 10, 1956 (OSA)**

The mental state of insecurity and suspiciousness that has prevailed in the last decades is proven difficult to be revoked. Despite the peaceful atmosphere of the Geneva conference and the declaration for the change of policy towards a more friendly attitude, the media propaganda that the United States wants war and the severe censorship practices persist. There is no way of telling if the propaganda convinces the average citizen, however, a tendency to avoid any unnecessary contact with foreigners is observed.

**East Germany – September 11, 1956 (OSA)**

A decrease in membership fees for the Socialist Unity Party (SED) in East Germany is published on the SED newspaper ‘Neues Deutschland’. This was done in hopes that more workers may join the party.

**Poland / Czechoslovakia – September 12, 1956 (OSA)**

A Polish State Tourist Commission travelled to Prague to discuss simplifying travel restrictions for tourism between the two countries.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt – September 13, 1956 (RYN)**

In a note, the Yugoslav government expresses its support to the Government of Egypt for Egypt's handling of the situation and its confidence that the Egyptian government operate the Canal in the interest of the international community.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – September 13-19, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

Hungarian-Yugoslav trade negotiations start in Belgrade.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – September 13, 1956 (OSA)**

A delegation of the PUPW and the Federation of Yugoslav Communists met in Belgrade to develop greater cooperation between the two countries.

**Hungary / Italy – September 14, 1956 (KAC)**

Fabrizio Franco, the new Italian minister in Budapest, presents his credentials.

**Czechoslovakia – September 14, 1956 (OSA)**

Branko Bogunović writes for the League of Communist Youth's newspaper Omladina about his visits to Czechoslovak metallurgical works, noting that although the Lenin Works features images of Stalin rather than Lenin, officials claim this is ‘mere chance’.

**Hungary – September 15–27, 1956 (KAC)**

A delegation of the Hungarian Workers' Party attends the 8th congress of the Chinese Communist Party. The delegation is led by János Kádár, who gives a speech on September 18.

**Poland / Sweden – September 16, 1956 (OSA)**

A Polish exhibit at the St Erik's Fair in Sweden was able to sell the majority of its machinery.

**Hungary – September 19, 1956 (KAC)**

Jacques Lafon de Lageneste, French army attaché, receives a map showing the new map of areas that foreigners cannot visit in Hungary. The area of the new "forbidden zones" is significantly smaller than it used to be.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – September 19, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

The elimination of the technical border defenses on the Hungarian-Yugoslav border is finished.

**Romania – September 19, 1956 (OSA)**

The source depicts the unsuccessful attempt of four detainees. Captain Popa organises the escape from the labour colony of Valea Nistrului. Another captain and two other peasants steal explosives from a barrack and force their way out of the camp by blowing up the door. During the explosion a sentinel is killed. An extensive search is organised outside the prison and the four escapees are re-captured. Captain Popa takes responsibility for the organisation of the escape and the death of the sentinel. He is sentenced to death, while the others are sentenced to 15, 18 and 25 years in prison. After the incident, the conditions in three concentration camps become harsher and the safety measures are improved.

**Romania – September 19, 1956 (OSA)**

A letter from an elderly couple in Bucharest, who are asked whether they are happy. The reply is that their situation can be described in three letters: "S.O.S."

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – September 19-27, 1956 (MOL/LUY/ LKT)**

First Secretary of the CPSU Nikita Khrushchev officially visits Yugoslavia. They discuss a number of ideological issues implying that those issues involve more than bilateral Soviet-Yugoslav relations. From **September 27, 1956**, Tito is in the Crimean Peninsula as a guest of Khrushchev.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – September 20, 1956 (OSA)**

Zadruga published an article about 70,000 Bulgarians that visited one Yugoslav town near the border recently. Some of them went for the visit in order to visit family members that reside on the other side of the border. The others participated because they wanted to visit Yugoslavia. The newspaper also reported that the Bulgarians seemed to be very enthusiastic about Yugoslav products.

**Yugoslavia / Indonesia – September 20, 1956 (RYN)**

Indonesian President Sukarno visits Yugoslavia. This is Sukarno's first of six visits in Yugoslavia. The other visits take place in January 1958, April 1960, June 1961, September 1961, and June 1963.

**Hungary / USA – September 26, 1956 (OSA)**

Hungarian dancer Emese Székely escapes from her troupe visiting New York. The plan is orchestrated by her sister Marguerite Dinka and her husband Stephen Dinka.

**Romania – September 26, 1956 (OSA)**

The Romanian Minister to France and his economic attaché take advantage of the Fair of Strasbourg to make propaganda speeches concerning the necessity of developing French-Romanian trade relations. The fair took place from September 1-16, 1956.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia –September 26, 1956 (OSA)**

A Yugoslav parliamentary delegation returns from Czechoslovakia with only faint praise for the country, noting positive progress since the war but largely aiming simply to emphasize their shared socialist goal.

**Poland – September 27, 1956 (OSA)**

The first trial against participants of the Poznan uprising takes place.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia / U.S. – September 28, 1956 (LBC)**

In relation to Tito's visit to the Soviet Union US Secretary of State Dulles warns that if Belgrade takes steps towards the Soviet Union, U.S. aid to Yugoslavia will be in jeopardy. According to a law passed on July 9 Eisenhower will have until October 16 to decide whether further aid to Yugoslavia is in the interest of the U.S. The one billion dollar aid, the fate of which depends on the President's decision is said to contain 300 jet fighters.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – September 30, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

Tito has an informal meeting with First Secretary of the Hungarian Workers Party Ernő Gerő at Yalta where they arrange the date when the delegation of the Hungarian party and government visits Yugoslavia.

**Poland / Italy / Soviet Union / USA – September 30, 1956 (OSA)**

General Władysław Anders visited the new seat of the Polish War Veterans Association in Rome where he spoke to Polish emigres. The general discusses the present situation in Poland including the various aspects of the relaxation trend and the international situation which he describes as "serious and fluid". General Anders went on to say that "Russia does not want war now, because she is aware of her military and economic shortcomings with regard to the United States. However, Russia continues to stir up small, local wars." The Allies could force Russia back to her old borders without a war, the General continues, but there will be no important moves on the international stage until the presidential elections in the US. The General concluded by urging Poles to keep up their moral and physical conditions as both will be necessary for the fight to free Poland.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – September 30, 1956 (OSA)**

Politika informed about the Czechoslovak workers' confusion regarding trade unions.

**October****Poland – October, 1956 (HDP)**

A liberal periodical *Europa* is established as the result of the de-Stalinization of Polish culture. The first three issues are prepared but never published due to a governmental ban.

**Soviet Union / Warsaw Pact – October, 1956 (RUR)**

The Soviet Union announces that it will examine its troop deployment policy in the Warsaw Pact member states.

**Soviet Union / Romania – October–December, 1956 (RUR)**

The Soviet Union negotiates with Romania about troop withdrawal. No agreement was reached.

**Soviet Union (Estonia) / Sweden – October, 1956 (OSA)**

An excursion group of Soviet-Estonian and Soviet-Russian tourists arrived in Sweden, for the first time since July of the same year.

**Czechoslovakia – October 2, 1956 (OSA)**

Czechoslovakia plans to increase investment in heavy industry by 80% while doubling agricultural investment since agriculture lags behind within the country's heavily-industrialized economy.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – October 2, 1956 (KAC)**

János Boldoczki, the new Hungarian ambassador in Moscow, presents his credentials to Kodica, the Vice Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

**Soviet Union / Greece — October 2, 1956 (OSA)**

The Minister of Internal Trade D.V. Pavlov was reassured by the Greco-Soviet Friendship Society that they would not reinforce their propaganda efforts in Greece, after the Minister's visit to the International Fair of Salonika. The President of the Society, in his speech to a group of Greek officials and businessmen and to the Soviet Representative, reaffirmed the attempts for improving the economic and cultural relations between the Soviet Union and Greece. The Russian Minister recommended the function of a Russian Language Institute in Greece, as a tribute to the countries' relationship. The Prefect of Salonika insisted that the press publish his denial of attending the ceremonies for the Pavlov.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 2, 1956 (LBC/LKT)**

United States Secretary of State Dulles opines at a news conference that Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito did not go to the Soviet Union for vacation but for a discussion on the relationship between the Soviet Union and Eastern European satellites. Dulles declares that there is no sign of Tito having changed his independent policy that is directed at the increased freedom of the satellites.

**Czechoslovakia – October 4, 1956 (OSA)**

In April 1956, the Congress of Czech Writers condemned Stalinist literature. By October, decentralization appears most successful thus far in the Arts.

**Czechoslovakia – October 4, 1956 (OSA)**

By October, vast numbers of young industrial workers have volunteered for the Youth Brigades, which have cultivated 150,000 new hectares of Sudeten land thus far in 1956.

**Poland / Syria – October 4, 1956 (OSA)**

The Polish offer to rebuild the Hejaz railway line was rejected with the presence of some Jews among the technical staff being presented as a reason for the refusal. The Polish State enterprise CEKOP camouflaged as a private company claims an indemnity of \$1 million with part of the Polish staff remaining in Syria looking for other work.



**Hungary / Soviet Union – October 5, 1956 (KAC)**

According to the *Szabad Nép*, the Soviet government will lend 100 million rubles to Hungary in 1957 with 2% interest rate. Hungary will pay back the loan starting from 1960.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – October 5, 1956 (ACY)**

Serbian Orthodox Patriarch Vikentije leaves Belgrade for a three-week official visit in Moscow on the invitation of Russian Orthodox Patriarch Alexei.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 6, 1956 (BBR-KAC)**

László Rajk and his associates, executed for treason in a 1949 show trial, are formally reburied. *Szabad Nép* carries a lengthy front-page article entitled “Never Again” about communists executed seven years before. A crowd of 100,000 attends the funeral. At the demonstration after the funeral the crowd expresses a general support for Yugoslavia.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 6, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

The representatives of Yugoslavia and Hungary come to an understanding on the raising of their respective missions to the level of embassy. The Central Committee of the Hungarian Workers' Party announces that a delegation of Hungarian party and government members leaves for Belgrade on October 15, 1956.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – October 6–7, 1956 (MOL)**

A delegation of the Bulgarian Communist Party visits Belgrade.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 8, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

During a meeting of the Political Committee of the Hungarian Workers' Party, First Secretary Ernő Gerő reports on his meeting with Tito at Yalta on September 30, 1956.

**Poland / India / Soviet Union – October 9, 1956 (OSA)**

Official statistics published by the Indian Government show that Poland supplied the country's goods on behalf of the Soviet Union. These exports amounted to 42,000,000 rupees in the budget year 1954/55, decreasing the next year by 4,000,000 rupees or down by one tenth of the former value of exports. For the same period exports to India from all captive countries are seen to have increased with exports from Russia specifically rising by 250% to 43,000,000 rupees. Shipping circles in London hold the view that the decrease in Polish exports is merely formal and that Poland continues to export the same quantities but these are booked to Russia's credit.

**Soviet Union — October 9, 1956 (OSA)**

The large number of Germans living in Russia - around 1.300.000 - has experienced many relocations since 1926. During World War 2, some were pushed back to the heartland of Russia, notably those that tried to migrate to fascist Germany.

**Czechoslovakia – October 10, 1956 (OSA)**

The new Five-Year Plan will place greater emphasis on agriculture, in a new direction for Czechoslovakia's economic measures since 1953.

**Czechoslovakia – October 11, 1956 (OSA)**

Rumors circulate in Prague that former Foreign Minister Vladimir Clementis, one of the 14 sentenced during the Rudolf Slánský show trial (1952), will be rehabilitated; it is also rumored that others have already been released.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 11, 1956 (KAC)**

Ferenc Münnich, the new Hungarian ambassador in Belgrade, presents his credentials. (He was appointed on August 7 and it took so long to present his credentials.)

**Poland – October 11, 1956 (OSA)**

Polish Vice-Premier H. Minc is dismissed.

**Soviet Union / UK – October 11, 1956 (OSA)**

In his presidential address to Convocation of York, the Archbishop of York, Dr. A. M. Ramsey commented on the relation of Church and State in Russia. He mentioned the friendly welcome that the Patriarch of All Russia, the priests, and the common people had in store for him, as well as the crowding of the churches, with people of all ages and the many vocations to the priesthood. Lastly, he stated that they were not concerned with politics and conveyed their desire of the Russian Church for peace and for unity with the Church of England.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 11, 1956 (LKT)**

U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles meets with U.S. President Dwight Eisenhower and informs him of the State Department's unanimous opinion that the president's finding on aid to Yugoslavia be in the affirmative.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 12, 1956 (KAC)**

A delegation of the trade unions led by Sándor Gáspár visits Yugoslavia and meets Tito.

**Poland – mid-October, 1956 (OSA)**

Reports reach Radio Free Europe of the general chaos and total disorganisation of Polish fishing cooperatives. A great number of boats are yet to receive the most basic equipment for the prevention of accidents on the high seas.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 15, 1956 (LBC)**

President Eisenhower conditionally permits further congressional aide to Yugoslavia, primarily in the form of foodstuffs. The President recommends the suspension of the shipment of jet fighters and other heavy equipment until the situation is clarified (referring to the question whether or not Tito changed his independent policy) .

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 15–22, 1956 (KAC)**

A Hungarian party delegation led by Ernő Gerő stays in Yugoslavia. The Yugoslav negotiating delegation is led by Rankovic. Tito meets the Hungarian delegation on October 16, when all official negotiations end.

**Poland / Soviet Union – October 16, 1956 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report described the types and characteristics of engineers in Poland and their status in the country. The report stresses that many engineers have a positive attitude towards post-war work in their country as they consider their work to be above politics. Typically, engineers (1) are highly esteemed in Poland and are beginning to benefit from the recent exchange of ideas from the West; (2) did not copy the USSR or depend on it for ideas even before the opening of channels of information with the West. Additionally, the report surmises that (3) there is still a struggle between engineers and the Party apparatus; (4) engineers are rather proud of their achievements in post-war Poland despite the problems they have had to face; and (5) humanistic problems are still the most important to various kinds of engineers.

**Poland / Lebanon – October 16, 1956 (OSA)**

The Lebanese Government recognises the Warsaw government as the legal Polish Government, withdrawing the recognition of the exile government in London whilst maintaining the personal diplomatic status of De. Zawadowski, the former Envoy of the Polish exile government. As a result a new Communist agency will now be established in the Middle East country rather than a Western legation. The recognition of the Warsaw government will not affect the status of Polish exiles in Lebanon, and the Warsaw government has given all assurances that no pressure will be exerted upon them. The West did not take any steps to safeguard the position of the Free Polish Legation.

**Yugoslavia – October 16, 1956 (OSA)**

The Yugoslav government suspended Republica, the Yugoslav Republican Democratic Party's newspaper.

**Poland – October 17, 1956 (OSA)**

Minister of Culture Sokorski outlines that jamming radio broadcasts costs around 83 million zloty annually and recommends to the Parliamentary Commission of Education to stop jamming.

**Hungary – October 18, 1956 (OSA)**

On October 15, four passengers travelling on the plane en route to Zalaegerszeg from Budapest attempt to hijack the plane. Sándor Kabók, youngest of the group is killed by a member of the flight crew. AVH officers were also among the passengers since they received a tip from an unknown source.

**Hungary – October 18, 1956 (OSA)**

AVH officers Béla Kemenesi and Gyula Marsi are awarded for their efforts in stopping the hijacking of the plane on the route of Budapest-Szombathely-Zalaegerszeg. The award was given by István Dobi, president of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic. Interior Minister László Piros and under-secretary Károly Fekete were also present during the ceremony.

**Hungary / West Germany – October 19, 1956 (OSA)**

Mihály Schmidt, citizen of the Federal Republic of Germany illegally crosses into Hungary. He is handed back to the FRG by Hungarian authorities after being caught.

**Poland / Soviet Union – October 19–20, 1956 (UNW)**

An uninvited Soviet delegation led by Khrushchev visits Poland. During the meeting Polish politicians convince the Soviet delegation to call back the Soviet army, which was on its way to Poland to intervene in case of an outburst of demonstrations.

**Poland – October 20, 1956 (UNW)**

Wladyslaw Gomulka is elected as the chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist party.

**Poland / U.S. – October 20, 1956 (LBC)**

Eisenhower on the Polish events: "all friends of the Polish people recognize and sympathize with their traditional yearning for liberty and independence. Our hearts go out to all the captive peoples of satellite Europe."

**Romania / Yugoslavia – October 20, 1956 (KAC)**

A Romanian party delegation led by Gheorghiu-Dej visits Tito in Yugoslavia.

**Poland – October 20, 1956 (OSA)**

Wladyslaw Gomulka addressed the PUWP Central Committee members in a speech, this was his first speech in 7 years.

**Poland – October 21, 1956 (OSA)**

Władysław Gomułka becomes First Secretary of the Polish United Workers Party. Besides troubles arising from the state of general unrest, Gomułka is also to face economic difficulties. A Radio Free Europe report (November 12) describes how people are reluctant to work as general discipline deteriorates in society and the population stockpiles food. Physical aggressions against officials and managers of state-owned enterprises are multiplying whilst peasants do not deliver food to towns. The first symptoms of hunger can be seen in towns.

**Poland / Soviet Union – October 21, 1956 (OSA)**

The Polish ship “Oksywie” is stopped by a Russian naval vessel on the way from Copenhagen to Gdynia, with the threat to shoot if “Oksywie” does not show her flag and stop. At this time 27 Russian naval vessels are concentrated in the Bay of Puck.

**Hungary – October 22, 1956 (BBR/HC)**

A large assembly of students from across Hungary ( Budapest, Miskolc Szeged, Pécs, Sopron), convened at the Budapest Technical University, debates the demands put forward by the MEFESZ delegates from Szeged. The first version of a list of 16 points, which become a standard frame of reference during the following days, is adopted. Several other student meetings take place in the capital during the day.

**Hungary – October 22, 1956 (HC)**

The leaders of the Petöfi Circle meet. They suggest in a resolution the leaders of the Hungarian Workers’ Party to meet, allow Imre Nagy and others to enter the central committee of the party, dismiss Mátyás Rákosi from the CC, trial openly Mihály Farkas and review the **December 1955** and **June 30, 1956** resolutions regarding the Circle.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 22, 1956 (KAC)**

A declaration about peaceful Hungarian-Yugoslav relations is signed in the Belje castle.

**Poland / U.S. – October 22, 1956 (LBC)**

Eisenhower promises U.S. aid to Poland and other “freedom-loving” satellites if they “need it and want it and if they can profitably use it”. Dulles gives an interview to CBS television: “I don’t think we would send armed forces to East Germany or Poland to oppose a possible Soviet military moves against the new Polish government.” According to Dulles in the present political situation intervention would be “the last thing the Polish people want.” He claims he does not think that Soviet intervention is likely and states that the U.S. is ready to grant economic aid to Poland.

**Poland / USSR / East Germany – October 22, 1956 (OSA)**

Reports reach Radio Free Europe of a number of Soviet naval units patrolling the Polish coast, including many submarines. A Soviet motorised division is also said to have arrived in the Slubice-Kostrzyn area from East Germany.

**Soviet Union / France / Israel / U.K. – October 22-24, 1956 (KAC)**

Secret meeting of England, France and Israel in Sevres (France) about the Suez war. Christian Pineau, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, reassures the Israelis: the Soviet Union will not get involved, as their most important worry at the moment is Hungary and Poland.

**Hungary – October 23, 1956 (BBR)**

The Hungarian party and government delegation returns from Yugoslavia in the early morning. An expanded meeting of the HWP Political Committee is held to discuss the unfolding socio-political crisis.

**Hungary – October 23, 1956 (BBR)**

*Szabad Nép* publishes a front-page article entitled “New Spring Parade,” welcoming the demands being put forward by the country’s youth.

**Hungary – October 23, 11:00 a.m., 1956 (BBR)**

A student demonstration begins in the university city of Debrecen.

**Hungary – October 23, 1956 (BBR)**

Demonstrations take place in other university cities around Hungary.

**Hungary – October 23, 12:53 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Radio Kossuth broadcasts a statement by the Interior Ministry banning a public demonstration planned for later in the day in Budapest. However, at 2:23 p.m., the decision is reversed and permission for the rally is granted.

**Hungary – October 23, 3:00 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

A student-led march leaves the Petőfi statue on the Pest embankment, crosses the Margaret Bridge and heads for the statue to Polish General Bem on the Buda side of the Danube. Meanwhile, other groups of students march toward the statue along the Buda embankment.

**Hungary – October 23, about 5:00 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

The first protesters arrive in Kossuth Lajos Square in Budapest (5th District). An hour later, the square is filled with a crowd estimated at 200,000. Also, around 5:00, demonstrators gather at the Hungarian Radio building on Bródy Sándor Street (8th District) to read out the students’ 16 points. The force defending the building is strengthened, but some soldiers support the protesters. The siege of the Radio starts at about 10 p.m. and lasts until dawn.

**Hungary – October 23, about 6:00 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

In Debrecen, ÁVH forces fire on demonstrators killing three people--the first casualties of the revolution.

**Hungary – October 23, about 8:00 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

The HWP Central Committee begins an emergency session that continues until dawn. Ernő Gerő requests that Moscow authorize Soviet forces to intervene.

**Hungary – October 23, 9:00 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Nagy delivers a speech from a second-story balcony of the Parliament building. Although intended to respond to demonstrator concerns, it falls well short of expectations, leading the protests to continue.

**Hungary – October 23, 9:37 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Demonstrators on Dózsa György Road (14th District) topple the giant statue of Stalin. There are also attacks during the evening on telephone exchanges, printing presses and several arms factories in various parts of the capital. Late at night, rebels also attack police stations and semi-military and military institutions. The offices of *Szabad Nép* are stormed as well.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – October 23, about 11:00 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

An order is given for Soviet special forces stationed at Székesfehérvár to pacify Budapest.

**Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union / France – October 23, 1956 (KAC)**

The Hungarian revolution starts in the afternoon with mass demonstrations and continues in the evening with armed fights. In the afternoon Ernő Gerő talks on the phone with Andropov and Khrushchev about the possibility of an armed Soviet intervention. The official Hungarian document asking for the intervention is signed later by András Hegedüs (and not by Imre Nagy). This document was later antedated. During the night Soviet troops arrive to Budapest. The French minister announces that the previously “forbidden zones” are from now on allowed to be visited.

**Hungary / Poland – October 23, 1956 (KAC)**

The speech of Gomulka on the 8th congress of the Polish United Workers’ Party is published in the *Szabad Nép* and in the *Szabad Ifjúság*. The demonstrations in Hungary on **October 23** started with the aim of showing solidarity to the Poles.

**Hungary – October 23, 1956 (HC)**

The leaders of the Union of Working Youth support the youth demonstrations organized in Budapest to show sympathy to Poland. They ask the youth to avoid provocation.

**Hungary – October 23, 1956 (HC)**

The Hungarian Writers’ Union sends a resolution to the Hungarian Workers’ Party, demanding that a program for “national unity” is completed and Imre Nagy is allowed to reenter the party leadership.

**Hungary – October 23-24 during the night, 1956 (HC)**

Session of the leaders of the Hungarian Workers’ Party. It is announced that a counterrevolution has started. The members of the Political Committee are reelected. General Secretary: Ernő Gerő. Members: Antal Apró, Sándor Gáspár, András Hegedüs, János Kádár, Gyula Kállai, Károly Kiss, József Köböl, György Marosán, Imre Nagy, Zoltán Szántó. Deputy members: Géza Losonczy, Sándor Rónai. The Presidential Council is suggested to choose Imre Nagy the Chairman of the Council of Ministers.

**Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union / China – October 23–31, 1956 (KAC)**

A Chinese delegation led by Chinese Vice President Liu Sao-chi and Teng Hsiao-ping, the General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, talk about the Polish and the Hungarian situations in Moscow.

**Poland / Israel – October 23, 1956 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report describes anti-Semitism within the Party and government in Poland as well as among the people. It cites recent cases of mass hatred against the Jews of which there are only about 50,000 in Poland compared with 4,000,000 before the war when, according to Jewish emigrant sources, this hatred did not exist. An incident in Łódź in particular is described

where a Jewish butcher was almost lynched by an irate mob on the eve of his departure for Israel because his wife had slapped a street urchin of 13 who threatened her 10-year-old son with a knife. The family was saved by the intervention of the militia. A similar incident took place in Wałbrzych.

#### **Poland / China / North Korea – October 23, 1956 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report outlines higher learning and student problems in Poland. Despite higher learning being free of charge in Poland and students being granted government maintenance scholarships, there has been a sharp drop in the number of enrollments this year. Only 2.5% of all high school graduates have been admitted to schools of higher education which is thought to not only be the result of a decline in the number of candidates owing to economic factors such as the maintenance scholarships being insufficient for even a month's living but is also down to the stiffening of entrance exams. Where last year 200 students were admitted to the first year of "Journalism", this year only 35 were enrolled.

Additionally, the report describes the difficulties met by young activists as they have to devote too much time to so-called "social work" and have practically no time for study. They are also occasionally mobilised to help the government in its propaganda activity with the report giving the example of 30 young university activists who last year spent eight days and nights mailing government informative material on price cuts.

The final part of the report deals with the 2,000 Chinese and Korean students in Poland. These are relatively privileged groups when compared with their Polish peers as they receive 840 zł a month from the Polish government and 400 zł a month from their own embassies, and are not required to support children born out of wedlock to Polish mothers. The maximum subsidy allotted to Polish students is 450 zł a month.

#### **Poland – October 23, 1956 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report describes the town of Dębica in the southeast of Poland and the industrial district to which the town is the center. The largest plant in Dębica is the synthetic rubber factory which is of great importance to the Polish armament industry. The factory receives large quantities of alcohol for the production of synthetic rubber with the alcohol being smuggled from the factory's storehouses to Czechoslovakia. The rubber manufactured here is supplied to the Polish Armed Forces as well as Romania and Bulgaria.

#### **Poland – October 23, 1956 (OSA)**

A mass meeting takes place in Łódź where the population expresses its hatred of the Communist regime and the Russians. The press account appearing the next day provided a censored representation of the evening and provoked indignation of the Łódź population.

#### **Hungary – October 24, 3:00-4:00 a.m., 1956 (BBR)**

The first Soviet armored units enter the capital.

#### **Hungary – October 24, early morning, 1956 (BBR)**

Rebel forces occupy the Radio building. However, government broadcasting has already moved to the Parliament building.

#### **Hungary – October 24, 8:13 a.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Hungarian Radio announces that the HWP Central Committee has confirmed Ernő Gerő as first secretary. Nagy is to be prime minister, with the incumbent András Hegedüs as his deputy.

**Hungary – October 24, 8:45 a.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Hungarian Radio declares a state of emergency. Factories and schools are closed. Trains continue to run, and basic food supplies as well as utilities are available more or less continuously during the coming weeks.

**Hungary – October 24, noon, 1956 (BBR)**

Rebels temporarily occupy the Athenaeum Press.

**Hungary – October 24, 12.10 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Speaking on the radio, Nagy appeals for calm and an end to the fighting.

**Hungary – October 24, 1956 (BBR)**

Fighting continues in the neighborhood of the radio station. A fire breaks out in the natural history section of the National Museum during the afternoon, burning part of it down.

**Hungary – October 24, 1956 (BBR)**

ÁVH forces open fire on marchers at Roosevelt Square near the Ministry of Interior (5th District). Soviet soldiers fire on demonstrators outside Székesfehérvár Town Hall. Six lives are lost.

**Hungary – October 24, 1956 (BBR)**

The first workers' council in Budapest is formed.

**Hungary – October 24, 1956 (BBR)**

Groups of rebels form in Baross Square (7th and 8th Districts), in the southern parts of the 8th and 9th Districts, at Corvin Passage (8th District), and in Tompa Street (9th District) and Berzenczey Street (9th District).

**Hungary – October 24, 1956 (BBR)**

Insurrectionists seize large quantities of arms from the Bem Square barracks (2nd District).

**Hungary – October 24, 1956 (BBR)**

Extra Soviet troops are transferred to Hungary from the USSR and Romania. TASS issues a statement in Moscow announcing the defeat of the “counter-revolutionary uprising”.

**Hungary – October 24, 8.45 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

János Kádár, speaking on the radio, terms the events a counter-revolution.

**Hungary / Romania – October 24, 1956 (KAC)**

In Romania the state announces general emergency because of the Hungarian revolution. All borders are closed. Hungarian university students organize a demonstration in Cluj, but it cannot succeed because of the ethnic problems.

**Hungary / Poland – October 24, 1956 (KAC)**

Gomulka announces to the hundreds of thousand Poles at the Warsaw popular assembly that the Soviet troops will return home. He asks the people to “stop the demonstrations and return to work”. After the assembly a few thousand students and workers go to the Hungarian embassy to express their solidarity with the Hungarians.



**Poland – October 24, 1956 (PLC)**

Gomulka announces that “all independent countries have the right to govern themselves”.

**Poland – October 24, 1956 (PSN)**

Almost 400,000 people gather on Parade Square near the palace of culture where they are addressed by Gomulka who urges them to stop meetings and demonstrations.

**Poland – October 24, 1956 (PSN)**

A new electoral law is passed allowing for lists to exceed the number of posts by two thirds.

**Poland – October 24, 1956 (OSA)**

Gomulka addresses the population of Warsaw calling for confidence in the army and for reducing anti-Soviet demonstrations.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – October 24, 1956 (KAC)**

At noon Mikojan and Suslov from the Presidency of the Soviet Communist Party arrive in Budapest.

**Hungary – October 24, 1956 (HC)**

It is announced that those who stop the armed fighting by 2pm will not be punished. The deadline is later changed to 6pm.

**Hungary – October 25, 1956 (BBR)**

Soviet and Hungarian units reoccupy the Radio building in the early morning hours. The first revolutionary newspaper appears under the title *Igazság* ("Truth").

**Hungary – October 25, 1956 (BBR)**

Rebels occupy the main police station in the 9th District.

**Hungary – October 25, about 11:15 a.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Soviet and Hungarian forces guarding the Parliament building open fire on some 8,000–10,000 people gathered in Kossuth Square. Between 60 and 80 lives are lost; 100–150 people are injured.

**Hungary – October 25, 1956 (BBR)**

Demonstrators carrying “bloody banners” protest against Ernő Gerő, the Soviet intervention and the bloodshed in front of Parliament.

**Hungary – October 25, 12:32 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

A communiqué from the HWP Political Committee is read over the radio. Ernő Gerő has been dismissed and János Kádár who was imprisoned during Rákosi, has been appointed party first secretary. Colonel Pál Maléter, in command at the Kilián Barracks (8th District), reaches a ceasefire agreement with the Corvin Passage rebels.

**Hungary / Romania – October 25, 1956 (BBR)**

A Soviet division of reinforcements arrives from Romania as protests unfold in villages and towns across Hungary.

**Hungary – October 25, 1956 (BBR)**

The University Revolutionary Student Committee is established at the Arts Faculty of the Eötvös Loránd University.

**Hungary – October 25, 1956 (BBR)**

Workers councils are formed at the Csepel Iron and Metal Works in Budapest (21st District).

**Hungary – October 25, 1956 (BBR)**

Serious fighting takes place at the intersection of Grand Boulevard (Nagykörút) and Üllői Road, in Corvin Passage (8th District).

**Hungary – October 25, 1956 (BBR)**

Rebels fire a mortar at the radio transmitters at Lakihegy.

**Hungary – October 25, 1956 (BBR)**

The Borsod County Workers' Council forms in the important industrial city of Miskolc. The major factories and the University of Miskolc send a delegation to Nagy led by the county-level party first secretary.

**Hungary – October 25, 1956 (HC)**

The Imre Nagy government is formed. Deputy Chairmen of the Council of Ministers: Antal Apró, József Bognára and Ferenc Erdei. State minister: Zoltán Tildy. Ministers: Miklós Ribiánszky (State Farms), Sándor Czottner (Mining and Energy), Antal Gyenes (State Collection), János Tausz (Internal Trade), Ferenc Münnich (Interior), Antal Babics (Health), Rezső Nyers (Food), Antal Apró (Construction), Béla Kovács (Agriculture), Károly Janza (Defense), Erik Molnár (Justice), János Csergő (Furnace and Machine Industry), Józsefné Nagy (Light Industry), Lajos Bebrits (Transportation and Post), József Bognár (Foreign Trade), Imre Horváth (Foreign), György Lukács (Culture), Albert Kónya (Education), István Kossa (Finance), Ferenc Nezvál (City and Village Economy), Gergely Szabó (Chemical Industry). Chairman of the Planning Office: Árpás Kiss.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 25, 1956 (KAC)**

In front of the Yugoslav Embassy in Budapest the crowd expresses its support to Tito and Yugoslavia. They demand the ambassador to convince the U.N. to force the Soviet army out of Hungary.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – October 25, 1956 (KAC)**

Khrushchev meets Micunovic, the Yugoslav ambassador in Moscow and asks him to inform Tito about the Soviet government's view on the situation in Hungary. Micunovic meets Tito in Belgrade on **October 29**.

**Hungary / U.S. – October 25, 1956 (LBC)**

Communiqué by President Eisenhower: the Hungarian uprising "is a renewed expression of the intense desire for freedom long held by the Hungarian people." According to Dulles the "captive peoples" could "draw upon our abundance to tide themselves over the period of economic adjustment...as they rededicate their productive efforts to the services of their own people rather than the service of exploiting masters." The Secretary of State states that aid will not be made contingent upon the introduction of any given social system. In his speech in Dallas he rules out the possibility of military aid from the part of the U.S. and declares that the doctrine of massive retaliation cannot be employed in every situation. Democratic presidential candidate

Stevenson on Eisenhower's policy: the U.S. was "caught off guard" by the Polish and Hungarian events in contrast to the Republican claim that the Hungarian and Polish events are evidently "a clear-result of the new U.S. foreign policy."

**Poland – October 25, 1956 (OSA)**

The Polish government has undergone several changes, Prime Minister Cyrankiewicz proposed changes such as abolishing the position of First Deputy Prime minister. Several deputy Prime Ministers have also been dismissed.

**East Germany / Hungary – October 25, 1956 (OSA)**

At the news of the Hungarian revolution starting on October 23, a student protest demanding permission to form a cross-faculty student organization (independent of the Socialist Unity Party, of the Free German Trade Unions, and of the Free German Youth movement) took place at the Humboldt University in East Berlin. It gathered approximately 140 students.

**Hungary – October 26, 1956 (BBR)**

Various national and workers' councils spring up in cities such as Győr, Debrecen, Veszprém and Nyíregyháza.

**Hungary – October 26, 1956 (BBR)**

Demonstrations and fighting continue to spread around the country. In the city of Kecskemét, volleys fired by soldiers claim three lives early in the day while by evening a battle breaks out during which MiG 15 fighters strafe the city's Gypsy quarter. Rebel forces make considerable inroads despite the number of casualties. In the afternoon, rebels occupy the Csepel police headquarters in Budapest (21st District).

**Hungary – October 26, 4:13 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Hungarian Radio broadcasts a statement by the HWP Central Committee promising a new, national government, Hungarian-Soviet negotiations conducted on an equal basis, elections for factory workers' councils, pay raises, and economic and political changes.

**Hungary – October 26, 5:32 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Hungarian authorities broadcast an amnesty declaration by the Presidential Council. It applies to everyone who lays down their arms by 10:00 p.m.

**Hungary – October 26, 1956 (BBR)**

Rebel groups form in the Thököly Road-Dózsa György Road area (7th District) and at Széna Square (2nd District). Rebels occupy Móricz Zsigmond Square (11th District), and the Danuvia Arms Factory.

**Hungary – October 26, 1956 (BBR)**

Border guards at Mosonmagyaróvár fire on demonstrators, killing 52 and wounding 86. Soldiers fire on demonstrators in Esztergom, causing 15 deaths and at least 50 injuries. At Zalaegerszeg, police and party functionaries shoot into the crowd. There are fatalities and injuries in Nagykanizsa when volleys are fired from the party headquarters. ÁVH troops also fire on demonstrators in Miskolc. And in Miskolc and in Mosonmagyaróvár, the insurgents lynch several officers.

**Hungary / U.N. – October 26, 1956 (BBR)**

The United States, Britain and France jointly propose that the U.N. Security Council convene to discuss the Hungarian question. Pope Pius XII in Rome issues an encyclical on the uprising and prays for a rebel victory.

**Hungary / Romania – October 26, 1956 (RCW)**

The Politburo of the PMR meets to discuss the events in Hungary and adopt measures to prevent a possible spill-over of the uprising to Romania.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / France – October 26, 1956 (KAC)**

Christian Pineau, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, in Paris announces: “The Soviet government made a mistake when it sent the army against the Hungarian peasants and workers. Still, we cannot take advantage of the situation... France should not take sides in the events happening in Eastern Europe.”

**Hungary / Poland – October 26, 1956 (KAC)**

The Polish Radio asks the Poles to give blood for the “Hungarian brothers”. The whole Polish society unites to help the Hungarian revolution. This day supplies of medicine and blood are sent to Budapest. This is the first and actually the most important support given to Hungary from abroad during the days of the revolution.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 26, 1956 (KAC/MOL)**

The Yugoslav government welcomes the appointment of Imre Nagy as Prime Minister of Hungary and János Kádár as First Secretary of the Hungarian Workers' Party with the assumption that they would fulfil the public's demand.

**Hungary / U.K. – October 26, 1956 (KAC)**

The British embassy in Budapest asks the British government not to promise anything to Hungary to avoid Western armed intervention.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – October 26, 1956 (KAC)**

The Presidency of the Soviet Communist Party starts a debate about the situation in Hungary. This debate will be continued on **October 28**.

**Hungary / Italy – October 26, 1956 (KAC)**

Gaetano Martino, the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, expresses the solidarity of the Italian government with the Hungarians and their disapproval of the Soviet intervention.

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – October 26, 1956 (KAC)**

The Political Committee of the Czechoslovak Workers' Party orders all armed forces and the national worker guards to be ready to fight as a response to the Hungarian situation.

**Poland / Great Britain – October 26, 1956 (OSA)**

Exports of Polish coal to Great Britain reached a peak in 1955, amounting to approximately 1,500,000 tons and the 750,000 tons quota for this year has already been met. The quality of Polish coal is seen by British trade circles as very satisfactory.

**Hungary / Poland – October 26-27, 1956 (KAC)**

The Polish trade unions, the collectives at the workplaces and the institutes of higher education publish a joint declaration of solidarity with the Hungarians. Polish doctors and nurses volunteer

to help the injured in Budapest. In front of the Hungarian Institutes in Warsaw and Krakow Polish university students are the honorary guards. Demonstrations are held everywhere in the country. In many cities and towns Hungarian flags are put out to the windows. The Polish media supports the Hungarian revolution also.

**Hungary – October 27, 1956 (BBR)**

The revolution continues to unfold in Hungary. In Budapest and elsewhere, rebels seize or hold onto key facilities such as police stations and local party and government headquarters while mounting sporadic attacks against Soviet and Hungarian army detachments. On the Romanian border, local residents take up railroad tracks to impede further Soviet troop advances into the country. Heavily outgunned, the insurrectionists continue to sustain sizeable losses. The first aid shipments from the International Red Cross arrive.

**Hungary / Austria – October 27, 1956 (KAC)**

The Austrian embassy in Budapest offers to receive and distribute the aid packages. The Austrian government closes the Hungarian-Austrian borders for foreign citizens.

**Hungary – October 27, 1956 (HC)**

Armed fighting and terrorist actions in Miskolc and Ózd.

**Hungary – October 27, 1956 (HC)**

In Csepel and Angyalföld worker battalions are formed to defend the workers' power.

**Hungary – October 27, 1956 (HC)**

An armed group liberates the prisoners of the prison in Vác.

**Hungary – October 27, 11:18 a.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Hungarian Radio announces the composition of the new government.

**Hungary – October 27, 1956 (BBR)**

Free Győr Radio begins broadcasting. Other than the Western radios (RFE and the BBC), this station becomes the most important source of information for the public until **October 30**.

**Hungary / U.N. – October 27, 1956 (BBR-KAC)**

The U.N. representatives of the United States, Britain and France hold a series of secret discussions on the Hungarian uprising, lasting **until November 3**. They ask the UN Security Council to discuss the situation in Hungary. The representative of Yugoslavia raises objections when the Security Council votes.

**Eastern Europe / U.S. – October 27, 1956 (BBR)**

In a major address in Dallas, Texas, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles declares that the United States does not regard the Eastern European states as potential military allies.

**Hungary – October 28, 1956 (BBR)**

Soviet forces attack the Corvin Passage unit at dawn, but are repelled. New groups of insurgents form in the capital's 8th District. Across Hungary, slain revolutionaries are buried as rebel attacks and army counterattacks continue.

**Hungary – October 28, 1:20, 1956 (BBR)**

Hungarian Radio announces the cease-fire.

**Hungary – October 28, 2:00 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

The new government is sworn in. It duly approves the government statement put forward by Prime Minister Nagy which seeks to meet many of the revolutionaries' demands. Besides remedying past grievances, the program promises the legalization of revolutionary organizations and the immediate withdrawal of Soviet forces from Budapest. This indicates a fundamental turn in the party's policy.

**Hungary – October 28, 5:25 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Nagy broadcasts the government program on the radio.

**Hungary – October 28, 1956 (BBR)**

The most seriously compromised Hungarian party leaders, including Ernő Gerő, András Hegedüs, István Bata, László Piros, Erzsébet Andics, Andor Berei and István Kovács, flee overnight to Moscow aboard Soviet planes. *Pravda* reports on the Hungarian revolution under the headline "Collapse of the Anti-People's Adventure".

**Hungary – October 28 10:00 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

The new government lifts the curfew. A radio announcement calls on young people to join the National Guard that is being organized.

**Hungary – October 28, 1956 (BBR)**

The Revolutionary Committee of the Hungarian Intelligentsia, the Buda University Revolutionary Committee and the Revolutionary Party of Hungarian Youth are established.

**Hungary – October 28, 1956 (BBR)**

The free communist Róka (Fox) Radio is established at the 20th District party headquarters.

**Hungary – October 28, 1956 (BBR)**

The Hegyeshalom frontier crossing into Austria is closed.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – October 28, 1956 (BBR)**

Khrushchev reports on Hungary to the CPSU CC Presidium, which decides to reinforce the troops stationed in the country.

**Hungary – October 28, 1956 (BBR)**

The U.N. Security Council places the "Hungarian situation" on its agenda.

**Czechoslovakia / GDR / Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – October 28, 1956 (BBR)**

Hungary receives offers of aid from the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, the GDR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, the United States, Austria and other countries, and by agencies of the International Red Cross.

**Hungary – October 28, 1956 (HC)**

Session of the leaders of the Hungarian Workers' Party in the morning. Because of the exceptional situation, the power is given to a presidency of six people: János Kádár, Antal Apró, Károly Kiss, Ferenc Münnich, Imre Nagy and Zoltán Szántó.

**Hungary – October 28, 1956 (HC)**

The *Szabad Nép* publishes an article titled *Faithful to the truth*. According to this article, this is not a counterrevolution, but a national democratic movement. The fighting is not against the system, but for socialist democracy and independence.

**Hungary – October 28, 1956 (HC)**

At 7pm Imre Nagy talks on the radio. This is the first time when he publicly expresses his support of the revolutionaries. He announces that the Soviet troops will be pulled out of Budapest and negotiations will start to agree on the date when they leave the country. The State Protection Authority will be abolished. Wages and pensions will be raised.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – October 28, 1956 (BER/KAC)**

The Security Council of the United Nations, by request of the United States, Great Britain, and France, puts the Hungarian question to its agenda. The representative of Yugoslavia abstains from voting.

**Hungary / Poland – October 28, 1956 (KAC)**

Gomulka asks Marian Naszkowski, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Artur Starewicz, member of the Polish United Workers' Party, to travel to Budapest to see the real situation. They are also asked to make sure the Hungarian revolution does not turn too right-wing. The Polish delegates meet the Hungarian leaders twice. They do not agree with Ernő Gerő's move to call in the Soviet army. They also meet Mikojan and Suslov, and on October 30 they return to Warsaw.

**Hungary / Austria – October 28, 1956 (KAC)**

The Austrian government's special meeting demands the Soviets to stop fighting in Hungary. Austria informs about this demand the U.N. Security Council and the leaders of the great powers.

**Hungary – October 28, 1956 (KAC)**

The British government ensures Hungary of their sympathy and offers 25 thousand pounds for the support of the needy. The public British declaration stated that the Soviet Union should not have got involved with the internal political problems in Hungary and the Soviet army should leave immediately.

**Hungary – October 28, 1956 (KAC)**

XII. Pius in his letter titled *Luctuissimus Eventus* states that he does not agree with the violence in Hungary. He asks all believers to pray for the success of the Hungarian revolution.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – October 28-December 2, 1956 (KAC)**

The Czechoslovak party organizations demand the publishers of the *Új Szó* to circulate the paper's special edition in Hungary too.

**Hungary / France / U.K. / U.S. / U.N. – October 28, 1956 (LBC)**

At the recommendation of the U.S., France and Great Britain the U.N. Security Council discusses the Hungarian situation.

**Hungary / Austria – October 28, 1956 (NMC)**

Figl, the Austrian Foreign Minister meets the Hungarian minister to Vienna to discuss the Hungarian situation.

**Poland – October 28, 1956 (PLC)**

Wyszynski, the head of the Polish Catholic Church, is released from prison.

**Hungary – October 29, 1956 (BBR)**

Revolutionary committees and workers councils grow in numbers all over the country.

**Hungary – October 29, 1956 (BBR)**

Further clashes between Soviet troops and insurgents occur in the 8th and 9th Districts of Budapest. The 7th District party headquarters is occupied. The leaders of the Corvin Passage rebels begin combining groups in the area to a point where the number of organized rebels reaches 1,000–1,200.

**Hungary – October 29, 1956 (BBR)**

At Záhony, on the Hungarian border with the Soviet Union, the entrance to a railway station is blown up. Several locomotives are incapacitated.

**Hungary – October 29, 1956 (BBR)**

Talks with rebel representatives are held at the Ministry of Defense in Budapest. At about 8:00 p.m., cease-fire talks begin in Corvin Passage, and later at Budapest Police Headquarters, between the police and military and the insurrectionists.

**Hungary – October 29, 1956 (BBR)**

The Hungarian National Revolutionary Committee moves onto the premises of *Szabad Nép*.

**Hungary – October 29, 1956 (BBR)**

Hungarian Radio announces that Soviet forces will commence withdrawal from Budapest the following day. Hungarian troops begin to replace Soviet guards at public buildings.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / U.S. – October 29, 1956 (PLC)**

The United States informs the Soviet Union that they can decide freely what to do with the Hungarian situation.

**Hungary / Austria – October 29, 1956 (NMC)**

Ferenc Nagy, former Hungarian Prime Minister, arrives to Vienna. He is asked to leave immediately by the Austrian authorities.

**Hungary / Poland – October 29, 1956 (KAC)**

The *Szabad Nép* and all other important Polish newspaper publish the declaration of the Polish United Workers' Party to the Hungarian people, in which Gomulka and Josef Cyrankiewicz state that they support the government and the program of Imre Nagy.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 29, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

Tito sends an open letter to the leaders of the Hungarian Workers' Party, stating he supports the **October 28** declaration of the Imre Nagy government. He also states that the violence must be ended in Hungary and the institutions of socialism must be restored.

**Hungary – October 29, 1956 (KAC)**

Demonstrations and popular assemblies organized in all major Italian cities, protesting against the Soviet intervention in Hungary.



**Poland – October 29, 1956 (PSN)**

Cardinal Wyszyński is released from imprisonment and returns to Warsaw.

**Poland – October 29, 1956 (OSA)**

Cardinal Wyszyński is released from prison.

**Hungary – October 30, 7:20 a.m., 1956 (BBR)**

The Defense Ministry announces on the radio that the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Budapest will continue.

**Hungary – October 30, 1956 (BBR)**

A fire fight breaks out between rebels and guards at the headquarters of the HWP Budapest Committee in Köztársaság Square (8th District). After the rebels storm the building, suffering considerable losses in the process, 23 of the defenders either die in the siege or are subsequently lynched by the crowd.

**Hungary – October 30, 2:30 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Nagy announces on the radio the end of the one-party system and the formation of a coalition government. Minister of State Zoltán Tildy declares that the compulsory-delivery system for farm produce has been abolished and that preparations are being made for free elections.

**Hungary – October 30, 1956 (BBR)**

The government recognizes the local self-governing bodies created during the revolution.

**Hungary – October 30, 1956 (BBR)**

In Budapest, the Széna Square rebels occupy the ÁVH barracks in Maros Street (12th District), a national guard unit is formed in the 8th District, and several political prisoners are freed from the National Prison.

**Hungary – October 30, 1956 (BBR)**

The Smallholders' (FKgP), Social Democratic (SZDP) and National Peasants' (NPP) parties are re-established.

**Hungary – October 30, 1956 (BBR)**

The Újpest National Committee sends out armed men to release Cardinal Mindszenty from house arrest in Felsőpetény. His ÁVH guards disperse and he is accompanied to the barracks in nearby Rétság before the detachment from Újpest arrives.

**Hungary – October 30, 1956 (BBR)**

Revolutionary committees continue to be elected in more towns around the country while organization of national guard units continues in several locations. The free Vörösmarty Radio begins broadcasting in the town of Székesfehérvár. The Transdanubian National Council forms in Győr. A communist "officials' brigade" is set up in Salgótarján.

**Hungary – October 30, 1956 (BBR)**

The International Red Cross begins relief flights of aid to Budapest. The air bridge operates until the onset of the second Soviet occupation.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – October 30, 1956 (BBR)**

Hard-liners in Moscow are pushed into the background at a meeting of the CPSU CC Presidium. The prospects for a peaceful settlement of the Hungarian crisis are at their strongest at this point.

**Hungary / Poland – October 30, 1956 (BBR)**

Demonstrations and rallies take place throughout Poland in support of the Hungarian revolution.

**Hungary / Austria – October 30, 1956 (BBR)**

Austria seals its borders. Only relief supplies and journalists are allowed to pass into Hungary.

**Soviet Bloc – October 30, 1956 (HC/KAC)**

The Soviet Union announces a statement about its relations with the European socialist states. It is stated that the Soviet Union is ready to discuss with the governments of Eastern Europe the ways to strengthen their sovereignty based on mutual interest and equality.

**Hungary – October 30, 1956 (HC)**

Imre Mező, secretary of the Hungarian Workers' Party, dies in the fighting.

**Hungary – October 30, 1956 (HC)**

The National Peasants' Party starts to reorganize itself.

**Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – October 30, 1956 (HC)**

Gomulka announces that Polish and Soviet leaders met in Budapest and reached an agreement regarding the Hungarian situation.

**Hungary / Romania – October 30, 1956 (KAC)**

Student demonstrations in Timisoara. The state security forces take 2000 students from the university and lock them temporarily in the Soviet barrack of Kisbecskerek.

**Hungary / Poland / Yugoslavia – October 30, 1956 (KAC)**

Zoltán Szántó leaves his wife at the Polish embassy in Budapest. From here she will be taken to the Yugoslav embassy on **November 4**.

**Hungary / Poland – October 30, 1956 (KAC)**

Lajos Ács, former Secretary of the Hungarian Workers' Party, asks to be allowed to hide at the Polish embassy. Dezső Révai, József Révai and the brother of Emma Révai (wife of Zoltán Szántó) do the same.

**Hungary – October 30, 1956 (NMC)**

Imre Horváth, the Hungarian Foreign Minister, leaves to New York travelling through Vienna.

**Hungary – October 30, 1956 (NMC)**

Péter Kós, the UN representative of Hungary, is dismissed.

**Hungary / U. S. – October 30, 1956 (NMC)**

Endre Sík, Hungarian deputy Foreign Minister, travels to New York.

**Hungary – October 30, 1956 (NMC)**

Miklós Horthy calls the UN and asks the organization to protect human rights in Hungary.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – October 30, 1956 (OSA)**

The radio station of the Soviet army informs of the imminent arrival of reinforcements to strengthen its units in the German Democratic Republic.

**Hungary – October 31, 6:00 a.m., 1956 (BBR)**

A procession consisting of soldiers from Rétság and armed rebels from Újpest escorts Cardinal Mindszenty from Rétság, arriving at Buda Castle at 9:00 a.m.

**Hungary – October 31, 1956 (BBR)**

The Revolutionary National Defense Commission (FHB) is formed at the Defense Ministry.

**Hungary – October 31, 1956 (BBR)**

Béla Király is appointed commander-in-chief of the National Guard and military commander of Budapest. Pál Maléter is named first deputy to the defense minister, and István Kovács chief of staff. The Revolutionary Committee of the Armed Forces (FKB), overseeing the National Guard, is established at the Kilián Barracks (8th District).

**Hungary / Soviet Union – October 31, about noon, 1956 (BBR)**

The withdrawal of Soviet forces from Budapest is completed.

**Hungary – October 31, 1956 (BBR)**

The HWP Presidium declares the party dissolved. A new party, the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party (HSWP), is founded.

**Hungary – October 31, 1956 (BBR)**

The Christian Democratic People's Party and Hungarian Peasants' Association are re-established. The National Peasant Party (NPP) is also recreated under the name "Petőfi Party," after senior party officials reject the leadership of Ferenc Erdei who re-organized the NPP at a meeting the day before.

**Hungary – October 31, 1956 (BBR)**

A delegation of the Transdanubian National Council negotiates with Nagy and Tildy.

**Hungary – October 31, 1956 (BBR)**

Free Csokonai Radio and Free Debrecen Radio begin broadcasting.

**Hungary – October 31, 1956 (BBR)**

During the night, additional Soviet troops enter Hungary.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – October 31, 1956 (BBR)**

*Pravda* publishes a Kremlin declaration on conducting relations with Eastern Europe on the basis of mutual equality and respect. The publication is taken by many as a sign that the Hungarian crisis will be resolved peacefully.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – October 31, 1956 (BBR)**

Khrushchev unexpectedly talks about Hungary at the meeting of the Presidium of the Soviet Communist Party (the meeting was originally called to discuss about the Polish government). He states: "We have to reconsider our decision. We should not pull out the army from Hungary, we should rather stay and restore the order."

**Hungary – October 31, 1956 (BBR)**

In Washington, President Eisenhower delivers an address over radio and television expressing his admiration for the Hungarian people. At the same time, he assures the Soviet Union that the United States does not view either the new Polish or the new Hungarian leadership as potential allies.

**Hungary – October 31, 1956 (BBR)**

Student demonstrations supporting the Hungarian revolution take place in several Transylvanian cities of Romania.

**Hungary – October 31, 1956 (HC)**

Imre Nagy gives a speech in front of the Parliament. He states that he did not know that the Soviet troops were asked to invade. He announces that Hungary will withdraw from the Warsaw Pact.

**Hungary – October 31, 1956 (HC)**

The Imre Nagy government is changed. State ministers: Zoltán Tildy János Kádár and Géza Losonczy. Minister of Defense: Pál Maléter.

**Hungary / Romania – October 31, 1956 (KAC)**

In Timisoara more than a thousand university students demand that their classmates arrested on **October 30** are released. The army and the Securitate surround them between the orthodox cathedral and the Opera square and lock them in the Kisbecskerek barrack also.

**Hungary / Austria – October 31, 1956 (KAC)**

The Hungarian government discusses what to do with the armed immigrants returning to Hungary from Austria.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 31, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

Imre Nagy, Prime Minister of Hungary meets Yugoslav ambassador Dalibor Soldatić.

**Hungary – October 31, 1956 (KAC)**

Ottó Habsburg asks President Eisenhower in a telegram to give back to the “freely elected” representatives of Hungary the crone of Saint Stephen.

**Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – October 31, 1956 (KAC)**

Khrushchev unexpectedly talks about Hungary at the meeting of the Presidency of the Soviet Communist Party (the meeting was originally called to discuss about the Polish government). He states: “We have to reconsider our decision. We should not pull out the army from Hungary, we should rather stay and restore the order.”

**Hungary / Soviet Union – October 31, 1956 (KAC)**

Imre Nagy sends a telegram to the Highest Council of the Soviet Union, announcing that he would like to start the negotiations with the Soviets about when the Soviet army will leave Hungary.

**Hungary – October 31, 1956 (KAC)**

The Italian Ministers’ Council, the Actio Catholica and the Christian Democrats celebrate the victory of the Hungarian revolution.

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – October 31, 1956 (KAC)**

The Csemadok (Hungarian Cultural Association in Slovakia) announces in the *Új Szó* that they do not agree with the aims of the Hungarian revolution. They state that the Hungarian minority living in Czechoslovakia has nothing to do with the revolution.

**Hungary / Poland / Romania / Soviet Union / U.S. – October 31, 1956 (LBC)**

Eisenhower's televised speech reflects on the previous day's Soviet announcement that the USSR is considering pulling out its troops from Hungary, Poland and Romania. "If the Soviet Union does indeed faithfully act upon its announced intention, the world will witness the greatest forward stride toward justice, trust and understanding among nations in our generation."

**Hungary / Poland / Yugoslavia U.S. – October 31, 1956 (LKT)**

Before the second Soviet invasion, the NSC reviews its policy of encouraging Titoist regimes to emerge in the satellites, in light of the unrest in both Poland and Hungary.

**Hungary / Italy – October 31, 1956 (KAC)**

The Italian Ministers' Council, the Actio Catholica and the Christian Democrats celebrate the victory of the Hungarian revolution.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia / U.N. – October 31, 1956 (RYN)**

With Soviet acquiescence the Yugoslav representative in the Security Council, Jože Brilej, proposes a resolution for a special session of the General Assembly. In accordance with the propositions of the „Uniting for Peace” Resolution, the Yugoslav proposal is considered a procedural question, not susceptible to the veto. An emergency session of the General Assembly convenes on November 1, 1956.

**November****Poland / Soviet Union – November 1956 (HPB)**

Poland and the Soviet Union sign a declaration on Polish-Soviet relations, which are based on “mutual respect, non-intervention and sovereignty.”

**Romania / Soviet Union – November 1956 (RFP)**

A Romanian delegation led Prime Minister Chivu Stoica talks in Moscow about the necessity of keeping Soviet troops in Romania as long as revisionist forces grow in strength. The Soviets promise to reconsider bilateral economic treaties that have been disadvantageous to the Romanian economy.

**Hungary – November 1, 7:30 a.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Soviet troops surround Budapest's Ferihegy Airport along with virtually every other airfield in the country.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – November 1, 1956 (BBR)**

The Nagy government files a protest with Soviet Ambassador Yuri Andropov at the arrival of new Soviet troops in the country and the encircling of Budapest. The Budapest Armed Forces Command draws up a defense system for the city. Nagy dismisses the idea of fleeing.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – November 1, 1956 (BBR)**

After Andropov fails to satisfy Hungarian concerns about Moscow's intentions, the government announces Hungary's withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact, declares the country's neutrality, and appeals to the United Nations for help. It calls on the four great powers to help defend the country's neutrality.

**Hungary – November 1, 1956 (BBR)**

The Capital City National Committee, the Democratic People's Party, the Christian Hungarian Party, the Christian Front, the National Association of Former Political Prisoners (POFOSZ) and the Hungarian Scouts Association are established.

**Hungary – November 1, 7:50 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Nagy announces Hungary's neutrality on the radio. The government forbids Hungarian military units to resist the Soviet troops.

**Hungary – November 1, about 10:00 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Hungarian Radio broadcasts a speech by János Kádár. However, by the time it is broadcast, Kádár is no longer in the country. He and Ferenc Münnich have left Budapest for secret consultations in Moscow leading to their return at the head of a Soviet-backed regime.

**Hungary – November 1, 1956 (BBR)**

At night, Soviet troops surrounding Budapest begin to reconnoiter the city.

**Hungary – November 1, 1956 (BBR)**

Soldiers side with the rebels during a demonstration in Kaposvár and six officers are arrested.

**Hungary – November 1, 1956 (BBR)**

Demonstrations continue in Romania as students demand democratic rights and full freedom of study. Emergency measures are introduced throughout the country, especially in areas with large Hungarian communities.

**Hungary – November 1, 1956 (BBR/KAC)**

The Yugoslav army is placed on full alert and begins to advance toward the Hungarian border.

**Hungary / Poland / U.S. – November 1, 1956 (LBC)**

Eisenhower declares that the U.S. has no desire to profit militarily or economically from the Hungarian and the Polish events.

**Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – November 1, 1956 (KAC)**

In the morning Khrushchev, Malenkov and Molotov talk with a Polish delegation led by Gomulka in Brest. The Soviets inform the Poles about the planned intervention in Hungary. The Poles do tell that they do not agree, but they accept the Soviet decision.

**Hungary – November 1, 1956 (KAC)**

Pope Pius XII, in a letter titled *Laetamur Admodum* expresses his agreement with the recent changes in Hungary and Poland.

**Hungary – November 1, 1956 (HC)**

The Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party is formed. Members of the Preparatory Committee: Ferenc Donáth, János Kádár, Sándor Kopácsi, Géza Losonczy, György Lukács, Imre Nagy and

Zoltán Szántó. János Kádár announces on the radio that the new party is formed. He states that Hungarian people have to decide whether they want socialism or capitalism.

**Hungary / Austria – November 1, 1956 (NMC)**

Session of the Socialist International in Vienna discussing the Hungarian reforms and the general situation in Eastern Europe. The Hungarian Social Democratic Party is represented by Anna Kéthly and András Révész. It is announced that the democracy must be strengthened in Hungary, Europe must help rebuilding Hungary and the Soviet troops must leave.

**East Germany – November 1–2, 1956 (OSA)**

There are reports of anti-Communist agitations among students in East Berlin. In Humboldt University, for one, 500 medical students penned a letter to Minister Becher arguing against compulsory paramilitary training in universities, as well as the required teaching of Russian to be revoked, for the number of lectures on Marxism to be decreased, and for less Communist interference to be exerted in their personal lives.

**Hungary – November 2, 9:00 a.m., 1956 (BBR)**

The Hungarian cabinet meets. Government delegations are appointed to negotiate with the Soviet Union and to travel to the U.N. General Assembly convening on **November 12**.

**Hungary – November 2, 1956 (BBR)**

Revolutionary and workers' councils countrywide decide to return to work on Monday, **November 5**.

**Hungary – November 2, 1956 (BBR)**

Soviet forces establish their Hungarian headquarters in Szolnok. Marshal Ivan Konev, commander-in-chief of the Warsaw Pact, arrives from Moscow to take command.

**Hungary – November 2, 7:00 p.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Khrushchev and Malenkov begin talks with Tito on the Yugoslav island of Brioni.

**Hungary – November 2, 1956 (NMC)**

Imre Nagy sends a second telegram to Dag Hammarskjöld, stating that further Soviet troops arrived in Hungary. He states that Hungary has started a diplomatic process aiming to agree on when the Soviet troops can leave Hungary. He asks the UN and all Western powers to recognize the neutrality of Hungary. He asks the Security Council to arrange negotiations between the Hungarian and the Soviet government.

**Hungary – November 2, 1956 (HC)**

The UN Security Council decides to discuss the Hungarian question at a special General Assembly meeting.

**Hungary – November 2, 1956 (HC)**

The first issue of the *Népszabadág* is published. The radio speech of János Kádár is published.

**Hungary – November 2, 1956 (HC)**

The government is changed. Prime Minister and Foreign Minister: Imre Nagy (Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party). State ministers: Zoltán Tildy, Béla Kovács, Isztván Szabó (Smallholders' Party), Anna Kéthly, Gyula Kelemen, József Fischer (Social Democrats), István

Bibó, Ferenc Farkas (Petőfi Party), Géza Losonczy, János Kádár (Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party). Defense Minister: Pál Maléter.

#### **Hungary / Poland – November 2, 1956 (KAC)**

The Polish newspapers publish the note of the Polish United Workers' Party to the Polish people. They state that in Hungary a counterrevolution is possible, but "only the Hungarian workers themselves are able to save the institutions of socialism and the workers' power, not a foreign intervention". Adam Willman, the Polish ambassador in Budapest, informs Imre Nagy about this Polish standpoint. Imre Nagy views this as a statement of support. The Polish government allows Imre Nagy to meet with the Soviet leaders in Warsaw to talk about when the Soviet troops can leave Hungary.

#### **Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 2, 1956 (KAC)**

Soldatic, the Yugoslav ambassador, meets the leaders of the new Hungarian parties: Gyula Kelemen from the Social Democrats, Ferenc Farkas from the Petőfi Party and József Kővágó and István Szolnoki from the Independent Smallholders' Party.

#### **Hungary / U.S. – November 2, 1956 (KAC)**

According to the news, President Eisenhower announced on the radio that the U.S. is ready to help unconditionally the "free Hungary".

#### **Hungary / Soviet Union – November 2, 1956 (KAC)**

The Hungarian government sends three oral memorandums to the Soviet embassy in Budapest. The first one suggests starting the negotiations about Hungary leaving the Warsaw Pact and to agree on the pullout of the Soviet troops immediately from Hungary. The second one talks about the military side of the same demands: it suggests setting up a joint committee to prepare for the pullout of Soviet troops. The third one raises objections against the Soviet maneuvers in Hungary.

#### **Hungary / Italy – November 2, 1956 (KAC)**

The *Il Giornale d'Italia* publishes an interview with Prime Minister Imre Nagy.

#### **Bulgaria / Hungary / Soviet Union / Romania – November 2, 1956 (KAC)**

Khrushchev and Malenkov meet Gheorghiu-Dej in Bucharest and inform him about the planned armed intervention in Hungary. After Romania, they go to Sofia to inform the Bulgarian leaders about the same.

#### **Hungary / U.S. – November 2, 1956 (LBC)**

Eisenhower offers 20 million dollars in aid to Hungary.

#### **Hungary / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – November 2-3, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito, Minister of Interior Aleksandar Ranković és Minister of Foreign Affairs Edvard Kardelj have a long discussion from late evening to early dawn with First Secretary of the CPSU Nikita S. Khrushchev and Georgij M. Malenkov at the Isle of Brioni. The Yugoslav leaders accept the Soviet invasion against Hungary and offer their mediation for the resignation of Prime Minister Imre Nagy. The Yugoslavs suggest that instead of Ferenc Münnich, János Kádár be the new head of the Hungarian government.



**Hungary / Soviet Union – November 2-3, 1956 (KAC)**

János Kádár and Ferenc Münnich meet in Moscow. They talk with the leaders of the Soviet Communist Party and with the diplomatic representatives of the other socialist countries about the Soviet armed intervention and the future Hungarian government.

**Czechoslovakia / East Germany – November 2, 1956 (OSA)**

Radio Free Europe's background report on the impact of Communism on Czechoslovakia outlines the history of the country's Communist movement from 1917 to the 1948 coup; describes the situation after the Communist coup, in terms of the economy, agriculture, education and living standards. Within the Soviet Bloc, it is noted, these last are second to East Germany.

**Poland – November 2, 1956 (OSA)**

Wladyslaw Gomulka the first secretary of the Polish Communist Party appeared at a session of Polish Bishops in Warsaw, among the bishops was Cardinal Stefan Wyszynski. Gomulka appealed to the Bishops to prevent any anti-Soviet sentiment which could provoke Soviet action in Poland.

**East Germany / Hungary – November 2, 1956 (OSA)**

Media outlets in East Germany first admit that the situation in Hungary is "confused". They also proceed to criticize Imre Nagy's passivity.

**Hungary / Austria – November 3, 1956 (NMC)**

Imre Nagy meets Peinsipp, Austrian minister. Peinsipp gives Nagy a memorandum stating Austria will close its border with Hungary in order to ensure its neutrality.

**Hungary – November 3, 1956 (HC)**

József Mindszenty, the archbishop of Esztergom, talks on the radio. He does not recognize the Imre Nagy government. He calls for the renewal of bourgeois power, the restoration of the old role of the Church and impeachments. He also calls for political and economic aid from the Western nations, especially the great powers.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / U.N. – November 3, 1956 (LBC)**

American U.N. representative Cabot Lodge introduces a draft resolution in the U.N. Security Council: the Soviet Union should refrain from intervening in Hungarian affairs. Also at U.S. initiative, however, the draft resolution is not put to vote.

**Hungary / Poland – November 3, 1956 (KAC)**

István Kenéz, Hungarian military attaché of the embassy in Warsaw, gives the memorandum of the Imre Nagy government to Jerzy Borkowski, Soviet General, stating Hungary leaves the Warsaw Pact. Imre Nagy tells Willman, the Polish ambassador, to convince the Polish government to ask Stefan Wyszynski, Polish cardinal, to talk with József Mindszenty, Hungarian cardinal, about "how to release tension in Hungary".

**Hungary / Poland – November 3, 1956 (KAC)**

At noon a Hungarian-Soviet joint committee set up to negotiate the terms of the Soviet pullout starts the meetings in the Parliament. At 10pm the negotiations are continued in Tököl, at the headquarters of the Soviet army in Hungary. After midnight the Hungarian members of the committee are arrested by the KGB.

**Hungary – November 3, 1956 (BBR)**

The National Government in Hungary is reshuffled.

**Hungary – November 3, noon, 1956 (BBR)**

Hungarian-Soviet negotiations on details of the troop withdrawals begin at the Parliament building. The Soviets promise to halt the occupation. Additional Hungarian units occupy defensive positions around the capital.

**Hungary – November 3, 1956 (BBR)**

The Petőfi Circle is revived.

**Hungary – November 3, 1956 (BBR)**

Soviet forces surround Debrecen and Győr, occupy Záhony railway station on the Soviet border and deploy along the frontier with Austria.

**Hungary – November 3, 1956 (BBR)** The CPSU CC Presidium works out the details of forming a counter-government headed by János Kádár and Ferenc Münnich.

**Hungary – November 3, 1956 (BBR)**

The U.N. Security Council continues its debate on the Hungarian situation. U.S. representative Henry Cabot Lodge introduces a resolution calling on the Soviet Union to withdraw its troops from Hungary, but--in accordance with Washington's delaying tactics--it is not put up for a vote. The session is adjourned until November 5.

**Hungary / Poland – November 3, 1956 (KAC)**

István Kenéz, Hungarian military attaché of the embassy in Warsaw, gives the memorandum of the Imre Nagy government to Jerzy Bordzilowski, Soviet General, stating Hungary leaves the Warsaw Pact. Imre Nagy tells Willman, the Polish ambassador, to convince the Polish government to ask Stefan Wyszyński, Polish cardinal, to talk with József Mindszenty, Hungarian cardinal, about "how to release tension in Hungary".

**Hungary / Poland – November 3, 1956 (KAC)**

At noon a Hungarian-Soviet joint committee set up to negotiate the terms of the Soviet pullout starts the meetings in the Parliament. At 10pm the negotiations are continued in Tököl, at the headquarters of the Soviet army in Hungary. After midnight the Hungarian members of the committee are arrested by the KGB.

**Poland / Germany – November 3, 1956 (OSA)**

The Polish regime organisation "Zgoda" organises a performance of Polish dancing in Hamburg. The proceeds of the entertainment are to be used for the new "Zgoda" offices at 75, Oskar Hoffmannstr. Bochum, where the organisation has moved since its eviction from Kortländer 6. Further performances are to be held during the winter months.

**Poland / Sweden – November 3 – 4, 1956 (OSA)**

The Council of Polish Political Refugees meets in Stockholm. All political groups and factions of the Polish community in Sweden are represented at the meeting and a resolution of solidarity concerning the present situation in Poland is adopted. The resolution speaks to the "heroes" resisting the regime in Poznań and especially the youth, workers, and intelligentsia.

**Hungary – November 4, 1956 (BBR)**

János Kádár and Ferenc Münnich are flown from Moscow to Szolnok by military plane.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / U.N. – November 4, 1956 (KAC)**

The special meeting of the U.N. Security Council and the General Assembly urges the Soviet troops to leave Hungary. They also precipitate free elections in Hungary and would like to send UN officials to Hungary.

**Hungary – November 4, dawn, 1956 (BBR)**

Soviet troops cross the Hungarian border from Romania. From the Ukrainian city of Uzhgorod, Kádár broadcasts a proclamation on behalf of the Soviet-sponsored Provisional Revolutionary Government of Workers and Peasants.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / U.S. / U.N. – November 4, 1956 (LBC)**

Soviet military intervention in Hungary. The USSR vetoes a U.S. draft resolution in the U.N. Security Council, which would have called upon the U.N. General Secretary to organize an on the spot U.N. investigation of the Hungarian events.

**Hungary – November 4, 4:15 a.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Soviet troops launch a general attack. Five divisions under the command of Soviet Major General Grebennik move on Budapest. Nagy does not issue an order to resist, yet national guard units and others put up a considerable defensive effort. Heavy casualties are sustained on both sides as the Red Army advances through the country.

**Hungary – November 4, 5:20 a.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Nagy broadcasts a short declaration informing the World about the Soviet intervention. It is repeated several times, in English, French, German, Russian, Czech and Polish.

**Hungary – November 4, 6:00–8:00 a.m., 1956 (BBR)**

Cardinal Mindszenty is given asylum in the U.S. Legation. István Bibó is the only member of the Hungarian government remaining in the Parliament building. The Soviets occupy the Defense and Interior ministries and surround Parliament.

**Hungary – November 4, 7:00–8:00 a.m., 1956 (BBR)**

National Guard units in the Jutadomb area force the Soviet convoy carrying the captured Hungarian negotiators to turn back.

**Hungary – November 4, 7:57 a.m., 1956 (BBR)**

An appeal for assistance by the Writers' Union is broadcast in Hungarian, English, German and Russian.

**U.N – November 4, 1956 (BBR)**

A meeting of the U.N. Security Council is called in response to news of the Soviet intervention. Through a “uniting for peace” procedure the Hungarian issue is transferred to the Emergency Special Session of the General Assembly, convening the same day. The UNGA adopts a U.S.-sponsored resolution condemning the invasion. The UN Security Council and the General Assembly urges the Soviet troops to leave Hungary. They also precipitate free elections in Hungary and would like to send UN officials to Hungary.

### **Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – November 4, 1956 (KAC)**

Gomulka announces that Poland did not have a choice about the Soviet intervention. At the evening meeting of the Polish United Workers' Party the leaders agree that Poland should not vote for the American suggestion in the U.N. objecting the Soviet intervention.

### **Hungary – November 4, 1956 (HC)**

János Kádár speaks on the radio early morning. He announces that the Provisional Revolutionary Government of Workers and Peasants is formed. President: János Kádár. Deputy President: Ferenc Münnich. Members: György Marosán, Imre Dögei, Antal Apró, Sándor Rónai, Imre Horváth and István Kossa. János Kádár, Ferenc Münnich, Antal Apró and István Kossa announce that they have cut off all relations with the Imre Nagy government on **November 1**. In the evening, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of Workers and Peasants announces that the Imre Nagy government was dissolved; the revolutionary forces with Soviet help crushed the counterrevolution. All believers of socialism are asked to support the new government and start working. Later in the evening the Provisional Revolutionary Government of Workers and Peasants send a telegram to the General Secretary of the UN, stating that the former memorandum of Imre Nagy is invalid.

### **Hungary / Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – November 4, 1956 (KAC/BER/LKT)**

On the invitation of Yugoslav ambassador Dalibor Soldatić, Zoltán László visits the Yugoslav embassy between 1 and 2 o'clock in the morning. The Yugoslav ambassador informs him on the impending Soviet military invasion and offers asylum for Prime Minister Imre Nagy. During the early hours (between 6 and 8 o'clock) Prime Minister Imre Nagy, Secretary of State Géza Losonczy and many other politicians, together with their relatives, seek and receive asylum in the Yugoslav embassy in Budapest. Miklós Vásárhelyi, Colonel Ferenc Nádor and Péter Erdős receive asylum at the residence of the Yugoslav military attaché. Despite Yugoslav attempts of persuasion, Imre Nagy refuses to resign and support the Kádár Government. Instructed by the Yugoslav Foreign Secretariat, ambassador Soldatić states that the granting of asylum is not bound to such preconditions. The Soviets army invades Hungary. The Soviet leadership quickly accuses Yugoslavia of supporting the Hungarian counter revolution. Firjubin, the Soviet ambassador in Belgrade, informs Moscow that the Yugoslavs are trying to convince Imre Nagy to say that he gave his speech in the morning only because he was forced by the counterrevolutionaries.

### **Hungary / Austria – November 4, 1956 (KAC)**

The Austrian government decides to help the Hungarian political refugees.

### **GDR / Hungary – November 4, 1956 (NMC)**

Wilhelm Pieck, the East German President, welcomes the Hungarian Provisional Government of Peasants and Workers.

### **Hungary – November 5, 1956 (BBR)**

Soviet forces occupy the Hungarian Radio building. Resistance continues in Thököly Road (14th District), Zalka Máté Square (Liget Square, 10th District), around Lehel Road (13th District), and in the 9th, 13th and 21st Districts. A Soviet attack on Corvin Passage begins at 1:00 p.m.

**Hungary – November 5, 1956 (BBR)**

There is fighting in the towns of Pécs, Komló and Veszprém. The Rákóczi free radio station begins broadcasting from Dunapentele (Sztálinváros, Dunaújváros). The Soviets enter Tatabánya.

**Hungary – November 5, 1956 (BBR)**

The Moscow-supported Hungarian Provisional Revolutionary Government of Workers and Peasants in Szolnok appeals for help from other socialist countries. The Soviet Union sends a message offering help.

**Hungary / Poland – November 5, 1956 (KAC)**

In Krakow and Poznan thousands of Poles demonstrate silently against the Soviet intervention in Hungary.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – November 5, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

In a telegram to Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito, First Secretary of the CPSU Nikita S. Khrushchev informs him on the strike down of the Hungarian counter revolution. Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dmitri. T. Shepilov informs Soviet ambassador to Belgrade N. P. Firyubin that no statement is necessary from Imre Nagy and demands the extradition of the Hungarian prime minister to Soviet troops or to the Kádár Government. Tito suggests to First Secretary of the CPSU Nikita S. Khrushchev that Imre Nagy and his associates be released to Yugoslavia. Ambassador Soldatić indicates in a telegram that Imre Nagy has officially asked for asylum for himself and his entourage. Minister of Interior Aleksandar Ranković gives his permission to the group to depart to Yugoslavia and draws attention to the possibility of a violent Soviet action and the necessary steps if that happens.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – November 5, 1956 (KAC)**

Bulganin, President of the Soviet Council of Ministers, sends a message to Kádár assuring him of the unconditional support of the Soviet Union.

**Hungary – November 5, 1956 (KAC)**

Pope Pius XII., denounces the politicians and states responsible for the violence in Hungary in his letter titled *Datis Nuperrime*. After the second Soviet interventions new demonstrations break out in Italy.

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – November 5, 1956 (KAC)**

The front-page article of the *Új Szó*, newspaper published in Bratislava, appraises the crush of the Hungarian revolution as the “great success of the Hungarian nation”.

**Poland – November 5, 1956 (OSA)**

The 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Russian Revolution takes place in Poland; Gomulka makes a speech about Polish-Soviet friendship.

**East Germany / Hungary / Egypt – November 5-6, 1956 (OSA)**

The German Democratic Republic’s official countermeasures to respond to the Hungarian Uprising and prevent a crisis in East Germany were increasingly propagandistic. These include: the creation of a “Help Hungary Committee” on November 5; a “solidarity concert” broadcast on the radio the same day, which allegedly brought in 700,000 East Marks in donation; and demonstrations “For Hungarian and Egyptian Freedom” scheduled for November 6 in Berlin. The SED appealed for the East German public to show solidarity to the Egyptian victims and

Hungarian workers who, the party claims, will continue face ‘imperialist traps’ despite the reactionaries’ defeat.

**East Germany – November 5, 1956 (OSA)**

An increase in the number of armed guards in all Berlin sector crossings is reported.

**East Germany / Hungary – November 5-13, 1956 (OSA)**

East German newspapers and radio stations repeatedly attempt to argue that the situation in Hungary is already normalizing, with workers and educators returning to their posts. This had been previously attempted on October 29. These announcements are occasionally contradicted by acknowledgement of the disturbances that strikes and pockets of resistance are causing to the new Hungarian regime.

**Hungary / China – November 6, 1956 (KAC)**

Chou En-laj, the President of the Chinese State Council, sends a telegram to János Kádár promising an aid of 30 million rubles to Hungary.

**Hungary / Italy – November 6, 1956 (KAC)**

Palmiro Togliatti, Italian communist leader, approves the second Soviet intervention in Hungary in an article published in *L’Unità*.

**Hungary – November 6, 1956 (BBR)** The Soviets break the resistance in Széna Square (2nd District), Gellérthegy (1st and 11th Districts) and Óbuda (3rd District). Almost 300 members of the Corvin Passage group set out toward the Austrian border. The strength of the Hungarian resistance decreases sharply, although rebels in Móricz Zsigmond Square (11th District) and Thököly Road (14th District) continue to defend their positions as do several hundred resisters in the Buda Castle district, armed with heavy weapons. A Soviet plane is shot down over Csepel (21st District). The Soviets, at negotiations held at the Kossuth Academy, demand unconditional surrender, which the National Guard refuses to accept.

**Hungary – November 6, 1956 (BBR)**

Soviet troops in the Mecsek Hills attack the rearguard of the National Guard retreating to Vágotpuszta (Mecsek Hills).

**Hungary – November 6, 1956 (BBR)**

A Soviet armoured convoy carrying János Kádár leaves Szolnok for Budapest in the late evening.

**Poland – November 6, 1956 (OSA)**

Reports continue to reach Radio Free Europe regarding the great concerns of members of the Polish government towards Gomułka’s health. He suffers from lung and intestine problems and underwent treatment by Dr. Badmaev last summer.

**Poland – November 6, 1956 (OSA)**

Reports reach Radio Free Europe that the regime is considering the closing of jamming stations. Radio jamming operations are conducted on a large scale with the 18th station about to be opened in Poland. Some technical details are mentioned in the report such as estimates of the several thousands of people who are employed in fighting Western propaganda broadcasts and the increases in the already large number of unemployed intelligentsia that their dismissal would cause.

### **Hungary – November 7, 1956 (BBR)**

The Soviet armored cars carrying Kádár and several members of his government arrive at Parliament. The Kádár government takes the oath of office in the afternoon even though the lawful Nagy government has not resigned. The Kádár government restores the state administrative apparatus that existed before the reforms that began on October 23 and bans the new revolutionary committees. At the same time, Kádár takes several steps designed to appease Hungarians, such as declaring November 7, the anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution, a working day; lifting the requirement to teach Russian in schools; and confirming the disbanding of the ÁVH.

### **Hungary – November 7, 1956 (BBR)**

Some 300 national guards in the Buda Castle district retreat into the National Archives building. The Soviets attack them with tanks and heavy artillery. Red Army forces continue to battle other pockets of resistance in the city and countryside.

### **Hungary / France – November 7, 1956 (KAC)**

The French government decides to take in Hungarian political refugees unconditionally. The French Parliament expresses solidarity with the Hungarians in a resolution. In Paris at the Triumphal Arch from 6pm a crowd of 30000 people gather to show solidarity to the Hungarians. The demonstration is organized by the French Association of the Atlantic Community. Many members of the Guy Mollet government, congressmen and previous prime ministers attend the demonstration. After the demonstration approximately 5000 people, mostly students, attack the Hall of the French Communist Party and *L'Humanité*. István Bibó, State Minister in the last Imre Nagy government gives Guy Turbet-Delof, French cultural attaché in Budapest, his declaration and cover letter in Hungarian, asking Turbet-Delof to translate them and send them to the French and British embassies. At 7pm they talk on the phone, Bibó reads the “Plan of the Compromised Hungarian Resolution”.

### **Hungary / Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – November 7, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

First Secretary of the CPSU Nikita S. Khrushchev repudiates Tito's suggestion, according to which Imre Nagy and his companion would be transported to Yugoslavia, and demands their release at the disposal of the Kádár Government.

### **Hungary – November 7, 1956 (KAC)**

The demonstration of Actio Catholica in Rome urges all international organizations to do something to help Hungary.

### **Hungary – November 8, 1956 (BBR)**

Resistance ends at the Schmidt Mansion in Óbuda (3rd District), in Kőbánya (10th District) and in Thököly Road (14th District). Soviet tanks enter Csepel (21st District). Elsewhere in Hungary, the Red Army continues to overwhelm rebel forces.

### **Hungary – November 8, 1956 (BBR)**

In New York, the 2nd Emergency Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly continues its debate on the Hungarian question.

### **Hungary – November 8, 1956 (HC)**

István Dobi and György Marosán ask the peasants and the workers on the radio to start working.

**Hungary / NATO – November 8, 1956 (KAC)**

The NATO Council negotiates what kind of diplomatic boycott would be the best against the Kádár government. They agree that the fact that the embassies of NATO member countries remained open in Hungary does not mean that they recognize the new government. The relations with the Hungarian authorities are gradually minimized from November 1956, showing the NATO Council does not approve the Soviet intervention, the Kádár government and the government's suppressing policies. The Quoi d'Orsay states that the French diplomats should only attend the evening receptions of the Hungarian cabinet and they should not initiate meetings with the Hungarian government or the Party.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 8, 1956 (KAC)**

Negotiations between Hungary and Yugoslavia begin on Imre Nagy's fate. János Kádár declares that they may not depart from the country until the Nagy government resigns. Through Soviet ambassador to Hungary Yuri. V. Andropov, János Kádár recommends the Soviet leadership to allow Imre Nagy to leave to Yugoslavia. In his letter to First Secretary of the CPSU Nikita S. Khrushchev, Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito denies that the Yugoslav government has had a relation with Imre Nagy and his supporters, and that he would have an any kind of responsibility in bringing the Hungarian insurrection about.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / U.S. – November 8, 1956 (LBC)**

Eisenhower announces that the U.S. will admit 5.000 Hungarian refugees without delay.

**Hungary / U.N. – November 8, 1956 (NMC)**

Dag Hammarskjöld sends a letter to the Hungarian government asking whether Hungary is willing to allow Western observers to Hungary.

**Hungary / U.N. – November 8-9, 1956 (NMC)**

At the emergency session of the UN General Assembly it is agreed that the Soviet Union must leave Hungary (for: 48, against: 11, abstain: 16). Once the order is restored, free elections will be organized by the UN in Hungary. A committee appointed by the General Secretary will report on the Hungarian situation. On **November 9** the General Assembly accepts the Austrian suggestion asking all countries to send aids to Hungary (for: 68, abstain: 7).

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – November 8, 1956 (OSA)**

Czechoslovak officials welcome the defeat of 'reactionary forces' in Hungary as the "Revolutionary Worker-Peasant Government" government is sworn in following the unsuccessful Hungarian Revolution. Meanwhile, an eyewitness reported less positive reactions from the people: unrest among miners and panic buying.

**Hungary – November 9, 1956 (BBR)**

Kádár's Presidential Council declares the Provisional Revolutionary Government of Workers and Peasants to be the highest organ of state administration.

**Hungary – November 9, 1956 (BBR)**

The Kádár government begins organization of the National Armed Force. An Officer's Declaration is published requiring unconditional support for the Kádár government.



**Hungary – November 9, 1956 (BBR)**

Sporadic fighting continues in Széna Square (2nd District) and Vajdahunyad Street (8th District). The Soviets launch a general offensive to recapture Csepel (21st District), with fighter planes and heavy artillery keeping up a steady bombardment.

**Hungary – November 9, 1956 (BBR)**

Soviet artillery bombards the rebel headquarters in the Mecsek Hills while armored troops fire on revolutionaries fleeing from Budapest towards Austria. Béla Király and the remnants of the national guard prepare to defend themselves at Nagykovácsi.

**Hungary – November 9, 1956 (BBR)** The Soviets inform Kádár that Nagy and his associates, who have taken refuge in the Yugoslav Embassy, may not leave for Yugoslavia as the Nagy group had hoped to do.

**Hungary – November 9, 1956 (HC)**

In Budapest the factories and the restaurants open.

**Hungary / Austria / U.N. – November 9, 1956 (BBR-KAC)**

The 2nd Emergency Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly passes a further resolution on the situation in Hungary. The General Assembly accepts the Austrian suggestion and decides to send aid packages to Hungary.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – November 9, 1956 (KAC)**

Deputy Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union Andrei A. Gromyko informs János Kádár in a telegram that the Soviet Union does not contribute to Nagy Imre and his entourage leaving to Yugoslavia. Yugoslav Minister of Interior Aleksandar Ranković again encourages Nagy Imre to resign, saying that the Kádár government officially took the oath.

**Poland / France / Hungary – November 9, 1956 (OSA)**

Poles in France participate actively in all pro-Hungarian demonstrations and meetings, as exemplified by the large meeting taking place on November 9. The meeting was sponsored by the French Federalist Youth and was held in Bordeaux with almost all local non-Communist, political and ex-service men organisations and associations taking place. Jerzy Jankowski, the President of the Polish Federalists, Thomas Phillipovitch, a Hungarian Federalist, and Antoine Lawrence, President of the World Youth Assembly, spoke to an audience of some 2,500 without a single Communist incident disturbing the meeting.

**Hungary – November 10, 1956 (BBR)**

Sporadic fighting continues in Budapest while the Soviet attack forces the Mecsek rebels to fall back into the Eastern Mecsek Hills.

**Hungary – November 10, 1956 (BBR)**

Members of the Békés County Revolutionary Council are arrested, provoking a strike in the Békéscsaba factories. The National Guard in Sátoraljaújhely lays down its arms. The Soviets attack the national guard units commanded by Béla Király at Nagykovácsi. After brief resistance, the rebels retreat westward.

**Hungary / France – November 10, 1956 (KAC)**

István Bibó sends a letter to Jean Paul-Boncour, French minister in Budapest, asking him to use his “Plan” at diplomatic meetings whenever possible, but do not give it to the media. The Hungarian politician sends the final draft of the document to Turbet-Delof.

**Hungary / Poland – November 10, 1956 (KAC)**

The Kádár government forces the Polish journalists reporting from Budapest during the revolution to leave.

Tibor Déry, Gyula Illyés, Zoltán Zelk, László Benjamin and István Örkény seek protection from the Polish embassy in Budapest. A few hours later they leave the embassy.

**Hungary – November 10, 1956 (BBR)**

The Kádár government announces pay raises of 8–15 percent and abolishes the tax on childless adults. The First Special Forces Officers Regiment begins operations.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 10, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

Nagy Imre informs Yugoslav Minister of Interior Aleksandar Ranković in a letter that there is no reason for any kind of declaration and that his resignation does not make sense as the Presidium has already inaugurated the Kádár Government. The Yugoslav government instructs ambassador Soldatić to inform the Hungarian government: the right of asylum provided for Nagy Imre and his entourage is maintained. At the same time, he is also authorized to ask for a proposal solving the Nagy question from the Hungarian government.

**Hungary / Vatican – November 10, 1956 (KAC)**

Pope Pius XII in a speech at the Vatican Radio expresses his concerns about Hungary. He asks all nations of the world and their leaders to cooperate in order to maintain peace.

**Soviet Union / France / Switzerland / U.S. / U.K. – November 10, 1956 (LBC)**

Swiss proposal for a “Great Power” peace conference. The U.S. reject, Great Britain, France and the USSR accept the proposal.

**Hungary / U.N. – November 10, 1956 (NMC)**

A Hungarian delegation led by Imre Horváth Foreign Minister travels to New York to attend the UN General Assembly.

**Hungary / U.N. – November 10, 1956 (NMC)**

The UN General Secretary sends a memorandum to the Hungarian government offering UN aid. The Hungarian government accepts.

**Hungary – November 10, 1956 (BBR)**

The International Red Cross resumes aid shipments.

**Poland / Hungary / Lebanon – November 10, 1956 (OSA)**

Reports reach Radio Free Europe that three Swiss businessmen - all Communists noted by the Swiss authority - arrived in Lebanon in 1955. They are said to have opened the trading firm “Serti” which began advertising goods from the captive countries and the USSR and is now controlling some of the trade deals between Lebanon and these countries, especially Poland and Hungary.

**Hungary / U.N. – November 11, 1956 (NMC)**

The Hungarian government sends a memorandum to the UN General Secretary stating the UN observers are not allowed to enter Hungary, because the Hungarian situation is an internal problem. However, the Hungarian government is willing to cooperate with the UN and the International Red Cross regarding the international aid packages.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 11, 1956 (KAC/BER/LKT)**

In a speech in Pula, Tito publicly condemns the first Soviet intervention and the Soviet and Hungarian policies that caused it, while portraying the second as a necessary exit to save the socialist system and prevent Western intervention. Tito also criticizes the power that Stalinists still retain within the Kremlin leadership. He also criticizes Imre Nagy because he did not withstand resolutely for the pressure of the reaction, and pledges his support for the Kádár government, in as much as it pursues anti-Stalinist politics. The temporary leadership of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party meets in the building of the Yugoslav embassy in Budapest. Apart from János Kádár and Sándor Kopácsi, all members of the leadership attend the meeting. They declare the Kádár government illegitimate and oppose that Imre Nagy make a statement about his resignation. Tito's speech further complicates relations with Khrushchev.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – November 11, 1956 (KAC)**

The Presidium of the Soviet Communist Party sends Suslov and Aristov to Hungary.

**Hungary – November 11, 1956 (HC)**

Ferenc Münnich announces that new armed forces will be organized.

**Hungary – November 11, 1956 (BBR)**

The Provisional Executive Committee of the HSWP hears a report from Kádár on his activity during the revolution. Later, he delivers his first radio address since **November 4**.

**Hungary – November 11, 1956 (BBR)**

Delegates of the factories and mines in Baranya County endorse a statement condemning the Kádár government and demanding the withdrawal of Soviet forces.

**Hungary – November 12, 1956 (BBR)**

The Kádár government continues to consolidate its position. The official party organ publishes a decree by the Presidential Council dismissing the Nagy government and recognizing the make-up of the Kádár government. Kádár also criticizes the U.N.'s resolutions on Hungary as interference in the country's internal affairs. Meanwhile, various social groups, among them the Writers' Union and the Újpest Revolutionary Workers Council, continue to press their demands and appeals to the population.

**Hungary – November 12, 1956 (HC)**

The Kádár government is completed. Deputy President: Ferenc Münnich. Member of the government: György Marosán. Ministers: Imre Dögei (Agriculture), Antal Apró (Industry), Sándor Rónai (Trade), Imre Horváth (Foreign), István Kossa (Finance), György Csanádi (Transportation and Post), Rezső Nyers (Food), József Kilián (Construction), Ferenc Nezvál (Justice), József Mekis (Labor).

**Hungary – November 12, 1956 (HC)**

Decree 1956:21 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces the end of compulsory delivery production in agriculture.

**Hungary – November 12, 1956 (BBR)**

The 11th session of the U.N. General Assembly places the Hungarian question on its agenda. The debate begins on **January 9, 1957**.

**Romania / Egypt – November 12, 1956 (RFP)**

The Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs communicates to its embassy in Cairo that the Romanian government had asked the General Secretary of the United Nations to allow it to participate in the international peacekeeping forces in Egypt.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – November 12, 1956 (CUY)**

President of the United States of America, Dwight D. Eisenhower sends a personal letter to Josip Broz Tito welcoming the Yugoslav government's support for the United Nation's action requesting the immediate withdrawal of Soviet troops from Hungary.

**East Germany / Hungary – November 12, 1956 (OSA)**

According to a provincial Communist news outlet, three of the six students who attempted to organize a transportation strike in the buses and trams of Dresden are arrested. Their organizer alleges that their motivation had been to continue the movement that had started and was put down in Hungary, and that the BBC had been notified of their intent. In the same week, four youngsters accused of vandalizing a Soviet war memorial, also near Dresden, were detained.

**Hungary – November 13, 1956 (BBR)**

The Soviets capture several rebels in the Mecsek Hills. Workers' councils form in the Oroszlány and Tatabánya coal mines. Rebels blow up the railway line between Dorog and Leányvár.

**Hungary – November 13, 1956 (BBR)**

The Kádár government issues an order permitting the workers' councils to operate. The underground Hungarian Democratic Independence Movement (MDFM) is established. The planned creation of a centralized workers' council is postponed because Soviet tanks block the premises of the meeting at the Újpest town hall

**Poland – November 13, 1956 (UNW)**

Konstantin Rokossovskiy is dismissed from the position of Polish Defense Minister and returns to the Soviet Union.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 13, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

Ranko Zec, the head of the Special Political Department of the Yugoslav State Secretariat of Foreign Affairs, arrives in Budapest to negotiate about the future of the Imre Nagy group.

**Hungary / U.N. – November 13, 1956 (NMC)**

The second memorandum of the Hungarian government to the UN General Secretary stating that Hungary appreciates the UN aid offered. The government is willing to start negotiations discussing what is the best method of aid distribution and how UN officials will be involved in the process.

**Hungary – November 14, 1956 (BBR)**

The Greater Budapest Central Workers' Council (KMT) is established at a rally at the United Incandescent Lamp Factory (Egyesült Izzó). The same evening, a KMT delegation negotiates with leaders of the Kádár government in Parliament.

**Hungary / U.S. – November 14, 1956 (BBR)**

Eisenhower refers briefly to the Hungarian question at a press conference, saying the U.S. would do nothing to encourage the Hungarians to continue to fight.

**Hungary / Poland – November 14, 1956 (KAC)**

Willman, the Polish ambassador in Budapest, tries to promote a compromised solution between the Imre Nagy group and the Kádár government at the Yugoslav embassy in Budapest. It was Kádár who asked Willman to do this, but the Polish leadership approved also.

**Hungary – November 15, 1956 (BBR)**

The KMT elects Sándor Rácz as its chairman. Further talks between the KMT and the Kádár government take place in Parliament overnight.

**Hungary – November 15, 1956 (BBR)**

The Hungarian Democratic Independence Movement issues its "Ten Commandments for Hungarian Rebirth" and launches an illegal paper, *Október Huszonharmadika* ("October 23").

**Hungary – November 15, 1956 (BBR/HC)**

The workers' council of the Csepel Iron and Metal Factory calls for a return to work, responding to Kádár's appeals for a return to normalcy. A few other councils and workers' groups also decide to resume production.

**Hungary / Austria – November 15, 1956 (KAC)**

The Hungarian media criticizes the Austrian government claiming they did not remain neutral. The Austrian government objects the criticism.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – November 15, 1956 (KAC)**

A Soviet delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Malenkov arrives to Budapest.

**Poland / Soviet Union – November 15- 18, 1956 (PSN/BBR)**

A delegation from the Polish United Workers Party visits the Soviet Union. Poland is granted credits to finance the delivery of 1.4 million metric tons of Soviet grain. Polish debts were absolved in compensation for the value of the coal Poland had delivered to the Soviet Union from 1946 to 1953. A Polish party and government delegation in Moscow wins important concessions in favor of greater freedom from Moscow's tutelage.

**Hungary – November 16, 1956 (BBR)**

The Mecsek rebels, one of the last resistance groups to continue fighting, manage to break through the Soviet encirclement unobserved.

**Hungary – November 16, 1956 (BBR)**

Kádár, at a secret meeting, agrees with Moscow that the Nagy group should be deported to Romania instead of being allowed to travel to Yugoslavia.

**Hungary – November 16, 1956 (BBR)**

István Angyal, leader of the Tűzoltó Street rebels, is arrested. A journalists' strike begins in Budapest.

**Hungary – November 16, 1956 (BBR)**

The KMT issues an appeal for a return to work while reserving the right to strike. Meanwhile, the KMT delegation holds further negotiations with Kádár.

**Hungary – November 16, 1956 (HC)**

Governmental decree 3/1956 announces that people are free to choose their work place.

**Hungary – November 16, 1956 (BBR)**

The U.N. secretary-general appoints a committee to investigate the Hungarian situation.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 16, 1956 (KAC)**

Kádár assures Soldatic, the Yugoslav ambassador, that the Imre Nagy group will not be punished. They agree that the members of the group can leave the embassy freely provided they distance themselves from the revolution. The ambassador informs Imre Nagy on this, who at the same time protests in a letter to Tito about his speech in Pula on **November 11, 1956**.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – November 16, 1956 (KAC)**

A Czechoslovak delegation arrives to Budapest led by Prime Minister Viliam Siroky to talk with Kádár about the "relevant questions". Czechoslovakia promises to send goods to Hungary worth 90 million crowns.

**Romania / Egypt – November 16, 1956 (RFP)**

Egyptian President Nasser receives Romanian Ambassador Ionescu, declaring that he would agree to the Romanian offer if the U.N. would do so too.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – November 16, 1956 (LKT)**

Yugoslav Ambassador Leo Mates meets with Robert Murphy to explain Yugoslavia's policy in Eastern Europe and to warn of the dangers that has arisen in the wake of the Hungarian rebellion. Mates also recounts the Soviet's belief that the Hungarian revolt was fomented by the United States as a first step. The Yugoslav ambassador appeals for the United States to moderate its criticism of the new Hungarian regime, lest it further provoke the Soviets. They also discuss the Suez Crisis, with Mates claiming that the Soviets' belligerent statements about the Western role there are designed only to deflect attention from Hungary.

**Hungary/ U.N. – November 16, 1956 (NMC)**

The UN General Secretary established a committee to report on the Hungarian situation: Alberto Lleras (Colombia), Oscar Gundersen (Norway) and Arthur Lall (India).

**Hungary/ U.N. – November 16, 1956 (NMC)**

The Hungarian government sends a letter to the UN General Secretary stating the government is willing to discuss the situation and the aid offers in Rome. The General Secretary previously stated that he does not want to travel personally to Budapest.

**Poland / West Germany – November 16, 1956 (OSA)**

A new trade agreement between West Germany and Poland was signed for the year 1956-1957.

**Hungary – November 17, 1956 (BBR)**

The central party daily *Népszabadság* ("People's Freedom") goes to press despite the journalists' strike.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 17, 1956 (KAC)**

János Kádár meets Yugoslav ambassador Dalibor Soldatić, annuls its offer of the previous day and demands the transfer of the Imre Nagy group to Hungarian authorities. The Yugoslav government informs Romanian First Secretary Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej that Yugoslavia has no objection to the departure of Imre Nagy to Romania, provided it would happen out of free will.

**Hungary / Romania / Yugoslavia – November 17, 1956 (KAC)**

The Yugoslav government informs Romanian General Secretary Gheorghiu-Dej that they do not mind if the Nagy group leaves for Romania.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia / Romania – November 18, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

Yugoslav Deputy Prime Minister Kardelj sends a letter to Kádár stating the Nagy group should not be punished and should be allowed to travel to Romania. György Lukács, Zoltán Szántó and Zoltán Vas leave the Yugoslav embassy. They are arrested by the Soviet army immediately. The Yugoslav diplomats do not tell this to the other members of the Nagy group.

**Hungary – November 18, 1956 (BBR)**

The Kádár government issues a statement denying that mass arrests and deportations have taken place.

**Hungary / France – November 18, 1956 (KAC)**

The French Ministry of Home Affairs organizes a mourning day and fundraising events to help the Hungarians and the Hungarian refugees.

**Hungary / Red Cross– November 18, 1956 (NMC)**

The Hungarian government, the International Red Cross and the Hungarian Red Cross agree that all aid will be controlled by the International Red Cross and will be distributed as necessary.

**Poland / Soviet Union – November 18, 1956 (PLC)** A Polish-Soviet agreement is signed regarding the status of Soviet troops stationed in Poland.

**Poland – November 18, 1956 (PSN)**

A crowd in Bydgoszcz attacks a radio station that was jamming western broadcasts.

**Hungary – November 19, 1956 (BBR)**

Nagy and his associates declare that they do not want to leave the country.

**Hungary – November 19, 1956 (BBR)**

The KMT issues a call for the establishment of a National Workers' Council. Work resumes at most factories.

**Hungary – November 19, 1956 (BBR)**

Organizations still loyal to the revolution--the KMT, Peasants' Association, National Union of Hungarian Journalists (MUOSZ), Revolutionary Committee of the Hungarian Intelligentsia, Hungarian Union of Fine and Applied Artists, Hungarian Musicians' Union and Writers'

Union--address a letter to Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru calling on him to intervene on Hungary's behalf.

**Hungary – November 19, 1956 (BBR)**

A number of Hungarians who have been deported to the Soviet Union are handed over to the Hungarian authorities.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 19, 1956 (KAC)**

Dobrivoje Vidic, the Yugoslav Deputy Secretary of Foreign Affairs, arrives in Budapest. The Nagy group tells him that they will not sign the required declaration and they will not leave the country. Kardelj would like to resolve the problem as soon as possible with Kádár.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 19, 1956 (KAC)**

*Pravda* comments on Tito's speech in Pula. Tito is criticized because he got involved with the internal problems of Hungary.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 19, 1956 (KAC)**

Milovan Dilas, former Deputy Prime Minister, is arrested in Yugoslavia because of his statements about the situation in Hungary.

**Poland – November 19, 1956 (PSN)**

The Worker Councils Act is passed according to which, "the worker council administers, on behalf of the personnel, an enterprise that is national property."

**Poland – November 19, 1956 (OSA)**

The Minister of the Polish Merchant Marine, accompanied by Prof. J. Kulikowski, holds a conference with the members of the Fishing Workers' Council at the Party Committee in Gdynia. They discuss the autonomy of fishing enterprises, occupation of administrative posts by professionals, creating fishing bases for Polish boats in foreign posts, and reorganisation of fishing trade among other topics.

**Hungary / U.N. – November 19-20, 1956 (BBR/NMC)**

The UN General Assembly takes up the debate on the Hungarian question and accepts the suggestions of Cuba, India, Ceylon and Indonesia regarding the Hungarian situation.

**Hungary – November 20, 1956 (BBR)**

The armed resistance in the Mecsek Hills comes to an end. János Szabó, commander of the Széna Square rebels, is also arrested.

**GDR / Hungary – November 20, 1956 (BBR)**

An East German delegation holds talks in Budapest on providing assistance to the country.

**Hungary – November 20, 1956 (BBR)**

Officers who have not signed the Officer's Declaration are discharged.

**Hungary – November 20, 1956 (KAC)**

The French embassy in Budapest sends a document to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, asking for the protection of their diplomatic rights. They would like to exchange forints to shillings to go shopping in Austria.



**Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 21, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

According to the agreement between the Hungarian and the Yugoslav governments, Imre Nagy and his entourage can safely return home. János Kádár gives a written guarantee that no harassment is going to take place because of their past deeds. Deputy Prime Minister Ferenc Münnich also informs the Yugoslav government that no harassment will be against the members of the Imre Nagy group and necessary steps will be provided for their safety. Yugoslav Deputy Foreign Minister Dobrivoje Vidić informs Imre Nagy on the agreement.

**Hungary – November 21, 1956 (BBR)**

An attempt to form a National Workers' Council fails when Soviet tanks surround the National Sports Hall, where the rally was to be held. The KMT calls a 48-hour protest strike.

**Hungary – November 21, 1956 (BBR)**

After a three-day debate, the U.N. General Assembly passes several resolutions on the Hungarian question. Three minutes' silence is observed in Switzerland to commemorate the Hungarian independence struggle.

**Hungary / Romania – November 21–25, 1956 (KAC)**

A Romanian party and government delegation arrives to Budapest led by Gheorghiu-Dej. They agree to take the Nagy group to Romania on November 22-23. At the end of the meetings they publicly declare that Romania will give an additional 60 million rubles aid to the Kádár government.

**Poland – November 21, 1956 (OSA)**

A new, not yet officially recognised, Trade Union of Seamen is organised in Poland. It embraces the sailors and high sea fishermen, demanding independence from the old Trade Union and requires from it the transfer of all its branches. It also puts forward demands concerning the whole maritime and fishing problems which are mentioned in the first publication of the Trade Union's bulletin.

**Hungary – November 22, 1956 (BBR)**

Talks between a KMT delegation and Kádár take place at night.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 22, 1956 (BBR/KAC)**

Vidić ensures Imre Nagy and his associates that they can leave the embassy without any problems. Kádár himself guarantees their safety with the approval of the Soviet Union. The members of the Nagy group sign an official document stating they do not ask for asylum any longer and they leave the embassy. However, to the apparent surprise of Yugoslav officials, Soviet security officers arrest the group as it boards a bus outside the Embassy and take them to KGB headquarters in Mátyásföld (16th District). From there they are flown secretly to Romania. In Belgrade it is publicly announced that the Imre Nagy problem is solved.

**Hungary – November 22–December 8, 1956 (HC)**

The Hungarian sportsmen win 9 gold, 10 silver and 9 bronze medals at the Melbourne Olympics.

**Czechoslovakia – November 22, 1956 (OSA)**

In reaction to Budapest's protests, Czechoslovak officials organize thousands of meetings with workers on every level, stressing the protests' 'counter-revolutionary' nature and Czechoslovakia's support for the Soviet Union.

**Poland / Yugoslavia / UN / India – November 22, 1956 (OSA)**

Poland and Yugoslavia refrained from voting on the India, Indonesia and Ceylon resolution asking Hungary for permission to send UN observers. All other Soviet Bloc states voted against the resolution.

**Austria / Hungary – November 23, 1956 (OSA)**

Three Soviet soldiers cross into Austrian territory while on the hunt for Hungarian refugees. One of them is shot to death, the other two are arrested.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 23-29, 1956 (NMC)**

A Hungarian-Yugoslav joint committee discusses in Belgrade and Zagreb when the Hungarian refugees can return.

**Hungary – November 23, 1956 (BBR)**

Nagy, his associates and their families are taken from Bucharest Airport to Snagov, Romania.

**Hungary – November 23, 1956 (BBR)**

Yugoslavia files a diplomatic protest at the abduction of the Nagy group.

**Hungary – November 23, 1956 (BBR)**

The Kádár government recognizes the KMT as a negotiating partner. The KMT calls for a return to work. After an appeal by the Revolutionary Council of the Hungarian Intelligentsia and the KMT to commemorate the revolution, traffic in Budapest stops between 2:00 and 3:00 p.m.

**Hungary / Romania – November 23, 1956 (PLC)**

Gheorghiu-Dej visits Budapest. He announces that the success of the Hungarian “counterrevolution” would have put peace in danger everywhere in Europe.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / Austria – November 23, 1956 (KAC)**

Two Soviet soldiers cross the Austrian-Hungarian border at the Rohonc/Rechnitz area while they try to catch some people fleeing from the country. One of them is shot by the border officers.

**Hungary / Romania / Yugoslavia – November 23, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

The Imre Nagy group is deported to Romania. Yugoslav ambassador to Hungary Soldatić protests at János Kádár because of the kidnapping of Imre Nagy and informs Kádár on the Yugoslav intention of making the case public. Jenő Kuti, chargé d'affaires of the Hungarian embassy in Belgrade, is summoned to the Yugoslav Secretariat of Foreign Affairs where Deputy Foreign Minister Dobrivoje Vidić demands an explanation for breaking the agreement reached two days earlier.

An article in the *Népakarat* announces that the Imre Nagy group left the Yugoslav embassy and a Hungarian-Yugoslav agreement was reached.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 23-29, 1956 (KAC)**

A Hungarian-Yugoslav joint committee meets in Belgrade and discuss the possibility of repatriation of Hungarian refugees.

**Austria / Hungary – November 24, 1956 (OSA)**

An unnamed writer reports witnessing AVH guards patrolling the border ceaselessly, on the search for refugees.

**Hungary – November 24, 1956 (BBR)**

The Nagy issue continues to demand the Kádár government's attention. An official Hungarian communiqué is issued on the departure of Nagy and his group from Hungary. Two days later, Kádár delivers a major radio address but then makes no further official mention of the matter for the next 18 months- until after Nagy's execution.

**Hungary – November 24, 1956 (BBR)**

Government commissioners are appointed to oversee operations at the larger factories.

**Hungary / Poland – November 24, 1956 (KAC)**

Warsaw sends an aid package worth 100 million zlotys to Hungary upon Kádár's request.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 24, 1956 (KAC/BER)**

The Yugoslav government raises objections in a memorandum against the violation of the Yugoslav-Hungarian agreement signed on **November 21** and the kidnapping of the members of the Imre Nagy group. The Yugoslav media gives special importance to the case of the deportation of the Imre Nagy group. The editorial board of *Népszabadság* goes on strike because the Hungarian authorities forbade the publication of an article which is engaged in a dispute with an article in *Pravda* criticizing Tito's Yugoslavia.

**Hungary / Romania – November 24, 1956 (KAC)**

It is officially announced that the members of the Imre Nagy group asked to be allowed to leave to another socialist country themselves and therefore they travelled to Romania on **November 23**.

**Hungary / Poland – November 24, 1956 (KAC)**

The editors of the *Népszabadság* start a strike, because they were not given permission to publish an article criticizing *Pravda*'s article about Tito.

**Poland / USA / Romania / Hungary / Soviet Union – November 24, 1956 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report provides information concerning Jews in Łódź. There are about 6,00 Jews in the town and the community is quite well organised with most of them being against the Social-Cultural Union of Jews in Poland, which was created for the Jews by the Communist regime. The report describes recent changes taking place in the board of directors of the union and the relations between Communist Jews and those wishing to emigrate to Israel. In recent months the headquarters of the Association invited foreign guests such as five American Rabbis who visited the Jewish centers in Moscow, Romania, Hungary, and Poland.

**Poland – November 24, 1956 (OSA)**

The radio jamming stations at Legnica and Wrocław have ceased to function. Despite this, RFE and BBC broadcasts continue to be disturbed though the jamming is of a different character. It is said that the Russians have intensified their jamming activities and directed them even against broadcasts in Polish. The Russian produced "Czajka " radio set made in such a way that certain short wavelengths over which BBC, RFE, and VOA broadcast their programs have been omitted from the scale.

**Soviet Union / Poland / East Germany – November 24 (OSA)**

For the past three weeks, Russian troops have been streaming across Poland to East Germany. Heavy equipment is also being transported, though the majority is going by sea.

**Poland / Vietnam – November 24, 1956 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report gives some information regarding Poles working at Communist Vietnam railways. A technician is said to earn 110,000 Francs, of which half is payable in kind through food and other goods. Sources suggest that there is a desire of Poles employed in North Vietnam railways to obtain a job with Indian railways after the expiration of their contracts with the Vietminh government.

**Austria / Hungary – November 25, 1956 (OSA)**

Die Presse reports that ex-wife of Pál Maléter, Mária Pausz, arrived with her two children in Austria. The whereabouts of Pál Maléter are unknown. According to certain sources he is also on the run, while others report he is imprisoned.

**Hungary / U.S. – November 25, 1956 (KAC)**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs demands the American embassy in Budapest to stop using the “illegally operating” radio station at the embassy, because “it violates the laws of sovereignty”.

**Albania / Yugoslavia – November 25, 1956 (PLC)**

In Albania three pro-Yugoslavia communist leaders are executed.

**Hungary / India – November 25–December 7, 1956 (NMC)**

Jagan Nat Khosla, a representative of India, visits Hungary.

**Romania / Soviet Union – November 26–December 3, 1956 (PLC)**

The Soviet and the Romanian leaders meet. The possibility of the Soviet troops leaving the country is discussed.

**Hungary – November 27, 1956 (OSA)**

Unnamed Hungarian youths imprisoned for attempting to cross the border are to be released.

**Hungary / Indonesia – November 27, 1956 (NMC)**

Soedarsono, a representative of the Indonesian government, arrives to Budapest.

**Poland / Soviet Union – November 27, 1956 (OSA)**

Lloyds shipping intelligence details the exploitation of the output of Polish shipyards by the Soviet Union, indicating that Russia has taken about 85% of total output in the last seven years. As regards to larger vessels - meaning ships of 5,000 tons capacity as well as ships for the transportation of coal - the soviets have taken 95% of Polish output. As a result, the number of Polish merchantmen shows no increase in the last five years despite the rather large output of Polish shipyards and the purchases of vessels abroad.

**Austria / Hungary / Soviet Union – November 28, 1956 (OSA)**

The Hungarian government asks Austria to return refugees under the age of 18 back to Hungary and promises not to prosecute them. A Reuters correspondent reports that Hungarian miners are digging only one tenth of the 80,000 tons of coal required to run the country's industries. Georgi Malenkov, minister of Soviet Power Stations, arrives in Budapest. The Budapest Radio reports that in Budapest curfew hours have been reduced by two hours.

**Austria / Hungary – November 28, 1956 (OSA)**

The Austrian Ministry of Internal Affairs reports that on Wednesday night around 1800 Hungarian refugees successfully entered the country.

**Hungary / Austria – November 28, 1956 (NMC)**

The Hungarian Foreign Ministry sends a memorandum to the Austrian embassy about the situation of underage Hungarian refugees in Austria.

**Poland – November 28, 1956 (OSA)**

A delegation of fishermen from Tolmick go to Warsaw to discuss fishermen's taxes and prices of fish.

**Poland / Hungary – November 28, 1956 (OSA)**

A confidential source on the need to convene a Council for Mutual economic aid for the countries of the Eastern Bloc. The report underlines the urgency due to the events that have occurred in Hungary and Poland.

**Poland / Scandinavia / East Germany / Czechoslovakia / Norway – November 28, 1956 (OSA)**

Information on the commercial negotiations planned between Poland and Scandinavia by the Polish Chamber of Foreign Trade. The commercial relations concern the transit of frozen and salted herrings from Scandinavia to East Germany and Czechoslovakia. It is also specified that negotiations were desired also with the Norwegian government.

**Austria / Hungary – November 29, 1956 (OSA)**

Zoltán Rozsnyai, chief conductor of the Budapest Philharmonic Opera escapes with his three-year old daughter. He believes that at least 100 other members of the Orchestra escaped successfully. The Vienna Press expects the 100,000th Hungarian refugee to enter Austria on this day.

**Hungary – November 29, 1956 (BBR)**

Reflecting ongoing domestic political instability, the All-University Revolutionary Committee and the Central Workers' Council of the Csepel Iron and Metal Works are established, and more than 300 miners at Pécsbányatelep go on strike.

**Hungary / FRG – November 29, 1956 (BBR)**

West Germany sends Hungary food and medical aid worth 10 million marks.

**Hungary / Poland – November 29, 1956 (KAC)**

Dezső Révai and Lajos Ács leave the Polish embassy in Budapest where they have been hiding since **October 30**.

**Hungary / Poland – November 29-December 2, 1956 (KAC)**

Congress of the Association of Polish Writers and the Association of Polish journalists. A joint delegation of the two organizations meets Gomulka to ask him to give asylum to György Lukács, Tibor Déry and their families. Gomulka does not approve.

**Poland / Soviet Union / UK – November 29, 1956 (OSA)**

In this confidential report, details of the end of BBC jamming is provided. It is noted that the decision was taken by the Politburo of the PZPR.

**Poland / West Germany – November 29, 1956 (OSA)**

The chief editor of the Catholic Press Agency's West-Berlin office will visit Poland to meet with Cardinal Wyszynski. Jansen's visit to Poland will be the first visit since the war of a Catholic news agency representative.

**Austria / Hungary – November 30, 1956 (OSA)**

Writer Pál Ignátus escapes to Vienna after an eight year-long soviet imprisonment. Imre Rónai, singer of the national state opera also arrives soon after. During his escape, he was caught by Soviet guards and made to sing. He managed to inebriate the guards and run away from them.

**Hungary – November 30, 1956 (BBR)**

The Soviets call on Kádár to begin reprisals, naming at least six revolutionaries (for example, József Dudás and János Szabó) whom they believe should be executed immediately.

**Hungary – November 30, 1956 (BBR)**

The KMT issues a call for readers of HSWP newspapers to boycott those publications until the KMT receives a press permit. The public-supplies commissioner lifts the ban on alcohol sales.

**December****Yugoslavia / U.S. – December 1956 (LKT)**

U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and President Eisenhower discuss dispatching the aircraft to Yugoslavia, using the rationale that Tito should not be forced to obtain such equipment from the Soviets.

**Austria / Hungary – December 1, 1956 (OSA)**

Two Hungarian police officers, dressed in uniform, escape to Austria and request asylum.

**Hungary – December 1, 1956 (BBR)**

The Kádár government publishes a decree granting a general pardon to everyone who has emigrated illegally since **October 23**.

**Hungary – December 1, 1956 (BBR)**

A security-force regiment of 2,000 is formed under the Ministry of the Interior.

**Hungary – December 1, 1956 (BBR)**

A strike by miners in Pécsbányatelep ends without result but work stoppages by miners in Tatabánya and Salgótarján continue.

**Hungary – December 1, 1956 (OSA)**

President of Worker's Council Ottó Sugar escapes with money and resources of the Council.

**Bulgaria – December 1, 1956 (PLC)**

According to the census, the population of Bulgaria is 7.6 million. 85.5% Bulgarian, 8.6% Turkish, 1.8% pomak. Macedonians living in Pirini-Macedonia 2.5%.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – December 1, 1956 (KAC)**

The Hungarian government answers with a memorandum to the Yugoslav objections raised on **November 11**. It is stated that the Imre Nagy problem is a Hungarian internal political question.

**Czechoslovakia – December 1, 1956 (OSA)**

The government declares the sixth price drop for consumer goods and food since 1953.

**Austria / Hungary – December 2, 1956 (OSA)**

Hungarian pianist and composer György Bánháalmi, and his wife, the actress Nelly Sugar escape to Austria. They were stopped three times by border guards but managed to bribe them each time.

**Hungary – December 2, 1956 (BBR)**

A crucial three-day meeting of the Provisional Executive Committee of the HSWP begins. The events of October are described as counterrevolutionary, setting the stage for reprisals against participants in the uprising.

**Hungary / India – December 2-7, 1956 (NMC)**

Menon, the Indian ambassador to Moscow, visits Budapest. Menon was sent by Nehru.

**Hungary – December 4, 1956 (OSA)**

A new decree law comes into force, changing the requirements of receiving a doctoral title. Another decree law declares that any Hungarian citizen who crossed the border illegally between October 23 and December 4 of 1956 will not be pressed with criminal charges if they return to Hungary before March 31 of 1957 out of their own free will. This law overrides the one previously stated by the National Institute of Criminalistics and strips dr. Gyula Alapi from his post as leader of the Institute. The Revolutionary Workers'-Peasants' Government of Hungary will repatriate pension funds to citizens who are eligible for it. Several streets and a bridge are renamed – Staling bridge to Árpád bridge, Stalin street to Hungarian Youth street, and Stalin square to György Dózsa square. Students at the secondary school located in Jurányi street, second district of Budapest will resume their studies on the 9th of December. The Budapest University of Technology will resume teaching the courses of the first semester on the 7th of January of 1957. The Vaudeville Theatre of Budapest is asking its employees to resume their work on the 13th of December.

**Hungary – December 4, 1956 (BBR)**

Several thousand women march to Heroes' Square where they place flowers on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and display the flag of the revolution. There is also a demonstration in Szabadság Square (5th District), outside the U.S. Legation.

**Hungary – December 5, 1956 (BBR)**

About 200 members of the intelligentsia and of workers' councils are arrested in the evening. The first volume of the regime's official "White Book" ("The Counter-revolutionary Forces in the October events in Hungary") appears.

**Hungary – December 5, 1956 (BBR)**

The U.N. General Assembly passes a resolution on sending observers to Hungary.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Soviet Union – December 5-6, 1956 (BBR-KAC)**

The Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party announces that proceedings have started in 674 cases linked with the events in Hungary. They talk about the tensed

international situation and the “Hungarian events”. The announcement published about this session of the CC states that the people of Czechoslovakia believe that “the Soviet army’s help was necessary to crush the Hungarian counterrevolution”.

#### **Hungary – December 6, 1956 (BBR)**

A KMT memorandum states that its negotiations with the government have failed because of government inflexibility. The KMT protests the successive arrests of leaders of the workers’ councils. It calls a national meeting to establish a national workers’ council.

#### **Hungary – December 6, 1956 (BBR)**

The government organizes communist rallies in several locations in Budapest. Workers returning from the job attack communists carrying red flags. Crowds hurling stones at the demonstrators are dispersed by security forces and the Soviets. Gunfire is exchanged near **November 7** Square (Oktogon), and security men fire into a crowd of workers by the Western Railway Station.

#### **Hungary – December 6, 1956 (BBR)**

There are demonstrations in Békéscsaba, Gyula, Tatabánya and Sarkad. A strike breaks out in Békéscsaba the next day to protest the resulting arrests. Coal miners in Nógrád County also go on strike after workers’ leaders in the county are arrested.

#### **Hungary – December 6, 1956 (HC)**

Many workers organize assemblies in Budapest to save the people’s democracy.

#### **Yugoslavia / Bulgaria - 6 December, 1956**

Criticism for Rabotnicesko Delo. Rabotnicesko Delo, published in ‘Borba’ issue of November 27 an article entitled "Under the Invincible Flag of the Socialist International" which is intended to be a review of Tito's speech in Pula.

#### **Hungary – December 7, 1956 (BBR)**

The KMT sends a letter to the Soviet premier proposing direct relations between the KMT and the Soviet government.

#### **Hungary / Yugoslavia – December 7, 1956 (BBR)**

Kádár receives Yugoslav Ambassador Dalibor Soldatić and holds out the prospect of settling the Nagy affair peacefully.

#### **Hungary – December 7, 1956 (BBR)**

Demonstrations take place around the country.

#### **Hungary – December 7, 1956 (BBR)**

The 14th Summer Olympics in Melbourne close. A highlight of the games occurs when Hungary’s water polo team defeats the Soviets on its way to winning the gold medal. Many Hungarian athletes refuse to return home after the games.

#### **Poland – December 7, 1956 (PLC)**

Gomulka and Wyszynski agree that the Church can keep some limited autonomy and independent farmers can keep producing. The voluntary religious education is reestablished in schools.



**Poland – December 7, 1956 (PSN)**

After the events of October the Polish Youth Union is replaced by a new organization, the Revolutionary Youth Union.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – December 7, 1956 (KAC/CUY)**

In his address marking the end of the current parliamentary session, Yugoslav Vice President Edvard Kardelj recognizes that the second Soviet intervention against Hungary was not motivated by ideological considerations but was an expression of Soviet determination to maintain its strategic position in Eastern Europe.

**Hungary / U.N. – December 7, 1956 (NMC)**

The media announces that the UNESCO agreed to send aid to Hungary to rebuild schools. This UNESCO resolution was passed in New Delhi accepting a Belgian suggestion.

**Poland – December 8, 1956 (UNW)**

Religion is reintroduced in schools as optional subject.

**Yugoslavia / Greece – December 8, 1956 (MOL)**

The Prime Minister of Greece, Constantine Karamanlis visits Yugoslavia.

**Hungary – December 8, 1956 (HC)**

Decree 16/1956 by the Minister of Finance announces that pensions held back since 1948 without a reason will be paid.

**Hungary – December 8, 1956 (BBR)**

In the town of Salgótarján, Soviet and Hungarian security forces open fire on a crowd of demonstrators. The massacre, which lasts for 8–10 minutes, leaves 52 dead and about 150 wounded. The shooting convinces the KMT to call a 48-hour strike.

**Poland – December 8, 1956 (OSA)**

A new Catholic Weekly magazine has begun to appear in Poznan, it is called '*Przewodnik Katolicki*'. The newspaper is the first to subscribe to the German Catholic Agency.

**East Germany / Hungary – December 8, 1956 (OSA)**

One of the Socialist Unity Party (SED)'s regional newspapers, the '*Saechsische Zeitung*', reports that "students of the Dresden Faculty of Inorganic Chemistry held a minute's silence for the defeated counterrevolutionaries of Hungary".

**Austria / Hungary – December 9, 1956 (OSA)**

Kovács András newspaper reporter makes a visit to Pamhagen, Austria, where over 200 Hungarian refugees live. He attempts to convince them to return to Hungary but is unsuccessful.

**Hungary – December 9, 1956 (BBR)**

The government outlaws the territorial workers' councils, including the KMT. The workers'-council delegates assembled at the headquarters of the building trade union in Budapest are arrested. KMT representatives personally deliver the call for a strike to the major provincial centers.

**Hungary – December 9, 1956 (BBR)**

Demonstrations and protests take place in a number of towns over the next two days. Numerous arrests are made. Security officials murder two national guard leaders in Salgótarján; several demonstrators are killed in confrontations with Soviet forces in the country.

**Hungary / Austria – December 10, 1956 (OSA)**

The police of Bonyhád arrest József Bánhegyi, who took 35 passengers with a MÁVÚT bus to the border of Austria, enabling them to escape the country. All the to-be-refugees are sent back to their homes.

**Poland / Soviet Union – December 10, 1956 (PSN)**

Rioters in Szczecin break into the Soviet consulate.

**Hungary – December 11, 1956 (HC)**

Decree 1956:28 by the Hungarian Presidential Council reintroduces martial law to punish the illegal use of firearms.

**Hungary – December 11, 1956 (BBR)**

The 48-hour strike called for by the KMT begins, halting production, rail traffic and public transport throughout the country. The central workers' council at the Csepel Iron and Metal Works comes out against the strike again, but all factories stop work nonetheless. In response, the Kádár government declares a state of emergency--martial law--and orders the disarming of factory guards. KMT leaders Sándor Bali and Sándor Rác are arrested at the Parliament building.

**Hungary / U.N. – December 11, 1956 (BBR)**

The Hungarian U.N. delegation walks out of the General Assembly following attacks against the Kádár government.

**Hungary / Red Cross – December 11, 1956 (NMC)**

Amil Sandstrom, the Chairman of the International Red Cross League's Executive Council, visits Budapest.

**Yugoslavia – December 12, 1956 (PLC)**

Milovan Dilas is sentenced to 3 years in prison for anti-communist activism. He was arrested on **November 19**.

**Hungary – December 12, 1956 (BBR)**

The Hungarian government reopens internment camps. Security forces continue to disperse demonstrations by force.

**Hungary / U. N. – December 12, 1956 (BBR)**

The U.N. General Assembly passes a further resolution condemning the Soviet intervention.

**Czechoslovakia – December 12, 1956 (OSA)**

Following Marshal Tito's speech at Pula, the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party passes a resolution that Yugoslavia is undermining the international labor movement.

**Hungary – December 13, 1956 (OSA)**

Hungarian newspaper Mai Lap claims many imprisoned criminals such as robbers and murderers escaped to the West during the '56 “counter-revolution”.

**Hungary – December 13, 1956 (OSA)**

József Göndöcz, citizen of Kapuvár is imprisoned for human trafficking.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – December 14, 1956 (MOL)**

The spokesman of the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry Branko Drašković speaks about the Hungarian refugees.

**Hungary – December 14, 1956 (BBR)**

The CPSU passes a resolution on sending Soviet advisers to Hungary.

**Hungary – December 15, 1956 (BBR)**

In Miskolc, József Soltész becomes the first participant in the revolution to be executed.

**Yugoslavia / UK / Hungary / Poland – December 16, 1956 (OSA)**

Borba, an organ of the Yugoslav communist party, attacked the BBC for its commentary on Titoism, Gomulka, and the future of the Hungarian government. BBC, particularly, stated that Titoism will not survive because of the non-existence of a multi-party system.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – December 17, 1956 (LKT)**

The *New York Times* reports that the Eisenhower administration has told Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito that it is ready for him to visit the United States. The Yugoslav Embassy in Washington immediately complains about this leak and the serious impact it could have on Yugoslav-Soviet relations.

**Poland / Soviet Union – December 17, 1956 (UNW)**

Poland and the Soviet Union sign an agreement on the formal rules of Soviet army stationing in Poland. It states that it cannot affect, in any way, the sovereignty of the country and that it cannot interfere with the internal policy of Poland. At the same time Gomulka approves the Soviet intervention in Hungary, which results in the Soviet Union granting Poland a huge loan and cancelling the Polish debt.

**Poland / Soviet Union – December 17, 1956 (PSN)**

An agreement “On the Legal Status of Soviet Troops Temporarily Stationed in Poland” is signed in Warsaw. Article one states that these troops cannot infringe in Polish sovereignty or interfere with Polish internal affairs.

**Hungary / France – December 18, 1956 (KAC)**

Pineau, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, suggests a neutral status to Hungary in the French Parliament.

**Poland – December 18, 1956 (OSA)**

A severe shortage in reserves of wheat in different villages of Poland is reported. The confidential report also affirms the possibility of a famine if the Soviets do not deliver the necessary wheat by March.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union / Hungary – December 18, 1956 (OSA)**

Pravda criticised Edvard Kardel's speech that was delivered on December 7, 1956. It accused the Yugoslav Vice-President of trying to justify the armed revolt fighting in the Communist leadership in Hungary.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – December 18, 1956 (LKT)**

At his news conference, U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles suggests that a trip by Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito to the United States for talks would be useful and that sympathetic considerations are being given to the idea.

**Hungary / Israeli – December 18, 1956 (NMC)**

Meir Touval, the new Israeli minister to Budapest, presents his credentials to István Dobi.

**Hungary – December 19, 1956 (HC)**

Governmental decree 12/1956 regulates the national holidays. National holidays: **January 1**, Easter Monday, **April 4**, **May 1**, **August 20** and **December 25-26**.

**Hungary – December 19, 1956 (HC)**

Governmental decree 25/1956 announces that an Information Office will be established, led by István Szirmai.

**Hungary – December 19, 1956 (OSA)**

Lawyer dr. Pogány András defects with his family, taking his clients' payments with him.

**Hungary / Austria / U.S. – December 19-23, 1956 (KAC)**

American Vice President Nixon visits Austria to negotiate with the members of the Austrian government about the future of the Hungarian refugees. He also visits the Austrian-Hungarian border.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – December 19-29, 1956 (PSM)**

A Yugoslavian delegation visits Poland for first time since 1948. No joint communiqué is issued and no conclusions on mutual relations are reached.

**Romania – December 19, 1956 (OSA)**

The report contains some details regarding the activity developed in Paris by the Romanian writer Demostene Botez.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – December 21, 1956 (KAC)**

The Yugoslav spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announces that the Soviet government answered to the memorandum sent to them about the Imre Nagy problem.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia — December 22, 1956 (OSA)**

Malenkov's administration moved to retrieve the arrest of the 9 doctors, proving that the new Soviet rule is still strict, but has a more rational way of governing. The Kremlin is now open for visits by both Russian tourists and foreign delegations, and the members of the government are making more public appearances, abandoning the formal uniforms of the Stalinist regime. Attempts to correct Stalin's ineffective practices have been made, along with the extension of friendship towards Yugoslavia and abandoning the principle of one-man leadership in favor of Malenkov's system of collective leadership.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – December 22, 1956 (MOL)**

The spokesman of the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry deals with the Soviet-Yugoslav relationships and expresses the hope of the Yugoslav government that misunderstandings in ideology cannot worsen bilateral relations.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – December 23, 1956 (KAC)**

Czechoslovak President Zapotocky calls back István Major, Czechoslovak ambassador from Budapest. The new ambassador will be Julius Victory.

**Hungary – December 24, 1956 (HC)**

Governmental decree 14/1956 announces that the tax of people without children will be abolished.

**Hungary – December 24, 1956 (BBR)**

In an attempt to win over public opinion, the Christmas issue of *Népszabadság* publishes articles on religious subjects. Authorities lift the curfew to allow worshippers to attend midnight mass.

**Romania / Hungary – December 24, 1956 (OSA)**

A 63 year old Romanian woman, a painter and singing teacher who arrived in Paris at the beginning of October 1956, describes the situation in Romanian before the Hungarian uprising. She applied for her exit visa from Romania in May 1955. She was a singing teacher at the Workers' Youth Organization and Lyric Artists' Trade-union in Bucharest.

**Hungary / USA – December 25, 1956 (OSA)**

György Sebestyén, former journalist of the *Magyar Nemzet* defects to the USA and publishes a book titled "The atrocities of communism in Hungary".

**Hungary – December 28, 1956 (BBR)**

Members of the Writers' Union accept Áron Tamási's piece "Sorrow and Confession" as a statement of principle, upholding the cause of the revolution.

**Hungary – December 28, 1956 (OSA)**

In the city of Kapuvár six men are arrested under the charges of human trafficking, namely József Pintér, Pál Erdősi, Antal Udvardi, András Sípőcz, Imre Horváth, and István Cserepes.

**Hungary – December 28, 1956 (OSA)**

Imre Knisszih attempts to flee the country with his wife and small child, taking 1 kg of gold valuables in his possession. He is caught at the border.

**Poland – December 28, 1956 (PSN)**

The Supreme military council renounces the 1953 sentences against Bishop Czeslaw Kazmarek, three Roman Catholic priests, and one nun.

**Hungary – December 29, 1956 (HC)**

Decree 1956:33 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces that some ministries will merge and others will be abolished. The Ministry of Mining and Energy and the Ministry of Chemical Industry will become the Ministry of Heavy Industry. The Ministry of Food and the Ministry of Light Industry, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Culture will merge. The Ministry of State Collection, the Ministry of City and Village Economy, the Ministry of

State Farms and the State Controlling Ministry will be abolished. The National Church Office will be abolished.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – December 29, 1956 (MOL)**

A delegation of Yugoslav party members leaves for Poland.

**Hungary – December 30, 1956 (HC)**

Governmental decree 31/1956 announces that the State Price Office will be established. Head: Béla Csikós-Nagy.

**Hungary – December 30, 1956 (BBR)**

A decree of the Presidential Council transfers the duties of the ÁVH to a department of the police.

**Poland – December 31, 1956 (PSN)**

A decree reduces the power of the state over church offices.

**East Germany / West Germany – December 31, 1956 (OSA)**

252,870 people flee to the FRG and West Berlin in 1956.

### **Hungary – 1957 (HC)**

According to the Austrian Interior Ministry 15 646 Hungarian citizens asked for asylum in Austria during the year.

The population of the 10 biggest cities in the country (thousand): Budapest 1850, Miskolc 150, Debrecen 130, Pécs 110, Szeged 100, Győr 68, Kecskemét 67, Nyíregyháza 56, Hódmezővásárhely 54, Szombathely 53.

The Hungarian National Gallery, the biggest collection of 19th and 20th century Hungarian fine art pieces, is founded.

### **Hungary / France – 1957 (KAC)**

The French Ministry of Foreign Affairs states that “the conditions to end diplomatic relations with Hungary seem to be present”. However, they decide to maintain the diplomatic relations with Hungary, because they believe the fact that the French embassy stays open in Budapest does not mean that the French government recognizes the Kádár government. On the other hand, ending the diplomatic relations would make the Hungarian people think that the West ignores their situation. In addition, France would not be able to collect first-hand information about Hungary without diplomatic relations and the interest of all dual citizens living in Hungary would be harmed.

### **Poland – 1957 (HDP)**

The weekly *Polityka* (Politics) is established in Warsaw. It is devoted mainly to contemporary Polish issues. It survives the fall of communism and continues to be one of the most popular magazines in Poland.

### **Romania – 1957 (OSA)**

The Romanian government is largely disappointed with the production of state-farms this year. It is widely known that state farms are not meeting production quotas and are unprofitable. At the state-farms in Constanta, Galati, Timisoara, and Craiova very few cows are registered per 100 hectares.

### **Romania – 1957 (OSA)**

During the calendar year of 1957, all farms in Constanta were officially reported as collectivised. This is the first such achievement in the agricultural sphere in Romania. It is the result of a collectivisation campaign that has been in effect since 1955.

### **Romania / Poland – 1957 (OSA)**

According to official sources, the quantity of Romanian-Polish trade increased by 80% in 1957 over the previous year and was expected to increase another 20% in the following year. Among products exported from Romania to Poland, petrol was the most common. Polish exports to Romania consisted of laminated products, machines, coke, and installations.

### **Soviet Union / Egypt – 1957 (OSA)**

The USSR becomes Egypt’s principal trading partner, for the first time in history. Between 1956-1957, Soviet–Egyptian turnover increased fourfold.

## **January**

### **Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – January 1957 (DCO)**

The President of Czechoslovakia, Antonin Zapotocky, accompanied by political officials, visits the Soviet Union. A Czechoslovak-Soviet declaration is issued. The document emphasizes the Leninist principles of equality, state sovereignty, independence and non-interference in internal affairs.

### **East Germany / West Germany – late January, 1957 (OSA)**

The East German government ends the “all-German meetings”, which had brought together East and West German students and had been greatly exploited for ‘co-existence’ propaganda in 1956.

### **Eastern Bloc – January 1–5, 1957 (CAC)**

A meeting of party and government representatives, excluding Poles, takes place in Moscow to discuss military matters—arming of the East European armies, and improvement and organization of air defenses.

### **Hungary – January 1, 1957 (OSA)**

A group of man who have previously helped people escape through the border were sentenced to prison. Another two man were sentenced who as well took 1800 forints from a group to escort them to the border.

### **Hungary – January 1, 1957 (OSA)**

The police of Vas county arrest Károly Horváth, László Pendli, and Ilona Szántó under the charges of human trafficking.

### **Hungary / Soviet Union / U.S. – January 1, 1957 (LBC)**

Soviet Prime Minister Bulganin’s response to U.S. President Eisenhower’s message of **November 4, 1956**: the Soviet intervention belongs to the competence of the Soviet and the Hungarian governments.

### **Hungary / U.S. – January 1, 1957 (LBC)**

Eisenhower permits the reception of Hungarian refugees above the announced quota of 21,500. Until **February 2, 1957** 26,405 Hungarian refugees arrive in the U.S.

### **Yugoslavia / U.S. – January 1, 1957 (LKT)**

U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles suggests to President Eisenhower that Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito's visit to the United States be confined to official talks in Washington; a tour of the United States would probably provoke incidents that would jeopardize the American-Yugoslav relationship.

### **Soviet Union- January 1, 1957 (KCA)**

Mikhail Pervukhin succeeds Maksim Saburov as Chairman of the State Economic Commission.

### **Poland – January 2-3, 1957 (PSN)**

The Revolutionary Youth Union and the Union of Worker Youth are fused into one organization called the Socialist Youth Union.



**Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Romania / Soviet Union – January 1-4, 1957 (KAC/BBR/PLC/MMS/KCA)**

Soviet, Bulgarian, Czechoslovak, Romanian and Hungarian leaders meet in Budapest. They discuss the draft of a forthcoming Hungarian government declaration as well as Nagy's role played during the revolution and its legal consequences.

**Austria- January 4, 1957 (KCA)**

The former President of Austria Theodor Körner dies.

**Hungary – January 4-7, 1957 (BBR/NMC)**

Philippe De Seynes, Deputy U.N. General Secretary, travels to Budapest to discuss the terms of the U.N. aid package to Hungary. He meets János Kádár.

**Poland- January 5, 1957 (KCA)**

The Polish state and church sign an agreement on relations between the two bodies. They agree on restoration of religious education.

**Hungary – January 5, 1957 (BBR)**

The government sanctions the death penalty for anyone refusing to return to work.

**Hungary January 5, 1957 (HC)**

The first issue of the *Magyar Ifjúság*, the weekly newspaper of the Hungarian Revolutionary Young Workers' Union is published.

**Hungary – January 5, 1957 (OSA)**

Three underage boys attempt to travel alone by train. Other passengers alert the police, the boys confess they were running away from home and planned to cross over to Austria. They are sent back to their families.

**Hungary – January 5, 1957 (OSA)**

Béla Molnár, head of the department of Scientific Institutions gives a list of well-acclaimed agricultural scholars and researchers who fled from Hungary. Their names are Kurt Sedlymayr, Sándor Bánlaki, András Kovács, Károly Wein, Endre Papp, Tibor Rajháti among others.

**Hungary – January 5, 1957 (OSA)**

The article reports on the ongoing negotiations between the state and the Calvinist church in Hungary. The negotiations are conducted by 5-5 people delegated from both sides. Topics of the negotiations include matters related to finances and grievances.

**Hungary – January 5-7, 1957 (KAC)**

Congress of the Hungarian Revolutionary Council in Strasbourg (France). This is the most important immigrant political event after the crush of the 1956 Hungarian revolution.

**Hungary – January 6, 1957 (BBR)**

The Kádár government publishes its program, "Statement of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of Workers and Peasants on the Main Tasks."

**Czechoslovakia/ Soviet Union- January 6, 1957 (KCA)**

The Czechoslovak State Radio stops playing the Soviet National Anthem each night, which had been a tradition since the communist seizure in 1948.

**Eastern Germany- January 7, 1957 (KCA)**

Is it publicly announced that 279 189 refugees from the German Democratic Republic had entered the Federal Republic in 1956, the highest number to date, with the exception of 1953.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / China – January 7–11, 1957 (BBR)**

Chinese Prime Minister Zhou En-lai visits Moscow. He calls for strong reprisals against participants in the Hungarian uprising.

**Hungary – January 8, 1957 (OSA)**

180 citizens taking train rides to areas closely located to Austria in order to defect are stopped by police razzia.

**Hungary – January 8, 1957 (OSA)**

The police of Szombathely arrest three men, namely Imre Bódei, István Ávár and Viktor Mátrai for being involved in human trafficking.

**Hungary – January 8, 1957 (OSA)**

Dr. Szegő Istvan sheds light on the different explanations the citizens give to police officers when being questioned as to why they are travelling so close to the Austrian border. The most common excuses are visiting family and friends or buying certain products. The police send the would-be-refugees back to their homes.

**Hungary / Austria – January 8, 1957 (KAC)**

The Hungarian government decides to strengthen the Austrian border.

**Hungary – January 8, 1957 (HC)**

Governmental decree 1004/1957 announces that the 50% discount on trains will be reintroduced from **April 1**.

**Austria / Hungary – January 9, 1957 (OSA)**

Eleven Hungarian secondary school students from Kőszeg make an escape to Austria, citing discontentment with their teachers as a reason. Eight of them are returned, the fate of the three students remains unknown.

**Hungary – January 9, 1957 (OSA)**

Police headquarters in Budapest arrest two men, Lajos Faskó and Lajos Faskó jr. for the handling of many stolen textiles. On the scene, they discover incriminating evidence that the men were involved in transporting dissidents to the border.

**Hungary / U.N. – January 9, 1957 (HC)**

The U.N. starts to discuss the Hungarian question.

**Poland – January 9, 1957 (PSN)**

Gomulka speaks at a pre-election meeting. He tells the public “to defend Polish sovereignty” and to “vote for the first candidates on the list. Return the candidate cards without any cancelled names... do not cancel the names of candidates from the Polish United Workers party.”

**Hungary / Soviet Union / China – January 10, 1957 (KAC)**

Chinese, Hungarian and Soviet state and party leaders (Kádár, Khrushchev and Zhou En-lai) meet in Moscow to discuss how to strengthen their bilateral relations. They also talk about the most important international problems.

**Poland – January 10, 1957 (PSN)**

The Cooperation Committee of Political Parties adopted a resolution instructing local electoral committees to remove candidates with “weak character or a lack of responsibility to for their conduct” and showed a disregard for “the principles of the Front of National Unity program and the discipline binding members of a political party.”

**U.S. – January 10, 1957 (LBC)**

Eisenhower’s state of the union address: „We are willing to enter any reliable agreement, which would reverse the trend towards more devastating nuclear weapons; reciprocally provide against the possibility of surprise attack and make feasible a lower level of armament and armed forces.”

**Hungary – January 10, 1957 (BBR)**

A Special Committee on Hungary is established by the U.N. General Assembly consisting of the representatives of Australia, Ceylon, Denmark, Tunisia and Uruguay.

**Hungary – January 11, 1957 (HC/NMC)**

The declaration of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of Workers and Peasants, raises objections against the American suggestion to send U.N. officials to Hungary to gather information on the Hungarian question.

**Poland / China – January 11-16, 1957 (PSM)**

A Chinese delegation led by Chinese Prime Minister Zhou En-lai visits Poland.

**Hungary – January 12, 1957 (HC)**

The *Mese a 12 találatról* (“The tale of 12 hits”), a film directed by Károly Makk, is first shown.

**Hungary – January 12, 1957 (BBR)**

A decree is issued introducing accelerated criminal proceedings. A state of emergency that previously applied mainly to armed actions is extended to acts of instigating strikes in factories employing more than 100 workers.

**Hungary – January 12, 1957 (OSA)**

A smuggler group was arrested by police after suspicious activities were noticed in their leader’s apartment. A former lawyer and his wife, helped by 11 accomplices smuggled people though the border, for 8000 forints each. They are awaiting trial.

**Hungary – January 12, 1957 (OSA)**

A smuggler group has led their victims – a group of 7 people – to their entrapment. The 7 escapees were caught in the mud near lake Fertő and were trapped by it and left alone by the smugglers. They were rescued by border patrol and the smuggler group was later arrested.

**Hungary – January 13, 1957 (OSA)**

A story of three friends. One of them has left Hungary, one of them came back, the other has not even tried to cross the border.

**Hungary – January 13, 1957 (OSA)**

In an RFE report four questions are raised and answered in connection to legislative problems related to defection. Is defection a cause for divorce? Is it child kidnap if one parent takes their child with them? Can you ask for child support from someone who is abroad? Can someone who came back from the West get back his former job?

**Hungary – January 13, 1957 (OSA)**

An RFE report discusses the nature of people who have left Hungary due to recent events. It detects two kinds of behavior and feeling that is apparent in those who have left. They were either over-nurtured or under-nurtured by the regime. A third group, that suddenly lost their standing in the middle of the two, is also present.

**Hungary – January 13, 1957 (HC)**

Decree 1/1957 by the Agricultural Minister announces that those collective farms dissolved during the “counterrevolution” are given back their original rights. All properties stolen during the “counterrevolution” must be given back to their owners.

**Poland – January 14, 1957 (UNW)**

The episcopate calls for attending the general elections, to be held on **January 20, 1957**, by “all the Catholic citizens”.

**Hungary / Austria – January 15, 1957 (KAC)**

A Hungarian repatriating committee arrives to Vienna led by Ferenc Esztergályos.

**Hungary / U.N. – January 15, 1957 (HC/NMC)**

The Hungarian U.N. delegation gives a memorandum to the General Secretary of the U.N. regarding the status of Hungarian who fled the country during the revolution. Decree no. 1956:27 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces that amnesty will be given to those who return to Hungary. The memorandum criticizes the countries receiving Hungarian refugees, because they do not encourage the refugees to return home. The Hungarian delegation asks for treatment following international law.

**Hungary – January 15, 1957 (HC)**

Decree no. 1957:4 announces that the criminal process will be fastened for those involved in the “counterrevolution”. This rule will be used in the trials of those accused of arson, robbery, looting, illegal use of firearms, encouragement of mass walkouts, conspiracy and rebellion.

**Hungary / Austria – January 16, 1957 (OSA)**

A woman whose son and daughter have left Hungary has committed suicide by jumping of the fifth floor of an apartment building in Budapest. The woman decided to end her life, after her children expressed their desire to her to go further West from Vienna.

**Hungary – January 16, 1957 (OSA)**

Two young boys, both eleven, have disappeared during an elementary school break. The two have said to have departed with the intention to defect. The article asks for information about their location.

**Hungary – January 16, 1957 (OSA)**

The newspaper ‘Népakarat’ reports of seven Hungarian defectors that were deported from the US. Radio Free Europe is blamed for the occurrence.

**Poland – January 16, 1957 (PSN)**

The Union of Young Democrats a party formed in 1956 that refused to bow to the Polish United Workers Party is dissolved.

**Hungary / China – January 16-17, 1957 (KAC)**

Chinese Prime Minister Zhou En-lai visits Hungary. A joint announcement is signed on **January 17**. In the afternoon on **January 16** a special session of the party is organized for the Chinese delegation, where both Kádár and Zhou En-lai give a speech.

**Hungary – January 17, 1957 (BBR)**

The interior minister suspends the activities of the Writers' Union. Shortly afterwards, all arts associations are placed under the ministry's supervision.

**Hungary / China / France – January 17, 1957 (KAC)**

While in Hungary, Zhou En-lai meets the French ambassador in Budapest, Jean Paul-Boncour. The French diplomat says in order to consolidate the situation in Hungary the Soviet occupational army should leave and the country should become neutral. The Chinese politician does not agree, he says while pretending to be neutral the Imre Nagy government sought relations with the West, and this "cannot be tolerated by any socialist country."

**Hungary – January 17, 1957 (HC)**

Decree 4/1957 by the Finance Minister announces that lottery will be allowed.

**Hungary – January 18, 1957 (HC)**

The Ministry of the Interior suspends the Hungarian Workers' Union.

**East Germany – January 18, 1957 (KGD)**

A law is passed for the gradual introduction of a 45-hours work week.

**Hungary – January 18, 1957 (NMC)**

James Cowley, the military attaché of the British embassy in Budapest, is deported from Hungary, because he was in contact with revolutionary leaders during the 1956 revolution. The media publishes the memorandums sent.

**Hungary – January 19, 1957 (BBR/HC)**

József Dudás and János Szabó are executed. They were found guilty of organizing an uprising aiming to overthrow the democratic order.

**Hungary – January 19, 1957 (OSA)**

A group of people were led to a false border by smugglers who fooled them. It was one of the five similar events occurring near lake Fertő in four days. The defectors were asked to pay and give their belongings to the smugglers. They were later arrested.

**Hungary – January 20, 1957 (HC)**

The Ministry of the Interior suspends the National Association of Hungarian Journalists.

**Hungary – January 20, 1957 (HC)**

The Mihály Táncsics Circle meets for the first time. The Circle is established in order to facilitate the cooperation of communist intellectuals.

**Hungary – January 20, 1957 (OSA)**

Train workers were taken into custody after helping out four people wanting to defect. They were caught by a border patrol officer who noticed the disappearance of the defectors.

**Hungary / Austria – January 20, 1957 (KAC)**

Austria Chancellor Julius Raab talks on the radio about the possible neutral status of Hungary.

**Poland – January 20, 1957 (PLC/PSN/UNW)**

Elections to the Diet are held. The official turnout is 94,1%. According to official results the Front of National Unity won 98.4% of the vote with 288 members of the United Workers Party and 115 members of the United Peasant's Party elected. 67 independents were elected. Some small religious organizations, such as *Znak* and *Pax*, receive seats in the Parliament.

**Hungary – January 21, 1957 (OSA)**

A young man after learning of his fiancée's defection stole a horse to go after her. He was later caught and will be tried for his crime.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – January 22, 1957 (KAC)**

A Soviet delegation led by Semichastnij, the Vice Minister of Foreign Trade, visits Hungary to negotiate the Trade Agreement for 1957.

**Hungary – January 23, 1957 (OSA)**

A man aged 63 was arrested for helping defectors cross the border near Austria. The price he asked was 10 000 forints.

**Hungary / U.K. – January 23, 1957 (NMC)**

The British government deports Béla Nagy, the Hungarian military attaché of the Hungarian embassy in London.

**Albania / Bulgaria – January 23-29, 1957 (KCA)**

The Bulgarian and Albanian governments meet in Tirana. They agree on all the fundamental questions of international politics.

**Hungary – January 24, 1957 (OSA)**

A young man has committed suicide by shooting himself in the hearth because of his parents' constant mockery of him after a failed attempt to defect.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia / Austria – January 24, 1957 (KAC)**

János Kádár informs the Council of Ministers that the technical lock at the Austrian and the Yugoslav border will be reinstalled.

**Poland – January 24, 1957 (OSA)**

A description of the three post - second world war elections in Poland. The report underlines the brutal force and electoral fraud carried out by the Communists both during the first post - war elections and during those held in 1952, the latter during the years of Communist terror. The voting procedure is described, specifying the decrease in terror during the third elections. The document provides a table showing the preferences expressed by the voters - only from the big cities - and the difference in the choice of the party. The table refers to the eight constituencies with the percentage of voters, the name of the party and the candidate alongside the ranking of the list.

**Poland / Hungary / Soviet Union / France – January 24, 1957 (OSA)**

The international response and support after the elections of the new Polish Parliament in 1957. Specifically, the commentaries of the Eastern Bloc countries are described, with the radio broadcast commentary from the Polish news agency (PAP) from Budapest and the radio home service in Moscow. The reaction towards the electoral results elicited in Paris and judged as administrative efficiency.

**Hungary / Austria – January 26, 1957 (OSA)**

A report on experiences of defectors and people coming back to Hungary from Austria. According to the report many are displeased with conditions abroad, needing to stay in camps constructed for defectors. The number of people coming back is written to be higher than those who stay or attempt to flee.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – January 26, 1957 (KAC)**

The *Népakarat* announces that Hungary will be given 240 million rubles of economic aid from the Soviet Union.

**Hungary – January 26, 1957 (HC)**

Decree no. 1957:5 announces that a Ministry of Labor will be established.

**Hungary – January 26, 1957 (HC)**

The Ministry of the Interior announces that Gyula Háy, Balázs Lengyel, Tibor Tardos, Zoltán Zelk writers, Sándor Novobáczky and Pál Lőcsei journalists were arrested. They are all accused of being involved in the “counterrevolution”.

**Hungary – January 27, 1957 (OSA)**

A description of a conversation between an interviewer and a young boy living in an orphanage after his parents have left him in Hungary. He was found by border patrol walking towards the Austrian border with a companion intending to follow their mother in the West. He is one of many children who were left behind by defectors.

**Hungary – January 27, 1957 (OSA)**

The cut out writes that every contract lawfully written is valid and people can keep everything the defectors have left behind if they were given to them.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – January 27, 1957 (LKT)**

The United States and Yugoslavia agree that Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito's visit will not take place.

**Hungary / Austria – January 28, 1957 (OSA)**

A radio emission addressed to a man who has left behind his family and defected to Austria. His wife and children are taken care of by the District Council. They are one of many families broken up by defection.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – January 28, 1957 (KAC/BER/NMC)**

Yugoslavia's new ambassador to Hungary, Jovo Kapić presents his credentials to István Dobi, Chairman of the Presidential Council.

**Hungary / Austria – January 30, 1957 (KAC)**

Oskar Helmer, Austrian Minister of Home Affairs, demands that other Western countries take the Hungarian refugees from Austria at the meeting of the International Refugee Agency in Geneva.

**Hungary / Austria – January 31, 1957 (NMC)**

The Hungarian embassy in Vienna sends a memorandum to the Austrian Foreign Ministry asking when the underage Hungarian refugees can return home.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – January 31, 1957 (OSA)**

Yugoslavian authorities have found the bodies of two men who drowned attempting to cross the Drava river. A third man who accompanied them could not be found.

**Soviet Union —January 31, 1957 (Soviet Union)**

A visit of a foreign correspondent to the Soviet Union provides a series of pleasant surprises about life behind the Iron Curtain, including the impressive architecture, the immense interest in arts, and the magnitude of the Russian intellectual society. The Soviet Union has been turned into a highly technical force, with great industrial investments that increase the power of the state at the expense of the comfort of the citizens. The combination of the education on a wide scale necessary for industrial progress and the destalinization campaign created a demand for greater independence of judgment and more freedom of decision than in the previous years.

**February****Eastern Europe / Yugoslavia – February, 1957 (RYE)**

Soviet and East European credits to Yugoslavia granted in 1956 are unilaterally canceled.

**Bulgaria - February, 1957 (KCA)**

The results of a population census in Bulgaria show 7 629 254 citizens- an increase of almost 600 000 since the previous census in 1946.

**Hungary – February, 1957 (OSA)**

An article listing all the people who have defected formerly working in the textile industry.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – February 1, 1957 (HC)**

The Hungarian *Forum* Publishing House opens in Novi Sad (Yugoslavia).

**Poland / Bulgaria – February 1, 1957 (OSA)**

The report recounts the Bulgarian reply from the painter Obreshkov to a Polish writer who had previously criticised his work. The painter describes the critics as false statements. It is also underlined that many Bulgarian painters had been previously criticised.

**Hungary – February 2, 1957 (BBR)**

János Kádár, First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and Prime Minister speaking in Salgótarján, accuses Nagy of fomenting a counter-revolutionary uprising and calls him a traitor.



**Hungary – February 2, 1957 (OSA)**

A woman in Budapest committed suicide by overdosing on drugs because of the defection of her son.

**Hungary – February 2, 1957 (OSA)**

A new director of public prosecutions is taking his place in the office. A stricter approach towards defectors will be the new norm.

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – February 2, 1957 (KAC)**

Hungarian-Czechoslovak negotiations in Prague about the possible improvements in economic relations and about the Czechoslovak aid to Hungary. On **July 19** a loan agreement of 100 million rubles is signed.

**Hungary / Austria / Norway – February 2, 1957 (OSA)**

Two foreign students – one American, one Norwegian – were deported from Hungary for smuggling people through the Austrian border. The Hungarian Foreign Ministry asked Norwegian authorities to allow them to bring back defector children – currently living without their parents in Norway – to Hungary.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – February 2, 1957 (KAC)**

The Yugoslav-Hungarian borderland is renewed. The Hungarian authorities set back the technical border fences on the Hungarian-Yugoslav frontier.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – February 2, 1957 (LBC)**

British Prime Minister Harold MacMillan announces that, because of his duties, he will not fulfil his predecessor Anthony Eden's pledge for a visit to Moscow.

**Austria- February 2, 1957 (KCA)**

The Austrian Government bans all further activities of the Secretariat of the World Peace Council in Vienna.

**Bulgaria- February 3, 1957 (KCA)**

The Bulgarian National Assembly approves the reorganization of the Bulgarian government. It involves the fusion of a number of ministries.

**Romania – February 3, 1957 (KCA)**

General elections in Romania take place. The Romanian Workers' Party wins with 99% of the popular vote. No opposition is permitted.

**Hungary – February 3, 1957 (HC)**

Decree no. 1957:10 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces that the property rights of agricultural estates will be adjusted.

**Hungary – February 3, 1957 (NMC)**

The Hungarian government organizes a permanent guarding group near the European U.N. office in Geneva.

**Hungary – February 3, 1957 (OSA)**

Seven young schoolboys aged 13 have conspired to defect but were swiftly caught on the street. Their intention was known to their head teacher but was dismissed as a joke. They were taken to the police until their parents arrived.

**Poland – February 4, 1957 (OSA)**

It is reported that in 1957, the Polish trade unions council are facing a reduction of direct supervision in Polish enterprises alongside the de - centralisation of its tasks with the will to strengthen the individual unions. Alongside it, it is reported the will to take a different route towards industrial democratisation through the collaboration with men more connected with the workers.

**Hungary – February 5, 1957 (OSA)**

Two brothers who smuggled people through the border were caught by the police after one of their clients could not reach the border.

**Hungary / Austria – February 5, 1957 (KAC)**

The Austrian government decides to start a cultural and sport boycott against Hungary: Hungarian artists and sportsmen are not allowed to travel to Austria.

**Hungary / Poland – February 5, 1957 (KAC)**

The *Népszabadság* announces that Poland gave a loan of 40 million rubles to Hungary.

**Hungary / UN – February 6, 1957 (NMC)**

The Hungarian government does not accept the U.N. report on the Hungarian situation. The report was written based on the interviews with Anna Kéthly, Béla Király and József Kővágó.

**Hungary – February 7, 1957 (OSA)**

A decree giving additional details on the persecution of activities related to defection. The prison sentences given to people committing the listed felonies and their brief explanation is included.

**Poland – February 7, 1957 (OSA)**

In this report information from Polish radio and press affirm the possible problems that the employment of more than 100,000 young people in various sectors could cause to the nation. It underlines the commitment from the government to donate licences to avoid unemployment and the simultaneous request for help from foreign states for the purchase of raw materials to keep the Polish industries running. During the conference on the employment issue, the discussion of redundant workers was discussed alongside affirming the need to employ workers even in small towns. It stresses the difficulty of finding work, especially where there was high demand.

**Hungary – February 8, 1957 (OSA)**

A radio program talks about how the belongings of defectors should be handled. People who return to Hungary before the 31st of March will be given back their belongings. People who have lawfully acquired the belongings of defectors are allowed to keep them.

**Hungary / France – February 8, 1957 (KAC)**

The first contact of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Hungarian embassy in Paris after the 1956 revolution: Kálmán Ujlaki gives a memorandum to Etienne Manac'h leader of

the Eastern European Subcommittee, asking for an exit permit for the Hungarian refugees in France. The Hungarian politician explains the official Hungarian standpoint about the “counterrevolution”.

**Hungary /Switzerland – February 8, 1957 (NMC)**

Ambassador József Marjai presents his credentials in Bern.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – February 8, 1957 (MOL)**

The Yugoslav spokesman announces that 16 912 Hungarian refugees have entered Yugoslav territory by that time, of which 203 people have repatriated and another 208 has left for another country.

**Hungary – February 9, 1957 (HC)**

Miklós Horthy, former Regent of Hungary from 1920 to 1944, dies in exile in Estoril, Portugal.

**Hungary – February 9, 1957 (OSA)**

A man who went to Budapest in order to work became a smuggler instead. He acquired a fair amount of wealth ranging from gold to expensive textiles.

**Hungary – February 9, 1957 (OSA)**

32 people were caught near the Hungarian border by patrol guards. The group was led by one smuggler, who assembled the group of defectors while on a business trip in Budapest. The man awaits trial.

**Hungary – February 9, 1957 (OSA)**

One couple, husband and wife and three farmers were tired because of the intention to defect. The couple was led the wrong way by the farmers and later all of them were caught. The farmers were sentenced each for 3 months in prison, while the husband got 4, the wife 3.

**Poland – February 9, 1957 (OSA)**

It is reported that the statement of commitment of a Polish newspaper to "put an end" to any provocations and incitements of revolt by party members against each other. It is claimed that this warning was likely addressed to the more conservative members of the Communist Party, the "Natolin". The possible topics to be addressed during the Central Committee Plenum and the positions of the opposition against Gomulka are stated here.

**Soviet Union/Western Germany – February 10, 1957 (KCA)**

Marshal Bulganin calls for closer cooperation between Soviet Union and Western Germany in a personal letter sent to Konrad Adenauer.

**France/Soviet Union- February 11, 1957 (KCA)**

France and Soviet Union sign a new three-year trade agreement, increasing trade exchanges from year to year.

**Soviet Union – February 11-14, 1957 (PLC)**

The Supreme Soviet announces a decree on minority rehabilitation. Among others, the Germans living in the Volga area are rehabilitated, but they are not given permission to return to their homes. The 13 500 German war prisoners still in the Soviet Union are allowed to return to Germany.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – February 11, 1957 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union proposes that France, the United States, the Soviet Union and Great Britain agree not to interfere in the Middle East. The United States rejects the pact on March 11.

**Soviet Union – February 12, 1957 (KCA)**

A number of important legal changes in the Soviet Union is approved. Re-definition of the status and functions of the Supreme Court being the most significant.

**Hungary / U.N. – February 12, 1957 (LBC)**

A committee of the U.N. General Assembly postpones the accreditation of the Kádár government's representative.

**Hungary – February 12, 1957 (NMC)**

The U.N. General Assembly's committee on mandates decides that the mandate of Hungarian will not be questioned, accepting an American suggestion.

**Hungary – February 13, 1957 (HC)**

Oszkár Jászi, one of the leaders of the Hungarian civil radicals, minister in 1918-1919, dies in Oberlin, U.S.

**Soviet Union / India / China / North Korea — February 13, 1957 (OSA)**

A Professor of Government named Merle Fainsol, makes a series of remarks about Universities in the Soviet Union. He observed that the Soviet values are mirrored in the layout of the University, which is evident by the fact that the scientific and technical faculties are housed in the new buildings, while the humanities are reserved for the old structures. The student quarters were small but adequate and the student body also included people from China, North Korea, India, etc. When the professor audited one of the lectures, the students expressed their curiosity about life in an American University, current international events, and the political system.

**NATO/ European Community – February 14, 1957 (KCA)**

The British government notifies the North Atlantic Council and the Council of the Western European Union of its decision to reduce troop commitments in West Germany. This is part of Britain's policy of reducing the size of conventional forces while relying on the nuclear deterrent.

**Czechoslovakia – February 14, 1957 (OSA)**

Czechoslovakia is forced to change this year's economic plan, raising coal targets as upheaval in Poland and Hungary makes those countries' exports dwindle.

**Hungary / Romania – February 15, 1957 (KAC)**

Gyula Kállai travels to Romania, where he meets the party leaders and Imre Nagy detained in Snagov.

**Hungary – February 15, 1957 (OSA)**

A smuggler was caught by authorities. The man – he himself a former defector, disenchanted by the conditions at the Austrian refugee camps – helped at least 70 people cross the border. He also collected gold from defectors as a remembrance. He was sentenced to two years in prison.

**Poland – February 15, 1957 (OSA)**

It is reported that for the will of the Polish Union of Rural Youth (ZMW) a system of informal education called “Peoples universities” has been re - established after having been forbidden by the Communist regime. The Peoples Universities are sponsored by the organisations. The ZMW represents one of the three Polish independent youth organisations, the others being the Union of Socialist Youth (ZMS) and the Democratic Youth Union. On February 10 - 11th, a resolution to guarantee cooperation and development in the countryside was also passed by the ZMW. Details on the radio commentary and the establishment of students’ committees are provided.

**Soviet Union – February 15, 1957 (CWC)**

Shepilov is dismissed as foreign minister. Andrei Gromyko becomes his replacement.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – February 15, 1957 (MOL)**

Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union sign an agreement of cooperation on the peaceful use of nuclear power.

**Bulgaria/ Soviet Union – February 15-21, 1957 (KCA)**

A meeting is held between the Bulgarian and Soviet governments in Moscow. They agree to strengthen mutual cooperation and declare their further affiliation to the Warsaw Treaty.

**Hungary – February 17, 1957 (OSA)**

József Darvas, in an op-ed discusses why so many children and young people want to defect from Hungary. He finds that not letting children be like children is a huge factor why they want to defect.

**Hungary / Austria – February 17, 1957 (OSA)**

Some Hungarian refugees have reached the village of Wallern. One man has appealed to the villagers to help him go back to the frontier and get his wife and two children through the border as well. Three villagers and two huntsmen accompanied him in a tractor on his way to the border. Later on, it was discovered that all were seized by Hungarian authorities who illegally crossed the border. In 24 hours, 22 refugees have successfully reached Austria.

**Hungary / Austria – February 19, 1957 (OSA)**

Five children were stopped walking along on the road between Budapest-Vienna. They said to have been wanting to go to America. All of them were sent back to their parents.

**Hungary / Austria – February 19, 1957 (KAC)**

Hungarian-Austrian trade negotiations start in Vienna.

**Hungary – February 19, 1957 (HC/BBR)**

Decree no. 1957:13 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces that Workers’ Militia will be organized in order to secure the democratic rule.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 19, 1957 (LBC)**

Soviet First Secretary Khrushchev’s interview to the New York *Herald Tribune*: Soviet troops will be pulled back to Soviet territory from all the countries in Europe where they are stationed. Simultaneously the West European countries should withdraw their troops from foreign countries. The U.S. would pull back its troops from Europe and Asia and all foreign bases would be liquidated. Khrushchev warns: there is no invulnerable territory on the globe and the Soviets

are not behind in military technology. He urged the normalization of Soviet-American relations and contact on the highest level.

**Poland – February 19, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish Central Office of Statistics published the results of the Economic Plan for 1956. As the first year of the 5-year-plan the national income achieved in 1956 increased by 7% which was 2% above target.

**Soviet Union / Bulgaria – February 20, 1957 (OSA)**

The export of Bulgarian uranium to the Soviet Union is mentioned for the first time in the declaration pertaining to the negotiations between government delegations of Bulgaria and the Soviet Union.

**Hungary / France – February 21, 1957 (KAC)**

The media announces that the Hungarian embassy in Paris raised objections against the “provocative treatment” of the Petöfi Folk Ensemble at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

**Hungary / Austria – February 21, 1957 (KAC)**

The Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs criticizes Austria again of violating its neutrality.

**Bulgaria / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – February 21, 1957 (MOL)**

A joint statement of the Soviet and the Bulgarian governments states that friendly relations must be strengthened with Yugoslavia.

**Hungary – February 22, 1957 (OSA)**

A woman has committed suicide by hanging herself after the defection of her daughter. She was found in the shed by her husband.

**Hungary – February 22, 1957 (OSA)**

A man has murdered a woman with his gun after offering to help her cross the border. He asked 6000 forints from her and stole the money. He was later caught and sentenced to death by hanging. The sentence was carried out after no appeal was asked for.

**Hungary / U.S. – February 22, 1957 (KAC/ LBC)**

The Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs officially informs the American Legation in Budapest that Minister Edward Wailes, (who had arrived in Budapest on **November 2, 1956**), but had not presented his credentials to the Kádár government and „practiced illegal activities in Hungary”, is called on to leave the country. Wailes is called home by the State Department on February 27.

**Hungary / Norway – February 22, 1957 (NMC)**

In Oslo the Hungarian-Norwegian 1955 trade agreement is extended and other financial questions are discussed.

**Hungary / Austria – February 25, 1957 (KAC)**

The Hungarian police surround the area around the Austrian embassy. Even Ambassador Peinsipp's identity is checked. The cordon is removed after 5 days.

**Hungary / France – February 25–March 2, 1957 (KAC)**

The Hungarian authorities organize police checks at the French embassy probably in order to frighten away the Hungarian visitors. The French diplomatic mission raises objections in a memorandum. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs answers that the authorities are looking for those prisoners who were freed during the “counterrevolution”.

**Hungary – February 26, 1957 (OSA)**

A group of people were caught after a series of events occurring at many different places. The article details the series of events leading to their trial. The story of selling an apartment and stealing a bike are both part of the article.

**Hungary – February 28, 1957 (HC)**

The Provisional Revolutionary Government of Workers and Peasants is renewed. President: János Kádár. Deputy President: Ferenc Münnich. State Minister: György Marosán. Ministers: Béla Biszku (Interior), Frigyes Doleschall (Health), Imre Dögei (Agriculture), Géza Révész (Defense), Antal Apró (Industry), Imre Horváth (Foreign), Gyula Kállai (Culture), István Kossa (Finance), György Csanádi (Transportation and Post), János Tausz (Internal Trade), József Kilián (Construction), Ferenc Nezvál (Justice), Jenő Incze (External Trade), József Mekis (Labor).

**Hungary – February 28, 1957 (OSA)**

The story of one white bundle of mystery – turning out to contain more than a kilo of gold – and a defector who left it behind but wanted to retrieve it later on is told in an article. In the end, the woman who helped the owner get through the border is caught by the authorities.

**March****Hungary – March–April, 1957 (BBR)**

Nagy's book *On Communism: In Defense of the New Course*, appears in the West.

**Poland- March 1, 1957 (KCA)**

The Polish parliament (Sejm) adopts important changes in its organization. It will be convened at least twice a year and will form 19 committees.

**Hungary – March 2, 1957 (NMC)**

An extension of the Hungarian-Danish trade agreement is signed in Budapest.

**Hungary – March 3, 1957 (OSA)**

An op-ed discussing the question of Hungarian youth and their uprootedness and want to defect and leave Hungary. Through the story of János Szabó, a worker whose son is infected by this urge to defect common in the youth, the author calls to the youth of Hungary and asks them to consider their intentions in the light of their parents' plight.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria / Russia – 4 March, 1957**

Yugoslav newspaper Večeren Reporter (Skoplje, Macedonia) implies that Soviet aid to the Bulgarian people is nothing but a merciless exploitation of Bulgaria by the "great Russian brother"

**Poland / Soviet Union – March 5, 1957 (PSN)**

Poland and the Soviet Union sign an agreement on the location of the northern Baltic border.

**Hungary – March 6, 1957 (HC)**

The first issue of the *Magyarország* (Hungary), the weekly paper of the *Mihály Táncsics Circle*, is published.

**Hungary / U.S. – March 7, 1957 (LBC)**

Washington accuses the Hungarian government that the visitors of the U.S. Legation are being „harassed and arrested”.

**Soviet Union- March 8, 1957 (KCA)**

A test of nuclear weapons is executed in the Soviet Union.

**Hungary / U.K. – March 8, 1957 (KAC)**

The Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs sends a memorandum to the British government raising objections against the anti-Hungarian government propaganda.

**Hungary / Austria – March 8, 1957 (NMC)**

The media publishes the declaration of the Foreign Ministry about Austrian-Hungarian relations. It is stated that Austria is responsible for the worsening relations.

**Hungary – March 8, 1957 (KAC)**

Count János Eszterházy, former president of the Hungarian Party, dies in a hospital prison in Mirov (Moravia).

**Hungary – March 9, 1957 (HC)**

The Office of Religious Affairs of the Ministry of Culture announces that József Mindszenty was sentenced to life imprisonment. He cannot hold any religious offices, following his orders is illegal.

**Hungary – March 9, 1957 (KAC)**

Yves Montand and his wife, Simone Signoret, visit Hungary. The world-famous chanson singer gives four concerts in the Erkel Theater in Budapest from **March 11**. (The Hungarian popularity of the singer can be demonstrated with the fact that his autobiography published in 1956 sold 100,000 copies and a second edition was published in 1957.)

**Hungary – March 10, 1957 (HC)**

Governmental decree 16/1957 announces that **March 15** will be a school holiday.

**Hungary – March 10, 1957 (OSA)**

The details behind the sentencing of two Hungarian boys is discussed. They were both excused after attempting twice to cross the border, having been turned around on their first attempt and trying for the second time. The fact that they have voluntarily apprehended themselves was found to be an extenuating circumstance.

**Eastern Germany/Soviet Union- March 12, 1957 (KCA)**

A Soviet- East German agreement on the status of Soviet troops in Eastern Germany is signed in East Berlin.



**Hungary – March 12, 1957 (HC)**

Mihály Francia Kiss, the mass murderer of the Horthy “white terror”, is arrested.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – March 14, 1957 (KAC/BER)**

The new Hungarian ambassador to Yugoslavia, Lajos Cséby presents his credentials to Yugoslav Premier Josip Broz Tito.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – March 14, 1957 (KAC)**

Gromov, the new Soviet ambassador in Budapest, presents his credentials to István Dobi.

**U.S. – March 14, 1957 (LBC)**

U.S Deputy Secretary of State Christian Herter announces upon his arrival in London that the U.S. are ready to take the first steps towards arms reduction.

**Yugoslavia – March 15, 1957 (KCA)**

President of the Yugoslav Federal Assembly and one of the closest associates of Marshall Tito, Moshe Pijade, dies in Paris.

**Hungary – March 15, 1957 (HC)**

The first issue of the *Élet és Irodalom*, a weekly paper of literature and politics, is published.

**Soviet Union – March 15, 1957 (LBC)**

Soviet Defense Minister Zhukov opines that in case of war the Soviet Union’s major striking capability would be its thermonuclear arsenal. A new war would mutually destroy both sides.

**Hungary / U.S. – March 15, 1957 (NMC)**

The temporary deputy ambassador to Washington DC sends a memorandum to the American Foreign Ministry raising objections against the arrest of several Hungarian citizens. Presumably László Jeney and György Kárpáti (waterpolo players), Róbertné Déry and her son, László Rónai, József Kiss, József Király were arrested in the United States.

**Hungary – March 15, 1957 (BBR)**

Security forces assert control over Budapest and other larger cities on the anniversary of the 1848 Hungarian Revolution. In Romania by this time, more than 20 prisoners have been executed and several hundred arrested in connection with the Hungarian uprising. The first issue of the exile *Irodalmi Újság* ("Literary Gazette") appears in London.

**Soviet Union – March 16, 1957 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union issues a proposal for all-European cooperation in atomic energy and economic development.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 18, 1957 (LBC)**

Soviet disarmament plan in the U.N. Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Zorin recommends the aerial and ground supervision of the armed forces. According to the Russian proposal, nuclear weapons would be banned. Eisenhower’s disarmament advisor Harold Stassen agrees with the Soviet proposal to reduce the Soviet and American forces by 2.5 million each and the British and French by 750 thousand. According to Stassen the exchange of military plans and graduated arms reduction could lead to results in arms reduction within nine months.

**Soviet Union/ Western Powers – March 18, 1957 (KCA)**

Negotiations open in London between the Soviet Union and the Western Powers (U.S., U.K., France, Canada) on the issue of mutual disarmament

**East Germany / West Germany – March 18, 1957 (OSA)**

In a historic offer, East German authorities propose to remove trade arrears with West Germany by facilitating more exports in fuel and mineral oil from the GDR, whereas previously they had imposed a conditionality on West German steel deliveries.

**Hungary – March 19, 1957 (NMC)**

István Kálló, the new Hungarian ambassador to Israel, presents his credentials in Tel Aviv.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – March 20-28, 1957 (KAC)**

A Hungarian party and government delegation negotiates in Moscow led by Kádár. According to these negotiations, in 1957 Hungary is given a loan of goods and money worth 875 million rubles from the Soviet Union. They agree to talk about the legal situation of the Soviet troops in Hungary. The leaders of the two parties meet separately on **March 27-28** to discuss the international situation and the question of the international workers' movement. The two parties decide to cooperate more.

**Hungary – March 21, 1957 (HC)**

The Hungarian Young Communist League is founded in the Erkel Theater in Budapest.

**Hungary / U.S. – March 21, 1957 (LBC)**

The U.S. give four million dollars to facilitate the settlement of Hungarian refugees outside the United States.

**Poland – March 22, 1957 (PSN)**

An act is passed treating the extraordinary claims of employees as void.

**Hungary – March 24, 1957 (HC)**

Decree no. 1957:22 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces that the Presidential Council has to approve all appointments to top religious offices. Similarly, religious officers can be only moved or dismissed with the approval of the Presidential Council.

**Hungary – March 24, 1957 (OSA)**

A decree issued by the state on matters related to the compulsory approval on the appointment of church officials by the state.

**Poland- March 25, 1957 (KCA)**

The reduction of Polish armed forces by 44 500 officers is implemented. Two reductions, in 1955 and 1956, totalling 97 000 men, had previously been made.

**Poland / Soviet Union – March 25, 1957 (PSN)**

A repatriation agreement is signed by Poland and the Soviet Union allowing those who were Polish citizens on **September 17, 1939** (and their children) and had close relatives in Poland, but not in the Soviet Union, to be repatriated to Poland. The agreement applied to those of Jewish ancestry but not to other minorities.

**Soviet Union / Norway – March 26, 1957 (CWC)**

Soviet Union warns Norway not to allow NATO bases on its territory.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – March 27, 1957 (KAC)**

Soviet Prime Minister Bulganin during the Hungarian delegation's visit in the Soviet Union states that the Yugoslav leaders encouraged and helped the Hungarian "counterrevolution". Kádár criticizes Kardelj and Popvic because of their speeches about the October events.

**Hungary / Austria – March 28, 1957 (KAC)**

The Hungarian delegation led by György Marosa planning to attend the 17th congress of the Austrian Communist Party is not given permission to enter the country.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – March 28, 1957 (KAC)**

Gyula Kállai, Minister of Culture, signs the Soviet-Hungarian Cultural Agreement for 1957 in Moscow.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – March 28, 1957 (KRI)**

Agreements on the placement of Soviet troops in Hungary are signed in Moscow.

**Hungary – March 29, 1957 (NMC)**

The Hungarian Foreign Ministry raises objections in a memorandum to the U.N. because the mandate of Hungary was not recognized.

**Hungary – March 29, 1957 (HC)**

Decree no. 1957:24 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces that the procedure to return home will be made easier for those who fled the country. Those emigrating between **October 23, 1956** and **January 31, 1957** will not be punished if they return before **March 31**. The cases of those returning after **April 1** will be evaluated individually.

**Soviet Union – March 29, 1957 (OSA)**

In his March 'theses', Khrushchev announces the desirability of financial reforms. These reforms concern the collection of turnover taxes, profit taxes and strengthening the roles of GOSBANK and long-term investment banks in their relationship with the new regional economic councils (sovnarkkhozy).

**Hungary – March 30, 1957 (OSA)**

The court had its first hearing in the case of a smuggler group consisting of twelve people, who have smuggled approximately 70 people to Austria throughout their career. They have collected more than 130 000 forints from the defectors.

**April****Poland / China / Korea / Mongolia / Vietnam – April, 1957 (PSM)**

Polish Prime Minister Cyrankiewicz visits China, Vietnam, Korea and Mongolia.

**Hungary / Romania – April, 1957 (HC)**

The first issue after 17 years of *Korunk* is published in Cluj. Editors: Edgár Balogh, Ernő Gáll.

**Poland – April, 1957 (PSN)**

First Secretary of the PUWP Gomulka condemns deviation as a way of fixing past mistakes.

**Hungary – April, 1957 (HC)**

During the month party and government leaders organize meetings, workers' assemblies, popular assemblies and ideological lecture series in Budapest and other cities. Among others János Kádár (Budapest, Sportcsarnok), Jenő Fock (Csepel), Ferenc Münnich (Budapest, Technological University), István Dobi (Kaposvár), Gyula Kállai (Szombathely), Lajos Fehér (Tamási) talk about current political problems.

**Czechoslovakia – April, 1957**

The regime announces plans to adjust work and wage norms for some 425,000 white collar workers, aiming to raise living standards.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – April 1, 1957 (LKT)**

U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles decides to resume some aircraft deliveries to Yugoslavia. He directs that a press release be prepared that emphasizes the training aspects involved in providing the planes in order to blunt any domestic criticism of his action.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – April 2, 1957 (KAC)**

Kádár reports about his negotiations in Moscow to the Temporary Responsible Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party. He states that the members of the Nagy group will be trialed. Kádár repeats these statements at the KP session on **April 5**.

**Hungary – April 4, 1957 (OSA)**

The article tells the story of a man and a woman who have both been accused of embezzlement and defection. According to the standing amnesty – the event occurred before March 31 - they only will be tried for their former crime.

**Hungary / France – April 4, 1957 (KAC)**

The French authorities continue to diplomatically boycott the Hungarian government and so they do not attend the reception organized at the Hungarian embassy in Paris to celebrate the national day. Representatives of the French Communist Party and other socialist countries attend the celebration.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – April 5, 1957 (MOL/BER/KAC)**

In an article titled *Accusations and Facts* published in *Borba*, Vlado Begović criticizes the Moscow declaration of János Kádár and Bulganin and assumes that another trial against Yugoslavia is under way, based on the Rajk trial of 1949.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – April 5, 1957 (BBR)**

Kádár writes to the Yugoslav government requesting that the "right of asylum" accorded to Nagy and his associates be formally annulled.

**Hungary – April 6, 1957 (BBR)**

The People's Tribunal Council of the Supreme Court is established. It serves on the one hand as the general court of appeals for legal proceedings connected to the process of official retaliation, and on the other hand as the court of first instance for especially important cases, providing no possibility for appeal. The people's tribunals, together with the Act of People's Jurisdiction, become the primary means of legal reprisal against the revolution.

**Hungary – April 6, 1957 (OSA)**

A letter from a young man (Sándor Fekete) that is read out loud in a radio broadcast. In great detail and with emotion he speaks about the pain felt by those whose family members have stayed abroad and did not come back to Hungary before the 31 March deadline of amnesty. It is more of a contemplation on the plight of those who were affected by defection but remained in Hungary.

**Hungary / U.S. – April 9, 1957 (LBC)**

Gleason, deputy of the U.S. military attaché is expelled from Hungary due to charges of espionage.

**Poland / Soviet Union – April 9, 1957 (KCA)**

The protocol on Soviet-Polish trade for the year 1957 is signed in Moscow. The value of exchanged trade should be much higher than in 1956.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – April 9, 1957 (MOL)**

44 underage refugees return to Hungary from Yugoslavia.

**Poland / Soviet Union – April 9, 1957 (OSA)**

Poland and Moscow signed a new trade agreement for which the exchange of goods has increased by 23% since last year. More Soviet goods such as raw materials and grain will be imported to Poland.

**Poland – April 10, 1957 (OSA)**

The report provides information on the private trades in Poland and its statistics dated back to April 1957. The information was given during a press conference to Radio Warsaw by the Central Council of the Polish Private Trade and Services Association. The report also gives details on the statistics and number of enterprises from 1946 to 1957 in Poland.

**Hungary – April 11, 1957 (OSA)**

A statement issued by the Hungarian episcopate. Negotiations between the state and the church entered an important phase on the 10th of April. The discussion of untouched matters and grievances will continue. The episcopate condemns all attacks on the proper functioning of the national order in Hungary.

**U.S. – April 12, 1957 (LBC)**

The U.N. Disarmament Subcommittee's U.S. representative, Harold Stassen, proposes a disarmament plan: from 1958 the world's fissionable material stock should be redirected to peaceful means and a nuclear supervisory organ should be established.

**Hungary – April 13, 1957 (BBR)**

The curfew in force in Budapest for the last six months is lifted.

**Hungary / Romania – April 14, 1957 (BBR)**

Members of the Nagy group who have been arrested are brought back to Budapest from Romania.

**Soviet Union / Romania – April 15, 1957 (PLC/RFP)**

Negotiations between state delegations from Romania and the Soviet Union are held in Bucharest, concerning the question of Soviet troops. Romanian Foreign Minister Grigore

Preoteasa and General Leontin Salajan sign an agreement regarding the juridical status of the Soviet troops temporarily stationed in Romania.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia / Albania – April 17, 1957 (MOL)**

A joint declaration of the Soviet and Albanian governments considers it necessary to improve relations with Yugoslavia.

**U.S. / Egypt – April 17, 1957 (LBC)**

U.S. Attorney General Brownell rejects a proposal put forward by a group of congressional representatives for the emigration of five thousand Jewish refugees from Egypt. According to the attorney general the extension of immigration laws requires Congressional resolution, except for Hungarian immigrants.

**Poland – April 17, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish News Agency (PAP) and the Polish Central Committee Secretariat have announced a new committee to deal with 'Problems of the international working-class movement, contacts with fraternal parties and foreign propaganda'. The committee will be led by CC Secretary Jerzy Morawski and Roman Zambrowski.

**Poland / Soviet Union / Western Bloc – April 19, 1957 (LBC)**

Khrushchev's warning to the West: „Don't try to test as you did in Hungary – with a putsch□cBe careful! We are not saints and if necessary we can wrap your knuckles.” According to Defense Minister Zhukov the Soviet Union is capable of retaliating any NATO measure. Khrushchev warns Polish Prime Minister Cyrankiewicz that the U.S. is wooing Poland „gas a bride” in order to „to find a lever to use against the Soviet Union and socialism.” According to Khrushchev Poland is the Soviet Union's best ally and the USSR's defense capability is the best guarantee for Poland's western boundaries, since a possible attack on Poland would be regarded as an attack on the Soviet Union.

**Hungary – April 20, 1957 (OSA)**

A man was caught for the embezzlement of 60 000 forints while his accomplice has defected and left the country.

**Soviet Union / Great Britain – April 20, 1957 (KCA/ LBC)**

Soviet Prime Minister Marshal Bulganin sends a conciliatory personal letter to British Prime Minister Macmillan, expressing the view that the two governments could reach agreement on all important international issues. He calls for MacMillan to review Anthony Eden's earlier proposal on demilitarization. Special emphasis is placed on refraining from the use of force in the Middle East and agreeing to an immediate ban on atomic and hydrogen bomb tests. Bulganin also calls for the resumption of discussions on the establishment of a demilitarized zone in Europe.

**Hungary – April 21, 1957 (BBR)**

The interior minister dissolves the Writers' Union.

**Hungary – April 21, 1957 (HC)**

Decree 1-2/1957 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that “For the power of workers and peasants” medallions will be given to acknowledge the work of the police forces.

**Soviet Union – April 21, 1957 (LBC)**

An article in *Pravda*: If the West would withdraw its troops and liquidate its military bases, the Soviet Union would have “no need for Soviet troops to remain on the territories of Poland, the GDR, Hungary and Romania.”

**Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union / U.S. – April 22, 1957 (LBC)**

U.S. Foreign Minister Dulles renews the doctrine of the “liberation of the captive nations,” which was a pillar of the Eisenhower administration’s foreign policy. “We seek the liberation of the captive nations...not in order to encircle Russia with hostile forces but because peace is in jeopardy and freedom a word of mockery until the divided nations are reunited and the captive nations are set free.” “We revere and honor those who as martyrs gave their blood for freedom. But we do not ourselves incite violent revolt. Rather, we encourage an evolution to freedom.” The U.S. proposes that the U.N. condemn the invasion against Hungary. When there is step toward independence, such as in the recent past in Poland, America is ready to respond with friendly deeds. “Let us see to it that the divided or captive nations know that they are not forgotten; that we shall never make a political settlement at their expense, and that a heartfelt welcome and opportunity await them as they gain more freedom.”

**Austria / Soviet Union- April 22-29, 1957 (KCA)**

First Deputy Premier of the Soviet Council of Ministers, Anastas Mikoyan, visits Austria. It is the first official visit by a Soviet leader since the Austrian state treaty.

**Czechoslovakia – April 22–23, 1957 (OSA)**

The Second Congress of Czechoslovak Writers is dominated by pro-reform sentiment.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / Austria – April 24-27, 1957 (KAC)**

Soviet Vice Prime Minister Mikoyan visits Austria to discuss, among other topics, Austrian-Hungarian relations.

**Finland – April 24, 1957 (HJH)**

Väinö Tanner, a former war leader, is elected chairman of the Social Democratic Party by a slight majority.

**East Germany – April 25, 1957 (KGS)**

The FDJ (*Frei Deutsche Jugend* – Free German Youth) is declared as an “official socialist youth organization“.

**Poland – April 25–28, 1957 (OSA)**

The constitutional congress of the Socialist Youth Union (ZMS) opened in Warsaw; the congress was attended by 734 delegates.

**Hungary / Austria – April 28, 1957 (KAC)**

A delegation of Hungarian doctors attends the Congress of Doctors in Vienna.

**Hungary – April 29, 1957 (HC)**

Session of the Budapest City Party Council of the HSWP. György Marosán is elected to be the secretary of the party council.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – April 29-May 4, 1957 (MOL)**

The Hungarian-Yugoslav joint committee on technical cooperation in science holds its first session in Belgrade. The committee passes its statutes and discusses the technical prerequisites of their cooperation.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – April 30, 1957 (KAC)**

The Hungarian-Yugoslav Trade Agreement is signed in Budapest.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – April 30, 1957 (LBC)**

The Soviet Union puts forward the Soviet version of the “open skies” proposal, which envisions the aerial observation of territories of the U.S., the USSR, Western and Eastern Europe and China, listed by the Soviet Union.

**May****Hungary – May 1, 1957 (HC)**

General assembly at the Heroes Square in Budapest. János Kádár gives a speech.

**Hungary – May 1, 1957 (HC)**

The Bakaruhában (“In the clothes of a soldier”), a film directed by Imre Fehér, is first shown.

**Hungary Austria – May 1, 1957 (BBR)**

Work begins on installation of the first landmine barrier along the Hungary-Austria border.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria - 3 May, 1957 (OSA)**

In an article published in the April 28 issue of "*Politika*" under the title "Dangerous Thoughts" Dušan KOSTIĆ says that "a certain kind of thaw could be said to be one of the essential characteristics of present-day literature in Bulgaria". "Hardcore dogmatists" in -- Bulgaria are scolding all those writers who "observe life primarily from the position of artistic truth rather than from Party positions", according to the well-known Yugoslav Communist writer Dušan KOSTIĆ.

**Hungary – May 5, 1957 (HC)**

Spring art exhibition at the Art Gallery. This is the first exhibition since 1948 when art pieces from different schools are displayed.

**Austria- May 5, 1957 (KCA)**

Adolf Schärf is elected as a new Austrian President after the deceased President, Theodor Körner.

**Hungary – May 6, 1957 (HC)**

The trial of István Angyal, István Eörsi and their associates in front of the Budapest Courthouse. **May 23:** Eörsi is sentenced for 5 years, his associates for 1-6 years. **May 14:** the trial of Angyal is separated, later he is found guilty of initiating and leading activities aiming to overthrow the people's democracy. He is sentenced to death.



**Romania- May 6, 1957 (KCA)**

M. Corcinschi, the Romanian minister in London, is asked to recall attaché M. Perianu from Britain on allegations of attempting to recruit Romanians living in Britain as spies.

**Hungary / Austria / U.S. – May 7, 1957 (BBR)**

A hunger strike breaks out in the Hungarian refugee camp in Austria after emigration to the United States is halted. Some 100–120 Hungarian students demonstrate in front of the U.S. Embassy in Vienna.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – May 8, 1957 (MOL)**

Based on the accord of the Hungarian and the Yugoslav Red Cross, those children under the age of 14 who crossed the Hungarian-Yugoslav border after the 1956 Hungarian revolution will be sent back to their parents to Hungary.

**Hungary – May 9, 1957 (BBR)**

Parliament meets for the first time since **August 3, 1956**. The Kossuth coat of arms is replaced by a design for the People's Republic, known as the Kádár coat of arms.

**Hungary – May 9, 1957 (HC)**

The Parliament chooses the new government. The President of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of Workers and Peasants: János Kádár. First deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers: Ferenc Münnich. Deputy chairman: Antal Apró. State Minister: György Marosán. Ministers: János Tausz (Internal Trade), Béla Biszku (Interior), Frigyes Doleschall (Health), Imre Kovács (Food), Rezső Trautmann (Construction), Imre Dögei (Agriculture), Géza Révész (Defense), Ferenc Nezvál (Justice), János Csergő (Furnace and Machine Industry), Józsefné Nagy (Light Industry), István Kossa (Transportation and Post), Jenő Incze (External Trade), Imre Horváth (Foreign), Ödön Kisházi (Labor), Gyula Kállai (Culture), Sándor Czottner (Heavy Industry), István Antos (Finance). Head of the State Planning Office: Árpád Kiss.

**Czechoslovakia/ Poland/ German Democratic Republic – May 9-11, 1957 (KCA)**

The *Grotewohl-Siroky Discussions* are held in East Berlin by representatives of the three parliaments to discuss questions arising from the „remilitarization of the German Federal Republic.“ On May 25 Prime Minister of the German Democratic Republic Grotewohl and Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia Siroky approve the Soviet suggestion of a „neutral zone“ in Central Europe.

**Soviet Union – May 10, 1957 (KCA/ NMC)**

In a speech to the Supreme Soviet, Foreign Minister M. Gromyko reiterates his stance that British and American nuclear tests are keeping the world „on the brink of war,“ and that the U.S.S.R. would only discontinue tests if Britain and America did the same. The Supreme Soviet adopts a resolution to appeal to the U.S. Congress and British Parliament to immediately cease nuclear tests.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – May 10, 1957 (LBC)**

Interview with Khrushchev in the New York Times: the relationship of the U.S. and the Soviet Union is the basic problem of the tension in international relations. If the Soviet Union agrees with the U.S. in arms reduction, it will also make an agreement with Britain and other powers. In spite of the ideological differences good neighbourly relations can be established between the two states.

**Soviet Union- May 10, 1957 (KCA)**

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**Eastern Germany / Soviet Union – May 10, 1957 (KCA)**

A consulate agreement is signed in Moscow between representatives of the two countries.

**Hungary – May 11, 1957 (HC)**

The Parliament accepts Law 1957: I. stating the Parliament elected on **May 17, 1957** will be in power for an extended time period and Law 1957: II. about the change in constitution.

**Hungary / China – May 13, 1957 (KAC)**

The Hungarian-Chinese Loan Agreement is signed in Budapest. China gives a long-term loan of 100 million rubles to Hungary.

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – May 13, 1957 (KAC)**

The Hungarian-Czechoslovak Trade Agreement for 1957 is signed in Prague, stating the volume of trade will be increased by 10%.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – May 13, 1957 (LBC)**

The U.S. offer the Soviet Union a revision of travel restrictions.

**Hungary / U.S. – May 14, 1957 (LBC)**

Washington reveals that until the first of May 32,075 Hungarian refugees have settled in the U.S. The Presidential Committee for Hungarian Refugees terminates its mission. The U.S. places ten million dollars worth of agricultural products at Austria's disposal for the use of the 35 thousand Hungarian refugees still in Austria.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – May 14, 1957 (LBC)**

The U.S. renews Yugoslavia's military assistance. The decision is made with Eisenhower's consent. Yugoslavia receives 100 million dollars in aid, including 200 jet fighters.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – May 14, 1957 (MOL)**

The Yugoslav authorities repatriate another group of 66 Hungarian teenagers to the Hungarian authorities at Srbobran.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – May 15, 1957 (CUY)**

United States Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs John Foster Dulles has a conversation with Yugoslav Ambassador Leo Mates. Dulles suggests that some changes might be announced in American policy toward the supply of weapons to Yugoslavia.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – May 15, 1957 (LKT)**

News accounts of the U.S. administration's decision to release 1 million dollar in military aid, including dozens of jet aircraft to Yugoslavia appear in the *New York Times*. The State Department, in anticipation of both public and congressional criticism, confirms in its press release that the president, under legislation passed by Congress in 1956, has the right to resume such shipments if convinced that Yugoslavia is maintaining its independence.

**Poland – May 15–18, 1957 (PSN)**

Golmulka reads a contradictory report to the ninth plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party calling on more workers control of the economy and at the same time more centralism.

**Albania – May 16–17, 1957 (KCA)**

M. Panajot Plyaku, member of the central committee of the Albanian communist party, crosses the Yugoslav frontier and requests asylum.

**Hungary / Austria – May 16-18, 1957 (KAC)**

Gyula Dabronkai, Vice Minister of Food, visits Vienna.

**Hungary / China – May 17, 1957 (KAC)**

Sándor Nógrádi, new special ambassador in Beijing, presents his credentials.

**Hungary – May 17, 1957 (HC)**

Session of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party (HSWP) CC. The report of Jenő Fock: *"About the economic situation and the most important tasks for fulfilling the 1957 plan"* is accepted. A declaration regarding the principles of the next three-year plan starting from 1958 is announced.

**Poland – May 18, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish United Peasant Party conference took place, yet it received little publicity given the opening of the Ninth Central Committee Plenum of the Polish United Workers Party.

**Soviet Union / France – May 20, 1957 (LBC)**

Bulganin's note to French Prime Minister Guy Mollet: since both the USSR and France have been the victims of „aggressive German militarism” in the past and both are powers that are particularly interested” in European security, they should start bilateral talks on disarmament. Bulganin's proposals: non-aggression treaty between NATO and the Warsaw Pact; the parallel reduction of Soviet and American forces; the establishment of an arms limitation and control zone in Central Europe, including Germany; the reduction of conventional forces and the immediate ban on the accumulation and production of nuclear arms. Bulganin expresses his anxiety that France is deploying American nuclear weapons.

**Soviet Union – May 20-23, 1957 (CEC/MMS)**

Eighth session of COMECON is held in Warsaw. The principle of long term planning is adopted as well as a plan for improvements for rail and water transport and an agreement for a multilateral clearing system is signed. The meeting shows concern over the creation of the European Economic Community

**Poland – May 21, 1957 (OSA)**

The resolutions issued by the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party following the Ninth Plenum were published in the Polish press. They include the expulsion of two-party members Jakob Berman and former Minister of State Security Radkiewicz.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – May 22, 1957 (KRI)**

After incurring the ire of conservatives for decentralizing agricultural and industrial planning, Khrushchev makes a speech calling for the Soviet Union to surpass the United States in meat production within four years.

**Finland – May 22, 1957 (HJH)**

The Fagerholm government hands in its resignation.

**Hungary – May 23, 1957 (BBR)**

István Bibó and Zoltán Tildy are arrested.

**Hungary / U.S. – May 23, 1957 (KAC)**

The Hungarian government demands in a memorandum the American government to reduce the number of employees at its embassy in Budapest, because of their „unfriendly behavior”. The American government answers on **June 11** in a memorandum that they will not fulfil the Hungarian request.

**Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – May 24, 1957 (KAC)**

At the highest-level Polish-Soviet negotiations Gomulka asks Khrushchev not to trial Imre Nagy. Khrushchev rejects the suggestion.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – May 25, 1957 (MOL)**

Chairman of the Hungarian Presidential Council István Dobi and János Kádár send a telegram to Yugoslav Premier Josip Broz Tito expressing their best wishes on the occasion of Tito's 65 birthday.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – May 27, 1957 (KAC)**

A Hungarian-Soviet agreement on the legal status of the Soviet troops in Hungary is signed. The text of the agreement is published on **May 29**.

**Finland – May 27, 1957 (HJH/FGV)**

The speaker of *Eduskunta*, Vieno Johannes Sukselainen, forms a new Government, but it has the backing of only 79 out of the 200 delegates to *Eduskunta*. The government consists of the Agrarian League, the Swedish People's Party of Finland (RKP), the People's Party of Finland and Liberal People's Party.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – May 28, 1957 (MOL)**

Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito speaks at the ribbon cutting ceremony of the waterpower plant at Navrovo and states that the aim of the Yugoslav government is to gradually reduce the misunderstandings between Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union.

**Hungary – May 28, 1957 (BBR)**

The interior minister orders a political purge of the police force. Some 25–30 percent of the force is dismissed.

**Hungary – May 30, 1957 (BBR)**

The Kádár government calls on the International Committee of the Red Cross to cease its activities in Hungary by **June 30**.

**Hungary / U.S. – May 30, 1957 (LBC)**

The U.S. expels the deputy of the Hungarian military attaché in response to Hungary having expelled the U.S. military attaché.

**Hungary / U.S. – May 30, 1957 (LBC)**

U.S. Senator Joseph McCarthy announces that he will support a law which will make it possible for 75 thousand more Hungarian refugees to enter beyond the 30,906 people already admitted.

**Hungary / French – May 30–June 4, 1957 (KAC)**

A delegation of the French Communist Party led by Raymond Guyot discusses the October–November 1956 events with the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party. They also talk about the international situation, the questions of the international communist movement and the relations of the two parties. The Hungarians support the peaceful efforts of the French Communist Party to resolve the Algeria conflict.

**June****Poland – Summer 1957 (UNW)**

11 demonstrations in different industrial plants take place in Wroclaw, Poznan, Bydgoszcz, Warsaw and Lodz. The demonstration of the tram conductors in Lodz is especially serious as it blocks the communication in the second biggest city in Poland for two days.

**Hungary / Romania – Summer 1957 (KAC)**

The Hungarian and Romanian authorities allow family visits, but visas are still required (from October 1956 again).

**Hungary – June, 1957 (KAC)**

A delegation led by Mihály Zsofinyec, Vice Minister of Machine Industry, travels to China to sign the Technical-Scientific Cooperation Agreement.

**Czechoslovakia – June 1–2, 1957 (OSA)**

The Congress of Czechoslovak Journalists sees high CPCz Central Committee attendance with Novotny's presentation emphasizing the importance of the party line and the dangers of revisionism.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / U.S. – June 2, 1957 (LBC)**

Khrushchev's interview on U.S. television: if the West (including the U.S.) pulls back its forces from the FRG and other parts of Western Europe, the Soviet Union will withdraw its forces from Eastern Europe. On Hungary: "The Kádár regime, which is the people's regime in Hungary, will flourish for ages to come. Where the working class has won power, it will not yield that power to the exploiters."

**Hungary / Soviet Union / U.S. – June 2, 1957 [CWC]**

Khrushchev appears on *Face the Nation*. He defends Soviet actions in Hungary and insists that America is preparing for war.

**Hungary – June 5, 1957 (HC)**

The Parliament accepts Law 1957: IV. about the regulations of state conduct.

**Hungary – June 5, 1957 (HC)**

Governmental decree 32/1957 is announced stating a Science and Higher Education Council will be established.

**Bulgaria / Hungary – June 5-11, 1957 (HC/NMC)**

A Bulgarian party and government delegation led by Todor Zhikov, the First Secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party, stays in Hungary. A joint declaration is signed on **June 10**, after the negotiations. For the occasion, a general assembly is organized where both Kádár and Zhikov give speeches on **June 7**.

**Hungary June 6, 1957 (HC)**

The Parliament accepts Law 1957: V. about the regulation of citizenship.

**Finland – June 6-13, 1957 (HJH/ KCA)**

Nikita Khrushchev and the Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Bulganin travel to Finland for a one week visit, and from speeches that they make during their stay it is clear that Finland has a substantial role to play in Soviet foreign policy. During the visit officials of both countries affirm their „good-neighbourly relations.“ However, Finland maintains its neutral position with regards to contradictions between the great powers. In addition, a new, more expansive trade protocol is signed.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – June 6, 1957 (OSA)**

Yugoslavia and Hungary signed a protocol on the broadening of their economic cooperations.

**Poland / U.S. – June 7, 1957 (LBC)**

The U.S and Poland sign a 95-million-dollar commercial agreement. The two governments agree to start talks on the liberation of Polish assets originating from the period prior to World War II that are frozen in the United States and about U.S. claims on assets nationalized in Poland. Vice President Nixon: the Polish loan is a risk worth taking in the hope that Poland will turn its back on communism. According to Nixon the agreement signifies to the world that the Polish people are not forgotten, nor are the millions of others who are behind the iron curtain.

**Hungary / China – June 8, 1957 (KAC)**

The Hungarian-Chinese Trade Agreement for 1957 is signed in Budapest.

**Soviet Union / France – June 8, 1957 (LBC)**

Mollet rejects Bulganin's offer on bilateral French-Soviet disarmament talks.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / U.S. – June 8, 1957 (LBC)**

The leader of the Republican caucus of the Senate, William F. Knowland calls on Dulles to react to Khrushchev's speech on U.S. television. In this the Soviet leader offered to pull out from Hungary. The senator suggests that the U.S. withdraw from Norway in return for Russian withdrawal from Hungary. This exchange would be the first step in the „country-for-country” Soviet-American withdrawal process.

**Poland – June 9–23, 1957 (OSA)**

The Poznan International Trade Fair has been moved forward a week to avoid the anniversary of protests which broke out in the city in June 1956.

**U.S. – June 11, 1957 (LBC)**

Dulles rejects the Knowland plan.

**Hungary / Austria – June 11, 1957 (NMC)**

The Hungarian government sends a memorandum to the Austrian embassy in Budapest raising objections against the Austrian attempt of kidnapping two Hungarian border officers.

**Hungary / Switzerland – June 12, 1957 (NMC)**

Fritz Hegg, the new Swiss ambassador to Budapest, presents his credentials.

**Hungary – June 13, 1957 (NMC)**

Hungary and Egypt agree to raise their diplomatic relations to the ambassador level.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – June 13, 1957 (KAC)**

The Hungarian-Soviet Radio and Television Cooperation Agreement is signed in Moscow.

**Czechoslovakia – June 13–14, 1957 (OSA)**

The CPCz Central Committee plenary begins to expose inner division and ambivalence to the public, with Novotný and Hendrych particularly divided over revisionism. The conference also saw widespread condemnation of intellectuals and especially the new ‘revisionist’ directions literature had taken following the two Congresses of Czechoslovak Writers.

**Hungary – June 15, 1957 (HC)**

Decree no. 1957:34 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces that people’s tribunal councils will be established, the court system and the criminal procedure will be regulated. In order to maintain order and security and further consolidate the laws of socialism, the fastened criminal procedures will become more common and county people’s tribunals will be established.

**Romania – June 15, 1957 (KAC)**

The Buletinul Oficial’s decree no 260 states that all foreign citizens traveling to Romania must tell where they are going at the border; they have to arrive to the identified location within three days and register at the local police station within 24 hours.

**Soviet Union – June 15, 1957 (LBC)**

MacMillan’s letter to Bulganin: the precondition of the relaxation of East-West tension is full disarmament and simultaneous political settlements. The chief sources of East-West tension are the political division of Europe and Germany, Soviet policy in the Middle-East and Soviet oppression in Hungary.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 15, 1957 (LBC)**

The Soviet Union rejects the American proposal to abolish travel restrictions.

**Hungary – June 15, 1957 (HC)**

The trial of Mihály Farkas, Gábor Péter and their associates starts at the Budapest Military Court. Farkas is sentenced to 8 years, Péter to 6 years.

**Czechoslovakia – June 17–21, 1957 (OSA)**

The 11th Congress of the CPCz takes place, including the election of a new Central Committee, and Novotný’s announcement that Czechoslovak agriculture would be completely collectivized within two years.

**Soviet Union / Finland – June 18-20, 1957 (PLC)**

While Khrushchev visits Finland, he is dismissed from his office by the Politburo. Molotov will be the new head of the CPSU.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – June 19, 1957 (KAC)**

The Hungarian journalist delegation led by Dezső Nemes, editor of the *Népszabadság*, returns home having spent 5 weeks in the Soviet Union.

**Hungary / Finland – June 19, 1957 (NMC)**

Toiro Heikkilä, the new Finnish ambassador to Budapest, presents his credentials to Imre Horváth, the Hungarian Foreign Minister.

**Soviet Union – June 19, 1957 (KRI)**

Conservative members of the Presidium attempt to remove Khrushchev. While the conservatives receive seven out of eleven votes, Khrushchev insists that the Central Committee make the decision.

**Hungary / U.S. – June 20, 1957 (KAC)**

Dallam, the American Air Force attaché, is accused of espionage and is deported from Hungary.

**Hungary/ Soviet Union/ U.N.- June 20, 1957 (KCA/ BBR)**

A U.N. report is published condemning the Soviet military presence in Hungary and refuting claims of the Soviet government and Kadar regime that the uprising of 1956 had been the work of „reactionaries,“ „capitalist elements,“ and „Western imperialists,“ arguing instead that it had been primarily undertaken by the working-class. The report condemns the repressive activities of the Hungarian secret police, the „massive“ Soviet military intervention in response to the uprising, and the deportation of Hungarians to the U.S.S.R. following the intervention. The document becomes a best-seller in the United States. The Kádár government describes it as interference in Hungary’s internal affairs. In September, the U.N. General Assembly formally adopts the report.

**Soviet Union – June 22–29, 1957 (KRI/PLC)**

A special plenum of the Central Committee decides to keep Khrushchev (supported by Zhukov) and condemns the action of the seven “anti-party group” conservatives. Molotov, Malenkov and Kaganovitch are removed from their offices and given low level management positions.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – June 24, 1957 (OSA)**

Yugoslav newspaper “*Politika*” writes about Polish agriculture and views its successes as the results of its peasants being freed from administrative restrictions and as the result of the free play of economic laws in agricultural production.

**Yugoslavia – June 25–27, 1957 (MOL)**

The first congress of the Yugoslav workers' councils is held in Belgrade and is opened by Tito. Numerous foreign delegations are expected to attend, among them the delegations of the trade unionist councils of the Soviet Union, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Romania.

**Poland / Soviet Bloc – June 25, 1957 (OSA)**

The Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, which met in Warsaw from June 18-22, expressed approval in a final communiqué for the bilateral participation of other states in Poland coal mining expansion. The communiqué pointed out its satisfaction over an agreement already



reached between Warsaw and East Germany providing for cooperation in the expansion of brown coal collieries.

**Yugoslavia – June 26, 1957 (CUY/LKT)**

As part of the *See It Now* series, Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito gives an interview to Edward R. Murrow about, among other topics, the situation in the Communist block after the Hungarian revolution, the relations between state and church in Yugoslavia, the possibility of reunification of Germany and the general situation in the Middle East. Tito stresses that Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union are both building Socialism, but by different methods.

**Yugoslavia / United Arab Republic – June 26, 1957 (RYN)**

A long-term agreement on trade, economic cooperation, and payments is concluded between Yugoslavia and the United Arab Republic.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – June 26, 1957 (OSA)**

Zagreb paper, "*Vjesnik*", writes that the decision to appoint bishop Baraniak to a fully-fledged Bishop with a seat in Poznan is the first step towards the recognition of the Warsaw government by the Vatican or at least a de facto if not de jure recognition.

**Hungary – June 27-29, 1957 (HC)**

National conference of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party HSWP. The reasons and antecedents of the "counterrevolution" are analyzed. The policies of the temporary central committee of the party are approved. The tasks for consolidating power and building socialism are determined. The new organizational rules are approved. Members of the Political Committee: Antal Apró, Béla Biszku, Lajos Fehér, Jenő Fock, János Kádár, Gyula Kállai, Károly Kiss, György Marosán, Ferenc Münnich, Sándor Rónai and Miklós Somogyi. Deputy members: Zoltán Komócsin and Dezső Nemes. Members of the CC Secretariat: Jenő Fock, János Kádár, Gyula Kállai, Károly Kiss and György Marosán. First Secretary of the CC: János Kádár.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – June 27, 1957 (OSA)**

Yugoslav weekly "*Ekonomska politika*" hails the Polish-US economic agreement. It said that "for six long months the forces opposing the policy of active coexistence have been fighting both an open and a behind-the-scenes struggle against the conclusion of the agreement".

**United States/ People's Republic of China – June 28, 1957 (KCA)**

U.S. Secretary of State J.F. Dulles gives a speech reiterating the American policy of non-recognition of the Chinese communist regime, citing China's attack on American and U.N. forces in Korea and its support of communism in Indo-China.

**Romania – June 28-29, 1957 (PLC)**

Session of the Central Committee of the Romanian Workers' Party. The Muscovites lose support forever; the Stalinist national communists gain influence.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – June 30, 1957 (NMC)**

The media publishes the report of the Hungarian Foreign Ministry about Hungarian-West German and Hungarian-Yugoslav relations. According to this report, Hungarian-West German relations cannot improve because of the SZER and other immigrant organizations in the FRG. Hungarian-Yugoslav relations could have improved before **October 23, 1956**, but since

**November 4, 1956** the two countries decide to follow different ideologies. Still, according to the spokesman both sides are willing to improve relations in the future.

## **July**

### **Czechoslovakia – July, 1957 (OSA)**

Khrushchev and Bulganin visit Czechoslovakia in early July, leaving on the 16th. Their speeches advocate that Czechoslovak economy be more closely tied to the Soviet one.

### **Czechoslovakia / Poland – July, 1957 (PSM)**

The Polish-Czechoslovak Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation is set up.

### **Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – July 1957 (DCO)**

Khrushchev and Bulganin visit Czechoslovakia. This is the first official visit of the Soviet political elite to the country.

### **Hungary – July, 1957 (HC)**

The *Társadalmi Szemle* publishes the theories of agricultural policy of the HSWP.

### **Hungary / Romania – July-August 1957 (KAC)**

The Hungarian and Romanian authorities allow family visits, but visas are still required (from October 1956 again).

### **Poland – July, 1957 (UNW)**

The Polish *Sejm* (Parliament) approves the Five-Year Plan for the period 1956-1960. Emphasis will be on heavy industry, instead of production of consumer goods. Agriculture will be supported.

### **Hungary / Yugoslavia – July 2, 1957 (MOL)**

An article published in the daily paper of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party (*Népszabadság*) writes about Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito's speech at Brioni. According to the article, Tito concluded that the people and the working class of Hungary increasingly support the Kádár government.

### **Hungary – July 2, 1957 (HC)**

The first Hungarian news is broadcasted on television.

### **Soviet Union- July 3, 1957 (KCA)**

The Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party announces its decision to expell Molotov, Kaganovich, and Malenkov from the Presidium, Central Committee, and Soviet Government. The three officials are accused of setting up an „anti-party group“ within the Presidium and Central Committee as well as opposition to the agricultural and industrial resolutions of the 20th Party Congress and measures aimed at dismantling the cult of personality.

**Romania- July 4, 1957 (KCA)**

The Central Committee of the Romanian Worker's Party dismisses M. Josip Chisinevski and M. Miron Constantinescu on accusations of "factionalism" and "anti-party activities," and of supporting "rightist" policies.

**East Germany – July 5, 1957 (OSA)**

Following the expiry of "Lohnausgleich" and a consequent decrease in June pay packets by 20-100 East Marks, workers at the repair sheds of the Nielsky railway participated in a one-day mass strike. Nearly all Socialist Unity Party (SED) members joined the strike as well. This strike was one in a series of brief strikes and threats to strike that have marked State-Labor relations in the GDR, due to threatened increases in production norms amid workers' demands for higher wages.

**Poland – July 8, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish News Agency, PAP, announced on Saturday, July 6 that Cooperative Agricultural Associations in Poland are now operating on the principle of full self-government. The news agency said that district unions of cooperative farms elected by co-op members have taken over the supervisory and organizational functions from state administrative organs.

**Poland/ France- July 9, 1957 (KCA)** A Franco-Polish cultural agreement is signed providing for the free movement of nationals between either country and the mutual importation of books and other forms of print media, as well as the teaching of the French and Polish languages.

**Soviet Union/ France- July 10, 1957 (KCA)**

A contract is signed between the Soviet Union and a group of French engineering companies securing the supply of 35 locomotives for Soviet railways. In return, France will purchase coal and other raw materials from the Soviet Union.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – July 10, 1957 (OSA)**

Yugoslav newspaper "*Politika*," writes negatively on Polish commerce, calling it "badly organized" and cites it as one of the reasons why queues have become a regular aspect of the citizens' lives in the Polish capital.

**Poland – July 15, 1957 (OSA)**

"The chief characteristic of contemporary Polish literature is its settling of accounts with the past", stated Kazimierz Dejmek, director of the New Theater in Lodz. He stated that theatrical life in Poland is chaotic.

**Poland – July 16, 1957 (OSA)**

Radio Free Europe reports of indications that Wladyslaw Gomulka is partially fulfilling his promise to Polish peasants made last October on his assumption that compulsory deliveries for agricultural produce to the state would gradually be abolished.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – July 16, 1957 (OSA)**

The July issue of the Yugoslav quarterly "*Medjunarodni problemi*" states: "Even though the system of workers' self-management in Poland is legalized only in principle and the workers' councils are there only in the initial stage of development, they nevertheless represent a new element in the country's social system which is looking for new roads".

**Soviet Union / Afghanistan – July 17–31, 1957 (KCA)**

The king of Afghanistan visits the Soviet Union, reiterating “friendly and good-neighborly relations between the two countries.”

**Albania / Bulgaria / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – July 18, 1957 (MOL)**

First Secretary of the CPSU Nikita S. Khrushchev meets the party leaders of Yugoslavia, Albania and Bulgaria.

**Hungary / China – July 18, 1957 (KAC)**

The Chinese-Hungarian Cultural Agreement for 1957 is signed in Budapest.

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – July 19, 1957 (KAC)**

A Hungarian-Czechoslovak loan agreement of 100 million rubles is signed in Budapest to be paid back between 1960 and 1967.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – July 19, 1957 (OSA)**

Josef Biro, the director of Hungarian Export enterprise, left for Belgrade in order to discuss the development of the Port of Rijeka.

**Hungary – July 20, 1957 (HC)**

Governmental decree 1065/1957 announces that from **September 1** people will be paid according to their efficiency, “everywhere where it is beneficial for both the workers and the national economy, and where it is possible to measure efficiency”.

**Poland – July 20, 1957 (OSA)**

Radio campaigns are being conducted by First Secretary Gomulka’s centrist faction against Natolin’s conservatives and dogmatists within the Polish Communist Party. The radio is making extensive tactical usage of the Soviet resolution expelling Molotov, Kaganovich, and Malenkov for anti-party factional activities.

**Soviet Union – July 20, 1957 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union announces that any foreign vessels entering the area of Peter the Great Bay in the Pacific Ocean will require the express permission of Soviet authorities. The announcement is met with protest by the governments of the United States, the United Kingdom, and Japan.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – July 20, 1957 (OSA)**

Yugoslav tourist enterprises would buy buses and motorboats worth 329,000,000 dinars from Hungary in the upcoming two years as reported by *Népszabadság*.

**Poland – July 22, 1957 (OSA)**

The full text of an interview with Polish minister of agriculture who arrived in Munich revealed further concessions to Polish peasants in connection with the abolition of compulsory deliveries of greens, potatoes, and livestock for farms of two hectares. On the same date, the Chairman of the Polish United Workers Party Parliamentary Deputies’ Club stressed in a Sunday interview with the Warsaw radio that the ability of the Polish Sejm to fulfil its constitutional tasks depends in large measure on the initiative and resourcefulness of the different parliamentary deputies’ clubs representing the political parties allied with the Polish Communist Party.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 24, 1957 (LBC)**

According to an *Inturist* report, in 1956 487 thousand foreigners came to the USSR from 84 countries, and 584 thousand Soviets visited 61 countries. 416 thousand on business, 44 thousand as tourists. According to the report 2,500 Americans went to the Soviet Union and only 350 Russians went to the U.S.

**Hungary / Austria – July 25, 1957 (KAC)**

Austrian Chancellor Julius Raab meets Frigyes Puja, Hungarian envoy, to discuss the current problems about the two countries' relations. They do not reach any agreements.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – July 25, 1957 (OSA)**

Yugoslavia and Hungary began the discussion on the metallurgical industries cooperation between the two countries in Belgrade.

**East Germany / West Germany – July 27, 1957 (KGS)**

A confederation between East Germany and West Germany based on parity is proposed by the GDR.

**Poland / Greece – July 28, 1957 (OSA)**

The Warsaw Chamber of Commerce has sent a request to the administration of the annual international SALONIKA Fair to indicate intentions of full participation in 1957.

**Federal Republic of Germany/ United States/ United Kingdom/ France – July 29, 1957 (KCA)**

A declaration is issued in West Berlin by representatives of the four Western states referring to the Federal Republic of Germany as "the only Government qualified to speak for the German people as a whole." The declaration also reiterates commitment to the reunification of Germany on the part of all parties involved

**Hungary / Soviet Union – July 29-August 1, 1957 (HC/NMC)**

The 6th World Youth Meeting in Moscow. The Hungarian delegation is led by Zoltán Komócsin.

**United Nations- July 29, 1957 (KCA)**

The creation of the International Atomic Energy Agency comes into existence. The agency will have 27 members, including all five nuclear powers: the United States, United Kingdom, France, Canada, and the Soviet Union.

**Poland / Soviet Union (Ukraine) – July 30, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish radio warns members of the Ukrainian minority in Poland settled in the western territories that the possibility of returning to their old homestead in South-Eastern Poland is small. The radio pointed out that attempts on the part of some Ukrainians to reclaim former farmlands had led to brawls, quarrels, and arbitrary actions. Official Polish estimates at the time admit to some 150,000 Ukrainians living in Poland.

**August**

**Hungary / U.N. – August, 1957 (HC)**

Nationwide meetings are organized to protest the report of the U.N. committee working on the Hungarian question, saying the U.N. got involved with Hungary's domestic problems.

**Hungary / Vietnam – August 1-5, 1957 (HC/NMC)**

A Vietnamese party and government delegation led by Ho Si Minh travels to Hungary. A general assembly is organized on **August 2**, Ho Si Minh and György Marosán give speeches. The same day the Hungarian-Vietnamese cultural agreement for 1957 is signed.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – August 1-2, 1957 (LKT/MOL)**

Tito and First Secretary of the CPSU Nikita S. Khrushchev meet (at first secretly) in Bucharest to talk out their differences. The two men agree once again to suppress their differences in the name of Communist unity and cooperation and to support a number of common foreign policy positions.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – August 2, 1957 (MOL)**

The representatives of the Soviet Union, the German Democratic Republic and Yugoslavia sign an agreement on the planned industrial plants in Yugoslavia.

**Hungary / Sweden – August 2, 1957 (NMC)**

A Hungarian-Swedish air transportation agreement is signed.

**Hungary / Egypt – August 6, 1957 (NMC)**

Abd-El Hamid Nafeh, the first Egyptian ambassador in Budapest, presents his credentials.

**Poland – August 6, 1957 (OSA)**

Radio Warsaw reported that in some Silesian coal mines, miner absenteeism is reaching proportions previously unknown. Radio Warsaw's complain in connection with the coal miners is not an isolated complain. In the recent past, there have been an increasing number of articles and broadcast from Poland indicating that the question of labor morale is posing problems of considerable proportion to the Polish regime.

**German Democratic Republic / Soviet Union / Poland – August 7-14, 1957 (KCA)**

A Soviet Delegation led by M. Khrushchev visits the German Democratic Republic. Both sides renew their commitment to the issue of German reunification. The German Democratic Republic expresses that this depends on withdrawal from NATO and the Warsaw Pact by the respective countries as well as the withdrawal of the four Powers from German territory. The Polish government also declares its commitment to German reunification along the same lines.

**Hungary – August 8, 1957 (HC/NMC)**

The *Népszabadság* publishes the declaration of the Hungarian Foreign Ministry regarding the **June 12** report of the U.N. committee working on the Hungarian question. The report is said to be illegal, because it gets involved with the domestic policies of a country.

**Poland – August 12- 14, 1957 (PSN)**

Tram workers in Lodz go on strike.

**Hungary / Albania – August 16, 1957 (HC/NMC)**

The Albanian-Hungarian Trade and Payment Agreement for the 1968-1960 period is signed in Budapest.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 16, 1957 (LBC)**

In a note the U.S. recommend the exchange of television and radio experts from both countries. According to the note this could be the first step towards the „regular, uncensored and mutual” exchange of television and radio programs.

**Poland – August 16, 1957 (OSA)**

The official Party daily, “*Trybuna Ludu*”, blasted Western correspondents and news agencies for the reports on the strike of the transportation workers in the important industrial center of Lodz.

**Hungary / India – August 17, 1957 (NMC)**

Prime Minister Nehru meets Károly Szarka, Hungarian deputy Foreign Minister, and Aladár Tamás, Hungarian ambassador to New Delhi. Nehru announces during the negotiation that he does not support the U.N. discussion of the Hungarian situation.

**Hungary / U.N. – August 19, 1957 (HC/NMC)**

Dag Hammarskjöld, the U.N. General Secretary, calls for a general assembly on **September 10** in order to discuss the report of the committee working on the “Hungarian question”.

**Hungary / Ceylon – August 20, 1957 (NMC)**

Bandaranaike, the Prime Minister of Ceylon, meets Károly Szarka, Hungarian Deputy Foreign Minister.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – August 21, 1957 (OSA)**

Yugoslav press reports on the recent strikes in the city of Lodz. The press indicates that “the dissatisfaction of the workers in the city and its a streetcar enterprise was provoked by low wages and still more inflamed by certain irregularities in the enterprise itself”.

**Soviet Union (Ukraine) —August 23, 1957 (OSA)**

An interview with a Soviet farmer in Ukraine reports on the working conditions of a collective farm. In short, all the means of production are considered state property, the number of working hours depends on the seasonal agricultural activities, and farmers are paid on the basis of labor days earned. The activities of the collective farm must follow a meticulous annual plan designed by the superior management. The farm provides entertainment and educational facilities and is gradually building new homes residences, while the tax for family garden plots is expected to be lifted.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – August 24, 1957 (KAC)**

Hungary and the Soviet Union sign an agreement in Budapest about the status of dual citizens.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 26, 1957 (LBC/PLC/CWC)**

The Soviet government officially announces that a successful experiment was carried out with an Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM). The U.S. had not yet conducted a successful experiment. According to the U.S. Secretary of Defense Wilson the announcement was not unexpected and he admitted that the Soviet Union achieved significant success in the field of ICBMs.

**Poland – August 26, 1957 (OSA)**

Complaints of mass absenteeism In Polish industry continue to be reported by the Polish press and radio. The chairman of the Central Council of Trade Unions revealed that during the first

six months of 1957, the number of hours lost due to unexcused absence had more than doubled compared with the corresponding period of 1956. A total of more than 26 million men hours were lost to the Polish economy during the first six months of 1957.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 27, 1957 (LBC)**

Dulles opines that the Soviet achievement does not upset the military balance between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

**Poland / East Germany – August 27, 1957 (OSA)**

The East German press praises the artistic quality of contemporary Polish posters now being exhibited in East Berlin but regrets that no examples of political propaganda are included.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 28, 1957 (LBC)**

Eisenhower calls on the Soviet Union to continue the disarmament talks. He notes that the rejection of the Western proposals coincided with the announcement that the Soviet Union made significant progress in the development of weapons of mass destruction.

**Hungary – August 29, 1957 (HC)**

Governmental decree 54/1957 announces that compensation will be given to the members of the collective farms in case of an accident.

**Soviet Union / Canada / France / U.K. / U.S. – August 29, 1957 (LBC)**

At the London conference of the U.N. Disarmament Subcommittee (August 29–September 6.) the U.S., Canada, France and Great Britain table the West's general proposal for the first step in East-West disarmament, which deals with the reduction of nuclear and conventional arms. Soviet and American armed forces would be reduced to 2.5 million, later to 1.7 million. The French and the British armies would be reduced to 350 thousand each. The four powers would place under international control a given quantity of the various kinds of weapons on their territory. The U.S., Britain, France and the USSR would put at the disposal of an international committee the data concerning their military budgets and expenditures for the sake of international control. All sides will oblige themselves not to use nuclear weapons in response to an attack. Fissionable material would in the future be used for peaceful purposes under international control. If an agreement is made, nuclear tests would be suspended for a year. After the agreement comes into force a committee would control that only peaceful scientific rockets would be launched into the stratosphere. International control systems would be installed so as to protect against a surprise attack. The proposal on ground and aerial control zones is renewed: an international organ under U.N. auspices would supervise the treaty.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 29, 1957 (LBC)**

Moscow rejects the U.S. disarmament proposal.

**Soviet Union – August 29, 1957 (KCA)**

M. Molotov is appointed ambassador to Mongolia. This is taken as a sign of his falling out of favor with the Communist Part of the Soviet Union. He was recently removed from his post as head of the now-defunct Ministry of State Control and placed in a much less prestigious post.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 30, 1957 (LBC/PLC)**

The Soviet Union opens five, hitherto closed cities for foreign visitors (Uzhgorod, Lvov, Chernovtsi, Irkutsk, Riga) and is willing to negotiate with the U.S. on the basis of reciprocity on the relaxation of travel restrictions applying to diplomats. At the same time, along the



Chinese frontier it closes for Western tourists 210 square miles of territory in Soviet Asia – Frunze, Alma Ata, parts of Kazakhstan and Kirgizia, as well as areas around Leningrad and Moscow.

**Hungary / U.S. – August 31, 1957 (KAC)**

An announcement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is published about American-Hungarian relations. The US will provide a haven to Cardinal Mindszenty.

**September**

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – September 1957 (MOL)**

The Secretary of State for Commerce of the United States visits the Zagreb fair and meets Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito.

**Hungary – September, 1957 (HC)**

The first issue of the *Kortárs*, a periodical of literature and criticism, is published. Editors: József Darvas and Gábor Tolnai.

**Hungary – September, 1957 (HC)**

*A csodacsatár* („The miraculous striker”) a film directed by Márton Keleti, and the *Gerolsteini kaland* („The adventure in Gerolstein”) by Zoltán Farkas are first shown.

**Hungary – September 2, 1957 (NMC)**

Several committees of the Hungarian parliament raise objections against the U.N. report on the Hungarian situation.

**Poland – September 3, 1957 [PSN]**

A meeting protesting the closing of *Po Prostu*, a student journal vital to the events of 1956 is held in Warsaw, sparking several days of clashes between police and demonstrators.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / U.S. – September 3, 1957 (LBC)**

The U.S. presents a draft proposal in the U.N., which repeatedly condemns the Soviet Union for crushing the 1956 Hungarian revolution. It calls on the Soviet and the Hungarian governments to put an end to reprisals against the Hungarian people and proposes the inscription of the Hungarian question at the 12th General Assembly of the U.N.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – September 4-8, 1957 (MOL/ KCA)**

British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Selwyn Lloyd visits Belgrade. Lloyd expresses his “firm impression” that Yugoslavia will continue to follow an independent foreign policy despite recent attempts at improving relations with the Soviet Union.

**Hungary / France – September 5, 1957 (KAC)**

The production of the first Hungarian-French film (*La Belle et le Tzigane*) starts in Hungary. The film is shown first in 1958.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – September 5, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish news agency PAP reported that it has been suggested that a bilateral economic organ will be created to deal with questions of Polish-Yugoslav trade, and technical cooperation. PAP

writes that “at the present, a mixed commission is coordinating work in this field” saying that the Commission meets again in Belgrade next month.

**Poland – September 5, 1957 (OSA)**

The Warsaw newspaper “*Trybuna Ludu*” reported that the harvest has been completed almost everywhere throughout the country saying that Polish state farms had finished 95% of their grain harvest by the end of August. “*Zycie Warszawy*,” wrote that the harvest ended three weeks earlier than in 1956. Radio Free Europe points out that the grain harvest, despite unfavorable weather in June and July, is better than in 1956.

**Hungary / Austria – September 6, 1957 (NMC)**

A Hungarian-Austrian trade agreement is signed in Vienna.

**Hungary / Syria – September 6, 1957 (NMC)**

Károly Szarka, Hungarian Deputy Foreign Minister, arrives to Syria, the next stop of his journey through Asia and Africa. He meets the Prime Minister and the Minister of Defense.

**Soviet Union / Canada / France / U.K. / U.S. – September 6, 1957 (LBC/ KCA)**

The London conference of the U.N. Disarmament Subcommittee ends. Talks are suspended indefinitely after the viewpoints of the two sides prove to be irreconcilable. Negotiations had been in progress for nearly six months before they total collapse.

**Poland – September 7, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish Ministry of State Control has conducted investigations in 300 work establishments all over the country to discover the main causes of absenteeism. The Polish News Agency states that unjustified absenteeism is caused primarily by lack of discipline amongst new workers from the countryside who retain sources of income in their villages; drunkenness and the fact that a considerable number do not receive pensions with which they can supplement their wages or expect such pensions soon.

**Hungary / Mongolia – September 8, 1957 (HC)**

A Mongolian delegation led by Cedenbal, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, arrives to Hungary for a five-day visit.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / U.N. – September 8, 1957 (LBC)**

U.S. delegate in the U.N. Cabot-Lodge’s televised speech: Hungary will sooner or later regain its freedom and the U.N.’s resolution will contribute to this. He assured the Soviet Union that his country “has never thought that a free Hungary...should have other than neutral foreign policy, or that it should be brought into any military alliances with the West.”

**Poland / Yugoslavia – September 8, 1957 (OSA)**

“The literary school of socialist-realism which is the embodiment of lifeless theoretical formulas has been replaced in Poland by the practice of socialist humanism” stated Leslaw W. Bartelski in an article specially written for the Belgrade “*Politika*”. He stated that “it can be said that Polish literature and its creators had to pave the way for the October of 1956”.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – September 8, 1957 (OSA)**

A well-known Polish publicist Roman Jurys gave an interview for Belgrade “*Politika*”. In the interview, he said that the Yugoslav and Polish people “have attended the same school and came out from it as victors after having broken off the chains of Stalinist terrorism”.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – September 8, 1957 (OSA)**

Jerzy Putrament, a Polish Writer, in an interview for the Belgrade *“Borba”*, stated that “the higher the position a person occupies in state or party, the more careful he must be in making statements about delicate problems, such as art in general and literature in particular”. He added that “there are still statesmen who refuse to learn from Lenin’s advice to exercise extreme cautions in giving one’s own judgment on a literature work”.

**Romania / Mongolia – September 9, 1957 (RCW)**

A meeting between a delegation of the People's Republic of Mongolia led by Yumjaagiyn Tsedenbal and the Romanian government in Bucharest. Tsedenbal describes the formation of the history and current state of relations between the Mongolian and Soviet Communist parties, Mongolia's relationship with the People's Republic of China, as well as the status of economic reforms in Mongolia.

**Hungary / Egypt – September 10, 1957 (NMC)**

Abd El Moneim El Kajsuni, the Egyptian Finance Minister, arrives to Budapest accepting a Hungarian invitation.

**Hungary / Sweden – September 10, 1957 (NMC)**

As a result of the Budapest negotiations, the Hungarian-Swedish trade agreement is extended till **January 31, 1958**.

**Hungary – September 10–14, 1957 (NMC/ KCA/LBC)**

The U.N. General Assembly meets to discuss the report prepared about the situation in Hungary. A dismissing declaration is accepted on **14 September** (60 countries voted for, against: 10, abstain: 10). According to the U.N. decision, the 12th regular General Assembly will discuss the Hungarian question also. Prince Wan is chosen to be the U.N. observer in Hungary, but he is not given permission to enter the country. The U.N. condemns the Soviet Union and demands that the Soviet troops leave Hungary, asserting that “the current Hungarian regime has been imposed on the Hungarian people by the armed intervention of the U.S.S.R.”

**Poland / Yugoslavia – September 10-16, 1957 (MOL/KCA)**

Members of the Polish party and cabinet delegation, led by Gomulka, visit Belgrade. This is the first time since 1948 that a Polish-Yugoslav meeting takes place on such a high level. A declaration is released calling for closer cooperation between the two communist parties. Most importantly, Yugoslavia agrees to recognition of the German Democratic Republic for the first time, in addition to accepting the Soviet position that German reunification can only result from direct negotiations between the two German states.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – September 10, 1957 (OSA)**

Belgrade paper *“Borba,”* writes that about 80% of the Polish industrial enterprises have so far created Workers’ Councils. The greatest problem of these councils is how to share the profit and trade unions have faced themselves with problems of how to solve their sharing of the planned profit.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – September 13, 1957 (OSA)**

“It seems that in no other country in the world is so much written on Poland as in Yugoslavia” stated the Polish journalist Krystyna Zielinska in an article specially written for the Belgrade newspaper *“Politika”*. She added that despite this fact, neither in Poland nor in Yugoslavia,

has there been enough information about the two countries calling for greater ties between the countries.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / U.N. – September 14, 1957 (LBC)**

A special session of the U.N. General Assembly is convened on Hungary. It condemns the Soviet Union for the 1956 intervention in Hungary. It calls on the Soviet Union and Hungary for their governments “to refrain from oppressive measures against the Hungarian people.” According to the resolution the Soviet Union deprived Hungary of its freedom and the Hungarian people of the exercise of its basic rights; the present Hungarian regime was imposed on the Hungarian people by [the Soviet Union’s] armed intervention; the Soviet Union carried out mass deportations in Hungary and violated the Geneva convention of 1949; the present Hungarian government is violating the rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Paris peace treaty. The resolution appoints Prince Wan Waithayakon of Thailand as the U.N. observer, but Hungary denies Wan access to the country.

**Finland / U.N. – September 14, 1957 (GNI)**

U.N. General Assembly calls for an immediate withdrawal of Soviet forces from Hungarian territory. Finland is the only European democracy to abstain on the demand for withdrawal of Soviet forces.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – September 14, 1957 (OSA)**

The national Congress of the Yugoslav communist party which was due for this fall has again been postponed until next spring. The Third Congress of the Polish United Workers Party will be held as scheduled in December and it will be the first Congress of an East European communist party since the Hungarian revolution. From preliminary reports it will be focused primarily on Poland’s internal problems with a special focus on economic problems. Yugoslav weekly “*Komunist*” writes of Polish socialist victories and the country liberating itself from the attempts to compromise socialism.

**Finland – September 15, 1957 (EKK)**

The Finnish markka is devaluated by 28%.

**Poland – September 17, 1957 (OSA)**

“*Nowe Drogi*” reaffirmed the right of the Polish workers to strike according to a PAP release of September 15 but at the same time warns the workers that strike is not the way to obtain a rise in the standard of living.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – September 17, 1957 (OSA)**

Construction of electricity started between Yugoslav and Hungarian regions. Once finished, Yugoslavia will supply 100 million kilowatt-hours of electric current annually to Hungary.

**Hungary / The Netherlands – September 18, 1957 (NMC)**

The Hungarian-Dutch trade agreement is extended till **March 31, 1958.**

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 18, 1957 [CWC]**

Gromyko holds a press conference criticizing American foreign policy and the Eisenhower doctrine on the Middle East in particular. He also states that any attempt to remove Syria's government by Turkey would be a serious violation of international law.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 18, 1957 (LBC)**

A paper by U.S. Secretary of State Dulles on U.S. security policy: the doctrine of massive retaliation became obsolete with the appearance of tactical nuclear weapons. In case of a conventional attack there is no longer need to use the full striking power, mobile tactical nuclear weapons will be enough to stave off an attack if regional defense systems are installed. (The U.S. gave up the doctrine of massive retaliation because the Soviet Union became capable of delivering ballistic rockets to U.S. territory, hence the doctrine lost its credibility. It was hardly conceivable that the U.S. leadership would retaliate with strategic nuclear weapons a Soviet attack in e.g. South East Asia, thus prostrating U.S. territory to Soviet nuclear attack).

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – September 19, 1957 (NMC)**

Jenő Incze, the Hungarian Minister of Foreign Trade, informs the government about his visits to Syria, Egypt and Yugoslavia.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – September 19, 1957 (OSA)**

According to a report by Radio Free Europe, the interpretation of the Yugoslav-Polish communiqué of September 16 can be summarised in four points: the principle of proletarian internationalism is accepted as a basis for mutual relations among communist countries; the validity of different roads to Socialism is claimed; bilateral relations; call for unity of the socialist and workers' parties. The points of omission of the communiqué relate to the Hungarian events: workers' self-management, system differences between various communist parties and the leading role of the Soviet Union.

**Finland – September 20, 1957 (SJM)**

The national composer, Jean Sibelius, dies.

**Poland – September 20, 1957 (OSA)**

The 12th plenary session of the Central Committee of Polish Trade Unions came to an end after two days of debate on the current problems of the Polish trade union movement. The main topic was the increasing of the role of the Polish Trade Unions in setting up and supervising more vocational training schools for an estimated 100,000 young workers.

**Hungary – September 22, 1957 (NMC)**

The Hungarian Foreign Ministry publishes a declaration about the U.N. General Assembly declaration on Hungary.

**Hungary / Austria – September 24, 1957 (NMC)**

Another memorandum is sent to the Austrian Foreign Ministry about the situation of underage refugees in Austria.

**Hungary / Syria – September 24–28, 1957 (NMC)**

A Syrian parliamentary delegation led by Rafik Basur, the deputy chairman of the parliament, stays in Hungary.

**Poland – September 24, 1957 (OSA)**

A Polish Trade Union official speaking at the 12th plenary session of the Polish Trade Union's meeting said that a gradual process of deep and essential changes was taking place in the trade union movement of the socialist camp.

**Hungary / Austria / U.N. – September 25, 1957 (KAC)**

At the U.N. General Assembly Leopold Figl, Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, urges for amnesty for the participants of the 1956 revolution.

**Poland – September 25, 1957 (OSA)**

According to a Reuters report quoting “*Zycie Warszawy*”, it is being claimed that this year’s grain harvest is the largest since the end of World War II, indicating that the Polish decision to allow private initiatives coupled with respect for individual peasant ownership of land is beginning to pay dividends and increase production, resulting in an over fulfilment of the plan for the current year.

**Hungary / China – September 27–October 4, 1957 (KAC)**

A delegation led by Kádár, First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party, discusses the international situation, the question of unity within the socialist bloc and the terms of Hungarian-Chinese relations with the leaders of the Chinese government and the Chinese Communist Party in Beijing. Kádár gives a speech at the Beijing assembly on **October 3**. A joint declaration is signed on **October 4**. Members of the Hungarian delegation: György Marosán State Minister, István Szirmai, President of the Informational Office and Péter Vályi, President of the Planning Office.

**Finland – September 30, 1957 (SJM)**

J. Sibelius is buried at his home in Ainola, Järvenpää.

**October****East Germany / Yugoslavia – October, 1957 (OSA)**

First trade agreement concluded between East Germany and Yugoslavia after the establishment of diplomatic relations.

**Poland / Soviet Union – October 1, 1957 (OSA)**

The controversy between Soviet and Polish writers is brewing for more than a year. An excerpt from the report of the Secretary to the Third Plenary Session of the Board of the Soviet Writers’ Union indicates that for a year now the Polish, Hungarian, and Yugoslav literary press have undertaken to defame or at least to belittle the significance of the entire course of development of Soviet literature.

**Poland / Czechoslovakia – October 1, 1957 (OSA)**

The Czechoslovak Radio coupled discussion on the meaning of “dogmatism” and “revisionism” with an attack on a young Polish philosopher Leszek Kolakowski. The Czechoslovak radio condemns dogmatism, but the chief object of attack was revisionism in all its forms.

**East-Central Europe – October 2, 1957 (CACHPB/NMC/PLC/PSN)**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland, Adam Rapacki, presents on the forum of the United Nations an initiative which aims to create a nuclear-weapons-free zone in the region of East-Central Europe, including Poland, Czechoslovakia and both parts of Germany. The plan is rejected mainly by the United States and Great Britain. The idea becomes known as the Rapacki Plan.

**France/ Poland- October 2, 1957 (KCA)**

A Franco-Polish agreement is signed providing for the exchange of scientists between the two countries.

**Poland – October 3-6, 1957 (PLC)**

Student demonstrations in Poland.

**Czechoslovakia – October 3, 1957 (OSA)**

As part of the ongoing decentralization process, the leadership slightly decreases capital investment while slightly increasing production targets for 1960.

**Poland – October 3, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish Ministry of agriculture announced on September 27 that 5,930 million zloty would be invested in the Polish agrarian sector during 1958.

**Soviet Union – October 4, 1957 (HC/ KCA)**

The first artificial satellite is launched. This is the first such instance in human history and was met with considerable alarm by U.S. officials, who fear that this indicates that the Soviet Union may have developed rockets powerful enough to deliver inter-continental ballistic missiles.

**Soviet Union – October 4, 1957 (CAC)**

The Soviet Union launches Sputnik I, the first artificial satellite to orbit the earth, unofficially marking the start of the space race between the United States and Soviet Union, and fuelling a parallel effort in the broader area of high technology, especially in the military sphere.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 4-8, 1957 (MOL)**

John Blatnik, representative of the U.S. House of Congress visits Yugoslavia.

**Hungary – October 5, 1957 (OSA)**

The article reports on extraordinary subsidies issued to the Catholic church by the state to compensate on financial losses resulting from changes in previously struck agreements. The state still supports the good relationship between it and the church.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – October 5, 1957 (LBC)**

The Soviet Union announces that it has launched first artificial satellite, the *Sputnik*. Opinions: According to U.S. Senator Jackson the launching of the satellite dealt a devastating blow to the prestige of the U.S. as the world's leading scientific and technological power. Senator Bridges: it is time to be less "concerned with the depth of the pile on the new broadloom rug or the height of the tail fin on the new car and to be more prepared to shed blood, sweat and tears if this country and the free world are to survive."

**Yugoslavia – October 5, 1957 (PLC)**

Milovan Dilas is sentenced to 7 more years in prison, because of his book, *The new class*, published in the United States. He will be released in 1961.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – October 7, 1957 (LBC)**

In an interview to the *New York Times* Khrushchev asserts that he is willing to place the satellites and the rockets under international control in the framework of a Soviet-American agreement.

**Poland / Soviet Union – October 8, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish weekly "*Polityka*" entered the latest exchange of polemics between Polish and Soviet literary circles over the present state of Soviet literature with the firm defense of the Polish critics. The most recent critical exchange between the Soviets and the Poles were caused by the first issue of the Polish literary quarterly "*Opinie*", the official organ of the Polish–Soviet Friendship Society.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – October 8, 1957 (LBC)**

Dulles agrees with the idea of international control, but not in the framework of a bilateral Soviet-American agreement. According to Dulles the launching of the *Sputnik* is "a great scientific achievement," but means only a propaganda advantage to the Russians.

**Soviet Union / United States / Turkey / Syria – October 9, 1957 (KCA)**

In an interview with the New York Times N. Khrushchev accuses U.S. Secretary of State J.F. Dulles of "inciting" Turkey to attack Syria, an ally of the Soviet Union. This happens after Syria notifies the Soviet Union of alleged concentrations of Turkish troops along the border. In response to these accusations the U.S. State Department refers to the charges as "completely unfounded."

**Soviet Union / U.S. – October 9, 1957 (LBC)**

After preliminary consultations Eisenhower congratulates the Russian scientists on *Sputnik*, but he does not think that U.S. security diminished even by an iota.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 9, 1957 (MOL)**

Thomas Ashley, member of the financial committee of the U.S. Congress visits Yugoslavia.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 10, 1957 (MOL)**

Economic discussions between Yugoslavia and the United States terminate in Washington. The Yugoslav delegation is led by Secretary of Finance Avdo Humo.

**East Germany / Yugoslavia – October 10, 1957 (PLC)**

Yugoslavia recognizes the GDR and initiates diplomatic relations.

**Poland – October 10, 1957 (OSA)**

Students in Krakow were said to have demonstrated against the closing of the Polish youth paper "*Po Prostu*" by the regime and against the forcible suppression of student demonstration in Warsaw by the police and the party's militia. The Polish Minister of Higher Education accused the students of excesses of hooligan character.

**Yugoslavia – October 11, 1957 (PLC)**

Yugoslavia becomes a full member of the OEEC.

**U.S. – October 12, 1957 (LBC)**

It is announced that one third of the U.S. strategic air force is on constant alert, the planes are standing on the runways loaded with bombs, the crew is close to the aircrafts.

**Hungary / Austria – October 12, 1957 (KAC)**

The Austrian government bans the *Út és Cél*, pro-Hungarian immigrant newspaper, and deports its editors.



**Hungary – October 12, 1957 (NMC)**

It is announced in the Hungarian Foreign Ministry that Wan Waithayakon is not given permission to enter Hungary, because the Hungarian government does not recognize the U.N. declaration on Hungary, and so does not allow foreign observers to the country.

**Soviet Union – October 12, 1957 (KCA)**

N. Khrushchev sends letters to various Western European socialist and labor parties urging them to do everything necessary to prevent Western military action in the Middle East. The British Labour Party replies that it is “not prepared to enter into joint activities with any Communist party.”

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 13, 1957 (MOL)**

Yugoslav ambassador to the United States Leo Mates participates in a political debate at Chambersburg, Pennsylvania and lectures on the current difficulties of the European governments. The previous year, he elaborated on the problems facing the Asian countries.

**East Germany – October 13, 1957 (OSA)**

An emergency announcement was made stating that all currency at and over the value of 2 East Marks, should be exchanged at Emergency Exchange Booths before 20 hours of that same day, after which time all money of that denomination would be rendered worthless. The amount of cash that could be exchanged was limited to the value of 300 East Marks; any exceeding value would be frozen, and if proven to be illegally attained, dedicated to national reconstruction. The official reason given was to harm speculators both foreign and domestic as well as West German agencies, authorities and banks dealing with the East Mark; this is likely, however, to have been an anti-inflationary measure of the East German government.

**East Germany / Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 14, 1957 (LKT)**

Yugoslav Ambassador to the United States Leo Mates informs the State Department that Yugoslavia will establish diplomatic relations with East Germany within 24 hours. While Mates characterizes this as Yugoslavia's attempt to facilitate a peaceful solution to the German question, the Department of State advises him that the United States will perceive the move as signaling Yugoslavia's abandonment of nonalignment and as a surrender to Soviet pressure.

**Poland – October 14, 1957 (OSA)**

Omission and inaccuracies in the Polish economic reports and regime statements are noted. During a session of the Sejm the topics of the operative economic plan, the economic and industrial achievements and the importance of the coal mining sector were discussed alongside the return to the agricultural sector of many former industrial workers. The report underlines the optimistic approach of the planning chief Jedrychowski to the economic situation.

**Poland / Hungary – October 14, 1957 (OSA)**

Speaking of relations between Poland and Hungary and commenting on the Polish riots, Kádár stated that “we sincerely upheaved the powerful blow struck by the Polish people and their leaders against the anti-socialist and hooligan elements which recently made the provocative appearance in words. We regard them as a factor strengthening the unity of the countries building socialism. It is especially heartening for us, and perhaps the lesson is still to be learned by certain sections of our university youth that every official organization of university youth and the majority of university students dissociate themselves from these acts”.

**East Germany / Yugoslavia / U.K. / U.S. – October 15, 1957 (LKT)**

In discussing Yugoslavia's action of establishing diplomatic relations with East Germany with Selwyn Lloyd, the British foreign secretary, U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles explains that the United States does not plan to sever its ties with Yugoslavia but will again reduce the amount of military and economic aid being sent there.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – October 15–18, 1957 (NMC)**

A Hungarian cultural delegation led by Gyula Kállai, the Minister of Culture, negotiates in Prague about cultural and intellectual question.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 17, 1957 (MOL)**

U.S. Senator Allen Eblender (Democrats), chairman of agricultural committee of the U.S. Senate arrives in Yugoslavia.

**Poland – October 17, 1957 (OSA)**

The Control Commission of the Polish United Workers' Party, enlarged by three members of its Central Committee, expelled 10 members of the 17-man strong editorial staff of the student and newsweekly "*Po Prostu*" For alleged violations of party discipline.

**Yugoslavia / West Germany – October 18, 1957 (MOL/PLC)**

In a note, the Federal Republic of Germany informs Yugoslavia of suspending the diplomatic relations between the two countries. This is the first time when the 1955 Hallstein doctrine is put into force.

**Finland – October 18, 1957 (HJH)**

The Sukselainen Government resigns.

**Poland – October 18, 1957 (OSA)**

The trade deficit is progressively increasing according to a Warsaw newscast of the day. The radio said that the deficit in foreign trade amounted to \$177 million for the first three quarters of 1957.

**Hungary / France – October 19, 1957 (KAC/NMC)**

The French-Hungarian Trade Agreement for 1957-1958 is signed in Paris, stating the volume of trade between the two countries should be increased by 60%.

**Poland – October 19, 1957 (OSA)**

The report provides information on the different political ideas exposed during the commemoration of the 8th plenum of the Polish United Workers Party. The return of Gomulka to the scene and the expulsion of the "*Po Prostu*" revisionist group from the Party is underlined. Details are in the article of "*Trybuna Ludu*" on different topics such as leaderships, power influences and relations with the Roman Catholic Church.

**U.S. – October 19, 1957 (LBC)**

Dulles states that the U.S. wishes to deploy IRBMs in Europe. According to the secretary of defense the rockets will be shipped for Britain from mid-1959.

**Hungary – October 19, 1957 (HC)**

The second furnace of the Danube Iron Factory is opened in Dunaújváros.

**Hungary – October 19, 1957 (HC)**

Governmental decree 1082/1957 announces that the higher education of party and state employees will be supported by the state. Governmental decree 1083/1957 announces that individuals can buy state-built houses.

**East Germany / Yugoslavia / West Germany – October 19, 1957 (ADG)**

Yugoslavia establishes diplomatic relations with East Germany. In response, West Germany breaks-off its relations with Yugoslavia.

**Poland – October 21, 1957 (PLC)**

In Poland Gomulka announces that the *Po prostu* periodical is counterrevolutionary. The periodical is soon banned.

**Hungary – October 21-22, 1957 (HC)**

Session of the council of the Patriotic People's Front in Budapest. President: Antal Apró. General Secretary: Gyula Ortutay.

**U.S. – October 22, 1957 (LBC)**

It is announced that the U.S. military research and development budget is raised from 1.58 to 1.68 billion dollars.

**Hungary – October 22, 1957 (BBR)**

The Hungarian Freedom Association, Hungarian Writers' Union Abroad, Social Democratic Party, Free Hungarian Trade Unions and British Association of Hungarian University Students hold a ceremony on the eve of the first anniversary of the revolution.

**Hungary – October 23, 1957 (BBR)**

The Hungarian public commemorates the first anniversary of the revolution in various ways, but no large-scale incidents occur. Nevertheless, several hundred people are arrested. Commemorations also are held throughout the West.

**Finland – October 23, 1957 (EKF)**

The Social Democrat Leader and the chief name on the list of unacceptable Finnish politicians, Väinö Tanner, is given the task of forming a government.

**U.S. / U.K. – October 23-25, 1957 (LBC)**

At the Washington meeting of MacMillan and Eisenhower an agreement is reached to establish British-American committees in order to work out coordinated policies for defense, nuclear and rocket programs. According to the two Western leaders because of the political, military and psychological challenge posed by the *Sputnik*, the West must unite resources.

**Hungary / U.S. – October 24, 1957 (KAC/NMC)**

The Hungarian U.N. representatives write a declaration as a response to the criticism of Cabot Lodge, American congressman.

**Austria / Soviet Union – October 24, 1957 (KCA)**

A three-year trade agreement in total value of 150,000,000 dollars is signed between Austria and the Soviet Union.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 24, 1957 (LKT)**

U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles cautions his staff that the United States should not be impulsive and should thoroughly re-examine its policy toward Yugoslavia. Dulles believes that Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito can still lead the Soviet satellite states to a greater degree of independence.

**Hungary / Argentina – October 24, 1957 (NMC)**

The media announces that in Buenos Aires a Hungarian-Argentinean trade and payment agreement was signed for a year.

**Hungary – October 25, 1957 (HC)**

The József Katona Theater in Budapest presents *Szellemidézés* (“Psychomancy”) by Ferenc Karinthy.

**Hungary – October 25-27, 1957 (HC)**

The first conference of the Hungarian Young Communist League in Budapest.

**Poland – October 25, 1957 (OSA)**

Attacks by the Polish United Workers’ Party against their alleged allies, the United Peasant Party continue to be featured in the Polish press and the official releases of the Polish News Agency.

**Poland – October 25, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish newspaper “Trybuna Ludu” invited the members of Communist Youth Union who disagree with the Polish United Workers’ actions to resign from the Youth Organisation, seeking the unity of the Party towards the paper “Po Prostu.” Details on the attitudes noted during the 8th and 9th plena are provided alongside the warning from the East German Communists on the actions of the “Po Prostu” paper.

**Poland – October 25, 1957 (OSA)**

All members of the Communist sponsored Students’ Union that are unable to agree with the general line of the Polish United Workers’ Party as formulated at the 8th and 9th plena are called to resign from the youth organization.

**Poland / Hungary – October 27, 1957 (OSA)**

The anniversary of the Hungarian revolution in 1956 was passed over in silence in Poland – ignored by the Gomulka regime.

**Soviet Union —October 27, 1957 (OSA)**

A growing tendency towards Chauvinism in regard to a materialistic attitude to progress has been detected in the Soviet people, who frequently express great pride for their technological achievements during the post-war reconstruction years. The evidence of material advancement, the glorification of labor, and the prospects of the future have created a competitive outlook for a whole generation. Meanwhile, even though the Church thrives despite the anti-religious government campaign, the Russian Orthodox Church fails to make an impression on the Soviet youth, who view the Church as an outdated symbol.

**Soviet Union – October 29, 1957 (KRI/KCA/PLC)**

Marshal Zhukov is removed from his post by Khrushchev “for violation of Leninist principles in the leadership of the armed forces” and building a “cult of personality” around

himself. Official statements express the view that Zhukov was attempting to circumvent the supremacy of the party and the government over the armed forces. Khrushchev appears to view Zhukov as a personal threat.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – October 30, 1957 (OSA)**

Yugoslav student newspaper “*Student*” approves prohibition of Polish Student Organ “*Po Prostu*”. The newspaper cites reasons that “one must, in the name of true humanism, subordinate individual whims to the common one”.

**Hungary / Vietnam– October 31, 1957 (KAC)**

Sándor Nógrádi, new special Ambassador to Vietnam, presents his credentials in Hanoi.

**Hungary / Austria – October 31, 1957 (KAC)**

An agreement is signed in Vienna about the pension of the former employees of the Danube Steamship Company.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – October 31, 1957 (KAC)**

The Hungarian-Soviet Cultural Agreement is signed in Budapest.

**November**

**Finland / Soviet Union – November, 1957 (EKF)**

Moscow reacts to Väinö Tanner’s given task to form a government by unleashing a harsh propaganda campaign against Tanner and interrupting trade discussions with Finland.

**Poland – November, 1957 (PLC)**

In Poland the Stalinist leaders of the communist party are harshly punished.

**Soviet Union – November, 1957 (RYN)**

Moscow Conference of eighty-one Communist parties.

**Soviet Union / Bulgaria / Romania – November, 1957 (OSA)**

In Moscow, a meeting of representatives of the Communist and Workers’ Parties met. In this meeting, said representatives ratified documents calling on the unity of the parties to counter the growing threat of anti-Marxist-Leninist revisionism.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – November, 1957 (MOL)**

Seven members of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the U.S. Congress visit Yugoslavia.

**Poland – November 2, 1957 (OSA)**

Leading spokesman for the Polish government in cultural affairs Adam Schaff indicated in an interview with Radio Warsaw that the Party did not intend to interfere in the freedom of research in science and culture, stressing that the freedom of inquiry constitutes one of the cornerstones of the Polish October policy.

**Hungary – November 3, 1957 (BBR)**

The system of summary justice is abolished.

**Soviet Union – November 3, 1957 (KCA/PCA)**

The Soviet Union announces that a second satellite has been successfully launched into outer space and is orbiting earth. The satellite weighs roughly six times that of *Sputnik*, meaning that the Soviet Union is in possession of rockets even more powerful than what was previously assumed. In addition, the satellite contains a living dog (named Laika), the object of experiments to determine the possibility of launching a human into space.

**Hungary – November 3, 1957 (HC)**

Decree no. 1957:62 by the Hungarian Presidential Council abolishes martial law.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – November 4, 1957 (KAC)**

A Hungarian delegation led by Kádár travels to Moscow to attend the 40th anniversary celebrations of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

**Soviet Union – November 6, 1957 (KCA)**

The 40th anniversary of the October Revolution of 1917 is celebrated in Moscow. Delegations from 37 countries are present at the festivities, with the notable exception of Yugoslav President J. Tito, who announced that a health problem would prevent his attendance. N. Khrushchev gives speeches extolling the achievements of Soviet industrial production, technology and education, and improvements in living standards since the pre-revolutionary era.

**Hungary / Austria – November 6, 1957 (KAC)**

Imre Horváth, Minister of Foreign Affairs, meets Leopold Figl, Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, to discuss the relations of the two countries.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – November 6, 1957 (LBC)**

Khrushchev proposes a high-level East-West summit on peaceful coexistence.

**East Germany – November 6, 1957 (ADG)**

Erich Mielke becomes the new Minister for State Security, the successor of Ernst Wollweber.

**Poland – November 6, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish Council of Ministers decided that the draft plan for 1958 industrial production must be increased although targets for next year have already been considerably increased over last years.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 7, 1957 (LBC)**

Eisenhower announces that steps will be taken to overcome American disadvantages in sciences relating to defense. The President identifies the causes of U.S. lag in the fact that insufficient significance was attributed to the education of sciences on secondary or higher level.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – November 7, 1957 (MOL)**

Yugoslav Premier Josip Broz Tito writes an article on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

**Czechoslovakia – November 7, 1957 (OSA)**

The first evidence that Editor-in-Chief of Rude Pravo who was purged in 1949, Vilém Nový, is once again active: he publishes an article with a Prague student newspaper.

**Poland – November 7, 1957 (OSA)**

Jerzy Morawski, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, speaking at a special session of the Central Committee commemorating the 40th anniversary of the October revolution, strongly condemned the ideological positions of both dogmatists and revisionists in the Polish party.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – November 8, 1957 (LBC)**

Both the U.S. and Great Britain reject the proposal for an East-West summit.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 10, 1957 (LBC)**

According to the U.S. department of education the Soviet school system is better than the American in science, technology and other areas as well. The requirements for Soviet students are higher; they seek out talents and give them excellent opportunities for development.

**Poland – November 11, 1957 (PSN)**

The Warsaw Provincial Court gives prison sentences to former police officials for “offenses against freedom.”

**Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – November 11-12, 1957 (KAC)**

At the Moscow meeting of all socialist countries Gomulka and Kádár talk with each other twice. The Polish party leader states that he does not agree with the trial of Imre Nagy, because Nagy alone cannot be responsible for the Hungarian revolution.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – November 12, 1957 (KAC)**

The leaders of the Hungarian and Yugoslav delegations in Moscow, Kádár and Kardelj, talk about the international situation and about the relations of the two countries.

**Poland – November 12, 1957 (OSA)**

The Party's central organ carried out a hard attack on Polish writers of revisionist tendencies by the government's cultural spokesman Adam Schaff. This was the second criticism of Polish journalists to be carried in as many days.

**Poland – November 12, 1957 (OSA)**

Voivodship committees of the Polish United Workers' Party held meetings to discuss problems related to the verification campaign of party members.

**Czechoslovakia – November 13, 1957 (PSČZ/ KCA)**

Czechoslovakian President Antonin Zapotocky dies. On November 19 the National Assembly elects M. Antonin Novotny, another founding member of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, as President of the Republic.

**Hungary – November 13, 1957 (HC)**

The Supreme Court finds guilty of taking leading role in organizing activities aiming to overthrow the state power Tibor Déry (sentenced to 9 years), Gyula Háy (6 years), Zoltán Zelk (3 years) and Tibor Tardos (1 year).

**Poland – November 13, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish United Workers' Party revealed further details on November 11 as to the methods it will employ in carrying out the verification of party members. ‘*Trybuna Ludu*’, the Party daily revealed that the three categories of party members who will be subjects of the campaign are

those guilty of corruption or abuse of power, those involved in left or right-wing factional activity and those casual members who have shown that they are not qualified to belong to the party. On the same day, the Polish Public Prosecutor's Office announced in Warsaw that its agencies are currently carrying on 46,000 investigations of economic offences against the state. The Office said that the turning point in the struggle with economic offenders came at the National Prosecutor's Conference last summer. Since then, investigations have been sped up and closer contact with the public has been developed.

**Soviet Bloc / Yugoslavia – November 14-16, 1957 (HC/KRI/PLC/CAC/JVJ/MOL/KCA)**

The communist and workers' parties of the socialist countries meet in Moscow. During the 40th anniversary celebrations the representatives of twelve communist parties meet to discuss "current problems in the international situation, and the struggle for peace and socialism." They issue a declaration denouncing colonialism and imperialism on the part of the Western powers and sectarianism within communist parties as major problems. A joint agreement is signed about peaceful coexistence: strengthening the Warsaw Pact and COMECON. A declaration affirms the unity of the camp and the results of the XXth party congress of February 1956. The new charter of the communist movement is not signed by the Yugoslav Communist Alliance, parties because it declares the leading role of the Soviet Union in world's Communist movement but signs the appeal for peace. The declarations are published on **November 27**.

**Bulgaria / Hungary – November 14-29, 1957 (NMC)**

A Hungarian parliamentary delegation led by István Vass, the deputy head of the parliament, stays in Bulgaria.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia / China – November 16-19, 1957 (HC)**

The first world congress of communist parties is organized in Moscow (64 parties participate). Mao Ce-tung in a speech rejects the idea of peaceful coexistence. The declaration of the congress is not signed by Yugoslavia. The second Yugoslav-Soviet break starts. A peace manifesto is written to the workers of the world, which is publicized on **November 23**.

**Czechoslovakia – November 16, 1957 (OSA)**

Literary critic Eduard Goldstücker returns to public life, signifying the further re-appraisal of Slansky's 'allies' after the show trial.

**Hungary – November 17, 1957 (BBR)**

The factory workers' councils are abolished.

**Poland – November 18, 1957 (OSA)**

According to the Party daily, economic reforms, now being inaugurated in Poland, were outlined at the 8th and 9th plena of the Polish United Workers' Party and the Party and the government have no intentions of exceeding the limits "...it is difficult to agree with the view that the economic reforms constitute the pivot of the program and that the five-year plan may be dropped all together" wrote the paper.

**Czechoslovakia – November 19, 1957 (PSČZ)**

Antonín Novotný is elected the new president of Czechoslovakia.



**Poland – November 19, 1957 (OSA)**

Warsaw radio reported on the enlarged plenum of the Polish Communist Party Central Committee, held on November 18 under the chairmanship of CC Secretary Witold Jarosinski. The Plenum appeared to have been directed mainly at the dogmatic wing of the Party.

**Poland – November 19, 1957 (OSA)**

Loga Sowinski, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Polish Trade Union, wrote in "*Glos Parcy*" that he solidly endorsed the Party's 10th plenum and resolutions which not only approve the Party's action against "*Po Prostu*" but call for a general verification of party members directed against both the left and right-wing of the Polish United Workers' Party and condemned so-called social democratic tendencies in the Polish trade union movement.

**Poland – November 19, 1957 (OSA)**

Radio Free Europe reports on extensive discussions of the theoretical underpinnings of contemporary Communism in Poland. The reports state that the Polish intelligentsia is enjoying a degree of freedom unknown in any other Communist country and has unloaded a barrage of criticism - touching upon a variety of concepts that during the past decades had been accepted by them as axiomatic. The radio reports that although these authors do share certain beliefs and that there is a remarkable divergence in their views, all of them are critical of Stalinism and that they all adhere to the idea of separate roads to Socialism.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – November 20, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish United Workers' Party enjoys full popular support for the purge of anti-party elements, writes Yugoslav paper '*Borba*'.

**Hungary / France – November 21, 1957 (KAC)**

A delegation of seven leaders led by Viens, Secretary of the French Communist Party, arrives to Budapest.

**Hungary – November 21, 1957 (HC)**

*A császár parancsára* ("The emperor's order"), a film directed by Frigyes Bán, is first shown.

**Hungary – November 22, 1957 (HC)**

The Budapest Operetta Theater presents *Kard és szerelem* ("Sword and love") by János Kerekes.

**France / U.K. / U.S. – November 22, 1957 (LBC)**

According to French Defense Minister Chaban-Delmas the present Anglo-American nuclear plans preserve the Anglo-Saxon nuclear monopoly. Chaban-Delmas declares that France must launch its own nuclear arms program in order to avert the elimination of France's status as a world power.

**Poland – November 22, 1957 (OSA)**

Verification of Polish United Workers' Party members belonging to the milieu of the creative intelligentsia would be carried out by the Cultural Commission of the Party's Central Committee according to an announcement in the mornings "*Trybuna Ludu*".

**Poland – November 23-30, 1957 (KCA)**

The Polish Government and the United Workers' Party announce the dissolution of collective farms and the purge of "Stalinists" and "revisionists" from the party.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – November 25–December 19, 1957 (NMC)**

A Hungarian economist delegation led by Antal Apró stays in Moscow.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – November 25, 1957 (OSA)**

A Czechoslovak drama performed by the Prague National Theatre in Belgrade on November 20th is called by "*Politika's*" cultural editor, Eli Finci "horribly naive." Criticising the first guest performance in Belgrade by the Prague National Theatre, the piece "Marysa" by the brothers Mrstik Finci said in the paper's November 22nd issue that "to perform such-plays today, amidst our socialist reality, is either unforgivable naiveté or extraordinary theatrical courage".

**Poland – November 26, 1957 (OSA)**

The Head of the Polish Council of Ministers' Planning Commission, Stefan Jedrychowski, announced in an interview that some aspects of Poland's new economic model are currently being adopted by the Polish economy whereas others will be gradually applied during 1958 and later. Simultaneous with the announcement of the inauguration of the first implementation measures of the so-called new economic model, the Polish Economic Council publicized new and far-reaching details of the proposed structural regrouping of some branches of the Polish industry. According to the PAP, recommendations of the Economic Council which were adopted on November 25 by the Polish Government will be implemented in two stages. On the same day, The Polish Trade Union's newspaper states that many enterprises under the Ministry of Heavy Industry are preparing to pay a 13th-month bonus to the employees. According to the paper, after a tallying of the production results for the third quarter of the year, it has been found that many millions of Zlotys have been saved through a reduction of production costs.

**Poland – November 28, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish veteran's organization - the Union of Fighters for Freedom and Democracy - is to carry out a verification of its members according to the Chairman of the Chief Verification Commission of the Organization, General E. Kuzsko.

**Poland – November 28, 1957 (OSA)**

Polish trade unions are to take a more active part in organizing and influencing the National Council selections than at any other time in the past. One reason for the increasing participation by the Polish trade unions in the pre-election campaigns is the introduction of the so-called industrial district. In addition to the old divisions of districts or territories, the latest innovation places a much greater responsibility on the trade unions than in the past since workers who will vote in the industrial district will not be eligible to vote for a territorial candidate.

**Finland – November 29, 1957 (HJH)**

All attempts to form a new government on a party basis fail and President Urho Kaleva Kekkonen appoints a caretaker government headed by the Head of the Bank of Finland Rainer von Fieandt.

**Poland – November 29, 1957 (OSA)**

Radio Warsaw broadcasts its second of three programs dedicated to the examination of revisionism in Poland.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – November 29–30, 1957 (OSA)**

Yugoslav newspapers report of calls to purge the Polish United Workers' Party ranks from casual satellites and enemies indicating problems of party unity and discipline.

## **December**

### **Austria / Hungary – December, 1957 (OSA)**

Exact date is not mentioned, but the Austrian Ministry of Internal Affairs reports that 1502 Hungarian refugees have arrived in the country this week.

### **Hungary – December, 1957 (HC)**

*Éjfélkor* (“At midnight”), a film directed by György Révész, and *Külvárosi legenda* (“The myth of the suburbs”) by Félix Máriássy are first shown.

### **East Germany – December, 1957 (PGP)**

Illegal leaving of the GDR, the crime of “flight from the Republic” is punishable by up to three years prison.

### **Hungary / France – December 4, 1957 (KAC)**

The Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party and the Algerian Communist Party publish a joint declaration in Budapest. Although the French diplomacy officially does not raise objections, the French embassy in Budapest starts to send brochures about Algeria to newspapers, radio stations, telegram offices and the major political and cultural bodies of the Kádár system.

### **Yugoslavia – December 4, 1957 (JVJ)**

The new five-year plan of Yugoslavia abandons the forced industrial policy centered on heavy and military industries.

### **Poland – December 4, 1957 (OSA)**

Almost one year after the October upheaval in Poland which saw the return of Gomulka and the inauguration of the new economic course, first in the countryside and later in the industrial and trade sectors, collective farms in Poland continue to diminish in numbers. This trend continues even though new collective farms are being formed in almost every Polish voivodship.

### **Poland – December 4, 1957 (OSA)**

The number of collective farms in Poland continues to diminish, according to radio Warsaw interview of December 3 with the director of the Collective Farms. Director Stefan Zmijko indicated that the number of registered collective farms in Poland is 1770. Since the latest Polish statistical bulletin wrote that at the end of the third quarter of the current year there were 1789 collective farms in Poland, it appears that about 10 collective farms vanish per month.

### **Hungary / France – December 5, 1957 (KAC)**

János Kádár, First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party, meets the French Communist Party’s delegation and Gaston Viens.

### **Poland / Yugoslavia – December 5, 1957 (OSA)**

The only Yugoslav newspaper so far to note the November 28 speech by PUWP first secretary Wladyslaw Gomulka was the daily “*Politika*”.

### **U.S. – December 6, 1957 (LBC)**

The U.S. carries out an unsuccessful satellite test. U.S. Democratic Senator Lyndon B. Johnson calls the failure one of the most publicized and most humiliating failures in U.S. history.

**Poland – December 6, 1957 (OSA)**

Reports on the 10th Plenum indicate that Gomulka's control over the Party is increasing due to decline of oppositional activity thus effectively increasing the Party's control over the country and leading to a decline in the inflammability of the political situation as a whole.

**Poland – December 6, 1957 (OSA)**

A Polish Parliamentary Committee preparing a draft bill to change the present Ministry of State Control to a Supreme Control Chamber subordinate to the Sejm has finished its work. The PAP said that the Control Chamber will have powers of control over economic activity, finance, and the organization of national and local state administrative organs. The Chamber is expected to also supervise the activity of non-socialist or private economic enterprises.

**Poland – December 6, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish Writers' Union Congress is scheduled to open on December 7 in Poznan and finish on Sunday according to the chairman of the Union Antoni Slonimski. 72 delegates elected by 373 union members will meet in closed session. It was decided at last year's Congress that the meetings would be closed. The main topics of discussion would be the writers' working and living conditions which have grown "quite serious" due to smaller additions of their work, an increase in the price of books, and the present publishing convention. This situation makes it difficult for a writer to devote himself entirely to literary work.

**Yugoslavia – December 7, 1957 (KCA)**

The central committee of the Yugoslav League of Communists issues a statement criticizing the joint declaration issued on November 16 in Moscow by 12 communist parties, asserting that "contains attitudes and appraisals which are contrary to the position taken by the Yugoslav League of Communists, and which it considers incorrect." However, it reiterates its commitment to "the struggle for socialism and world peace."

**Hungary – December 8, 1957 (OSA)**

The relationship between state and church is good. – The archbishop of Kalocsa was decorated by the state with a high distinction. A brief interview on matters related to church and state is included with the archbishop.

**Hungary / Syria – December 9, 1957 (NMC)**

A Syrian governmental delegation led by Khaled el-Azem, Deputy Prime Minister, travels to Hungary.

**Poland – December 9, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish Writers' Union Congress which was prepared and carried off with a minimum of publicity closed in Poznan on December 8 with the re-election for two years of its same executive board and officers.

**Poland – December 9, 1957 (OSA)**

The final resolution of the Union of Polish Teachers and Educators, held in Warsaw on December 6 to December 8, among many items, called on the Polish Government to make new and additional efforts to improve the standard of living of teachers and reduce the number of teaching hours per week.

**Czechoslovakia – December 10, 1957 (OSA)**

The productivity of state farms has only increased by 3.5% since 1953, undermining economic plans. The country is in the middle of a collectivization drive, and earlier in December has decreed that all farms - whether collective or individual - must repay debts to the state.

**Poland – December 10, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish Government has permitted the district authorities of Nowy Sacz to create its own self-administering commercial company to build sanatoria and recreation homes free from state control and without state subsidies.

**Soviet Union / Syria- December 11, 1957 (KCA)**

Syro-Soviet economic and technical co-operation agreement is signed.

**East Germany – December 11, 1957 (PLC)**

The passport law is modified in the GDR. The “refugees of the republic” will be punished.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – December 11, 1957 (LKT)**

Dulles informs U.S. Ambassador to Yugoslavia James R. Riddleberger that the United States will accede to Yugoslavia's requests and make arrangements for the termination of the military assistance program.

**Poland – December 11, 1957 (OSA)**

The Polish Sejm is to meet this Friday, December 13, to consider a draft bill on transforming the present Ministry of State Control to a Supreme Control Chamber under the Sejm.

**Poland / Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / USA – December 11, 1957 (OSA)**

Soviet Premier Bulganin suggested in a letter to President Eisenhower that the so-called “Rapacki Plan” be item number three on the agenda of a summit conference he would like to be held within two or three months. The “Rapacki Plan”, named after the Polish Foreign Minister, who put it forward at the United Nations General Assembly on October 2, 1957, calls not for disengagement but the denuclearization of the territories of the two Germanies, Poland and Czechoslovakia and states that this limited measure of disarmament would be checked by inspection units to operate in the area.

**Soviet Union – December 12, 1957 (LBC)**

Bulganin proposes an East-West summit for the purpose of a general European settlement and arms reduction and urges the demilitarization of Central Europe. A day earlier Khrushchev in proposed an East-West summit in a letter to the British philosopher Bertrand Russell. The Soviet politician addressed a similar letter to Eisenhower.

**Hungary – December 13, 1957 (HC)**

The first machine units of the Tiszapalkonya thermal power station start to work.

**NATO – December 16-19, 1957 (KCA/ LBC)**

The heads of government of the 15 NATO member states meet in Paris. They issue a declaration of principles and statement on the international situation, placing special emphasis on German reunification and the maintenance of stability in the Middle East and Africa. In addition, they condemn the Soviet boycott of the U.N. disarmament commission and announce that intermediate-range ballistic missiles will be made available to any NATO member who requests them. This is the creation of a NATO nuclear missile arsenal.

**Hungary / U.K. – December 17, 1957 (NMC)**

Pál Földes, Hungarian ambassador to London, presents his credentials.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – December 18, 1957 (KAC)**

In Moscow an agreement is signed finalizing the amount of agricultural, technological and financial support (in terms of long-term loans) to Hungary.

**Poland – December 18, 1957 (OSA)**

The organ of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party urged local government bodies to expand handicrafts and small-scale private production to help satisfy the needs of the Polish people for various kinds of services.

**Hungary – December 20, 1957 (HC)**

The country's best benzene processing equipment and the first sulphur processing equipment is completed in the Duna Iron Factory

**U.K. – December 20, 1957 (LBC)**

The House of Commons supports MacMillan's foreign policy and approves the establishment of IRBM bases in Great Britain. MacMillan assures the Parliament that Britain has full veto rights on the activation of IRBMs to be deployed on British soil.

**Soviet Union / NATO – December 21, 1957 (LBC)**

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko rejects NATO's proposal to renew the East-West disarmament talks. Gromyko's counter-proposal: talks at the U.N. General Assembly or a world conference, including all communist and non-communist states. Khrushchev proposes Soviet-American discussions prior to the world conference.

**Hungary – December 21, 1957 (HC)**

The Parliament accepts Law 1957: VI-VIII. about the people's control, civil trials and the general rules of state conduct.

**Hungary – December 21, 1957 (BBR)**

Géza Losonczy dies in prison.

**Hungary / Italy – December 24, 1957 (NMC)**

The media announces that in Rome the Hungarian-Italian Trade and Payment Agreement for 1958 was signed.

**France – December 27, 1957 (LBC)**

Mollet urges an East-West summit in an interview given to a U.S. paper.

**Poland / West Germany – December 27, 1957 (OSA)**

West German firms decide to exhibit jointly at the Poznan fair of 1957.

**Hungary – December 28, 1957 (HC)**

Decree no. 1957:65 by the Hungarian Presidential Council is announced regarding the retirement, the disability and the widow's pensions.

**Hungary – December 29, 1957 (OSA)**

The article reports on the continuation of the issuance of extraordinary subsidies by the state given to the Calvinist church in Hungary on unchanged terms until the matters discussion in October of the upcoming year.

**Hungary – December 30, 1957 (BBR)**

László Iván Kovács is executed due to his role in the revolution of 1956.

**U.S. – December 30, 1957 (LBC)**

U.S. President Eisenhower approves a one-billion-dollar four-year federal aid for education in order to satisfy the needs of national security in the forthcoming years.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria - 30 December, 1957**

In spite of the "mass collectivization" of agriculture in Bulgaria, production has not reached the level desired, said the December 20th issue of the "Yugospress Foreign Policy Bulletin". The bulletin added that today more than 87% of all arable land in Bulgaria is embraced in the Working Peasant Cooperatives Federation" (TKZS). However, the bulletin continued, "the growth of collectivisation has not gone hand in hand with the increase of agricultural production."

**Albania/ United Kingdom- December 31, 1957 (KCA)**

Albania announces the downing of a British freight plane containing six people after having violated Albanian airspace in disregard of warning signals. The Albanian government releases the plane to return to Britain on January 4, 1958.

**Hungary / Finland – December 31, 1957 (NMC)**

The Hungarian-Finnish Trade Agreement is extended for another year.

**East Germany / West Germany – December 31, 1957 (KGD)**

261,622 people flee to the FRG and West Berlin in 1957.

**U.K. – December 31, 1957 (LBC)**

The British government rejects the Soviet proposal for an East-West summit.

**Hungary – during the year 1958 (HC)**

According to the Central Statistical Office, the population of Hungary: 9 857 016. The distribution of workers by sector: state sector 79.4%, collective sector 14.1, private 6.5%. The distribution of agricultural land: state-owned 24.7%, village farms 12.6%, collectives 7.9%, collective groups 1.3%, crofts of collectives 0.6%, private farms 52.9%. Livestock: cows: 1 937 000, horses: 724 000, swine: 5 338 000, sheep: 2 050 000. Transportation: public roads: 28 850 km, railroads: 10 837 km (electrified railroads: 416 km), number of air routes: 19, length of air routes: 8409 km. Health care: number of doctors: 1 627 (14.8/ 10 000 citizens), number of pharmacists: 1369. Education: kindergartens: 2656 (kindergarten teachers: 7354, children: 170 559), primary schools: 6314 (teachers: 55 056, students: 1 268 650), secondary schools: 436 (teachers: 8402, students: 177 738), universities and colleges: 30 (professors: 4604, students: 31 178), vocational school professional teachers: 3964, students: 101 564. Number of theaters: 31, performances: 13 755, visitors: 6 771 600. Circus and other shows: 2145, visitors: 2 154 000. Number of cinemas: 4359, shows: 509 900. Radio subscribers: 1 962 700. According to the official Yugoslav statistics provided for the UN, in 1958, 19 857 Hungarian citizens asked for asylum in Yugoslavia.

**Bulgaria – 1958-1959 (KCA)**

The Bulgarian Communist Party introduces a number of changes in its economic policy. Bulgaria reorganizes its 3,453 agricultural cooperatives into 640 farms. Officials and students are now required to take part in productive work. As of September 1959, there are 1,000 cooperative farms.

**Bulgaria / Romania – 1958 (SRR)**

Romanian relations with Bulgaria are ambiguous. The Romanians seek close ties with a view to implement Prime Minister Stoica's plan for a Balkan federation. Romanian First Secretary Ceausescu unsuccessfully tries to reduce Bulgaria's subservience to Russia and to encourage manifestations of independence.

**Romania – 1958 (OSA)**

In this year out of sixteen regions in Romania, it is reported by the Romanian People's Council, that only two regions were able to supply construction plans in the outlined time frame. According to official reports, all other regions were at least five months behind schedule. This announcement comes among a government push to speed up the rate at which construction projects are carried out.

**Romania – 1958 (RFN)**

Romania castigates the U.S. for intervening in Lebanon to prevent civil war and for supporting Taiwan in the defense of the islands.

**Romania / Soviet Union – 1958 (RUR)**

Soviet troops move out of Romania.

**Romania / Soviet Union – 1958 (SRR)**

The political nature of the conflict between the Soviet Union and Romania becomes more evident. The Romanian regime expands the scope of its international activities, not only within the socialist camp, and pursues national communist policies at home, both of which in a manner disagreeable to the Kremlin. The regime maintains friendly relations with Yugoslavia and



China. Romania and China pressure the Soviet Union to withdraw its troops from Romania. Romania reinforces links with Western nations, most notably with Germany and France, in the pursuit of peaceful coexistence. New links are explicitly designed to seek alternate roads to industrialization. Stoica proposes a plan for cooperation among Balkan nations. Originally, the plan was proposed by Georgi Dimitrov and rejected by Stalin in 1948. The aim of the plan is to reinforce Romania's self-assigned place in the socialist camp and the international community in general as a force for the promotion of peace and friendly relations among all nations, regardless of their socioeconomic and political order. These multilateral international activities were officially approved by the Soviet Union but denied to all other socialist countries.

#### **Romania / North Korea – 1958 (SRR)**

Close relations between Romania and North Korea are established.

#### **Romania – 1958-1961 (RUR/SRR)**

Western foreign trade increases approximately by 70%. Trade with Great Britain, Belgium, Sweden, Switzerland more than triple, trade with Western Germany increases by 133%, surpassing trade with East Germany. During the same period, trade with the Soviet Union increased only 12%. The total volume and the proportion of trade with Western Europe nearly doubles. The trade with West Germany shapes one third of Romania's trade with all nations.

#### **Soviet Union / Argentina / Brazil / Mexico – 1958-1959 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union develops increasing economic links with some Latin American countries. This includes granting a large Soviet Credit to Argentina on **October 27, 1958**; concluding the first trade agreement ever to be signed between the Soviet Union and Brazil on **December 9, 1959**; Mikoyan, one of the two First Deputy Premiers, visiting Mexico from **November 18-28, 1959**.

#### **Finland – 1958 (TFP)**

In a major speech a Social Democrat Leader known for his anti-Russian attitudes, Väinö Tanner, warns that Finland's independence is in danger. The possibility that Finland might become a Soviet satellite state could not be ignored.

### **January**

#### **Czechoslovakia – January, 1958 (OSA)**

The Czechoslovak Communist Party's official paper, *Rude Pravo*, reports that inflation is mounting as the growth in personal income outstrips that of the country's.

#### **Czechoslovakia – January, 1958 (OSA)**

Fine artists and writers continue to rebel against Socialist realism; a Radio Free Europe background report lists changes in 1957, including a flourishing number of new artist groups and periodicals, and the founding of the National Union of Theatrical Workers.

#### **China / U.S. – January 3, 1958 (LBC)**

According to a U.S. State Department report the USSR and China granted 1.9 billion dollars in aid to developing countries between 1953 and 1957.

**Hungary / U.N. – January 3-7, 1958 (NMC)**

Auguste R. Lindt, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees visits Hungary. He was invited by the Hungarian government.

**Poland – January 4, 1958 (PSN)**

The All-Polish Committee of the National Unity Front is created.

**Bulgaria / U.S. – January 5, 1958 (LBC)**

A U.S. State Department spokesman revealed that in the past two years it left three Bulgarian requests for the restoration of diplomatic relations unanswered and will disregard them till the charges against the former U.S. Ambassador in Bulgaria are dropped.

**Hungary – January 5, 1958 (OSA)**

‘The relationship between state and church has significantly improved in the last year.’ In the New Year issue of the newspaper ‘*Új Ember*’ an article was released analyzing the relationship between state and church. According to it, significant improvements were made. The expression of good will by the churches in the previous year is also mentioned.

**Poland – January 5, 1958 (LBC)**

Polish Foreign Minister Adam Rapacki states, in an interview given to a British paper, that Poland would be willing to negotiate on a nuclear-weapons-free zone in Central Europe.

**Soviet Union / East Germany – January 6, 1958 (CAC/LBC/NMC)**

After breaking up the U.N. disarmament subcommittee, the USSR announces a force reduction of 300 thousand troops, 41 000 of which involve troops stationed in the GDR.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 8, 1958 (CWC)**

Premier Bulganin suggests that WTO and NATO leaders meet for a joint conference to lessen international tensions. The United States believes this to be ineffective.

**Soviet Union – January 8, 1958 (CAC)**

The Soviets propose reducing international tensions by replacing military groupings with a collective security system, by having the West reduce military forces as Moscow had done, by creating a nuclear-free zone in the two Germanys, Poland and the ČSSR, and other measures.

**Central Europe / Soviet Union / U.K. – January 9, 1958 (LBC)**

Soviet Prime Minister Bulganin raises the idea of an East-West summit once more. He urges the creation of a nuclear-weapons-free zone in Central Europe, rejects talks on the Foreign Minister level and welcomes British Prime Minister MacMillan’s proposal of **January 4** on an East-West non-aggression treaty. He offers the introduction of an “open skies” arrangement on both sides of the East-West frontier in a range of 500-500 miles.

**East Germany – January 9, 1958 (NNT)**

A state monopoly on foreign trade is declared.

**Finland – January 10, 1958 (UFF)**

Finland joins to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

**Hungary – January 10, 1958 (OSA)**

The issuance of extraordinary subsidies to the Israelite church in Hungary by state is reported by and article.

**Hungary – January 10, 1958 (NMC)**

István Dobi, Ferenc Münnich and Ferenc Keleti represent Hungary at the funeral of Petru Groza, former Romanian prime minister.

**Hungary / Israel – January 10, 1958 (NMC)**

László Gyáros, the spokesman of the Foreign Ministry, talks about Hungarian-Israeli relations and the problem of dissidents.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – January 10, 1958 (LKT/MOL)**

Yugoslav Vice-President Svetozar Vukmanović-Tempo publicly praises the United States for its policy of noninterference in Yugoslav affairs and its generous economic assistance. He calls the American-Yugoslav relationship a model for cooperation between states with different social systems and stages of development.

**Hungary – January 12, 1958 (HC)**

Decree no. 1958:4 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces that a Hungarian Physical Education and Sports Council will be formed.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 12, 1958 (LBC)**

U.S. President Eisenhower announces that he is willing to meet the Soviet leaders to discuss East-West issues. According to Eisenhower it is not worth negotiating a ban on Anglo-Soviet-American nuclear arms, a two to three year nuclear test ban or the creation of a nuclear-weapons-free zone in Central Europe since, with the radius of contemporary arms, to declare a small area nuclear-weapons-free has little significance. He does not see it worthwhile to negotiate an East-West non-aggression treaty either. Eisenhower calls on the USSR to agree to a summit where Eastern Europe and the violation of the Yalta agreement could be discussed.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – January 13, 1958 (KAC)**

The Hungarian-Soviet Trade Transportation Agreement for the 1958-1960 period and the Trade Report for 1958 are signed in Moscow.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – January 15, 1958 (KAC/BER)**

The Hungarian-Yugoslav Trade Agreement for 1958 is signed in Budapest.

**Hungary – January 14, 1958 (OSA)**

The General Assembly of Hungarian Israelites salutes the issuance of special subsidies by the state and the call for tolerance towards Jewish people around the globe.

**Hungary / India – January 15, 1958 (NMC)**

The extension for another two years of the Hungarian-Indian Trade Agreement is signed in Delhi.

**Poland – January 15, 1958 (OSA)**

In an interview with the head of the National Committee of the National Unity Front, the increase of interest in national elections among the voters is discussed. The replacement of some candidates with others more accepted by the voters was also underlined. The report also

provides details on the declaration issued during the Unity Front meeting and on the perspective of both the communist party and of the local administration on the council elections.

**Hungary / U.S. – January 16–17, 1958 (KAC)**

An American delegation of 11 journalists visits Hungary. Their questions are answered by Ferenc Münnich.

**Poland – January 16, 1958 (OSA)**

The report provides details on some speeches at the Democratic Party Congress in Warsaw on the necessity of co-operation between PUWP and the DP. The report also provides brief extracts from Mikolajczyk, leader of the Peasant Party, and Gomulka, Secretary of the Communist Party. A list of the guiding principles of the DP program is provided.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – January 18, 1958 (KAC)**

The Scientific Agreement of the Hungarian Academy of Science and the Soviet Academy of Science is signed for three years. The plans for 1958 are also announced.

**Hungary – January 19, 1958 (OSA)**

The solidification of the good relationship between churches and the state is reported by an article. Topics such as the support given by the leaders of churches to the state, the foreign relations of the churches and huge state subsidies for the churches are discussed.

**Poland – January 21, 1958 (PSN)**

The diet passes a law “On Increased Protection of Social Property from Damages Resulting from Crimes” which states that damage valued between fifty and one hundred zloty warranted at least five years imprisonment while if the damage was higher, it warranted at least eight.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 22, 1958 (CWC/LBC)**

Soviet First Secretary Khrushchev’s speech in Minsk: the USSR is willing to negotiate a ban on ICBMs if the West agrees to ban nuclear tests and liquidate its bases surrounding the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Khrushchev criticizes Eisenhower for insisting that more preparations would have to take place before an international summit.

**Hungary – January 23, 1958 (OSA)**

A statement issued by state officials and a Lutheran bishop after the agreement on the issuance of extraordinary subsidies by the state to the Lutheran church. Their views on the relationship and continuous collaboration are elaborated.

**Hungary – January 24, 1958 (HC)**

The Budapest television broadcasting station at the Széchenyi hill starts working.

**Hungary – January 25, 1958 (HC)**

Session of the presidency of the Patriotic People’s Front. The President will be Gyula Kállai instead of Antal Apró.

**Hungary – January 27, 1958 (HC)**

The Parliament accepts the 1958 national economy plan.

**Poland – January 27, 1958 (OSA)**

It is reported by the Warsaw Radio the percentage of the verification process of the election campaign made by the different communist party organisations. It is also stated that up to 22% of membership was disqualified from voting, among which the majority are industrial or farm labourers. The disproportion of verification campaigns is highlighted. Nevertheless, it is stated that 80% of party organisations were verified before the local elections.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 27, 1958 (LBC)**

A Soviet-American agreement is signed in Washington on an expanded cultural, educational, technological and sports exchange program. The program is expected to result in the exchange of 500 Soviet and American citizens in 1958. The agreement does not contain the Soviet pledge to cease jamming radio programs, the uncensored broadcast of U.S. television and radio programs on Soviet channels and the lifting of travel restrictions in the USSR. The U.S. does not consent to launching direct Soviet-American flights, the relaxation of travel restrictions or the reception of large trade delegations.

**Hungary – January 28, 1958 (HC)**

The Presidential Council chooses Ferenc Münnich to be the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. First deputy chairman: Antal Apró. New state ministers: János Kádár and Gyula Kállai. Minister of Culture: Valéria Benke. All other members of the **May 9, 1957** government keep their office.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – January 29, 1958 (MOL)**

According to the report of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, there are 19 857 Hungarian refugees in Yugoslavia, of which 2773 has repatriated, while others have left for other countries.

**U.S. – January 31, 1958 (LBC)**

The U.S. launches its first artificial satellite.

**February****Hungary – February, 1958 (HC)**

*Csendes otthon* (“Quiet home”), a film directed by Frigyes Bán, is first shown.

**East Germany – February, 1958 (OSA)**

A purge in the Socialist Unity Party (SED) has the so-called “opportunists”: Schirdewan, Wollweber, Oelssner and Selbmann accused of: factional activity, insubordination to party opinion and policy, as well as mismanagement of food imports, and lastly, arrogance and adherence to bourgeois economic thought.

**Poland – February 2, 1958 (PSN)**

Elections are held for the people’s councils. Front of National Unity candidates win an unrealistic majority of the seats.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – February 3, 1958 (LBC)**

A U.S.-Yugoslav agreement is signed in the framework of which Yugoslavia will be able to purchase 62 million dollars’ worth of US surplus wheat, cotton and edible oil for dinars. 50%

of the value of the dinars will be redirected to Yugoslavia in the form of aid. The agreement raised the value of U.S. aid to Yugoslavia to 750 million dollars. Out of this 385 million served defense purposes. This does not include the one billion dollars of military aid.

**Hungary – February 3, 1958 (NMC)**

Imre Horváth, the Hungarian Foreign Minister, dies.

**Poland – February 4, 1958 (OSA)**

Disagreements originating from members of the Polish Communist Party over the “disenchantment with socialism” among the Polish writers and poets are reported. The opinion of the chairman of the Cultural Committee, Leon Kruczkowski who had been previously attacked by the revisionists of the Communist Party is reported.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – February 5–6, 1958 (BBR)**

After numerous delays for purposes of sparing Hungary and the Soviets international embarrassment, the secret trial of Nagy and his associates begins – only to be suspended again two days later at Moscow's request.

**Poland / Soviet Union – February 5, 1958 (OSA)**

Radio Free Europe reported on the prediction of growth in trade relations between the U.S.S.R. and Poland in the period from 1958 to 1960 despite the expected decrease of the Soviet share in Polish trade from approximately 31% to 28% in 1960. The volume of trade is expected to increase alongside the increase in raw materials exports such as coal from to the U.S.S.R. The trade agreement between the two countries concerned different commodities such as grain, coal and iron.

**Poland – February 6, 1958 (OSA)**

It is reported that according to the provincial Communist Party newspaper “*Trybuna Mazowiecka*”, the results of the elections into party bodies have been favourable to the party and the whole community. Details on the publication of the results are provided and highlight the role of the Communist regime. The importance of the publication of two newspaper articles by the “United Peasant Party” leaders in the post-election period and their views and opinions on the elections are specified.

**Hungary / Spain – February 7, 1958 (NMC)**

A Hungarian-Spanish Trade Agreement is signed in Madrid.

**Hungary / France – February 9-19, 1958 (KAC)**

A delegation of four intellectuals from the French Communist Party arrives to Budapest as the guests of the Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party. The delegation is led by Guy Besse, member of the PB. They are welcomed by Dezső Nemes, director of the Party’s College and György Aczél, Vice Minister of Culture.

**Romania – February 11-12, 1958 (OSA)**

The Council of the Union of Romanian Students’ Associations held a plenary session in Bucharest. At said session, Major Virgil Trofin, the First Secretary of the Romanian Youth Movement, gave a speech criticising a variety of “ideological-political deficiencies.” He also called for improvement in the political education received by students.

### **Poland / Eastern Europe / U.S. – February 12, 1958 (LBC)**

According to U.S. Secretary of Commerce Weeks, the U.S. export to Poland in the first nine months of 1957 grew from 3.7 million dollars in 1956 to 28.9 million dollars. The total U.S. export to Eastern Europe and the USSR was 40.7 million dollars between January and September 1957 as compared to 11.2 million in 1956.

### **Hungary – February 12-15, 1958 (HC)**

Session of the executive committee of the World Federation of Democratic Youth in Budapest.

### **Hungary / North Korea – February 13, 1958 (NMC)**

The Hungarian Foreign Ministry announces a declaration about the **February 5** memorandum of the North Korean Foreign Ministry. This declaration disapproves that the United States is providing weapons to South Korea.

### **Soviet Union / U.K. – February 13, 1958 (LBC)**

According to a British White Book, Great Britain would retaliate against any, even conventional, Soviet attack on Western Europe with strategic hydrogen bombs. According to the British this would preclude the danger of a new “Korea” in Europe.

### **Hungary / Soviet Union – February 14, 1958 (KAC)**

The Association of Hungarian-Soviet Friendship is founded. Its first president is P. N. Fedosejev.

### **Hungary – February 14, 1958 (NMC)**

László Gyáros, the spokesman of the Hungarian government, talks to the media about the United Arab Republic, the Hungarian delegation preparing to travel to Romania, the planned nuclear free zone, the World Expo in Brussels and the foreign relations of Hungary.

### **Hungary – February 15, 1958 (KAC)**

Károly Kiss attends the funeral of Marcel Cachin, French communist politician and editor of *L'Humanité*, in Paris, representing the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party.

### **Hungary – February 15, 1958 (HC/NMC)**

The Hungarian Presidential Council appoints Endre Sík to be the Foreign Minister. Imre Horváth, the former Foreign Minister died on **February 3**.

### **Poland / U.S. – February 15, 1958 (LBC)**

The U.S. and Poland sign an agreement on a 98-million-dollar aid program. Accordingly Poland may purchase 23 million dollars' worth of U.S. agricultural surplus for zlotys and will obtain 25 million dollars in aid from Eisenhower's special fund for medical instruments and machines suitable for manufacturing consumer goods.

### **U.S. – February 15, 1958 (LBC)**

Presidential special disarmament advisor Harold Stassen resigns. Stassen disagreed with U.S. Secretary of State Dulles's unrealistically inflexible stance on the question of compromise disarmament.

### **Soviet Union / Egypt / Syria – February 15, 1958 (OSA)**

*Pravda* and *Sovetskaya Rossia* announce their support for the creation of the United Arab Republic.

**Hungary – February 18, 1958 (HC)**

Decree no. 1958:7 by the Hungarian Presidential Council regulates the rural development programs of the councils. Decree no. 1958:9 regulates the industrial activities of craftsmen, stating a craftsman can employ maximum three people and must be involved in the industry personally.

**Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Poland / West Germany – February 19, 1958 (LBC)**

The second version of the so-called Rapacki plan (October 2, 1957) is revealed. It describes the Polish plan for creating a nuclear-weapons-free zone in Central Europe. Other countries involved are the GDR, Czechoslovakia, the FRG.

**Hungary / Romania – February 20-28, 1958 (KAC)**

A government delegation led by Kádár to Romania.

**Romania – February 21-22, 1958 (OSA)**

The Romanian Writers' Union held a plenary session in Bucharest in which they discussed "the escape into the past." During this session, they outlined the largest problem in the Romanian literary field as writers being forced to compromise to tow the party line. A premium was offered to any writers whose work dealt with the modern theme of Marxist realism.

**Soviet Union —February 23, 1958 (OSA)**

It is observed that the Communist Party is devoting more efforts to educating respectable citizens than to promoting the Leninist ideology, without that meaning necessarily that the ideological teaching has been abandoned. Komsomol has been in charge of providing a code of ethics and behavioural instructions such as personal hygiene and tidiness, which resemble remarkably those of Western countries. It has been clarified, however, that these codes are not just a formality as in the bourgeois societies.

**Poland – February 25, 1958 (PSN)**

The Diet passes a law that would make it harder to reclaim seized private property under the guise of clarifying procedures for "small scale production circles."

**Hungary – February 27, 1958 (NMC)**

The Hungarian-Danish Trade Agreement is extended till **February 1959** in Copenhagen.

**East Germany – February 28–March 2, 1958 (HWD)**

The Third SED Conference on higher education proposes to transform high schools in the GDR into socialist educational institutions.

**March****Romania / China – March, 1958 (RUR)**

A Romanian delegation travels to China and claims that the military blocs should be abolished and replaced by systems of collective security.



**Czechoslovakia – March, 1958 (OSA)**

The first phase of a re-investigation starting in 1948 of SS and Hlinka Guardists' 1945 war crimes in Slovakia concludes; this is associated with attacks on Slovak nationalism, as Minister Barak continuously links 'Soviet separatism' and 'bourgeois nationalism'.

**Czechoslovakia – March, 1958 (OSA)**

Although the Czechoslovak Communist Party has taken a strong anti-Catholic stance since the coup in 1948, by March the Party's renewed aim to eradicate 'unreliable elements' including social democrats and revisionists extends the anti-religious climate.

**Romania – March 2, 1958 (OSA)**

Elections were held to elect members to the Peoples' Councils. There was reportedly one regional constituency, one town constituency, and twenty-five communal constituencies who failed to vote on this day. Elections in these areas have officially been rescheduled. There was a registered turnout of 99.62% with 99.43% of the vote going to the People's Democratic Front in Regional People's Councils. Those numbers varied slightly but not significantly in all races throughout the country.

**Romania – March 3, 1958 (OSA)**

The Romanian newspaper, Munca, published an article discussing issues with recent lectures occurring at the Popular Workers' Universities in Bucharest. Among the largest of the issues highlighted is the failure of professors to clarify terminology and build context in their lectures. I. Panait and Ing. I. Preotescu were among the lecturers called out by name.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 6, 1958 (LBC)**

The U.S. insist that the conference of Foreign Ministers preparing a four-power summit should discuss issues of significance in contrast to the Soviet wish to remove certain items from the agenda. He rejects the peace treaty to be signed by the two German states and the ensuing bilateral conference on unification and calls on the USSR to discuss the German question and the foreign interference in Eastern Europe.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 7, 1958 (LBC)**

Letter by Soviet prime minister Bulganin to Eisenhower: the USSR will not negotiate German unification and the Soviet position in Eastern Europe.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – March 8, 1958 (KAC/BER)**

The construction of a joint electric power line between Hungary and Yugoslavia is finished.

**Hungary – March 8, 1958 (HC)**

The second machine unit of the Tiszapalkonya thermal power station is completed.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 9, 1958 (CWC)**

Tass denounces the coming meeting of the Southeast Asian Treaty Organization (SEATO) and claims that the United States wants to deploy nuclear weapons to Asia.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 12, 1958 (LBC)**

Khrushchev offers to travel to the U.S. for the planned four power summit, since he is aware that, under certain circumstances, the President of the U.S. has a hard time leaving the country.

**Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Soviet Union / Romania – March 12, 1958 (RCW)**

A multilateral security meeting is held in Bucharest. The delegations from Romania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and the Soviet Union call for focusing on preventing subversive acts of Western intelligence, improving the exchange of information, and conducting joint operations.

**Hungary / Denmark – March 13, 1958 (NMC)**

The Hungarian-West German Trade Agreement for 1958 is signed in Bonn.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / Hungary – March 16, 1958 (OSA)**

A document signed by Khrushchev, responding to Secretary of State Dulles's reply to Lord Russell's open letter to Eisenhower and Khrushchev, served as an opportunity to comment on the U.S. political system as a whole. The First Secretary argued that the imperialists' motives for war derive from the profitability of the military industry, as means to justify the Hungarian episode. This episode coincides with the election held in the Soviet Union for the Supreme Soviet. Khrushchev highlights the role of the people and the need for a people's government while putting blame on the enemy.

**Yugoslavia – March 18, 1958 (RYN)**

In an election speech, Tito says that if a conference between the United States and the Soviet Union is held, it should include "countries which do not belong to any military bloc or formation" a theme he reiterates frequently.

**East Germany / Hungary – March 20-27, 1958 (NMC)**

A Hungarian party and government delegation led by Ferenc Münnich travels to the GDR. A joint declaration is signed on **March 24**.

**Hungary / China – March 21, 1958 (KAC)**

Jenő Incze, Minister of Foreign Trade, and Péter Vályi, Vice President of the Planning Office, travel to China. They sign the Chinese-Hungarian Trade Agreement for 1958 in Beijing.

**Hungary / Sweden – March 21, 1958 (NMC)**

In Stockholm the Hungarian-Swedish Trade Agreement is extended for another year.

**Yugoslavia – March 21, 1958 (MOL)**

Elections are held in Yugoslavia.

**Yugoslavia / Italy – March 21, 1958 (MOL)**

Yugoslavia protests against the Italian missile bases.

**Hungary – March 22, 1958 (OSA)**

'More than 5 million forints are spent on the reconstruction of old churches in Hungary.' The list of churches that undergo reconstruction is included.

**Hungary / U.S. – March 22, 1958 (KAC)**

A declaration of the government's spokesman is published explaining how the Americans are intending to get involved with Hungary's internal affairs.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – March 25, 1958 (LKT)**

In his testimony before the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles repeats his oft-stated contention that Yugoslavia is and will remain independent of the Soviet bloc.

**Romania – March 25, 1958 (OSA)**

A Symposium of the Writer's Union took place at the Academy of Music in Romania on this date. Discussions were carried out on the topic of "Actual problems of Romanian Creation." Ion Dumitrescu, a composer and the First Secretary of the Composers Union, was among the speakers. The Romanian Ministry of Education and Culture later released an article on the event.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – March 27–28, 1958 (KAC/BER)**

Hungarian and Yugoslav party delegations led by Kádár and Tito meet in Karadjordjevo.

**Soviet Union – March 27, 1958 (CWC/PLC)**

Khrushchev replaces Bulganin as premier. Khrushchev also keeps his position as first secretary of the Communist Party making him the undisputed leader of the Soviet Union.

**Hungary – March 29, 1958 (HC)**

Governmental decree 1014/1958 announces that a new subject called "practical education" will be taught at all primary and secondary schools.

**Soviet Union / U. K. / U.S. – March 31, 1958 (CWC)**

Soviet Union announces that it would stop nuclear testing if Great Britain and the United States also do so.

**Hungary – March 31-April 2, 1958 (HC)**

Session of the World Federation of Trade Unions in Budapest.

**April****Romania / Soviet Union – April 1958 (RFP)**

Khrushchev sends a letter to Romanian First Secretary Gheorghiu-Dej. He proposes the discussion on the problem of the withdrawal of the Soviet Army from Romania. Gheorghiu-Dej answers that due to the new international situation the Romanians agree to continue to station Soviet troops on Romanian territory.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – April, 1958 (BBR/PLC)**

As relations deteriorate, the Soviet Union imposes economic sanctions against Yugoslavia.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – April 2-10, 1958 (KAC)**

A Soviet party and government delegation stays in Budapest led by Khrushchev.

**Hungary / China – April 3, 1958 (KAC)**

A Chinese cultural delegation led by Chen Chung-jin, President of the Cultural Connections Committee, visits Hungary. The Chinese-Hungarian Cultural Agreement for 1958 is signed in Budapest.

**Hungary / France – April 4, 1958 (KAC)**

An unimportant diplomat of the Quai d'Orsay's Protocol Department attends the reception organized for the national day at the Hungarian embassy in Paris. This shows that the French diplomacy is willing to have some relations with Hungary.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – April 4, 1958 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union suggests that the United States and Britain stop testing as the Soviet Union has done.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – April 5, 1958 (LBC)**

Khrushchev's speech in Sztálinváros. Hungarians "must not again depend on the Russians coming to your assistance in the event of another counter-revolution." "You must help yourselves and must be so tough that the enemy will always be aware that the Hungarian working class will not waver for a single instant."

**Hungary / Soviet Union – April 8, 1958 (LBC)**

From Khrushchev's speech in Tatabánya: If anti-communists "attempt a putsch or counter-revolution in any socialist country, the armed forces of the other socialist countries and the armed forces of the Soviet Union are always ready to unite, to provide help and to answer the provocation."

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – April 11, 1958 (LBC)**

According to a proposal by the Soviet government the USSR, France, Great Britain and the U.S. should start diplomatic negotiations on **April 17** to prepare a conference of foreign ministers to be held in May. The summit cannot be made dependent on the success of the foreign ministers' conference.

**Hungary – April 11, 1958 (HC)**

The Lujza Blaha Theater in Budapest presents *Bástyasétány 77* ("Bastion promenade 77") by Mihály Eisemann.

**Poland – April 14, 1958 (PSN)**

At the opening day of the Fourth Congress of Trade Unions, Gomulka said that it was incorrect to identify worker self-management with workers councils.

**U.S. – April 15, 1958 (LBC)**

Eisenhower announces his readiness to participate in an East-West summit.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – April 16, 1958 (LBC)**

The Western powers accept the Soviet proposal for diplomatic talks to prepare the foreign ministers' summit.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – April 18, 1958 (LBC)**

The Soviet Union accuses the U.S. of flying bombers armed with nuclear bombs over polar areas towards the Soviet Union on several occasions. The U.S. deny making provocative flights in the vicinity of the Soviet Union.

**Finland – April 18, 1958 (HJH)**

The von Fieandt caretaker government falls.

**Hungary / China – April 21, 1958 (KAC)**

The Chinese-Hungarian long-term Trade Agreement for 1959-1962 is signed in Beijing.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – April 21, 1958 (OSA)**

Leonte Rautu, an alternate member of the Romanian Communist Party's Politburo, gave a speech criticising the Yugoslav Party Program. This was in line with the documents ratified in Moscow in the fall of 1957 and with Khrushchev's official policy.

**Romania – April 22, 1958 (OSA)**

A special meeting was arranged by the Romanian Communist Party to mark the 88th anniversary of Lenin's birth. In attendance were Gheorghiu-Dej, Chivu Stoica, A. A. Epishev - ambassador of the USSR to Romania, heads of diplomatic missions, and public and scientific personalities. Leonte Rauntu, alternate member of the Politburo, gave a speech.

**Yugoslavia – April 22-26, 1958 (MOL/PLC/RYN)**

The Seventh Congress of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia convenes in Ljubljana with the participation of the delegations of 51 Communist and workers' parties. Yugoslavia formally reaffirms its decision not to rejoin the Soviet camp and takes a giant step toward making nonalignment the mainstay of its foreign policy. Criticizing the bureaucratic and statist deformities of Soviet socialism and deploring the dogmatism dominating the outlook of the Soviet leaders, the Yugoslav party program rejects the notions that "Communist parties have a monopoly over every aspect of the movement of society towards socialism, and that socialism can only find its representatives in them and move forward through them." The Yugoslav party program considers these views "theoretically wrong and practically very harmful." The program commits Yugoslavia to the policy of "active coexistence" which "can only be implemented between states and peoples, and not in relations between blocs." It also emphasizes that "there can be no coexistence between blocs, for that would not be coexistence at all, but merely a temporary 'truce' concealing the danger of new conflicts." In his speech, Tito also emphasizes Yugoslavia's separate road to Socialism.

**Romania / Soviet Union – April 23, 1958 (RCW)**

Gheorghiu-Dej expresses his content with the Soviet decision from **April 17** to withdraw troops from Romanian territory.

**Hungary – April 24, 1958 (BBR)**

József Szilágyi is executed due to his role in the 1956 revolution.

**Hungary / West Germany – April 24, 1958 (NMC)**

It is announced in Hungary that the West German imperialism and militarism is an existing danger to Hungary.

**Finland – April 24, 1958 (HJH)**

The von Fieandt government is replaced by another caretaker Government headed by Jurist Reino Kuuskoski.

**Hungary / China – April 26, 1958 (KAC)**

A delegation of the Hungarian Academy of Science led by Ferenc Erdei travels to China to sign the Chinese-Hungarian Academic Cooperation Agreement.

**Hungary – April 27, 1958 (HC)**

The Economic Committee decides to reduce the working hours. In the mining industry and at other workplaces where the work is harmful for the health the weekly working hours will be 36-42 hours.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – April 29, 1958 (NMC)**

Nasser, the President of the United Arab Republic, stops in Budapest for a short time on his way to Moscow.

**May****COMECON – May, 1958 (CEC/ HC/MMS)**

Meeting of the Representatives of Communist and Workers' Party Representatives is held in Moscow. This is intended to reinvigorate COMECON. Revisions of trade and production plans are made as well as preliminary discussions on the idea of a Socialist International Division of Labor. Nicolai Faddeev replaces Aleksander Pavlov as COMECON secretary.

**Hungary – May, 1958 (HC)**

*Vadvirág* ("Wild flower"), a film directed by János Herskó, is first shown.

**Poland – May, 1958 (HDP)**

Author M. Wankowicz returns to Poland.

**Romania – May, 1958 (OSA)**

The Romanian newspaper *Lupta de Clasa* released an article criticising the lack of ideological orientation within new documentaries being released. These documentaries were meant to focus on the recent debates about the incorporation of socialist realism into art. The article states that some documentaries on the subject are being "re-made."

**Yugoslavia – May–June, 1958 (ACY)**

Catholic Archbishop Šeper travels to Rome.

**Romania / Warsaw Pact / China – May, 1958 (RUR)**

The Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact decides to remove its troops from Romanian territory. The decision seems to be based on the growing importance of China.

**Finland – May 1, 1958 (FVA)**

Passport inspections end in Scandinavia between Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland.

**Poland / U.S. / U.K. – May 3, 1958 (LBC)**

The U.S. rejects the Rapacki plan for a nuclear-weapons-free zone in Central-Eastern Europe, because on one hand it is too limited to diminish the danger of an atomic war or to provide a lasting base for European peace, and on the other it fails to address the basic question of making nuclear arms or with the issue that contemporary technology is incapable of showing nuclear weapons; it does not deal with the powers capable of launching a nuclear attack (the U.S., the USSR, U.K.); it would preserve the basic source of European tension by accepting German division; the designated area would endanger Western European security because of the Soviet Union's huge armed forces that are deployed over a large area.

**Hungary – May 3, 1958 (HC)**

Decree no. 1958:13 by the Hungarian Presidential Council regulates the state-owned house system, stating no one can own more than two houses.

**Soviet Union / NATO – May 5, 1958 (CAC)**

The Soviet Union proposes a non-aggression treaty between NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – May 6, 1958 (KAC)**

A Hungarian internal trade delegation led by János Tausz, Minister of Internal Trade, travels to the Soviet Union.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – May 6, 1958 (NMC)**

Having spent two weeks in the Soviet Union, a Hungarian delegation of religious leaders led by Endre Hamvas, the bishop from Csanád, returns to Hungary.

**Hungary / Romania – May 7, 1958 (KAC)**

The Hungarian-Romanian Economic Agreement is signed.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – May 9, 1958 (CWC)**

Khrushchev agrees to an American proposal to have a group of experts meet to discuss the technical aspects of a test ban.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – May 9, 1958 (LUY)**

In an article published in *Pravda*, the Soviets elaborate some on the Chinese comments emphasizing the contrast between Yugoslav revisionism and the international solidarity of the Marxist-Leninist countries. The Eastern European satellites soon follow Moscow's line and Yugoslavia is once again ideologically isolated.

**Hungary / Poland – May 9–12, 1958 (KAC/NMC)**

After a year and a half delay a Polish party and government delegation led by Gomulka and Cyrankiewicz visit Hungary. According to the general belief, Kádár promises Gomulka that even if Imre Nagy will be trialed, he will not be sentenced to death. It is agreed that a permanent Hungarian-Polish economic cooperation agreement will be signed.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – May 10, 1958 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union demands that Yugoslavia complies with socialist block discipline.

**Hungary / Poland – May 12, 1958 (HC)**

A permanent Hungarian-Polish economic cooperation committee is formed.

**Hungary / Poland – May 15, 1958 (PSN)**

Gomulka praises the Soviet and Hungarian actions against the 1956 Hungarian uprising. Earlier the Polish press had written about the Hungarian revolution with approval but after the speech it switched its tone.

**Romania / USA – May 16, 1958 (OSA)**

The Romanian newspaper, *Contemporanul*, published an article covering the recent international meeting of journalists. The article quoted a US journalist who argued for the admission of Eastern European journalists as members into the International Press Institute.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – May 16, 1958 (MOL)**

A six-member delegation of the British Parliament arrives in Yugoslavia. The delegation consists of three Conservative and three Labor Members of Parliament. This is the reciprocal visit of the Yugoslav Parliamentary delegation in Britain in early **May 1957**.

**Hungary / China – May 17, 1958 (KAC)**

In Beijing a Chinese-Hungarian agreement is signed about the cooperation between the academies.

**Romania / Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – May 18-20, 1958 (OSA)**

The Communist Romanian newspaper, *Scanteia*, published an article detailing the dangerous revisionism within the Yugoslav Party Program. It took a softer line than the speech presented by Romanian Party Secretary Nicolae Ceauseescu while visiting Sofia, Bulgaria. His speech also emphasised the importance of the unity between the Romanian and Bulgarian Communist Parties.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – May 19, 1958 (LBC)**

Great Britain also rejects the Rapacki plan. In Britain's view the plan's realization would endanger Western security because of the Soviet superiority in conventional forces in Central Europe.

**COMECON – May 20–23, 1958 (HC/MMS)**

Session of the communist and workers' parties of the COMECON member countries in Moscow. The Hungarian delegation is led by János Kádár.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – May 21, 1958 (KAC/BER)**

On the occasion of the Seventh Congress of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, the official Hungarian party daily, *Népszabadság*, sharply criticizes Yugoslav revisionism and accuses Yugoslavia of its role in the 1956 uprising.

**Finland / Soviet Union – May 22, 1958 (PIP)**

President Urho Kaleva Kekkonen travels to the Soviet Union. There were hopes that Karelia, a part of former Finnish territory ceded to the Soviet Union after the war, would be returned to Finland, but Khrushchev adds a tone of finality to the Soviet position stating that borders would be changed only by war.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – May 23, 1958 (MOL)**

It is announced in Warsaw that, because of the unfavorable circumstances, the planned visit of Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito is postponed to a later date.

**Warsaw Pact – May 24, 1958 (BBR/HC/MMS/PLC/RFP/CAC)**

The second meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact is held in Moscow. A delegation from China is present as observer. The question of Soviet troops in Romania is discussed. The Soviet Union decides to withdraw its troops by **July 26** to cut costs and be able to spend more money on scientific research. Romania can develop bilateral relations



in a more independent manner. Sizeable cuts are made in the numbers of Soviet forces stationed in other Eastern European countries. The Hungarian leaders are not ready to accept the suggestion similarly offered. (Soviet forces are withdrawn from Romania permanently.) The draft of the Warsaw Pact-NATO nonaggression pact is accepted. The PCC's declaration calls for an end to nuclear tests, the creation of nuclear-free zones in Europe, the solution of the German question, and a four-power summit meeting.

**Warsaw Pact – May 27, 1958 (LBC)**

It is announced in Moscow that the armed forces of the Warsaw Pact will be reduced by 419 thousand in the current year.

**Yugoslavia – May 28, 1958 (ACY)**

Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito receives the Orthodox bishops of Yugoslavia. The patriarch thanks him for his interests in church affairs and particularly for the agreement on social insurance; in his reply, Tito again urges the bishops to resolve the question of the Macedonian Church.

**East Germany – May 28, 1958 (KGD)**

Ration cards for meat, cooking fat and sugar are abandoned.

**East Germany – May 29, 1958 (HC)**

The food stamp system is abolished in the GDR.

**Romania – May 30-31, 1958 (OSA)**

A conference was held at the direction of the Department for Propaganda and Culture of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party. This conference was attended by a myriad of cadres from the cultural field, including writers, artists, educators, and scientists. A major part of the conference was lauding previous Party cultural activities. Areas highlighted for improvement during the conference included: the field of philosophy, history, cinematography, and theatre.

**June**

**COMECON – June, 1958 (CEC)**

The ninth session of the COMECON is held in Bucharest. The "Bucharest Principles" for establishing prices in inter COMECON trade is adopted. Changes in number and confidence of the standing commissions are made.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – June 2, 1958 (KAC)**

A Hungarian-Soviet agreement on economic cooperation and trade preferences for the period of 1961-1965 is signed in Moscow.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 2, 1958 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union sends a letter to the United States suggesting the expansion of trade relations.

**Hungary / France – June 3, 1958 (KAC)**

The French embassy in Budapest officially protests against the Hungarian media campaign about the war in Algeria.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 3, 1958 (LBC)**

In a letter to Eisenhower Khrushchev urges the increase of Soviet–American trade to several billion dollars annually and asks for a long term U.S. loan for Moscow to be able to purchase industrial equipment. Khrushchev admitted that the difference between the large amount of U.S. equipment required by the USSR and the smaller amount of Soviet raw materials wanted by the U.S. will necessitate a U.S. loan. He declared that the USSR is not asking for American machinery which could be used for military purposes and hence fall under the prohibition of the Battle Act. Khrushchev's shopping list includes synthetic materials, machinery needed to manufacture chemicals, plastics and textiles, machines for the lumber and paper industry, equipment for pipes and rolling mills as well as medical instruments. Khrushchev offers manganese, chrome, platinum, steel alloys, potassium salts, asbestos, cellulose, lumber, paper and fur. – **June 4.** According to U.S. officials the listed items' export to the USSR is not prohibited but the loan would violate the spirit of the Battle Act. – **June 10.** Dulles rejects Khrushchev's offer, which in his view is an attempt of the USSR to cover anti-American economic warfare from U.S. funds.

**Bulgaria / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – June 3, 1958 (RYE)**

First Secretary of the CPSU Nikita S. Khrushchev, addressing a Congress of the Bulgarian Party in neighboring Sofia calls Tito a Trojan horse in the Socialist camp and says the Cominform resolution of Yugoslavia June 1948 are "fundamentally correct."

**Hungary – June 4, 1958 (NMC)**

Session of the International Labor Organization in Geneva. The Hungarian delegation is led by József Mekis. The Hungarian delegation leaves the negotiations on **June 26**, because the conference decided to reconsider the mandate of Hungary.

**Hungary – June 7-8, 1958 (HC)**

The Fifth Hungarian Pease Congress in Budapest.

**Bulgaria – June 9, 1958 (KCA)**

General Peter Panchevsky is removed from his post as Defense Minister and replaced by General Ivan Mikhailov. General Mikhailov is replaced by Dancho Dmitrov as Minister of Transport and Communications. Zhivko Zhivkov becomes Minister of Education and Culture.

**Hungary – June 9–15, 1958 (BBR)**

After further delays, the secret trial of the Nagy group continues. Nagy, Miklós Gimes and Pál Maléter are sentenced to death, Sándor Kopácsi to life imprisonment, Ferenc Donáth to 12 years imprisonment, Ferenc Jánosi to eight years, Zoltán Tildy to six years and Miklós Vásárhelyi to five years.

**Yugoslavia / China - 10 June, 1958 (OSA)**

The "zeal" of the Chinese newspapers in publishing "the blackest information about Yugoslavia" is "admirable," says the Beijing correspondent of the Belgrade daily "Politika" Branko Bogunovic, in the paper's June 8th issue. Bogunovic added that the "smear campaign" against the "Yugoslav revisionists" has reached "such proportions that nobody can tell what may happen in the future."

**Hungary / Soviet Union – June 11, 1958 (HC)**

The Soviet Council of Ministers decides to give all 1920-1945 Hungarian archive material kept in Soviet archives to the Hungarian government.

**Czechoslovakia / Poland – June 13, 1958 (PSM)**

An agreement on final delimiting the borders between Poland and Czechoslovakia is signed.

**Hungary / France / India – June 13, 1958 (KAC)**

The 4th Hungarian Peace Congress is opened. Fernand Vigne, General Secretary of the French Peace Committee, is a member of the presidency and an Indian representative also.

**Romania / Soviet Union – June 15-August 15, 1958 (RCW)**

The departure of Soviet troops from Romania takes place.

**Hungary – June 15, 1958 (HC)**

The first volunteer work camp of the Hungarian Young Communist League is organized in the Hanság.

**Hungary – June 16, 1958 (BBR/CWC)**

Nagy, Gimes and Maléter are executed at the Budapest National Prison. They are buried in anonymous graves. Moscow Radio announces the execution.

**Czechoslovakia – June 16, 1958 (VSB)**

Poland and Czechoslovakia agree on delimitation of boundaries.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – June 17, 1958 (KAC/BER/HC)**

The Ministry of Justice publishes a declaration regarding the trial of Imre Nagy and his associates and the executions. The Supreme Court sentences to death Imre Nagy, Miklós Gimes, Pál Maléter and József Szilágyi. Sándor Kopácsi is sentenced to life imprisonment. Ferenc Donáth is sentenced to 12 years, Zoltán Tildy to 6 years, Ferenc Jánosi to 8 years and Miklós Vásárhelyi to 5 years. It also makes a statement on the Imre Nagy trial, which formulate charges against Yugoslavia. News of the executions provokes protests in several Western countries.

**Hungary / U.S. – June 17, 1958 (LBC/KAC)**

The US protests against the execution of Pál Maléter and Imre Nagy. According to the State Department the execution of the Hungarian rebel leaders “is a shocking act of cruelty”. In the State Department’s view the Soviet Union “must bear fundamental responsibility for this latest crime against the Hungarian people and all humanity.” – In Dulles’s view the execution is “another step in the reversion toward the brutal terrorist methods which prevailed under Stalin” and were meant as a warning for the Yugoslav leaders currently under attack for deviationism. – **June 18.** According to U.S. President Eisenhower the execution of Maléter and Nagy staggered the civilized world and is clear proof that the USSR still uses “terror and intimidation” to “bring about complete subservience” of its opponents. According to the President the executions were carried out at Soviet orders and tells journalists that they constitute a “very serious obstacle” to effective negotiations for an East-West summit. – **June 19.** In the House of Commons the British prime minister called the Hungarian executions “most tragic” but opined that they must not dissuade the West from negotiating with the Soviet Union. – The U.S. congress condemned the executions in a formal resolution. – The U.S. wants to convene the special Hungarian committee of the U.N.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – June 18, 1958 (MOL)**

Yugoslavia protests in a note to the People's Republic of Hungary of the charges in the Imre Nagy trial published the previous day.

**Czechoslovakia – 19 June, 1958 (OSA)**

The 11th Congress of the Czechoslovak Communist Party opens with Premier Siroky's attack on Yugoslavia and revisionism, First Secretary Novotny then announces his intention to completely nationalize agriculture within two years and stresses the need to strengthen ties with socialist countries "headed by the Soviet Union".

**Romania / Soviet Union – June 21, 1958 (RCW)**

The Council of ministers of Romania, according the Agreement reached on **May 24, 1958** in Moscow, establishes the Institution of a Central Commission and regional commissions to coordinate the withdrawal of the Soviet troops.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – June 21, 1958 (KAC/BER)**

The *Népszabadság*, a Hungarian newspaper, confutes the Western journalists, who said the Imre Nagy trial accuses Yugoslavia.

**Czechoslovakia – 21 June, 1958 (OSA)**

The 11th Czechoslovak Communist Party Congress ends after four days with the election of a new Central Committee. Jiri Hendrych joins Novotny, as they become the only people who are members of the Secretariat and the Politburo.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – June 23, 1958 (KAC/BER)**

Yugoslavia officially raises objections against the accusations and against the trial and execution of Imre Nagy and his associates.

**Bulgaria / Hungary – June 23-24, 1958 (NMC/HC)**

A Hungarian party and government delegation led by János Kádár visits Bulgaria to discuss the international issues relevant to the two countries and agree on methods to improve Hungarian-Bulgarian relations. A joint declaration is signed on **June 27** and published on **June 29**.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – June 27, 1958 (MOL)**

The plenary session of the International Labor Union in Genf withholds to authentic the credentials of the Hungarian delegate. The Yugoslav delegate votes for the acceptance of the credentials but states that execution of Imre Nagy was not only inhuman but against the agreement between Yugoslavia and Hungary.

**Hungary / Poland / Yugoslavia – June 28, 1958 (KAC)**

On the date of Imre Nagy's sentencing, Gomulka gives a speech at the Gdansk shipyards criticizing Yugoslav Communists for not joining the Socialist bloc and calling Nagy a revisionist. Gomulka adopts the official Hungarian standpoint about the execution of Imre Nagy.

**Poland – June 28, 1958 (OSA)**

Celebrations on May 24th of the creation of the Polish Internal Security Corps. Press reports underline the efficiency of the Internal Security Corps and the complete loyalty to Gomulka, considering the Corps as an important force for every occasion.

## **July**

### **Czechoslovakia / Hungary – July, 1958 (HC)**

*Szent Péter esernyője* (“Saint Peter’s umbrella”) a Czechoslovak-Hungarian film directed by Frigyes Bán, is first shown.

### **Poland / Soviet Union – July 1958 (KCA)**

At a meeting of the Polish-Soviet Commission for Scientific and Technical Co-operation held in Moscow, detailed arrangements are made for the exchange of technical specifications and experts.

### **Poland – July, 1958 (PSN)**

Polish authorities report that they uncovered illegal propaganda being written by a Catholic organization called the Primate's Institute for the Nation's Vows at Jasna Gorna. This leads to raids on monasteries.

### **Soviet Bloc / Yugoslavia / China – July-October 1958 (KCA)**

The propaganda campaign against Yugoslavia in the other Communist countries has risen to a climax. The most prominent part in this campaign is played by China rather than the Soviet Union. At the same time, the Albanian and Bulgarian Governments are violently attacking the Yugoslav Government for its alleged ill-treatment of the Albanian and Macedonian minorities, and are also laying claim to certain areas of Yugoslav territory. On **November 23, 1958** President Tito replies to the Chinese campaign and suggests that it is intended as a means of pressure on the Soviet Government to frustrate any tendency towards a more liberal policy. Yugoslav official spokesmen allege that some of the Soviet-bloc countries are reluctant to negotiate trade agreements for 1959 and that difficulties have been created when negotiations take place. On **April 19, 1959** President Tito discloses the death of over 100 leading Yugoslav Communists in Stalin’s prisons during the purges of the 1930s and says that Yugoslavia has proven that Socialism is “nobody’s monopoly” and could be built outside the “Socialist camp.”

### **Hungary / Romania – July-August 1958 (KAC)**

The Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs accepts the Hungarian suggestion to allow 2000 “worthy” people every year to travel between the two countries in addition to those who have family in both countries.

### **Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – July-August 1958 (LBC)**

During preliminary talks of the Geneva Conference, agreement is reached on 17 Articles of a proposed treaty to outlaw nuclear weapons tests and also on the preamble for the treaty. However, little progress is made after this.

### **East / West July 1, 1958 (LBC)**

In Geneva East-West talks between experts start on the possibility of suspending nuclear tests.

### **Hungary – July 2, 1958 (OSA)**

The Hungarian Catholic Episcopate was addressed by Dr. Ferenc Münnich and a confluence was held between state officials and the episcopate on timely matters related to church and state.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 2, 1958 (LBC)**

Responding to Khrushchev's letter of **June 11** President Eisenhower rejects the Soviet claim that the U.S. is procrastinating the summit. The President accuses the Soviet Union of interfering with the preparatory talks in Moscow by unilaterally publishing the documents of the talks.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt / Greece – July 2-15, 1958 (MOL)**

As Tito's guest, Nasser spends two weeks in Yugoslavia. The Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs also arrives at the Isle of Brioni and a tripartite Yugoslav-Greek-Egyptian meeting of the foreign ministers take place.

**Yugoslavia – July 5, 1958 (ACY)**

Serbian Orthodox Patriarch Vikentije dies in hospital in Belgrade. His death is immediately reported on the radio and is a front-page news in the national press; *Politika* publishes a sympathetic obituary.

**Finland – July 6-7, 1958 (HJH/TPE)**

New parliamentary elections take place. The results: the Agrarian League, the Social Democrats and Finnish People's Democratic League (SKDL) receive an equal share of votes and therefore SKDL returns one of the biggest parties in the country.

**East Germany / Hungary – July 10–16, 1958 (NMC/PLC/KGD)**

A Hungarian party delegation led by János Kádár attends the 5th congress of the East German party (SED) where it is decided that socialism must be built rapidly, East Germany's standard of living should exceed that of West Germany by 1961. The independent farm system is abolished, the agriculture is collectivized.

**Soviet Union – July 15, 1958 (OSA)**

A decree issued by the Supreme Soviet bestows on trade union committees the right to demand at any time information from the management and to request removal of leaders and managers.

**Yugoslavia / Iraq – July 16, 1958 (MOL)**

Yugoslavia officially recognizes the new Iraqi government.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – July 21, 1958 (KAC)**

The Hungarian-Soviet Tariff Agreement is signed in Budapest.

**Hungary / India – July 22, 1958 (NMC)**

An Indian economist delegation led by Shri Satish Chandra, the Minister of the Economy and Industry, arrives to Hungary.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – July 23, 1958 (KAC/BER)**

The Hungarian government answers in a memorandum the Yugoslav objections raised on **June 23**.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 23, 1958 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union protests American intervention in Lebanon.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – July 25, 1958 (KAC)**

The Hungarian government supports in a memorandum the Soviet suggestion to sign a European treaty of friendship and mutual help.

**Romania / Soviet Union – July 26, 1958 (LBC/NMC)**

The Bucharest radio announces that the Soviet occupational forces the size of which was estimated at 30-40 thousand have concluded their withdrawal from Romania.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – July 28–August 11, 1958 (OSA)**

A 1,200-strong Czechoslovak delegation travels to the sixth Youth Festival in Moscow.

**August**

**Soviet Union – August, 1958 (KRI/PLC)**

Ethnic conflicts in Grozny between Russians and Chechens. The anti-Chechens activism is stopped by the army.

**Soviet Union / China – August 3, 1958 (CWC)**

Khrushchev and Mao issue a joint communique attacking American actions in the Middle East.

**Hungary / France – August 14, 1958 (KAC)**

Jenő Fock, member of the CC PB, and Lajos Jánossy, President of the Central Physics Research Center, attend the funeral of Frédéric Joliot-Curie, nuclear physicist, member of the French Communist Party, President of the World Peace Council.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 15, 1958 (LBC)**

U.S. singer Paul Robson is received in Moscow by Soviet minister of cultural affairs Mihailov. – **August 16.** According to a report by the State Department ca. 400 Soviet citizens visited the U.S. in the framework of the 1958 Soviet–American cultural treaty.

**Hungary – August 15, 1958 (NMC)**

A new COCOM list comes into force, relaxing the terms of the embargo against Hungary and other socialist countries.

**Hungary / Switzerland – August 16, 1958 (HC/NMC)**

Hungarian immigrants attack the Hungarian embassy in Bern. The Hungarian Foreign Ministry objects the attacks in a memorandum. Two men attacked the building. The staff of the embassy fired at the aggressors and cooped them up in a room. The Swiss police used tear gas to make harmless the aggressors and arrested them. One of the aggressors, Sándor Nagy later succumbed to his injuries. Endre Papp was the other aggressor.

**Hungary – August 20, 1958 (KAC)**

Decree no. 1958:24 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces that Hungary joins the International Official Measurement Organization founded in Paris on **October 12, 1955.**

**East Germany – August 20, 1958 (PLC)**

The GDR announces that those who left their homes cannot return.

**Hungary – August 21, 1958 (HC)**

The Fekete szem éjszakája (“The night of the black eye”), a film directed by Márton Keleti, is first shown.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – August 22, 1958 (LBC)**

The U.S., Great Britain and France in notes with the same wording call on the USSR to renew diplomatic links serving to prepare the summit. The Western notes came in response to a Soviet proposal of **July 15** for an East-West treaty of friendship.

**Hungary – August 25, 1958 (HC)**

The principles of the cultural policies of the HSWP are published.

**Czechoslovakia – August 27, 1958 (OSA)**

New proposals to recruit more women into the workforce come before the National Assembly, representing one of the ways Czechoslovakia aims to deal with its continued workforce shortages (alongside new wage norms).

**Finland – August 29, 1958 (EKF/FGV)**

Social Democrat Karl-August Fagerholm forms a majority cabinet with the support of over two-thirds of parliament. In addition to Social Democrats the government includes Agrarians, the National Coalition Party, the Swedish People’s Party of Finland (RKP) and the People’s Party of Finland.

**Soviet Union – August 31, 1958**

The locals that come across the foreign usually express a series of questions about the living conditions, the wages, the unemployment rates, and the material aspects of life in the United States. They also express curiosity about an American citizen’s relation with his government regarding health, education, and insurance, while wondering what their skillset would earn them in the United States. They also want to know the chances of the Soviet Union in surpassing the United States and ponder the reason why the two countries seem condemned to an indefinite state of conflict.

**September****Soviet Bloc – Autumn 1958 (PLC)**

Following the ideology of the 1957 communist world conference, in the communist countries a collectivizing campaign is started. By 1961-1962 the independent farm system is completely abolished everywhere, except in Poland and Yugoslavia.

**Finland / Soviet Union – Autumn 1958 (EKF)**

The Soviet Union applies a varied series of political and economic sanctions against Finland due to its disapproval of the Fagerholm government.

**Hungary – September 1958 (BBR)**

The remaining members of the Nagy group, who were never formally arrested, return with their families from Romania.



**Hungary / China – September 1958 (KAC)**

Jang Hsia-tung, Chinese Vice Minister of Agriculture, attends the opening ceremony of the Hungarian Agriculture Exhibition.

**Yugoslavia / Denmark – September 1958 (MOL)**

The Danish Prime Minister visits Yugoslavia.

**Hungary / Switzerland – September 5, 1958 (NMC)**

The media publishes the memorandum sent to the Swiss embassy about the attack on **August 16**. The Swiss authorities are said to be responsible, the Swiss government is criticized because Hungarian immigrant organizations are legal. References are made to a previous attack against the Romanian embassy.

**Hungary / France – September 5, 1958 (KAC)**

Hungarian immigrants attack the Hungarian embassy in Paris. The Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs sends a memorandum about the case to the French embassy in Budapest.

**Hungary / U.N. – September 5, 1958 (NMC)**

The media announces that the Hungarian question is no longer on the agenda of the United Nations Association.

**Hungary – September 6, 1958 (HC)**

Decree no. 1958:29 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces that the scientific qualification system will be improved. Qualifications can be only given to those who actively participated in the building of a socialist society. The Scientific and Higher Education Council evaluates the activities of scientists every five years.

**Hungary – September 6, 1958 (HC)**

Decree no. 26/1958 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces that the training of primary school and kindergarten teachers will be reformed.

**Hungary / U.S. – September 12, 1958 (KAC)**

The American ambassador's deputy in Budapest is given the Hungarian government's declaration raising objections against the American involvement in China's internal affair: the Taiwan question.

**Hungary / U.S. – September 13, 1958 (KAC)**

László Gyáros announces to the media that evidence was found that the employees of the American embassy in Budapest illegally collected information about the Hungarian army and the Soviet army stationed in Hungary. Dallam, the American air force attaché, and Gábor Illési (arrested on **August 27, 1957**) are mentioned as examples. Illési is sentenced to death. Todd and Gleason are accused of espionage on their "tours to the countryside". Gyáros also mentions that many Hungarian immigrants are trained to be spies in the U.S.

**Hungary / U.N. – September 14, 1958 (NMC)**

A Hungarian delegation led by Endre Sík Foreign Minister travels to the 13th session of UN General Assembly.

**East Germany – September 14, 1958 (KGD)**

The former concentration camp of Buchenwald is inaugurated as an international memorial.

**Soviet Union – September 16, 1958**

The policy of tolerance toward religion in the post-Stalin era derives from the government's expectation that when the older generation dies, the sentiments of faith will die with them while this attitude also facilitates the relations with the neighboring states. At the same time, the efforts to discourage religion through media and the educational system persist. The Muslim Population, because of their contribution in the war times, were awarded permission to establish Spiritual Departments of Muslims in the Soviet Union, thus providing an organizational structure, to reopen religious schools for training priests, and gradually to print new Korans.

**Yugoslavia – September 17, 1958 (ACY)**

Bishop German of Žiža is installed as 43rd patriarch of the Serbian Orthodox Church.

**Hungary / France – September 18, 1958 (KAC)**

Hungarian immigrants attack again the Hungarian embassy in Paris.

**Soviet Union – September 18, 1958 (CWC)**

Soviet Minister for Foreign Affairs Gromyko criticizes American policies in the Taiwan Straits, Lebanon and Cuba at the United Nations General Assembly.

**Hungary / France – September 20, 1958 (KAC)**

The Hungarian media publishes the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs' declaration about the second attack against the embassy in Paris. The French authorities promise to provide more security to the embassy.

**Hungary / U.S. – September 20, 1958 (KAC)**

The Hungarian government informs in a memorandum the American government that they are willing to improve relations if the U.S. changes its policy towards Hungary and ends the anti-Hungarian propaganda.

**Czechoslovakia – September 20–21, 1958 (OSA)**

Prague hosts the Fourth Congress of the Czechoslovak branch of the Defenders of Peace - an international pacifist network created by Soviet, Polish and French intellectuals, but the branch in Czechoslovakia has always followed the regime's line.

**Hungary – September 22, 1958 (NMC)**

Endre Sík Hungarian Foreign Minister raises objections against the Hungarian question on the agenda at the 13th session of UN General Assembly.

**Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – September 22, 1958 (PLC)**

Bulgaria raises objections to Yugoslavia because the Bulgarian minority in Macedonia is discriminated.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – September 24, 1958 (MOL)**

According to *Magyar Szó*, a Hungarian minority newspaper in Vojvodina, Deputy Yugoslav Ambassador to the U.N. Dobrivoje Vidić does not advocate to put the Hungarian question onto the U.N.'s agenda but expresses his reservations.

**Poland – September 24, 1958 (PSN)**

Gomulka tells educators that the state has the right to decide which religious symbols hang in the classrooms.

**Hungary – September 25, 1958 (HC)**

The *Népszabadság* announces that the Catholic, the Lutheran and the Reformer churches received emergency aid from the government.

**Hungary – September 25, 1958 (OSA)**

It was announced, that the issuance of special subsidies by the Hungarian state to Hungarian churches will continue even after the expiration of previous agreements.

**Hungary – September 26, 1958 (HC)**

The Parliament accepts Law 1958: III. about the election of members of the Parliament and the councils.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – September 26, 1958 (NMC)**

The Hungarian Foreign Ministry discusses in a memorandum the Yugoslav standpoint expressed at the UN General Assembly. According to this memorandum, the statements of the deputy head of the Yugoslav delegation, Dobrivoje Vidic, “allow others to further continue the false anti-Hungarian accusations”. The memorandum emphasizes that this Yugoslav standpoint can worsen Hungarian-Yugoslav relations.

**Hungary / Austria – September 26, 1958 (NMC)**

The Austrian-Hungarian Trade Agreement is extended for another year. No changes are made in the terms of the agreement.

**Romania / Soviet Union – September 29, 1958 (RCW)**

The Central Committee expresses the agreement with the reasons and proposals advanced by the Soviet Government on the recall of Soviet advisors from Romania.

**Hungary / China – September 30, 1958 (KAC)**

The Chinese-Hungarian Friendship Association is founded in Beijing.

**Soviet Union – September 30, 1958 (CWC)**

Soviet Union resumes nuclear testing.

**East Germany – September 30, 1958 (OSA)**

The share of usable land in East Germany which is “socialized” (that is, collectivized, under the authority of local administrations, and/or state farms) approximates 42%. (A steep increase can be seen following the collectivization campaigns of late 1957).

**October****Yugoslavia – October 1, 1958 (MOL)**

The first volume of *Socijalizma*, the new bimonthly theoretical journal of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia is published.

**Hungary – October 4, 1958 (HC)**

The Economic Committee restricts the participation of individuals in technological investments.

**Yugoslavia – October 5, 1958 (ACY)**

The Assembly of the Macedonian Church and People with 290 delegates, both clergy and laity, meets at Ohrid. The Assembly proclaims the re-establishment of the historic archbishopric of Ohrid and elects Auxiliary Bishop Dositej as the first metropolitan. The Assembly council publishes a constitution for the new church, which provides that it shall remain in canonical unity with the Serbian Orthodox Church through the patriarch, who will also be the Patriarch of the Macedonian Orthodox Church.

**Hungary / China – October 5, 1958 (KAC)**

The Chinese-Hungarian Tourism Agreement is signed in Budapest.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – 9 October, 1958**

Biographical details on Karaivanov. Ivan Karaivanov (real name Ivan Genchev) a native Bulgarian who has just sprung back into prominence with an article in "Borba" on October 8th defending the Yugoslav approach to socialism, emigrated to Yugoslavia in 1945.

**Finland / Soviet Union – October 10, 1958 (EKF/LJF/SFF)**

The Soviet Union makes plain its total disapproval of the Fagerholm government: the Soviet ambassador to Helsinki, Viktor Lebedev, withdraws. The new government raises Soviet ire for two reasons. First, it leaves in opposition the SKDL, the winner of the elections and largest party in parliament. Second, the Social Democrats have recently returned its chairmanship to Väinö Tanner, a convicted war criminal.

**East Germany / West Germany – October 10, 1958 (OSA)**

Heinrich Rau, the GDR's Minister of Foreign Trade, offers to trade sugar, lignite, and wheat with the FRG in exchange for much-needed hard coal. Although sugar and lignite are East German staples, the inclusion of wheat surprised experts in Bonn given previous shortages and a 1/3 decrease in acreage for wheat in East Germany (it was thus ascribed to large East German imports of Soviet surplus). West Germany ignored the offer.

**Hungary – October 11, 1958 (HC)**

Decree 1038/1958 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers established the Béla Balázs Prize to reward socialist films.

**Soviet Union —October 11, 1958 (OSA)**

Sanatoria such as those in Yalta, situated in locations with impressive sceneries, are places of relaxation that also attract a lot of tourists and vacationers from Moscow or Leningrad. The reception of foreigners is friendly both on a formal and informal level, followed by strong declarations for the desire for peace. The improvement of the previous years is evident, with greater freedom of movement and speech for foreign visitors and locals.

**Yugoslavia – October 12, 1958 (KCA)**

The construction of the Zenica Iron and Steel Works, Yugoslavia's biggest iron and steel project, is complete. The Zenica works took ten years to complete at a cost of 73,000,000,000 dinars. Annual production will include 600,000 tons of coke, 600,000 tons of pig-iron, 750,000 tons of raw steel, and 540,000 tons of rolled and forged goods. This output will equal over half of Yugoslavia's total production of these goods.

**Poland – October 14, 1958 (OSA)**

Information about the Democratic Party Congress planned meeting is reported. It is underlined that the Democratic Party alongside the United Peasant Party and the Communist Polish United Workers Party formed the National Unity Front and are engaged in preparing the elections of the National Councils on February 2nd. Details on the national parties, their alliances, their voters and their candidates are provided.

**Hungary – October 15, 1958 (HC)**

The prizes of the World Expo are given in Brussels. Hungary wins 20 great prizes and 25 other prizes, becoming no. 6. in the competition among countries.

**Hungary / Austria – October 18, 1958 (NMC)**

Leopold Figl and Endre Sík discuss Austrian-Hungarian relations in Vienna.

**Poland / U.S. – October 18, 1958 (LBC)**

The U.S. and Poland sign an agreement on opening the Polish consulates in Chicago and the U.S. one in Poznan.

**Hungary – October 20, 1958 (HC)**

The Political Academy of the HSWP CC opens in Budapest.

**Hungary / U.S. – October 22, 1958 (KAC)**

The American embassy asks the Hungarian government to allow Mindszenty to attend the Vatican conclave, electing the new Pope. The Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs accuses the U.S. of getting involved with Hungarian internal affairs again.

**Hungary – October 23, 1958 (BBR)**

Commemorations of the Hungarian revolution are held worldwide.

**Hungary – October 23, 1958 (HC)**

*Csempészek* (“Smugglers”), a film directed by Félix Máriássy, is first shown.

**Hungary / Italy – October 23, 1958 (NMC)**

Gyula Simó, the new Hungarian ambassador to Italy, presents his credentials in Rome.

**Hungary – October 24, 1958 (HC)**

The National Military Theater in Budapest presents *Pesti emberek* (“People from Pest”) by Lajos Mesterházi.

**Hungary / Switzerland – October 24, 1958 (NMC)**

The Hungarian-Swiss Trade Agreement is extended for another year.

**Poland / Soviet Union – October 24-November 12, 1958 (KCA)**

A Polish Government and Communist Party delegation headed by Gomulka, Zawadzki (president of the Council of State) and Prime Minister Cyrankiewicz visits the Soviet Union. The Polish representatives have a number of meetings with Khrushchev and other Soviet Government and party leaders. On **November 10** Khrushchev announces the Soviet Union’s renunciation of the Four-Power agreements on Berlin and the Soviet proposals for a new status for West Berlin. Gomulka expresses full support for the Soviet Union’s attitude on the German question. Several agreements are concluded between the two countries prior to and after the

visit including an agreement on mutual commodity supplies for 1958-60 and a protocol on trade exchanges in 1958 (**February 1958**); a general understanding on commercial exchanges between 1961-1965 (**April 9, 1958**); an agreement for Soviet technical assistance in constructing an oil refinery (**August 23, 1958**); and a protocol on trade arrangements for 1959 (**November 21, 1958**).

#### **Yugoslavia / Bulgaria / Macedonia - 24 October, 1958**

From surveys conducted, both the volume and tone of press and radio exchanges between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia seem to indicate that (at least for the time being) there is a lull in their war of words over Macedonia. Since Tito's October 12th speech in Zenica, there has been little in the press or radio from either country of the same acerbity which characterised the running quarrel in September.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Romania – September 26, 1958 (NMC)**

A Romanian party and government delegation led by Gheorghiu-Dej and Chivu Stoica shortly visits Budapest on its way to Czechoslovakia.

#### **Hungary / U.N. – October 27, 1958 (NMC)**

János Szita raises objections against the discriminating UN policies at the session of the UN Economic Council discussing the technological aid program.

#### **East Germany – October 27, 1958 (ADG)**

Walter Ulbricht declares that whole Berlin is part of the territory of the GDR. He announces that “the status of Berlin as the capital of the GDR is based on its inseparable coexistence with the other areas of the GDR. Berlin has always formed one unit with its hinterland economically and politically.”

#### **Yugoslavia / U.K. – October 28-November 1, 1958 (MOL)**

Yugoslav Secretary State for Foreign Affairs Koča Popović meets British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Selwyn Lloyd in London. According to the Hungarian sources, the aim of his visit is to obtain long term economic loans for Yugoslavia.

#### **Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – October 31-December 19, 1958 (LBC)**

The first stage of the Geneva Conference, following a procedural deadlock during which both the Anglo-American and Soviet sides each put forward the outline of a draft treaty designed to end nuclear weapon tests, agreement is reached on Four articles for incorporation into such a treaty.

### **November**

#### **Romania – November 1958 (SRR)**

Romania initiates emancipation from the Soviet Union: the plenum of the Communist party decides to build Romanian Socialist Republic *a la roumaine*. On the plenum, the need to strengthen the country's economy sufficiently, accelerate the industrialization and the collectivization of agriculture to withstand external pressures and to consolidate the Communists power at home is expressed.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – November, 1958 (HC)**

The first issue of the *Irodalmi Szemle*, the periodical of the Hungarian minority in Slovakia, is published.

**Poland / Soviet Union / U.S. – November 4, 1958 (LBC)**

The Rapacki plan is renewed. The new proposal is meant to avert the criticism that the elimination of nuclear defense would open the West to a Soviet attack on land. The two step plan would first freeze the nuclear reserves and bases on the present level. Nuclear arms deployed in Central Europe would be liquidated in the second step. – **November 5.** According to Soviet U.N. representative Zorin the USSR is unwilling to accept a regime of international control in return for the West's acceptance of the Soviet proposal for a nuclear test ban treaty.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – November 4-5, 1958 (KAC)**

The Hungarian-Soviet Trade Agreement for 1959 is signed in Moscow. They also sign an economic agreement on technical help and agree on the loan what the Soviet Union will give to Hungary to improve the industry and the oil drills.

**China / Soviet Union — November 5, 1958 (OSA)**

According to the broadcast of Peiping Radio Station received in Hong Kong, Communist China has been provided with information and training in nuclear physics. This cooperation was commemorating the anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution. It was reported that instructions on how to build an atomic reactor and cyclotron were transferred to the Chinese experts under an agreement that was signed in 1957.

**Czechoslovakia / Romania / Yugoslavia – November 5, 1958 (OSA)**

A Czechoslovak-Romanian Joint Declaration provoked Yugoslav anger, being seen as an element of anti-Yugoslav conspiracy; this played out across Soviet Bloc print and radio media.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia / Romania – 5 November, 1958 (OSA)**

Yugoslav criticism of the October 25th joint Czechoslovak–Romanian declaration, branding the declaration an instrument of the anti-Yugoslav campaign, provoked a backlash of Soviet bloc papers and radio stations. After the attack was made by the Romanian Party newspaper "*Scinteia*" against two Belgrade dailies entitled "*Borba*" and "*Politika*" on November 2nd, Radio Moscow's Serbo-Croatian language broadcast attacked "some organs of the Yugoslav press" which claimed that the joint Czechoslovak–Romanian declaration was nothing but a part "of the notorious anti-Yugoslav campaign."

**Hungary – November 6, 1958 (HC)**

*Sweet Ann* („*Édes Anna*”), a film directed by Zoltán Fábry, is first shown.

**Soviet bloc / U.S. – November 8, 1958 (LBC)**

According to the figures given by the US department of commerce in the third quarter of 1958 licenses were issued for 2.8 million dollars' worth of goods destined for Eastern Europe and the USSR.

**Hungary – November 9, 1958 (HC)**

The Catholic, the Lutheran and the Reformed churches all ask their followers to vote for the Patriotic People's Front at the upcoming elections.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / France/ U.K. / U.S. – November, 10 1958 (CAC/CWC)**

In a speech in Moscow, Khrushchev says that he intends to change the status of Berlin and as result the Western governments will have to deal with the East German government in Berlin.

**Soviet Union / East Germany / West Germany – November 10, 1958 (CAC)**

In a speech delivered in Moscow (followed on November 27 by notes to the Western powers), Khrushchev sparks the second Berlin crisis by threatening to conclude a separate peace treaty with East Germany, which would terminate the Western powers' right to access to West Berlin.

**Yugoslavia / China / Bulgaria – 11 November, 1958 (OSA)**

Speaking at a partisan movement anniversary meeting in Ohrid on November 9th, Yugoslavia's trade union boss and Politburo member Svetozar Vukmanovic-Tempo, said that the Communists in the Soviet bloc countries and elsewhere outside Yugoslavia "are against Yugoslav revisionism while being silent on the subject of the terrible revisionism conducted in China today, revisionism which is causing great damage to the international Communist idea and to the international socialist movement." Vukmanovic did not specify Chinese people's communes as one of the chief characteristics of this "terrible revisionism," however it is suggested that he had this in his mind.

**Soviet bloc / U.S. – November 12, 1958 (LBC)**

The U.S. permits the export of some medicines (penicillin products) to the USSR and Eastern Europe. Shipments of inoculation against poliomyelitis and influenza had been permitted earlier.

**Hungary – November 16, 1958 (BBR/HC)**

Hungary's first parliamentary elections since the revolution are held. Participation rate: 98.4%. The Patriotic People's Front receives 99.6% of the votes.

**East Germany – November 16, 1958 (HWD)**

Elections to the People's Chamber take place. The result is a vote of 99.8% 'yes' for the candidates of the unified lists. The newly created Council of Ministers is again led by Otto Grotewohl.

**Soviet Union / Western Bloc – November 17-December 5, 1958 (LBC)**

East-West talks in Geneva begin on precluding surprise attacks. The USSR wishes to extend the talks to matters of arms reduction and political affairs, while the West wants to assess the possibilities of avoiding surprise attacks from a technical perspective.

**Hungary / U.S. – November 21, 1958 (LBC/KAC)**

The U.S. government answers to the **September 20** memorandum of the Hungarian government and declares to Hungary that the reestablishment of normal U.S.-Hungarian diplomatic relations depends "primarily and basically upon the Hungarian government's willingness to live up to its international obligations" and to accept the points of the Paris peace treaty and the Un Charter. According to the U.S. the Soviet Union "in 1956 committed an act of massive armed aggression against the Hungarian people."

**Hungary / Norway – November 23, 1958 (NMC)**

The media announces that the Hungarian-Norwegian Trade Agreement is extended for another year. The volume of trade should increase by 10%.



**Czechoslovakia – November 25, 1958 (OSA)**

Ongoing Czech plans to revise work and wage norms are extended to encompass 1,800,000 industrial workers.

**Hungary – November 26, 1958 (HC)**

The first session of the newly elected Parliament.

**East Germany / Soviet Union/ West Germany / Western Allies – November 27, 1958 (CWC/PLC/NNT)**

The Soviet Union sends an ultimatum-like memorandum to the Western powers stating Berlin should become an independent, free demilitarized city within half a year (“the theory of three states”). The ultimatum suggests that the unified Berlin should be administered by the GDR. The Soviet Union threatened to turn over control of access routes to Berlin to East Germany in six months if Berlin were not declared a “free city.” The Western powers reject Khrushchev's Berlin ultimatum. This leads to another Berlin crisis. The leaders of the GDR support the Soviet memorandum.

**Bulgaria – November 27, 1958 (KCA)**

Georgi Damyanov, Chairman of the Presidium of the National Assembly since **May 27, 1950** (a post corresponding to that of President of the Bulgarian Republic), dies at age 66. On **November 30**, Dimitar Ganev, secretary of the central committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, is unanimously elected to succeed him.

**Hungary / China – November 28-December 31 1958 (KAC)**

A Hungarian army delegation led by Géza Révész, Minister of Defense, visits China.

**December****COMECON – December 1958 (CEC)**

The tenth session of COMECON meets in Prague. The decision to build the Druzhba pipeline is made. Recommendations on production specialization in chemicals and engineering are adopted. Commission set up on light and food industries. Recommendations on draft charter are adopted.

**Hungary – December, 1958 (HC)**

The *Don Juan utolsó kalandja* (“The last adventure of Don Juan”), a film directed by Márton Keleti, is first shown.

**Yugoslavia – December 1958–May 1959 (KCA)**

The Yugoslav Federal People's assembly approves significant legislative measures relating to the management of industry, minimum wages, economic organization, and nationalization of dwellings. Important changes in the Yugoslav criminal law, including the provision for major amendments in the existing criminal code aimed at a general humanization of the penal system, are approved by the Federal Executive Council in May.

**Hungary – December 1, 1958 (BBR)**

István Angyal is executed.

**Yugoslavia / Asia – December 2, 1958 (KCA)**

President Tito leaves Yugoslavia for a three months' tour of Asian and African States, during which he visits Indonesia, Burma, India, Ceylon, Ethiopia, the Sudan, and the United Arab Republic. While in Indonesia on **December 25**, President Tito makes a significant statement on the Yugoslav conception of coexistence.

**Hungary – December 2, 1958 (HC)**

The Hungarian government publishes a declaration about the Berlin situation. The Soviet suggestion to end the occupation of Berlin and recognize West-Berlin is accepted by the Hungarians.

**East Germany – December 3, 1958 (KCA)**

The new *Volkskammer* re-elects Johannes Dieckmann (National Democratic Party) as its president, Hermann Matern (Socialist Unity Party) as first deputy president, and Otto Grotewohl (Socialist Unity Party) as Prime Minister. In addition to passing a law dissolving the *Länderkammer*, the new *Volkskammer* also approves a resolution expressing full support for the Soviet plans for Berlin including the proposal that West Berlin should have the status of a free city.

**Finland – December 4, 1958 (SFF/LJF)**

The Fagerholm government collapses and ends the so-called night frost crises although the government falls on domestic party disputes.

**Yugoslavia – December 7, 1958 (KCA)**

At the Yugoslav port of Koper (Slovenia), the first phase in the construction of quays for seafaring ships is finished.

**Bulgaria / Hungary – December 8, 1958 (NMC)**

The 1959 plan of the Hungarian-Bulgarian Cultural Agreement is signed in Sofia.

**East Germany – December 8, 1958 (OSA)**

A long-overdue census of the East German population, scheduled since December 1957 for January 15, 1959, is unceremoniously postponed. It is unclear whether this is due to the difficulty of mobilizing the infrastructure and human resources to execute the census, or in order to mask the well-known fact of the German Democratic Republic's declining population numbers. The previous census had taken place in 1950.

**Hungary / Poland – December 9, 1958 (NMC)**

The Hungarian-Polish Trade Agreement for 1959 is signed.

**Hungary – December 9, 1958 (HC)**

Decree 1044/1958 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that a State Energy Authority will be established in order to coordinate the energy production and distribution.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – December 9-17, 1958 (HC/NMC)**

A Hungarian party and government delegation led by Ferenc Münnich and György Marosán visits the Czechoslovakia. A joint declaration is published on **December 16**.

**Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia – December 10, 1958 (OSA)**

The Yugoslav-Czechoslovak trade agreement is renewed, following Czechoslovak delay over the decision to invest in Yugoslavia.

**Hungary / U.K. – December 11, 1958 (KAC)**

The British-Hungarian Technical Agreement is signed.

**Hungary / U.S. – December 11, 1958 (BBR)**

The U.N. General Assembly again places the Hungarian question on its agenda. The United States resolves to keep the matter alive.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – December 11, 1958 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government issues a statement through the Tass Agency reiterating that the USSR will not agree to talks on German reunification “without the Germans or behind their backs” while also stating that the USSR would not refuse to discuss the conclusion of a peace treaty which falls within the competence of the four Powers. If the Western Powers do not wish to cooperate, the Soviet Union has no choice but to relieve itself of maintaining the occupation regime in Berlin and to conclude a corresponding agreement with the Government of East Germany. The Soviet Union does not desire to cause any damage to the prestige of the Western Powers and is prepared to guarantee West Berlin’s free city status and non-interference in the political and economic affairs of West Berlin.

**Hungary / UN – December 12, 1958 (HC)**

János Péter, the head of the Hungarian delegation, gives a speech at the final debate of the “Hungarian question” in the 13th session of U.N. General Assembly. He raises objections against the involvement with Hungarian internal problems of the United States.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – December 12, 1958 (OSA)**

Following a spate of Czechoslovak newspaper articles critical of Tito, Yugoslavia adds Czechoslovakia to the “Tirana-Beijing axis”.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – December 14, 1958 (KCA)**

The Foreign Ministers of Great Britain, the United States, France, and the German Federal Republic issue a joint communiqué affirming the determination of the U.S., British, and French governments to maintain their position and rights in Berlin and denying the right of the Soviet Union to change the city’s existing status by unilateral action.

**Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia / Hungary – December 15, 1958 (OSA)**

At Novotny’s reception for Hungarian Politburo member and Central Committee secretary György Marosán, the latter’s speech was critical of Yugoslavia – prompting Petric, the Yugoslav Ambassador to Czechoslovakia, to leave in protest.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – December 18, 1958 (LBC)**

The East-West talks in Geneva on surprise nuclear attacks fail and close. The Soviet Union regards international observation as a “Trojan Horse” and they are unable to agree either on the agenda or the necessary conditions for the establishment of a system of inspection. – The State Department announces that the Soviet deputy prime minister will visit the U.S. the next year. His visa application was approved by Secretary of State Dulles, who is willing to conduct unofficial talks with Mikoyan.

**Hungary – December 19, 1958 (HC)**

The first issue of the *Valóság*, a social sciences periodical, is published. Chief-editor: József Lukács. Editor: József Körösi.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – December 22, 1958 (LBC/LUY)**

The Government of the United States announces an agreement to supply Yugoslavia a total of 129.8 million dollars in economic assistance for the next year. It is primarily designed to offset the loss of Soviet aid and complete the development program. The agreement includes the sale of agricultural products worth \$94.8 million to Yugoslavia. An agreement is made on a 10 million dollar U.S. aid and a 22,5 million dollar loan to complete an artificial fertilizer plant in Yugoslavia.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – December 31, 1958 (KCA/ NNT/ KGD)**

The British, American and French replies to the Soviet Notes of **November 27** reject the Soviet proposal for a “free city” status for West Berlin, uphold the rights of the Western Powers to free access to Berlin under existing four-Power agreements, and refuse to accept the substitution of the East German authorities for the Soviet authorities. The Western powers also express their readiness to negotiate with the Soviet Government on wider aspects of the German problem, such as reunification and German security.

## 1959

### **Hungary – 1959 (HC)**

Throughout the year: Based on the census held in the Soviet Union, the number of Hungarians living in the country (Kárpátalja): 154,738.

### **Romania – 1958–1959 (OSA)**

Within the academic year starting in the fall of 1958 through the summer of 1959, over 90% of Party members reportedly attended Party lectures. In this same period, more than 300,000 non-Party members attended. This is a large increase compared to the previous years.

### **Romania – early 1959 (OSA)**

A new Romanian broadcast program was rolled out with the title: Satire and Humour at the Micro. This program sought to express shortcomings of the capitalist world in a humorous manner, but is largely thought to be missing the mark.

### **Romania – 1959 (RFN)**

Romania supports the Soviets in calling for the acceptance of the credentials of the pro-Soviet Hungarian regime.

### **Romania – 1959 (RUR)**

Premier Ion Maurer makes a tour of Western Europe exploring possible trade and credit relations, within a year, negotiations between Romania and Britain are conducted on long-standing compensation claims.

### **Soviet Union – 1959 (KCA)**

Two sections of a new Central Siberian railway open. In March the first section between Kokchetav and Kyzyl-Tu in Kazakhstan is completed and in October the second section linking the Rivers Ob and Irtysh is completed.

### **Soviet Union – 1959 – January 1960 (KCA)**

A number of changes were made in the Governments and Communist Party leaderships in several of the Union Republics during 1959 and January 1960. Azerbaijan: The First Secretary of the Central Committee, Imam Mustafayev, was dismissed and replaced with Nadir Akhundov. The Moscow newspaper *Party Life* stated that Azerbaijan failed to meet its quotas for deliveries of cotton and cattle, its milk production levels were the lowest in the USSR, and many of its oil-wells and refineries were lagging behind their projected production.

*Byelorussia:* On **April 9, 1959**, the Supreme Soviet elects Tikhon Kiselev as Prime Minister. He replaces Avkhimovich who was criticized by Kiselev in a report presented at a plenary session of the party's central committee for tolerating "lack of initiative, bureaucracy, formalism, utter lack of organizational ability..."

*Kazakhstan:* On **January 20, 1960**, Kunayev is appointed First Secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party in place of Belyaev. This change was a result of Khrushchev's criticism of Kazakh production levels.

*Latvia:* In the second half of 1959, a series of changes in the Latvian Government and Communist Party stem from nationalist tendencies. The Deputy Premier is dismissed in July for placing "narrow national interests" above those of the Soviet Union. The First Secretary of

the Latvian Young Communist League is discharged in September for “having failed to educate young Latvians in the spirit of internationalism.” Other high officials are dismissed for nationalist views.

*Uzbekistan:* On **March 15, 1959**, The Uzbek Communist Party’s central committee removes its First Secretary, Sabir Kamalov, and the Premier of Uzbekistan, Mansur Mirza-Akhmedov. They are replaced by Sharaf Rashidov and Arif Alimov, respectively.

On **January 13, 1960**, *Pravda* reports that Alexei Kirichenko, a member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party since 1955 and of the party Secretariat since 1957 has been appointed First Secretary for the Rostov region. No reason is given for his demotion.

## **January**

### **Poland / Lithuania – January 1959 (KCA)**

The Vatican decides to withdraw recognition from the heads of the diplomatic missions maintained at the Holy See by the Polish Government-in-exile in London and by the former Lithuanian Government.

### **Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – January 1959 (MOL)**

Yugoslavia signs an economic agreement with the Soviet Union.

### **East Germany / Yugoslavia – January 1959 (MOL)**

Yugoslavia signs an economic agreement with the German Democratic Republic.

### **Cuba – January 1, 1959 (PLC)**

Fidel Castro-led Cuban revolutionary forces overthrow Batista regime.

### **Soviet Union – January 2, 1959 (PLC)**

USSR launches world’s first space shuttle.

### **East Germany / West Germany - January 2, 1959 (KCA)**

The West German Federal Minister for Refugees and Expellees announces that 204,061 refugees from East Germany had arrived in the Federal Republic or in West Berlin during 1958, compared with 261,622 in 1957. Repatriates from Eastern Europe numbered 132,000 in 1958, against 114,000 in 1957. A sudden heavy increase in refugees from East Germany to the West occurred in July and August 1958 with a special feature of this exodus being the large-scale flight of East German doctors due to the East German Government’s campaign against independent doctors. 6 percent of all doctors in Eastern Germany took refuge in the West between January and August, 1958. This mass exodus of doctors has led to serious gaps in hospitals and private practices. The East German Government was so alarmed by this development that it announced far-reaching concessions in September. **September 16, 1958:** The East German Finance Ministry issues a decree providing that all the property of refugees would be administered henceforth by State Commissioners. This applies to all those who had fled to the West since **June 10, 1953**.

### **Soviet Union – January 2, 1959 (OSA)**

The Soviet Union launched the first of three “cosmic rockets” towards the Moon.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 4, 1959 (LBC)**

Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Mikoyan arrives in New York where he meets the secretary of state. Mikoyan states that the USSR has no aggressive designs against the U.S. but hopes for a peaceful East-West competition; the Soviet Union feels threatened because of the U.S.'s overseas bases. – **January 17.** Meeting between Mikoyan and Eisenhower. They discuss Berlin, Germany, disarmament and questions of trade. There was no new proposal on either issue and no agreements were concluded. – **January 19.** Mikoyan's talks with U.S. Undersecretary of State Dillon and Secretary of Commerce Lewis L. Lewis on the development of Soviet-American trade. The Soviet politician urged the lifting of American restrictions on trade with the Soviet Union particularly in the field of strategic items; most favored nation status and lower tariffs on Soviet goods; the elimination of restrictions on large loans for Soviet purchases. Dillon rejects Mikoyan's proposals on the grounds that trade between the two states may develop in the field of non-strategic goods only and that according to American law no loans can be granted to states that are not paying their debts to the U.S. (this referred to the Soviet debts of \$800 million on lend-lease shipments in World War II).

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – January 5-March 19, 1959 (KCA)**

The second stage of the Geneva Conference includes: 1) a U.S. report on underground nuclear test explosions shows that detection of such explosions is more difficult than had previously been believed; 2) Soviet allegations that the U.S. report is designed to wreck the conference by imposing a further obstacle; 3) American denials of these allegations and counter-allegations that the USSR is halting progress by insisting that decisions of the control commission should be subject to the veto of any of the three permanent members; 4) fundamental differences between the Soviet and Western views on the question of inspection and control; 5) agreement on three further Articles of the proposed treaty.

**East Germany – January 7, 1959 (KCA)**

The East German Government announces its willingness to recognize a demilitarized free city status for West Berlin.

**Poland / Soviet Union – January 7, 1959 (PSN)**

It is announced that the repatriation of Poles from the Soviet Union would be extended until **March 31, 1959.**

**Soviet Union / West Germany – January 10, 1959 (PLC)**

The Soviet Government sends Notes to all countries which were at war with Germany between 1939-1945 and to the East and West German Governments proposing the holding of a peace conference within two months to draw up a German peace treaty. A Soviet draft of a peace treaty with Germany is also sent.

**Hungary – January 11, 1959 (HC)**

Government resolution 1002/1959 is publicized about the creation of a farseeing scientific research plan.

**Finland – January 13, 1959 (NTH/FGV)**

A new minority government is formed under Agrarian Vieno Johannes Sukselainen. It consists of the Agrarian League and the Social Democratic Party, the National Coalition Party, the Swedish People's Party of Finland (RKP) and the People's Party of Finland.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria - 14 January, 1959 (OSA)**

Writing in the January 11th issue of the Belgrade daily "Borba" under the title "Haughtiness or Something Else?" Panic Surep refers to a recent article published in the "jubilee paper" of the "Vassil Kolarov" Bulgarian National Library in Sofia on the 80th anniversary of the library, which fell on 10th December 1958. The Yugoslav writer M. Panic-Surep accuses the Bulgarian occupation forces of "having plundered" many Yugoslav "cultural objects" during the First and Second World Wars.

**Yugoslavia / India – January 14-15, 1959 (MOL)**

Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito visits India.

**Bulgaria – January 15-17, 1959 (KCA)**

The Bulgarian Communist Party holds a plenary session. First Secretary Todor Zhivkov presents proposals designed to enable the Five-Year Plan for 1958-1962 to be fulfilled in three to four years.

**East Germany – January 15-17, 1959 (KGD)**

The SED decides on the establishment of ten-class, uniform polytechnic secondary schools.

**Soviet Union – 15-22, 1959 (PLC)**

Census in USSR. Population 208.8 million, 54.6% Russian, 17.8% Ukrainian, 3.8% Byelorussian. Share of ethnic Jews is 1.1%, that of ethnic Germans is 0.8%.

**Soviet Union / France – January 15, 1959 (KCA)**

A Franco-Soviet agreement is signed that provides for a special department to be opened in a Moscow bookshop for the sale of classical and contemporary French books and that more French should be taught in Soviet secondary schools. *Le Monde* commented that "no other Western country has been granted this favor so far."

**Finland – January 21-25, 1959 (SFF)**

President Urho Kaleva Kekkonen visits Moscow and during the visit Khrushchev complains the anti-Soviet tone of Finnish publications and the influence of Väinö Tanner in the Finnish politics.

**East Germany – January 21, 1959 (KCA)**

First Deputy Premier, and First Secretary of the Socialist Unity Party Walter Ulbricht states that the German Democratic Republic regards the present frontiers of Germany as "final and unalterable."

**Poland / Yugoslavia – January 23, 1959 (OSA)**

The signing of the cooperation Protocol between Yugoslav and Polish publishing enterprises in January 1959. The protocol includes an agreement for the translation of thirty Yugoslav literary works into Polish, as well as the translation of the same amount of Polish works into Yugoslavian languages.

**Hungary – January 25, 1959 (HC)**

*Népszabadság* publicizes "A magyarországi osztályharc tapasztalataiból" (From the experiences of the Hungarian class struggle.) wrote by János Kádár, the First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party.



#### **East Germany / U.K. - January 26, 1959 (KCA)**

The Federation of British Industries and the East German Chamber of Foreign Trade conclude an agreement for the exchange of goods of a value of about £7,000,000 in each direction. The Foreign Office points out that this agreement in no way implies official British recognition of the East German regime. H.M. Government had been informed of the negotiations in advance and the German Federal Government had also been informed and had raised no objection.

#### **Poland / Yugoslavia – January 27, 1959 (OSA)**

The Soviet Communist Party newspaper *Pravda* attacked Yugoslavian agricultural policies which were labelled by the newspaper as a “useless hare-brained scheme.” Comparisons with the agricultural development of other countries are listed alongside harsh criticism also directed to the Yugoslav economic system. A detailed list of the criticised aspects of the Yugoslav agricultural policy is provided alongside comparison with advances made by other countries in the Soviet Bloc.

#### **Soviet Union / U.S. – January 27, 1959 (LBC)**

Khrushchev's speech: the USSR is willing to sign an arms reduction treaty with the West and halt the production and testing of nuclear arms and rockets; ready to establish a confrontation free zone based on the Rapacki plan and pull out from the GDR, Poland and Hungary in return for the withdrawal of NATO forces; he will urge German unification through talks between the two Germanies. The previous day Khrushchev talked about a thaw in East-West relations. – **January 30.** Report by Tass Soviet news agency: on **January 1** the 300 thousand personnel reduction of the Soviet army was carried out. – **January 31.** Soviet deputy Prime Minister Mikoyan announces that the Soviet Union is ready to sign a commercial treaty with the US for 3.5 or seven years.

#### **Soviet Union – January 27-February 5, 1959 (PLC)**

21st mid-term or "Extraordinary" Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. As a response to the Chinese challenge (i.e. the “Great Leap forward”), the ongoing Five Year Plan (1956-60) is terminated and a large scale seven year plan (1959-65) is launched.

#### **Hungary / United States – January 28, 1959 (HC)**

The Hungarian Foreign Ministry responds to the United States. (It suggests beginning the recovery of the normal diplomatic relations through negotiations).

#### **Soviet Union / Yugoslavia / Romania – January 28, 1959 (OSA)**

Yugoslavia signs protocols of trade with Romania and the Soviet Union, for the year 1960. The agreement envisioned a commodity exchange worth of 12 million dollars.

#### **Hungary / U.S. – January 31, 1959 (LBC)**

The U.S. again rejects the Hungarian government's offer to normalize diplomatic relations. The State Department's spokesman called the Hungarian note of **January 28** “most hostile” and “insulting”. The chargé in Budapest, James W. Pratt opines that the Hungarian note threatens with reprisals in case the U.S. does not comply with the wish to discuss restoration of relations between the two countries. – Hungary limits the activity of the U.S. Legation in Budapest as it constitutes a “danger to the [Hungarian] state”.

## **February**

### **Hungary – February 1959 (HC)**

Throughout the month the sales of party and state leaders popularizes the collectivization of the agriculture. The press continually publishes the rapid advancement of the collectivization and the establishment of the collective farm settlements.

### **Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – February 1959 (RYN)**

At the Twenty-first Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the “Yugoslav revisionists” are accused of betraying “proletarian internationalism” and, “in their narrow national and chauvinistic interests,” of assisting the “imperialists in their subversive activity in the countries of Asia and Africa.”

### **Hungary – February 1, 1959 (HC)**

Government resolution 3004/1957 about the development of the collective farms are publicized.

### **Bulgaria – February 2, 1959 (KCA)**

The National Assembly approves a decree on the new administrative division of the country.

### **Yugoslavia / China – 2 February, 1959 (OSA)**

According to a Radio Zagreb correspondent in Beijing, Branko Bogunovic, Mao Zedong might remain Chinese head of state after all, despite the announcement the previous December about his retirement. In his report, Bogunovic says that "the new postponement of the session of the National People's Congress to next April has attracted the special attention of observers in Beijing" and is believed to be connected with some rethinking about Mao's future position.

### **Yugoslavia / U.K. – February 3, 1959 (KCA)**

An Anglo-Yugoslav agreement is signed providing for regular air services between Great Britain and Yugoslavia.

### **Greece/Soviet Union —February 4, 1959**

The Greek under Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Pericles Skeferis, filed a complaint to Nikolai A. Salnov, the Soviet Charges Affaires, regarding the improper interference of the Soviet Union in domestic matters. The protest was filed after a statement from Premier Nikita Khrushchev expressing the Soviet concern for Manolis Glezos, a Greek left-winger and publisher of the newspaper Avghi, who remained in prison, being accused of plotting to overthrow the Greek Government.

### **West Germany / U.S. – February 4–8, 1959 (KCA)**

U.S. Foreign Secretary Dulles visits Western Europe and a West German spokesman states that it had been agreed that the principle of “no concessions without counter-concessions” should guide the Western Powers in all negotiations with the Soviet Union and Germany.

### **China / Soviet Union — February 5, 1959**

The ideological leadership of the Soviet party was given acknowledgement in Hong Kong by the Chinese Communist Party. It was said in The People's Daily newspaper that “the Soviet Union will enormously enrich the theories of Marxism-Leninism and become a brilliant example for all.”

### **China / Soviet Union — February 5, 1959**

During an interview that lasted eight hours with senator Hubert H. Humphrey, Khrushchev denied saying less than positive about the Chinese Communists.

### **Czechoslovakia – February 5, 1959 (HC)**

The Board of Trustees highlights in its government resolution 37/1959 the laws and decrees have to be published in Hungarian language as well.

### **Soviet Union / U.S. – February 5, 1959 (LBC)**

Khrushchev, the First secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party invites the U.S. President to the Soviet Union. At the same time he accuses the U.S. of readiness to sacrifice its allies for its own selfish interests. – **February 10.** President Eisenhower tells journalists that he is expecting a more formal and more convincing invitation than the one included in Khrushchev's hostile speech. – It is announced in Great Britain that out of the 1959-1960 military budget, 22 billion pounds will be devoted to the development of Britain's own nuclear striking force (Blue Streak program).

### **Yugoslavia / Bulgaria - 10 February, 1959 (OSA)**

Ivan Ruzh, deputy editor of the Bulgarian literary periodical "*Plamak*" published an article in the February 8th issue of the Belgrade daily "*Politika*" under the title "Malicious Appraisal of Our Literature." Tome Momirovski (Yugoslav writer) says that his articles "have represented a passionate protest and revolt against the real freedom of artistic creation in Yugoslavia."

### **Yugoslavia / China – 10 February, 1959 (OSA)**

The "arrogant provocation" by the Belgrade correspondent of the Chinese news agency during the press conference in Belgrade on February 6th is indignantly criticised by the Sarajevo daily "Oslobodjenje" on February 7th. Western agencies reported that on February 6th "a difference of opinion between (Yugoslav government) spokesman Drago Kunc and the local correspondent of the Communist Chinese New China News Agency." According to these reports "the dispute arose when the spokesman was asked to comment on the progress of trade talks between this country and the Chinese in Peking."

### **Cyprus / Greece / Turkey – February 5–11, 1959 (PLC)**

Greek-Turkish negotiations in London on creating the Republic of Cyprus and developing its constitution.

### **East Germany / Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – February 16, 1959 (KCA)**

The three Western Powers and the German Federal Republic reply to the Soviet Notes of **January 10th.** While reserving the Western position with regard to rights in Berlin, the Western Powers propose a four Power conference of Foreign Ministers to discuss "the problem of Germany in all its aspects and implications." They suggest that German advisers be invited to participate.

### **East Germany / Soviet Union – February 17, 1959 (KCA)**

In a speech at Tula Khrushchev accuses certain Western leaders of threatening to make their way through (to West Berlin) by force of arms if the USSR hands over its control functions to the GDR. Khrushchev declares that today international problems cannot be settled by force and calls for a peace treaty with Germany.

**Hungary – February 18, 1959 (HC)**

János Kádár, the chief secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party travels to Prague for a three day long official visit.

**Cyprus – February 19, 1959 (PLC)**

Following the **February 17-19** negotiations between Great Britain, Greece and Turkey in Zurich, an agreement is reached about Cyprus. As a compromise between division and *enosis*, Cyprus becomes independent and both Greece and Turkey are allowed to station troops on the island.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – February 21, 1959 (LBC)**

The British prime minister's visit to Moscow. This is the first time a British premier visits the Soviet Union since World War II. – **March 3.** MacMillan concludes his visit. He declares on British television: he agreed with Khrushchev in that Central Europe's serious problems should be solved not through military force but negotiations.

**Romania – February 22, 1959 (HC)**

The Hungarian Bolyai University of Cluj (Kolozsvár) is merged with the Romanian Babes University under the name of Babes-Bolyai University.

**Cyprus / Turkey / U.K. – February 23, 1959 (PLC)**

British-Greek-Turkish treaty in London on Cyprian independence (within a year), under a Greek president and Turkish vice-president. Neither of the parties is satisfied the results. According to the treaty, Great Britain can keep its bases in the Larnaca bay.

**Yugoslavia – 23 February, 1959 (OSA)**

After "*Borba*" on January 30th refuted Moscow "*Pravda's*" claims on low living standards in Yugoslavia, and after an even sharper rebuttal by the Belgrade weekly, "*Ekonomska politika*" on February 7<sup>th</sup>, the Sarajevo daily "*Oslobodjenje*" on February 20th published a long reply to the Bulgarian Communist Party paper, "*Rabotnichesko Delo*" in the same manner. The new Kremlin anti-Titoist propaganda line claiming that the Yugoslav economy is at a standstill has hit a Yugoslav sore point.

**Hungary – February 27, 1959 (HC)**

In the Hungária Vegyipari Művek (chemical facility) the county's first synthetic plastic manufacturing facility is initiated.

**March****East Germany / West Germany – March-April 1959 (KCA)**

A series of incidents occur during March and April in the air corridors leading from Western Germany to Berlin, when U.S. military transport aircraft flying through these corridors at altitudes above 10,000 feet are buzzed by Soviet fighters. The Soviet authorities maintain that such flights are inadmissible – a contention which the U.S. authorities reject. The Russian and the American authorities make protests and counter protests throughout April.

### **Czechoslovakia – March 1–2, 1959 (OSA)**

Prague hosts the National Congress of the Union of Czechoslovak Writers, which turns away from the anti-Stalinist freedoms of the 1956 Congress: the keynote lambasted revisionism and membership of the Union's Central Committee changed drastically, including the new president Rybak who was a known Stalinist.

### **Hungary – March 1, 1959 (OSA)**

Fourteen students were expelled from the Religious Academy as reported by the newspaper "Új Ember". The decision was made after the students' unacceptable behaviour, and apparent criticism of the contemporary state of church affairs within Hungary.

### **Soviet Union / U.S. – March 2, 1959 (LBC)**

The World Economy Committee of the U.S. President urges the chief executive to think about trade with the Soviet bloc in non-strategic goods, because if trade with the Iron Curtain nations could be increased then perhaps "*Soviet resources could be diverted from military potential to the production of consumer goods*".

### **Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – March 2, 1959 (KCA)**

In further Notes to the British, French, and U.S. Governments, the Soviet Union proposes a "summit" conference of Heads of Government. It also expresses its willingness to agree to a conference of Foreign Ministers as proposed in the Western Notes. It suggests Poland and Czechoslovakia be invited to participate in the Foreign Ministers' meeting. It also states that the participation of the United Nations in guaranteeing "free city" status for West Berlin is possible and that the Soviet Government is ready to discuss the question of guarantees in order to reach a mutually acceptable agreement.

### **Soviet Union / U.S. – March 4, 1959 (KCA)**

President Eisenhower states that the **March 2** Soviet Notes indicated some lessening of the rigidity of Russia's position but is cautious about the proposed "summit" conference without prior assurance that practical advance would be made if one were held.

### **East Germany / Soviet Union – March 4-11, 1959 (KCA)**

Khrushchev visits East Germany and makes many references to the Berlin situation in speeches in Leipzig and East Berlin. He states that the Soviet Government does not regard **May 27** as a deadline for the transfer of control functions to the East German authorities, adding that the date could be delayed. He also states that the USSR intends to sign a peace treaty with the GDR if it proves impossible to sign a treaty with both German States. In a **March 9** speech, Khrushchev suggests that the four Powers, or alternatively neutral States, should maintain a certain number of troops in West Berlin to guarantee its "free city" status.

### **Czechoslovakia – March 7, 1959 (OSA)**

The Central Committee announces price reductions on basic foodstuffs and work clothes in a bid to calm industrial workers' opposition to the new wage norms. Simultaneously, they announced the removal of Minister of Agriculture Michal Bakula.

### **Poland – March 10-19, 1959 (KCA)**

The third congress of the Polish United Workers' Party is held in Warsaw. This congress is the first to be held since the fundamental changes made to the party's policy in 1956. Some of the issues addressed by Gomulka include the ending of the political crisis within the party, which Gomulka attributes to reactionary elements within the country; emphasizing the importance of

strengthening the police in their struggle against anti-Socialist activities; criticizing Yugoslav “revisionism” but adding that Poland wishes to retain normal relations with Yugoslavia; and stating that “the Church must limit its activities to religious questions.” The Congress approves the Five-Year Plan for 1961-65 and the Government’s agricultural policy, and covers issues of Church-State relations and intellectual freedom. 18 of the 78 members of the former central committee fail to secure re-election or are demoted. On **October 19** a resolution is adopted to support Gomulka’s desire to lower the real value of wages. On **June 25** a resolution is adopted to establish an agricultural development fund by the State to be used for the mechanization of agriculture. During the fall of 1958 relations between the Government and the Roman Catholic Church improve greatly, but during the summer of 1959 a new controversy arises over the government’s demand for the deposition of the Bishop of Kielce. On **December 6** (58 or 59 – unclear) The *New York Times* is banned throughout Poland following the expulsion of *New York Times* correspondent Rosenthal.

#### **France / NATO – March 11, 1959 (LBC)**

France informs NATO that French navy units designated for the use of the alliance in war will remain under French command. The step is related to the aspiration by French President Charles de Gaulle that Paris should have a larger influence in NATO and to extend its guarantee to North Africa. – **March 19.** NATO commander-in-chief General Norstad does not think that France’s step means the end of the alliance.

#### **East Germany / Soviet Union – March 11, 1959 (KCA)**

A joint communiqué on Khrushchev’s talks with East German leaders states 1) that a peace treaty should be signed with both German States, or with a German Confederation should it be formed; 2) that the GDR is prepared to guarantee free access to West Berlin from both east and west, and to respect its status as a demilitarized Free City; 3) that the Soviet Union is prepared to join in guaranteeing the independence and security of West Berlin.

#### **Poland – March 11, 1959 (OSA)**

Information is provided about the third Congress of the Polish United Workers Party and about the report given by Gomulka during the opening session. The report indicated no changes in domestic policy, details on support provided to other communist countries as well as Polish relations with them are provided. Gomulka’s report was not limited to the Party hierarchy but was planned for wider dissemination. In addition, the document reports what Gomulka said about relations with the Church, internal policies, economic and agricultural issues.

#### **Soviet Union / U.S. – March 11, 1959 (KCA)**

At a press conference, President Eisenhower is questioned about the possibility of hostilities developing in Europe as a result of the Berlin crisis. He responds that the U.S. will not fight a ground war in Europe. He also states that he does not know “how you could free anything with nuclear weapons.” He reiterates that the United States “and its Allies have announced their firm intention of preserving their rights and responsibilities with respect to Berlin. If any threat or push in the direction of real hostilities is going to occur, it’s going to occur from the side of the Soviets.”

#### **Bulgaria – March 12, 1959 (KCA)**

Some of Zhivkov’s **January 15-17** proposals first presented at the plenary session of the Bulgarian Communist Part in January are approved with some modification. The Ministries of Heavy Industry, Light Industry, Food Industry, Electrification, Construction, and Municipal Economy, and the Committee for Physical Culture and Sport are all abolished.

**Poland – March 13, 1959 (OSA)**

The Congress and Central Committee plenum of the Polish United Workers Party was held in 1959. The plenary sessions of the Central Committee of the Party are typically held twice a year in every communist country. Details on the Party constitution and on the decisions made are given from various plenums between the first Congress in 1948 and the second one in 1954. Details on the nine plenums of the first Congress are provided alongside information on the twelve different plenums held during the second Congress.

**Bulgaria – March 14, 1959 (KCA)**

Cabinet changes are made including the removal of Boris Taskov from the Ministry of Trade on **April 21** because “he had no confidence in the correctness of the Party line, and therefore could not carry out the tasks entrusted to him.”

**Albania / Yugoslavia – March 14, 1959 (PLC)**

Diplomatic relations terminated between Yugoslavia and Albania.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 16, 1959 (KCA)**

President Eisenhower addresses the American people regarding the Berlin situation through a radio and television broadcast.

**Hungary – March 16-21, 1959 (HC)**

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Tanácsköztársaság (Hungarian Soviet Republic), the Hungarian Scientific Academy holds celebratory session.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – March 19, 1959 (KCA)**

Khrushchev announces the Soviet Union will accept May 11 as the date for a Foreign Ministers' conference if the Western Powers suggested that date; he also agreed that the Western Powers possessed “lawful rights” for their presence in Berlin. He then answered several questions from 300 press correspondents. The conciliatory tone of Khrushchev's press conference was welcomed by Western Power press and was described by a State Department spokesman as “encouraging.”

**Hungary – March 19, 1959 (HC)**

The Presidential Council passes the number 1959/7th decree no. about the agricultural collective farms and the collectivization groups. (It regulates the conditions and the operations of the collective farms and groups, the rights and duties, disposes of the common economic activity income distribution and the organs of the collective farms and groups.

**Czechoslovakia – March 20, 1959 (OSA)**

Agricultural problems persist as the Central Committee announces plans to sell all machine-tractor stations' machinery to agricultural cooperatives in hopes of increased production.

**Hungary – March 20, 1959 (HC)**

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary the Parliament legally recognizes the memory of the Hungarian Tanácsköztársaság. (1959: II. law.)

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia - 20 March, 1959 (OSA)**

Measures announced in Czechoslovakia in connection with "a new role" allotted to the machine-tractor stations is a sign of weaknesses in Czechoslovakia's agriculture. This is claimed by the Yugoslav "*Dnevnik of Novi Sad*" (March 14th issue) in a report from Prague dealing

with the recent discussion on how to sell the MTS machinery to agricultural cooperatives in the course of the next two years.

**Bulgaria / Romania – March 23, 1959 (RCW)**

Bulgarian delegation visits Romania to discuss the possibility to improve exchange information between the Bulgarian and Romanian intelligence agencies.

**Yugoslavia – March 24, 1959 (JVJ)**

The League of Yugoslav Communist issues a declaration on its ethnic policy.

**Hungary – March 25, 1959 (HC)**

The nuclear reactor of Csillebérc is put on in Budapest.

**Bulgaria / U.S. – March 27, 1959 (LBC)**

The governments of the U.S. and Bulgaria announce the reestablishment of diplomatic relations, which were severed in 1950. Bulgaria revoked the charges of espionage brought against the former U.S. minister in Sofia and pledged that the U.S. mission would be able to operate without harassment. An American Legation will be opened in Sofia and a Bulgarian Legation in Washington.

**Bulgaria / U.S. – March 27, 1959 (PLC)**

American–Bulgarian diplomatic relations re-established (terminated in 1950).

**Soviet Union / U.K. – March 28, 1959 (KCA)**

A program of exchanges of specialists in scientific and art fields and other contacts between the U.K. and the USSR for the year beginning **April 1, 1959** is signed in Moscow.

**April**

**Romania – April, 1959 (OSA)**

Renowned Romanian composer Andricu was put on trial in front of hundreds of workers, writers, technicians, and musicians in Bucharest to answer for his past slander of the Romanian people. It had been reported he called Romanians “stable people” without a future or a past. The trial ended in moral condemnation rather than any tangible punishments or imprisonment.

**East Germany / Iraq – April 1, 1959 (KCA)**

An agreement on cultural and scientific co-operation between Iraq and the German Democratic Republic is signed in Baghdad.

**Hungary – April 1, 1959 (HC)**

The Peoples’ Court Section of the Supreme Court gives forth its verdict. (For anti-constitutional activity. Ferenc Mérei receives 10 years; Sándor Fekete receives 5 years, Jenő Széll receives 5 years, György Litván receives 5 years András B. Hegedűs receives 2 years of imprisonment.)

**Poland / Iraq – April 2, 1959 (KCA)**

An agreement on cultural and scientific co-operation between Iraq and Poland is signed in Warsaw.



**Romania / Soviet Union – April 3, 1959 (RCW)**

Soviet politburo member Yuri Andropov and Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej discuss issues concerning the cooperation between the CPSU and the Romanian Worker's Party and the two governments. The discussion ranges between economic integration issues, to the Sino-Soviet split, Soviet-Albanian relations, and politico-military cooperation between Warsaw Pact states.

**Hungary – April 3, 1959 (HC)**

The Presidential Council on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the liberation declares partial amnesty under its Law 12:1959, for those serving sentences of less than two years. According to this, the remaining imprisonment of Zoltán Tildy ex-President is halted.

**Hungary – April 6, 1959 (OSA)**

An article commenting on a recently issued decree by the Hungarian government related to the Churches in Hungary. It reports that 'Hungary's communist regime has taken "legal" steps to pull the bonds of state control even tighter around Hungary's captive churches.

**Czechoslovakia / France – April 8, 1959 (KCA)**

The Czechoslovak freighter *Lidice* carrying 581 tons of arms is intercepted in the Mediterranean and taken to Oran by a French Naval Patrol. The Moroccan Defense Ministry had announced that the *Lidice's* arms were intended for the Moroccan army. The French authorities claim that the arms are intended for Algerian rebels. The Czechoslovak and Moroccan Governments file protests.

**Hungary – April 8, 1959 (HC)**

The number 1013/1959 government proposal about the taking care of the workers' complains a request is publicized.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria / Macedonia - 10 April, 1959 (OSA)**

A review of the article published in the Skoplje daily "*Nova Makedonija*" dealing with the Bulgarian attitudes toward the Macedonian problem. The old Yugoslav-Bulgarian dispute over Macedonia has been potentially inflamed again as seen in the Yugoslav reaction to the Bulgarian Politburo member Encho Statkov's speech of March 3rd during the celebration of the 80th anniversary of Bulgaria's liberation from Turkey (3rd March 1878). In an article published in the March 23rd issue of the Yugoslav daily "*Nova Makedonija*" of Skoplje, the Bulgarian Communist leaders are reproached for conducting an "old imperialist-type" policy toward Macedonia and for failing to recognise the existence of the Macedonian minority in Bulgaria.

**Hungary / China / Mongolia / Vietnam – April 11, 1959 (HC)**

Led by Ferenc Münnich, the chairman of the Council of Ministers party and the governmental delegation travels to Mongolia, Vietnam and China for a month-long official trip. (**April 27:** a friendly and cooperating contract is signed between Hungary and China.)

**Hungary – April 12, 1959 (HC)**

Government resolution 19/1959 about establishment of the community academic scholarship is publicized.

**Hungary – April 12, 1959 (OSA)**

A newspaper report is published on the crisis of Catholic priest training. Issues related to training in the Religious Academy are discussed in the article.

**Yugoslavia / Austria – April 13, 1959 (MOL)**

Yugoslav Foreign Minister Koča Popović criticizes Austria for the maltreatment of the Slovenian minority in Carinthia.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – April 13-May 12, 1959 (KCA)**

The third stage of the Geneva Conference includes an agreement on a number of Articles for the proposed treaty. The negotiations remain deadlocked on the central issue of control and inspection. By recess on **May 12**, 17 Articles were approved. The Soviet Union abandons its previous insistence on a “100 per cent” veto and suggests a limited number of annual inspections if there is reason to suspect violation of the ban. The Western Powers agree to examine this Soviet Proposal, but emphasize the difficulties of detecting nuclear explosions. Correspondence among Eisenhower, Khrushchev, and Macmillan on Nuclear Disarmament occurs.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia - April 16, 1959 (OSA)**

Zoran Zhujovic in the April 15th issue of the Belgrade daily "*Politika*" states, that by attacking the Yugoslav self-management system the Czechoslovak leaders are in fact "defending the internal situation in Czechoslovakia; they are defending "bureaucratic concepts and bureaucratic practice, which are being maintained only by an identification of bureaucracy with socialism and socialist reality." Writing under the title "Renewed Attacks from Prague," Zhujovic claims that in Czechoslovakia bureaucracy "is still the supreme judge in the essential processes of social development."

**Yugoslavia – April 19, 1959 (KCA)**

President Tito reveals the death of over 100 leading Yugoslav Communists in Stalin's prisons and camps during the purges of the 1930s and says that Yugoslavia has proven that Socialism is “nobody's monopoly” and could be built outside the “Socialist camp.”

**Soviet Union / U.S. – April 21, 1959 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union points out in a note to the United States that the United States would be violating international treaties if they decided to deploy nuclear weapons in the Federal Republic of Germany. In response the United States say on **May 8, 1959** that the Soviet Union is also equipped with nuclear weapons and that the program of NATO's modernization was agreed on already in 1957.

**Soviet Union —April 22, 1959 (OSA)**

The Ministry of Culture is determined to promote the status of aesthetics of the people, by establishing Universities of Culture, providing modeled courses and topics that should be discussed. These special courses of several hours are designed for the workers and include subjects such as the Marxist-Leninist theory, Soviet literature, art, history, and science. The Young Communist League and trade unions are to promote this campaign and facilitate the enrollment process.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – 23 April, 1959 (OSA)**

Radio Sofia broadcast a commentary on April 21st entitled: "The Policy and Internal Situation of Yugoslavia" which depicts the Yugoslav economy as a complete failure. The Sofia commentator refers to Tito's recent speeches in Skopje and Belgrade, the two Yugoslav Foreign Ministry attacks against Albania and Bulgaria in March, and the April 13th speech from Foreign Minister Koca Popovic, saying that no matter how great the efforts of Yugoslav leaders were to slander Bulgaria, "the white cannot be made to look black."

**East Germany – April 24, 1959 (KGS/HWD)**

The first conference of artists and writers takes place in Bitterfeld. Socialist realism is decided as the expected artistic theme.

**Hungary – April 25, 1959 (OSA)**

The article reports on the swearing in ceremony of leading church officials on the constitution after their appointment was approved by the government, according to the decree issued in 1957. József Grósz, the archbishop of Kalocsa gives a short interview.

**Warsaw Pact / China – April 27-28, 1959 (HC/MMS)**

The Foreign Ministers of the Warsaw Pact member states and China hold a meeting in Warsaw. (The Foreign Ministers discuss the possible questions of the upcoming Geneva Convention, primarily the upcoming treaty with Germany and the elimination of the occupying system.)

**Soviet Union —April 27, 1959 (OSA)**

Calls for voluntary relocation for work in Siberia, highlighting the new opportunities, are made by the Soviet Academy of Sciences and the Government. The promising possibilities of the region are depicted in the statistical number in the plans and goals for the following years. The area has plenty of natural resources but needs skilled people and installing the necessary infrastructure.

**Soviet Union —April 28, 1959 (OSA)**

In Irkutsk, the efforts to make use of the vast opportunities of the Siberia region despite nature's limitations, follow the established strategy of turning state-owned buildings to facilitate social needs, science, education, hospitals. New apartment blocks are constructed with plans for designing new infrastructure for the city, while the projections for industrial growth are promising. To cover the urgent need for medical and teaching personnel a new university is being built in the region.

**Hungary – April 29, 1959 (OSA)**

Israelite church officials were sworn in after their appointment was approved by the Hungarian government.

**Soviet Union —April 29, 1959 (OSA)**

A series of personal encounters with people in Siberia leads to the conclusion that, in general, they express a strong desire for peace, they have found a new sense of progress, they are infatuated by technological advancements, friendly, and overall proud of their country, with work being projected as a higher ideal. They are curious about life outside the Soviet Union, raising questions about the state of American satellites, jets, education, sports, and unemployment rates and commenting on the disputes over Berlin.

**May****Albania / Soviet Union – May-June 1959 (PLC)**

Khrushchev's unsuccessful visit to Albania. Deteriorating relations between the two states are clearly visible from August 1959 on.

**Soviet Union —May 1, 1959 (OSA)**

The Jewish Autonomous Province, an artificial settlement formed in 1934 to serve as a home for the Jewish community in the Soviet Union so as to stall the advancement of the Zionist movement, does not show the signs of progress that are apparent in other parts of the USSR. In the City of Birobidzhan low population figures and the lack of opportunities for young people might be some of the reasons behind this outcome. Even though all official signs in government buildings and streets are bilingual, highlighting the Yiddish identity, Yiddish is not widely spoken or being taught in schools.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – May 2, 1959 (OSA)**

The Czechoslovak Communist Party leaders in 1939 did not have the courage to resist Hitler nor did they consider it necessary, i.e. they did not dare to place themselves at the head of an organised resistance, Djuka Julius claims in the April 30th issue of the Belgrade paper "*Politika*."

**Soviet Union / U.S. – May 6, 1959 (LBC)**

According to a report by the *New York Times* the Soviet deputy minister of cultural affairs, who is staying in the U.S., requested the State Department to make possible a performance of the musical "My Fair Lady" in the Soviet Union.

**Yugoslavia / Indonesia – May 7, 1959 (KCA)**

The newly created Indonesian–Yugoslav economic commission holds its first meeting.

**Soviet Union / France / U.S. / U.K. – May 11, 1959 (LBC)**

The Geneva meeting of the foreign ministers of the U.S., Great Britain, France and the Soviet Union where talks begin on German reunification, Berlin's status and the problems of a German peace treaty.

**Bulgaria / U.S. – May 13, 1959 (KCA)**

Restriction on travel by American citizens to Bulgaria are lifted.

**COMECON - May 13–16, 1959 (KCA/MMS)**

At the eleventh session of the COMECON in Tirana, plans are approved for specialization among the Eastern Bloc in the production of various types of equipment with the plan to reduce costs and increase output. Proposals are made for linking the power systems of the Eastern European countries and expanding coking-coal resources. It is also envisaged trade with Asian socialist countries.

**Czechoslovakia – May 14, 1959 (OSA)**

Since collectivization has not solved Czechoslovakia's agricultural production woes, new pricing regulations and purchasing mechanisms will be introduced to stimulate production, although exact details were not announced at this stage.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia - 14 May, 1959**

After Tito's deputy Edvard Kardelj had claimed on May 4th and 5th that Yugoslavia's agriculture had achieved great successes because of the abandonment of the "Stalin-type" collectivization, the May 12th issue of Zagreb daily "*Vjesnik*" carries a report from the "Tanjug" Prague correspondent, Pero Ivacic, stressing that agricultural collectivisation "was not able to solve the problem" in Czechoslovakia. The whole tenor of Ivacic's report from Prague was that

"bureaucratic measures" taken in Czechoslovakia's agricultural sector have largely contributed to the failures in production and labour productivity.

**Bulgaria / Greece – May 15, 1959 (KCA)**

A Note is presented in Sofia by the Greek Government calling on the Bulgarian Government to begin paying the war reparations due to Greece, which had been fixed at \$45,000,000.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – May 15, 1959 (KAC)**

The Western Package Plan is criticized by Gromyko as attempting to solve all four separate questions in one tangled solution. He believes this attempt will bring the process to a deadlock. He proposes the Ministers start with the German peace treaty and recommends that they follow the Soviet proposal for the treaty. Lloyd responded that all the various questions should be discussed one by one but that they are connected and cannot be solved in isolation. Herter criticized the proposed Soviet draft for a peace treaty for Germany, emphasizing that it would only be valid if signed with a united Germany.

**Soviet Union / West Germany – May 19, 1959 (KAC)**

Gromyko calls on the Western Powers to recognize the existence of two German states. Dr. Grewe of West Germany rejects the Soviet draft treaty on the grounds that it will perpetuate the division of Germany.

**Hungary – May 20, 1959 (OSA)**

85 million forints of state subsidies is issued to Churches in Hungary.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria / Macedonia - 21 May, 1959 (OSA)**

The Secretary of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Macedonia, Lazar Kolishevski, said at the opening session of the Third Congress of the Macedonian Communist Party that "the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party has resolutely and openly set out along the road of Greater Bulgarian nationalism, along the road of open pressure on the population of the Pirin Macedonia aimed at complete disfranchisement and assimilation." According to the documents, the same accusation has been continually used by the Albanians who have charged Tito with "disenfranchisement and assimilation" of the Albanian minority in Yugoslavia.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – May 24, 1959 (LBC)**

A five-year Anglo-Soviet commercial agreement is signed in Moscow. In the first year of the contract the annual British export to the Soviet Union would be raised by one third from 57 million pounds, and the 30-million-pound Soviet export to Britain by the same amount. The agreement would involve the exchange of machines, factories, textile, agricultural products and raw materials and for the first time the Anglo-Soviet exchange of consumer goods – cars, clothes, wine, medicine and shoes.

**Albania / Soviet Union – May 25-June 4, 1959 (KCA)**

A Soviet delegation including Khrushchev and Marshal Malinovsky is on an official visit to Albania. Khrushchev publicly condemns the establishment of U.S. missile bases in Italy, and warns Greece not to follow suit or the Soviet Union may set up similar bases in Albania. On **July 3**, the Soviet Union signed an agreement with Albania to build a Palace of Culture in the Albanian capital; provide technical assistance in the construction of industry; train Albanian workers and engineers and make the services of Soviet specialists available for these projects; and to grant Albania a long-term credit of up to 300 million rubles.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / Western Powers – May 26, 1959 (KAC)**

Detailed Western proposals on Berlin providing for the unification of the city after free elections are presented. Herter repudiated the Soviet and East German claim that Berlin was the capital of the GDR.

**Yugoslavia / Scandinavia – May 26, 1959 (MOL)**

Yugoslav Minister of Foreign Affairs Edvard Kardelj leaves for a three-week visit to Scandinavia.

**Bulgaria / U.N. – May 26, 1959 (KCA)**

The International Court of Justice ruled that it had no claim of jurisdiction on the case brought by Israel against Bulgaria in connection with the shooting-down of an Israeli airliner over Bulgarian territory on **July 27, 1955**. The claim was for damages of \$2,658,144. The Court upheld Bulgaria's claim that it never accepted the compulsory jurisdiction of the present International Court set up under the United Nations.

**Soviet Union – May 30, 1959 (KAC)** Gromyko reiterates that Western forces cannot remain in Berlin on their present basis.

**Romania – May 31, 1959 (OSA)**

The Romanian broadcast show, Satire and Humour at the Micro, released a musical interpretation of the recent murder of 10 black men in Little Rock, USA. This caused the party to accuse the station of turning humour into melodrama and turning "their aim away from their target."

**June****Hungary – June, 1959 (OSA)**

The catholic journal, *Vigilia* urges for the publishing of new books relating to sexuality in the Catholic spirituality after the state's permission to publish Catholic books.

**U.S. / Greece – June 1959 (PLC)**

U.S. deploys missiles in Greece.

**Yugoslavia – June 1959 (ACY)**

The Congress of the League of Communists of Slovenia takes place in Ljubljana.

**Yugoslavia / Algeria / France – June 1959 (RYN)**

Tito meets with Ferhat Abbas, president of the provisional Algerian nationalist government-in-exile, and expresses his wish that both sides, France and the FLN, effect a peaceful solution of the civil war in Algeria. He carefully refrains from extending diplomatic recognition out of the belief that French President Charles De Gaulle is genuinely seeking a peaceful solution and restraining precipitate action by the „ultras.“ A Yugoslav journalist, based in Paris, sums up official Belgrade's view with the observation that the Algerian problem has to be solved inside France.

**Yugoslavia / Sudan – June–July 1959 (KCA)**

Sudan and Yugoslavia sign a number of agreements including one for Cultural Cooperation and one for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation. On **May 7**, the Yugoslav and Sudanese Legations to Khartoum and Belgrade are raised to embassy status.

**Yugoslavia – June 2, 1959 (MOL)**

Yugoslav Minister of Foreign Affairs Edvard Kardelj states that Yugoslavia will never build a missile plant on its territory.

**Hungary – June 2, 1959 (HC)**

Decree 25:1959 of the Presidential Council about the establishment of the Állami Egyházügyi Hivatal (State Church Office) is publicized.

**East Germany – June 3, 1959 (KGD)**

A law is passed on the final phase of collectivization of agriculture; farmers who are still independent are forced by terror to join “voluntarily”.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – June 4, 1959 (HC)**

Khrushchev, the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party travels to Budapest for a three-day-long official visit.

**Greece / Soviet Union —June 5, 1959 (OSA)**

Greece responds to the Soviet note of May 14th, which warned against allowing guided-missile bases on the country's territory. The Greek reply reaffirmed that matters of defense were in Greece's jurisdiction and that Greece did not have the authority to answer to criticisms of the United States implied in the Soviet note. The response also drew attention to the fact that Greece is within range of attack by Soviet missiles and emphatically replied to Khrushchev's recent demand for Greece to withdraw from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, that such isolation was inconceivable.

**Yugoslavia / Germany / Albania – June, 5 1959 (OSA)**

News sources from Munich mention that there were two Soviet bloc rhetorical attacks on Yugoslavia during Khrushchev's visit to Albania and both were indirect. The first was in the speech by Khrushchev at Vlore. The second attack was contained in the joint statement from the Party and government delegations of the Soviet Union and Albania.

**Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – June 8, 1959 (MOL)**

An agreement between Yugoslavia and Bulgaria on scientific and technical cooperation is signed in Sofia.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – June 8-20, 1959 (KCA)**

An East German governmental delegation led by Prime Minister Grotewohl and Ulbricht visit the Soviet Union. A joint Soviet-East German communiqué was issued at the conclusion of the talks reaffirming the main points of Soviet policy on Germany: 1) the conclusion of a peace treaty with the two German States; 2) the establishment of a confederation of both German states as a step towards reunification; 3) the conclusion by both German States of a treaty renouncing the use of force under which both German States would renounce the production, acquisition, and possession of atomic weapons; 4) the conversion of West Berlin into a demilitarized free city. The communiqué also states that the value of trade between the Soviet Union and East Germany in 1959 would be over 7,000,000,000 rubles. As from **January 1**,

**1959** The East German Government is no longer required to pay the sum of 600,000,000 Eastern marks a year due as support costs for the Soviet troops stationed in East Germany.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – June 8-August 16, 1959 (KCA)**

The fourth stage of the Geneva Conference includes: 1) an American presentation on the question of detecting subterranean explosions; 2) appointment of a team of U.S., British, and Russian experts to consider the means of detecting high-altitude explosions; this leads to proposals for a system of earth satellites in outer space arranged as to ensure complete surveillance of the whole world. 3) Western proposals for ending the deadlock on inspection that were not accepted by the Soviet delegation.

**Poland / U.S. – June 10, 1959 (LBC)**

A new Polish-American credit and loan agreement is signed in Washington, which reduces the amount of U.S. aid to Warsaw by 50% as compared to the 1957-1958 level. According to the agreement Poland may purchase 44 million dollars' worth of American agricultural products for zlotys. Poland gets a loan of six million dollars to buy anti-polio vaccine and to finance the delivery of the agricultural goods from overseas.

**Hungary / Finland – June 10, 1959 (KCA)**

A cultural convention between Finland and Hungary is signed in Budapest.

**Czechoslovakia – June 12, 1959 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report on ethnic minorities in the CzR highlights that the regime does not grant autonomous rights to minorities, and that the Party sponsors or otherwise facilitates cultural and educational organizations in minority languages with the effect that these usually follow the Party's line.

**Yugoslavia / Greece – June 16-18, 1959 (KCA)**

A series of agreements are signed between Greece and Yugoslavia creating close cooperation in many spheres. The agreements cover: border traffic, indemnification of owners of Greek property nationalized in Yugoslavia, clearance of pre-war commercial credits, economic and technical cooperation, touristic cooperation, cultural cooperation, mutual judicial assistance, execution of court judgments in one country by the other, water economy, projects for linking the power transmission networks of the Greek Public Power Corporation and the Yugoslav electricity network, cooperation in the use of atomic energy for peaceful proposes, and procedures for the settlement of other pending issues. The two Foreign Ministers also discuss international problems. The connection of the Greek and Yugoslav power transmission networks is expected to be complete by Yugoslavia in April 1960.

**Romania / Eastern Bloc – June 20-27, 1959 (HC)**

The communist and workers parties of the socialist countries hold a conference in Bucharest.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 21, 1959 (CWC)**

The United States and The Soviet Union sign a two-year agreement on the exchange of scientists.

**East Germany / U.K. – June 23, 1959 (KCA)**

Dr. Klaus Fuchs arrives in East Berlin from the United Kingdom following his early release after serving nine years of his 14-year sentence for transmitting secret atomic information to agents of the Soviet Union.



### **Yugoslavia / China - 23 June, 1959 (OSA)**

China is the most discussed foreign country in the Yugoslav press. Two Yugoslav correspondents in Beijing, Djordje Bogojevio of "*Borba*" and Branko Bogunovic of "*Politika*" and "*Tanjug*", report almost daily on the "up-to-minute" situation in Mao's country. These reports are full of direct and indirect criticism, but their chief characteristic is an ironic tone aimed at creating the impression that the Chinese leaders may be good at propaganda, but not at actually leading the country.

### **Bulgaria – June 24, 1959 (KCA)**

A joint meeting of the Bulgarian Government and the central committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party produces the decision to increase Bulgaria's irrigated area from 1,500,000 acres to 5,000,000 acres by 1965. This would bring irrigation to over 40 percent of the cultivated area in an attempt to counteract recurring droughts and increase poultry, pig, and cattle production. The irrigation will be fed by the Danube.

### **Soviet Union / U.S. / France / U.K. / Balkans – June 25, 1959 (LBC)**

In a note the Soviet Union offers the U.S., France and Great Britain to create a nuclear free zone in the Balkans.

### **Yugoslavia / Latin America – June 25-August 19, 1959 (RYN)**

A Yugoslav goodwill mission visits Latin America. The purpose of the mission is to exchange views on international issues and present Yugoslavia's views on nonalignment and active peaceful coexistence; to encourage the expansion of trade and to establish closer relations with those countries Yugoslavia does not have permanent missions with, i. e. Colombia, Peru, Haiti, and Honduras; and to establish contacts with socialist parties in Latin America. Headed by Vladimir Popović, the mission also includes Jože Brilej, an undersecretary of foreign affairs, Borivoje Jelić, a member of the Planning Council, and Stane Juznić, one of Yugoslavia's eminent specialists on Latin America. The mission starts its visit in Mexico, and moves, successively, to Costa Rica, Honduras, Cuba, Haiti, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Argentina, and Brazil. They bring personal letters from Tito to the presidents of Mexico, Venezuela, and Bolivia. The mission is generally considered a success.

### **Soviet Union / U.S. – June 28, 1959 (LBC)**

Soviet first deputy premier Frol L. Kozlov arrives in New York to open a Soviet scientific, technological and cultural exhibition. – According to Khrushchev's message, "The Soviet people are deeply convinced that *differences in our way of life and in our political social systems* should not be an obstacle to fruitful cooperation...between the Soviet Union and the United States." According to Vice President Nixon not only the lack of understanding is forestalling peaceful and friendly relations and the summit will not solve the tensions of the world. Nixon stated: despite "basic conflicts of interest and deeply clashing ideologies" "patience and understanding" by US and Soviet leaders would prevent "those differences" from developing "into a conflict which would result in the destruction of our civilization." – **June 30.** Kozlov-Eisenhower meeting. – **July 1.** – Kozlov meets Secretary of State Herter and Senate leaders. – **July 2.** Kozlov's proposal: The Soviet Union will withdraw from the GDR, Poland, and Hungary if the West pulls out from the FRG and the rest of the Western allies.

### **Yugoslavia / U.K. – June 29, 1959 (LBC)**

British-Yugoslav trade agreement is signed in the framework of which Yugoslavia imports goods worth 36-42 million dollars and will deliver commodities in the value of 42-53 million dollars to England.

**Poland – June 30, 1959 (KCA)**

The population of Poland totals 29,257,000 as published by the Polish Central Statistical Office.

**Hungary – June 30, 1959 (HC)**

*Népszabadság* (the HSWP's daily) publishes the principles of the central committee of the Communist Youth Alliance about the ideological and political education of the Hungarian youth.

**July****Latvia – July 1959 (PLC)**

Large scale purge begins in Latvian Communist Party.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – July-August 1959 (KCA)**

The major Powers of the Geneva Conference adopt new policies on nuclear testing. On **July 30**, the United Kingdom Home Secretary states that Britain will not resume nuclear testing as long as negotiations continue in Geneva. On **August 26**, the U.S. Government announces it will extend its voluntary suspension of tests until the end of the year with respect to the Geneva Conference. On **August 18**, the Soviet Government states that it will not resume nuclear tests providing the Western Powers do not do so whilst the Geneva Conference continues.

**Hungary – July 2, 1959 (OSA)**

More than 150 000 copies of books were published which aimed to discredit the Churches and explaining atheist philosophy since the beginning of the year.

**Hungary / Guinea – July 3-7, 1959 (HC)**

A Guinean governmental delegation travels to Hungary.

**Bulgaria – July 4, 1959 (KCA)**

The Bulgarian National Assembly approves an educational reform law designed to link education more closely with “productive work.” The reform includes using more evening and correspondence courses and extending the period of compulsory education to the age of 16, which may be followed by a four-year polytechnic course or one-to-three years at a trade school.

**East Germany / West Germany – July 4, 1959 (KCA)**

It is announced that 74,377 inhabitants of the Soviet Zone (the GDR) had entered Western Germany or West Berlin as refugees during the first half of 1959. Nearly half of them people under 25 years of age.

**Hungary / U.S. – July 6, 1959 (KAC)**

The Hungarian Government informs the U.S. Legation in Budapest that American diplomats are not allowed to travel more than 25 miles from the center of Budapest without special permission. The Legation is accused of “machinations against the Hungarian people's way of life.” On **July 7** the U.S. State Department announces that Hungarian diplomats will not be allowed to travel more than 25 miles from the center of Washington/New York without permission.

**Soviet Union / Latvia – July 7-8, 1959 (PLC)**

During a closed-door meeting of the Latvian Communist Party's leadership, measures are taken against proponents of "Latvian nationalism."

**Czechoslovakia / India – July 7, 1959 (KCA)**

A five-year cultural agreement between Czechoslovakia and India is signed.

**Soviet Union / France / NATO / U.S. – July 8, 1959 (LBC)**

NATO withdraws 200 jet bombers from France and deploys them in Britain and the FRG. The reason: France rejected the deployment of nuclear forces on its own territory unless it received the right to decide on their employment. – **July 11.** The Department of State rejects Khrushchev's proposal concerning a nuclear free zone in the Balkans.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. / Germany – July 13-August 5, 1959 (PLC)**

Second round of foreign ministers' conference in Geneva, dealing with the German question. Participation of the GDR signals its *de facto* recognition by the West. No agreement is reached, but the communiqué states that the positions of both sides have "become closer", and assurance was given by both sides that neither side would resort to unilateral action at the expiration of any interim arrangements for Berlin.

**Soviet Union – July 13, 1959 (KCA)**

The Communist Party Central Committee directs party cells inside industrial and trading enterprises to form special commissions to "implement the right of party organizations to control the activity of managements." These commissions will be elected annually at cell meeting and will be responsible for constantly checking on production targets and the quality of output.

**Poland / Soviet Union – July 14, 1959 (KCA)**

Khrushchev arrives in Warsaw for an official visit to Poland – his first since the 1956 crisis. After touring the country, he reaffirms the Soviet guarantee of the Oder-Neisse frontier and appeals for a nuclear-free zone extending from Scandinavia to the Balkan Peninsula. Khrushchev praises Gomulka's policy and condemns his 'dogmatist' (i.e. Stalinist) opponents. A joint statement is issued on **July 22** by Khrushchev and Gomulka stating that if the situation in West Berlin is not resolved, the Soviet Union and Poland will support Eastern Germany in any measures which it considers necessary.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 15, 1959 (LBC)**

Khrushchev invites Eisenhower for a visit to the USSR. – **July 21.** Eisenhower declares that he lost hope regarding a summit with Khrushchev. He pledges not to use nuclear weapons against Eastern Europe, which are "despite all provocations" the "friends" of the U.S.

**Yugoslavia – July 18, 1959 (ACY)**

Patriarch German goes to Skopje and the next day he and Metropolitan Dositej together consecrate the new elected Bishop of Prespa-Bitola.

**Poland – July 20, 1959 (KCA)**

Cabinet changes are announced in Warsaw. Franciszek Waniolka becomes the Minister of Heavy Industry and Jan Mitrega becomes the Minister of Mining and Power. Kiejstut Zemajtis becomes Deputy Chairman of the State Planning Commission.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria- 21 July, 1959 (OSA)**

The Yugoslavs claim that the Bulgarian boasting over their "extraordinary economic successes" is aimed only at hiding the real situation which "as the facts show" is much poorer. Consequently, the Soviet bloc press, when lauding the allegedly huge Bulgarian economic successes and comparing them with the supposed Yugoslav economic failures, is only empty propaganda as a part of the struggle against the so-called "Yugoslav revisionism."

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 22, 1959 (LBC)**

Vice President Nixon arrives to Moscow. – **July 24.** Televised debate between Nixon and Khrushchev. The debate was shown on Soviet television two days later, according to American judgment with inadequate translation. – **August 1.** Nixon's televised farewell address: he condemns the idea of "peaceful coexistence" since it reinforces the division of the world into two hostile blocs.

**Hungary – July 25, 1959 (HC)**

Decree 29:1959 of the Presidential Council extends the compulsory education. (From 6 years of age throughout 9 years)

**Hungary / Soviet Union – July 27, 1959 (HC)**

Hungarian-Soviet Diplomatic talks begin in Moscow about the further development of the economic cooperation between the two countries. (**August 7** agreement about the exchange of commodities that is valid from 1961 to 1965.)

**Czechoslovakia – July 28, 1959 (OSA)**

The Central Committee has decided to terminate or reduce state aid for collective farms – including subsidies and tax reductions – now that 80% of agricultural land has been successfully collectivized and the Central Committee no longer needs to attract farmers to collectives.

**Hungary / China – July 29, 1959 (HC)**

The parliament passes the Hungarian-Chinese friendship agreement of April 27th into law. (1959: III law)

**Hungary – July 30, 1959 (HC)**

The parliament accepts the 1959: VI law about Civil Law.

**Poland July 31, 1959 (HDP)**

Government proclaims a "Meatless Mondays" campaign in order to deal with meat shortages in Poland.

**August****Romania – August, 1959 (OSA)**

Gogu Radulescu, the former Romanian Deputy Minister of Trade was officially appointed to the position of full Minister of Trade on this date. At this time, the Romanians were largely exporting oil for turbo-jet engines.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – August 1, 1959 (HC)**

Hungary and Yugoslavia sign a contract about the exchange of commodities for the period between 1960 and 1962 in Budapest.

**Poland / U.S. – August 2 – 5, 1959 (PSM/LBC)**

Vice-president of the United States Richard Nixon visits Poland, and meets Polish party first secretary Gomulka. Poland wants the United States to give it again the most-favored-nation clause but the US demands first financial compensations for the nationalization of the American citizens' property. The agreement on this matter is signed in Washington on **July 16, 1960**. As a result, on **November 17, 1960** Poland regains the clause of most-favored-nation.

**Hungary – August 4, 1959 (HC)**

József Révai, communist ideologist and cultural politician dies.

**Albania / Yugoslavia – August 8, 1959 (MOL)**

Yugoslavia re-establishes its diplomatic ties with Albania. The Albanian Ambassador to Yugoslavia returns to Belgrade after being on leave for almost a year. This is a signal of the Albanian government's willingness to resume normal relations with Yugoslavia following the abandonment of its propaganda campaign against Yugoslavia in May.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. / West Germany – August 9, 1959 (PLC)**

Western powers' alternative plan at the foreign ministers' conference in Geneva proposes to unify Berlin in free elections, to create a unified German national assembly and to sign peace treaty.

**Romania – August 11, 1959 (KCA)**

Bucharest Radio announces that Gheorghe Radulescu, has been appointed Minister of Commerce, replacing Marcel Popescu. Other changes in government are also announced.

**Hungary – August 15, 1959 (HC)**

Government resolution 38:1959 about the family allowance are publicized.

**Soviet Union – August 18, 1959 (KCA)**

Moscow Radio announces that the hire-purchase system will be introduced for the first time. This formerly rejected "capitalist" method will allow certain goods to be available for a down payment deducted from the purchaser's wages.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 25, 1959 (LBC)**

US Vice President Richard Nixon concedes that "a major objection" to Eisenhower's visit to Moscow is "the effect it may have on the captive peoples of Eastern Europe". He pledged Eisenhower "will not be taken in or bluffed" at the Khrushchev meeting and will continue to represent the cause of freedom "vigorously, firmly and aggressively". He states: "you can be sure that under no circumstances will this exchange...result in [U.S.] statements or actions...indicating our approval or acquiescence in the status of the captive peoples... We will continue to support with peaceful means realization of the objective that the [satellite] peoples ...be given the opportunity to choose the kind of governments they want". Nixon rejects the "so called war of liberation that would liberate only dead bodies and ruined cities".

**Eastern Europe / U.S. – August 27, 1959 (LBC)**

Eisenhower declares on Eastern Europe that under his presidency nobody in America will speak about stable peace before the East European peoples can give expression to their convictions, views and wishes on their own future.

**Hungary / Japan – August 29, 1959 (HC)**

Hungary and Japan sign a contract about the establishment of the diplomatic relations.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 30, 1959 (LBC)**

In connection with his trip to the US, Khrushchev expresses his “burning desire” to make peace and his firm resolution to take the steps, which would melt the ice of the cold war. – **August 31.** The newly created Senate Freedom for all Nations Committee declares a week of mourning for the victims of communism during the Khrushchev visit.

**East Germany – August 31, 1959 (KCA)**

East German authorities announce that Dr. Klaus Fuchs has been appointed deputy director of the East German Central Institute for Nuclear Physics.

**September****Hungary – September 1960 (KCA)**

The Hungarian Writers’ Union, banned in January 1957, is re-established, but no literary or artistic activities “aimed against the legal order of the State” will be tolerated.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / Germany – September 3, 1959 (LBC)**

Khrushchev’s conditions for peaceful coexistence: the West should give up the principle of rolling back communism; acceptance of the Soviet proposals for Germany and Berlin; the abolition of American trade restrictions against the Soviet Union. He condemns the congress’s resolution on the “liberation of captive nations” and defends the idea of peaceful coexistence.

**Yugoslavia / Greece – September 6-13, 1959 (KCA)**

The Greek Deputy Premier and the Minister of Commerce visit Yugoslavia for conversations with a vice-president of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council. A joint communiqué states that both countries are determined to increase their economic cooperation further. Yugoslav exports to Greece in 1958 totalled \$11,600,000 and Greek exports to Yugoslavia to \$10,000,000 a 100% increase for both over 1955’s exports. The main Greek exports to Yugoslavia are cotton and semi-tropical fruit, and the primary Yugoslav exports to Greece are canned food, meat, and livestock.

**Soviet Union – September 12, 1959 (PLC)**

The first Soviet rocket sent to the Moon is launched and it soon reaches the Moon’s surface. The USSR declares it has no territorial claims on the Moon.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / Western Allies – September 15-27, 1959 (NNT)**

Khrushchev withdraws the Berlin ultimatum and announces a policy of “peaceful coexistence”.

### **Soviet Union / U.S. – September 15, 1959 (CAC/LBC)**

Khrushchev arrives in Washington for a two-week visit. His meeting with Eisenhower encourages his belief in the possibility of achieving a solution to the Berlin question on Soviet terms. He conducts a “friendly and frank” discussion with Eisenhower. Both underline their respective nation’s responsibility for peace. Khrushchev urges the German-German road to Germany’s unification and the increase of trade relations. – **September 18.** Khrushchev calls for disarmament: full military disarmament in four years; the liquidation of foreign bases; the liquidation of atomic and hydrogen weapons; only police units of limited size armed with small arms can remain in each country. Khrushchev offers a five-step disarmament plan in case the West rejects the proposal: the establishment of a control and observation zone on the territory of Western Europe with the reduction of foreign forces; nuclear free zone in Central Europe; the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Europe and the liquidation of military bases on foreign territory; non-aggression treaty between NATO and the Warsaw Pact; agreement on defense against surprise attacks. – **September 17.** Disarmament proposal by the West: test ban treaty; agreement among the great powers on the maximum size of armed forces; new talks on surprise attack, on the peaceful use of space and control; the reduction of conventional and nuclear arms; halting the production of nuclear arms, the reduction of nuclear arms stocks with the international control of fissionable material, guarantees against surprise attack, the establishment of an international system for maintaining peace; general disarmament under international supervision with a ban on the production and use of weapons of mass destruction, the liquidation of remaining nuclear arms stocks, the final reduction of armed forces to an internationally agreed level, the international supervision of military budgets, a global system to maintain peace.

### **Soviet Union – September 15, 1959 (KCA)**

The atomic icebreaker *Lenin* departs from Leningrad for her maiden voyage. The *Lenin* is powered by three nuclear reactors, can cut a 100-ft. channel through any ice and can cruise for a year without needing to return to a port. She is designed to provide a 11,000-mile link between Murmansk and Vladivostok by keeping open this north-east trade route. The *Lenin* is the first atom-powered ship in commission.

### **Soviet Union / U.S. – September 15, 1959 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union stops jamming U.S. „Voice of America” broadcasts to the USSR. Broadcasts to the satellite countries and broadcasts in Lithuanian, Estonian, and Latvian continue to be jammed as well as broadcasts by “Radio Free Europe” and “Radio Liberation.”

### **U.N. – September 15, 1959 (KCA)**

The 14th session of the U.N. General Assembly opens. Amongst the 70-items on the agenda that directly involved Eastern Europe were disarmament, nuclear tests, peaceful uses of outer space, the Hungarian situation, the Korean situation, and Chinese representation at the United Nations.

### **Soviet Union – September 19, 1959 (KCA)**

A joint statement is issued by the Soviet Council of Ministers, the Central Committee of the Communist Party, and the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions announcing the reduction of the working day to seven hours for all factory and office employees with a maximum working week of 41 hours, and to six hours for miners and other underground workers, with a maximum working week of 35 hours. When the reductions take effect on **October 1, 1959**, an increase in the minimum wage and revised wage scales will also come into effect. **October 15, 1959:** A joint statement is issued by the Council of Ministers and the

Communist Party Central Committee that criticizes the quantity and quality of Soviet consumer goods as inadequate and puts forward targets for increased production. **August 18, 1959:** Moscow Radio announces that the hire-purchase system will be introduced for the first time. This formerly rejected “capitalist” method will allow certain goods to be available for a down payment deducted from the purchaser’s wages.

#### **East Germany – September 22, 1959 (OSA)**

A new national flag for the German Democratic Republic, with the state emblem before the traditional horizontal stripes in black, red, and gold, is presented in the SED paper ‘*Neues Deutschland*’ following its approval by the East German cabinet. The approval (largely ceremoniously) by the *Volkskammer* happened at a later date.

#### **Romania – September 23, 1959 (OSA)**

The Romanian Communist newspaper, “*Scanteia*”, published an article entitled “Against an Apologetic Attitude in Literary Art Criticism.” The author condemned the recent praise some Romanian critics had laid upon published works. This praise was accused of lowering the efficiency of criticism in the Romanian literary field.

#### **Soviet Union / U.S. – September 26, 1959 (LBC)**

Agreement on a Soviet-American medical research program. The agreement envisions research on cancer, cardiac disease and poliomyelitis.

#### **Soviet Union / U.S. – September 27, 1959 (LBC)**

Khrushchev concludes his U.S. visit. Joint communiqué with President Eisenhower: all international problems need to be resolved with peaceful means; the talks on Berlin will resume so as to reach an acceptable solution to the parties involved for the sake of peace; disarmament is the most important issue, both sides will take constructive steps to solve the issue; Eisenhower’s planned visit for the Fall will take place next spring. – Khrushchev states that he is willing to have the summit anywhere; peace treaty must be signed with Germany, simultaneously with disarmament observation must develop; the “Soviet Union is not a colony but a great industrial power...so if there is any intention to sell [us] sausages or shoes...you would not find a market for those goods”. (...) “But we are prepared to develop trade with you to buy what we need...and that includes both industrial products and consumer goods”.

#### **East Germany – September 30, 1959 (PLC)**

Following the Soviet example, the GDR also accepts a Seven Year Plan.

#### **Soviet Union / U.S. – September 30, 1959 (LBC)**

Undersecretary of State Dillon announces that the Eisenhower administration will be willing to relax the U.S. trade restrictions if there will be an agreement on Soviet World War II lend lease debts.

### **October**

#### **Soviet Union / U.S. – October 1, 1959 (LBC)**

The U.S. secretary of agriculture makes a visit to Moscow where he preaches in Moscow’s central Baptist church in front of 1500 people.



### **East Germany – October 1, 1959 (KCA)**

The *Volkskammer* passes a bill adopting a new East German flag. The flag is three horizontal stripes of black, red, and gold with a central coat-of-arms consisting of a hammer and compass surrounded by a sheaf of grain. The flying of the flag in West Berlin has created incidents with the police. **October 28**, the West German Minister of the Interior announces that whenever the flying of the East German flag violates the constitutional order of West Germany, police action will be taken. Also, the Seven-Year Plan for 1959-65 is approved by the *Volkskammer*. Among other goals, the Plan is designed to reach maximum labor productivity within the shortest possible period of time; to bring about an improvement in meeting the needs of the population; and to surpass West Germany in labor productivity. In Industrial production, the plan is designed to reach a gross production level of 188 percent of the 1958 level, including increasing consumer goods by 177 percent. In agricultural production the desire is to surpass West German agriculture in relative output of meat, milk, and eggs, and in productivity per hectare for crops. Merchant marine tonnage will be increased from 140,000 to 480,000. Foreign trade will increase to 25,000,000,000 DM from 14,500,000,000 through an increase in imports. Compulsory education will be extended to 10 years. All the cities destroyed by the war must be rebuilt by 1965. This Seven-Year Plan marks the abandonment of the Five-year Plan adopted in 1958, following the Soviet example.

### **Soviet Bloc – October 11, 1959 (KCA/MMS)**

The Tass Agency announces that the USSR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, and East Germany have signed an agreement to build a network of relay and cable lines for the exchange of television programs. Providing appropriate cultural arrangements are concluded, the USSR Ministry of Communications believes that the East European TV network can be connected to the West European Eurovision system by 1962.

### **Ukraine / Soviet Union – October 15, 1959 (PLC)**

The KGB has Ukrainian nationalist leader Stepan Bandera assassinated in Munich.

### **Soviet Union – October 15, 1959 (KCA)**

A joint statement is issued by the Council of Ministers and the Communist Party Central Committee that criticizes the quantity and quality of Soviet consumer goods as inadequate and puts forward targets for increased production.

### **Soviet Union / Italy – October 15-18, 1959 (KCA)**

The Italian Minister for Foreign Trade visits Moscow for talks with Khrushchev and the Soviet Minister of Foreign Trade. The discussions covered 1) the fate of thousands of Italian prisoners of war missing in the USSR 2) the opening of cultural agreement negotiations; and 3) the development of Soviet-Italian trade exchanges. On **October 18** a joint communiqué is issued in Moscow on the question of prisoners of war. The communiqué states that "the Soviet side declared that all Italian P.O.W.s who had been on Soviet territory had been repatriated... none of them had been retained on any pretext or were now being retained. The Italian side confidently accepted the Soviet statement." The Red Cross societies of both countries will continue their cooperation on obtaining information on missing persons. Regarding Italo-Soviet trade it was decided, inter alia, that the volume of commercial exchanges should be greatly increased in 1960.

### **Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 21, 1959 (HC)**

In the liberal arts college of Újvidék in Vajdaság (Hungarian-inhabited area in Yugoslavia) a Hungarian department begins to operate.

**Hungary – October 22, 1959 (HC)**

The Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party holds an extended parliamentary session. (It passes orders about the objectives of the collective farms and about extension of the regional party organizations' scope.)

**Hungary / U.S. – October 22, 1959 (LBC)**

Statement by the State Department on the third anniversary of the Hungarian revolution: The uprising will "live in history as the symbol of a people's sacrifice in the cause of independence".

- **October 23.** The US representative in the U.N., Cabot-Lodge again demands that Hungary admit the U.N. representative responsible for Hungarian affairs, Sir Leslie Munro.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria / Macedonia – 26 October, 1959 (OSA)**

The Skoplje daily "*Nova Makedonija*" of October 22nd publishes a report by Sveto Serafimov dealing with the visit of the theatre company of Prilep (a town in Yugoslav Macedonia) to Bulgaria. The Bulgarian leaders are being accused of "hypocrisy" in their attitude toward Yugoslavia.

**Yugoslavia – October 27, 1959 (MOL)**

On the occasion of the 40 anniversary of the foundation of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, Edvard Kardelj speaks in Maribor and sets forth that it is possible to avoid the third world war and that the current *status quo* be considered as the starting point for the settlement of international disputes.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – October 27-December 23, 1959 (KCA)**

The fifth stage of the Geneva Conference includes the setting up of another three-Power technical working group to study the problem of detection and identification of subterranean nuclear explosions. There are fundamental divergences between the American and Soviet scientists on the question of the ability to differentiate between suspected nuclear explosions underground and natural phenomena. On **November 24**, a three-Power technical "package" plan is presented by Tsarapkin designed to dispel "the spirit of stagnation." The package has three different proposals for the Control Commission, the staffing of control posts, and voting on financial and budgetary questions. The Western delegates welcome the package but add that it requires further consideration. No additional articles are added, but a draft annexed dealing with how the Control Commission would be brought into operation is agreed upon.

**Soviet Union / Canada – October 28, 1959 (KCA)**

An exchange of lectures and scientific research workers during 1960 is arranged between Canada and the USSR.

**Soviet Union – October 31, 1959 (LBC)**

Khrushchev's speech in the Supreme Soviet: the nations should make "mutual concessions" for the sake of peaceful coexistence. These concessions will not be of ideological nature or in matters of principle from the part of the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union is ready to accept partial disarmament with supervision; wants to achieve the ban of nuclear arms, first the nuclear test ban, the establishment of a control and observation zone and a nuclear free zone in Central Europe. - Lee Harvey Oswald, a marine, Kennedy's future assassin, files for Soviet citizenship.

## **November**

### **Romania – November 2, 1959 (OSA)**

The second Plenum of the Council of the Union of Romanian Student Associations took place on this date. Debates were held discussing improvements in student responsibility for their learning. According to data the percentage of students who sat exams in the 1958-1959 academic year increased to 93% from 88% the year prior.

### **France / NATO – November 3, 1959 (LBC)**

French President De Gaulle in a speech at the Military Academy threatens to withdraw France from NATO's integrated military organization and restores national command over French armed forces. If a nation is forced to fight a war it has to be its own war and must defend itself with its own means. De Gaulle warns that he cannot conceive a defense concept in which France "loses its identity". The French President comes out in favor of developing a French nuclear force. – **November 10.** De Gaulle announces that the French force de frappe will contribute to global balance and will not upset the present nuclear balance. According to the President the French force will preclude the division of the world by the great powers. It is conceivable that one day Western Europe will be destroyed from Moscow and Central Europe from Washington, de Gaulle said. The President rejects joining the British-American-Soviet pledge to refrain from surface test explosions.

### **Yugoslavia – November 6, 1959 (KCA)**

Vladimir Dedijer is allowed to leave Yugoslavia with his family for a Research Fellowship at the University of Manchester. Dedijer was tried and convicted for hostility to the regime and given a suspended sentence of six months imprisonment in 1955. The fellowship was offered in 1957, but the Yugoslav Government would not grant him a passport at the time.

### **Czechoslovakia – November 10–17, 1959 (OSA)**

The International Union of Students hosts the inaugural 'International Students' Week of Peace and Friendship' – including an International Student Peace Conference – to mark the anniversary of nine Prague students being executed by the Nazis in 1939. (These students had been identified as instigators of the protests at Jan Optal's killing at the national demonstration against Nazi rule, held on the anniversary of the Czechoslovak state's foundation in October).

### **Yugoslavia / Italy – November 11–14, 1959 (MOL)**

Italian Deputy Foreign Minister Alberto Folchi visits Yugoslavia and discuss the strengthening of relations between the two countries.

### **East Germany – November 15, 1959 (PLC)**

German Social-democratic Party's new program accepted at the party's **November 13-15** Bad Godesberg congress forswears all Marxist ideas in favor of German Democratic Socialism.

### **Hungary – November 15, 1959 (HC)**

Decree 43:1959 of the Termelőszövetkezeti Vagyonkezelési Alap (Fund for the handling of the assets of the collective farms) is publicized.

### **Romania / U.S. – November 16, 1959 (KCA)**

Negotiations open between the United States and Romania regarding outstanding financial questions.

**China - 17 November, 1959 (OSA)**

In conjunction with the "merciless struggle" against "right wing opportunists" the Chinese leaders have revived the 1958 "big leap forward" campaign, which in the past caused great human suffering.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 18, 1959 (LBC)**

The U.S. Department of Commerce rejects pleas by several American companies for permission to export to the USSR 15.5 million dollars' worth of stainless steel and 176 million dollars' worth of chemicals. The decision was made under the embargo on the shipment of strategic goods to the Soviet Union. On the other hand, the export of 5.6 million dollars' worth of textile machinery received the green light.

**Soviet Union / Guinea – November 19-26, 1959 (KCA)**

President Toure of Guinea visits the Soviet Union. The two governments sign a cultural cooperation agreement, and issue a communiqué on disarmament, colonial systems, peaceful co-existence, and economic cooperation. On **November 26** the first Guinean Ambassador is appointed to Moscow; on **January 2, 1960** the first Soviet Ambassador is appointed to Conkary.

**Yugoslavia / China – 19 November, 1959 (OSA)**

The Belgrade daily "*Borba*" of November 18th denied Western and Nepalese reports according to which Yugoslavia's ambassador to India and delegated to Nepal, Dusan Kveder, stated on November 10th that Chinese aggression against India, if allowed to develop, could pose a threat to Nepal as well.

**EFTA – November 20-29, 1959 (PLC)**

Stockholm Convention: Great Britain, Denmark, Norway, Austria, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland (the "Outer Seven") create the European Free Trade Association (EFTA). The treaty, signed on **January 4th**, comes into force on **May 3rd, 1959**.

**Hungary – November 20, 1959 (HC)**

The Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party readmits several ex-members of the Hungarian Workers' Party.

**Romania – November 20-21, 1959 (OSA)**

The Literary Section of the Romanian Writers Union held a meeting in which two Romanian poets, Ovid S. Grohmalniceanu and Paul Georgescu, presented their newest work. This work was met with open criticism given in the hopes of guiding the poets to create work with more "militant and patriotic spirit."

**U.N. – November 20, 1959 (HC)**

The general assembly of the United Nations strongly proposes that it considers the general and complete disarmament the most important priority in world politics.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – November 21, 1959 (MOL)**

Analyzing the Soviet-Yugoslav relations, Yugoslav Foreign Minister Koča Popović emphasizes the gradual improvements between Yugoslavia and its neighbors – Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria. However, Albania continues its slander against Yugoslavia.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 21, 1959 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union concludes cultural and scientific agreements with the United States.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – November 21, 1959 (KCA)**

A trade agreement covering the years 1961-1965 is signed by the Soviet Union and East Germany. The agreement envisages commercial exchanges of 50,000,000,000 rubles during the six-year period. It is claimed that this agreement is “the biggest trade treaty in world history.” The USSR will provide the GDR with over 32,000,000 tons of coal, 5,000,000 tons of coke, 12,000,000 tons of iron-ore, 15,000,000 tons of rolled steel, pig iron, and tubing, 17,000,000 tons of oil and 8,500,000 cubic meters of timber. The USSR will also export to the GDR grain, butter, meat, cars, machinery, oil-drilling equipment, ball-bearings, and other items. East German exports to the USSR will consist of machinery, rolling –stock and ships worth 16,000,000,000 rubles including refrigerator wagons, passenger coaches, sea-going freighters, passenger ships, and equipment for light industries. A large variety of chemicals and consumer goods will also be exported to the USSR. 95 percent of all East German oil imports will come from the Soviet Union as well as almost 100 percent of East Germany’s iron ore.

**Hungary / U.N. – November 23, 1959 (HC)**

The procedural committee of the United Nations –despite of the protest of the Hungarian delegation – suggest to the general assembly to put the “Hungarian question” on schedule. (November 26 the general assembly puts the “Hungarian question” on schedule.)

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 24, 1959 (LBC/KCA)**

An agreement on cooperation in research into the peaceful uses of atomic energy and thermonuclear energy is signed in Washington by the chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission and the head of the Soviet Central Atomic Energy Board. The agreement allows for Soviet–American talks on the subject of nuclear research.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – November 24, 1959 (KCA)**

The first of the annual governmental talks envisaged in the Macmillan–Khrushchev agreement on **March 3, 1959** opens in London.

**Yugoslavia / Cambodia – November 25-December 7, 1959 (MOL)**

Cambodian Prime Minister Norodom Sihanouk visits Yugoslavia.

**Czechoslovakia / Guinea – November 27-30, 1959 (KCA)**

President Toure of Guinea visits Czechoslovakia and concludes a cultural agreement.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – November 29, 1959 (HC)**

The Presidential Council officially supports the call of the Soviet Union to the governments of the world about general disarmament.

**Hungary – November 30-December 5, 1959 (KCA)**

The seventh congress of the Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party, the first held since May 1954, opens in Budapest. In the opening statement First Secretary Janos Kadar discusses the 1956 revolution and states that Soviet troops will remain present “while the international situation makes it necessary.” Kadar blames two factors for the uprising: 1) the mistakes of Matyas Rakosi including “failure to take into account Hungarian conditions and national characteristics, the violation of party discipline and democracy, the violation of legality, and the distortion of economic policy.” 2) the “unprecedented treachery” of Imre Nagy which

“extended from faction-forming within the party to both secret and open alliance with the bourgeoisie and imperialists, the class treachery of giving up the workers’ power, and the high treason of urging intervention by the imperialists.” Kadar says that the initiators, leaders, and organizers of the uprising and those who had committed murder should be punished, but those who had been “deluded and misled” should be forgiven. He states that the most serious subversive work and differences are with the U.S. The draft proposals for the Five-Year Plan for 1961-1965 are placed before the congress. The plan envisages an increase of 65-70 percent in industrial production, 30-32 percent in agricultural production, 72-75 percent in electrical power output and 50 percent in national income. On December 1 Khrushchev speaks about the 1956 uprising attributing it to “armchair leaders” who “became estranged from the masses of the people.” He also charges Matyas Rakosi with making serious mistakes. On December 2 Khrushchev addresses a meeting at a Budapest factory revealing that the 1956 Soviet intervention in Hungary created differences of opinion among Soviet leaders but “we were confident that we were helping our class brothers, the entire working class of Hungary, and we had not a shadow of doubt that the working class would correctly understand our action...”

## **December**

### **COMECON – December 1959 (CEC)**

The twelfth session of COMECON is held in Sofia. The COMECON Charter and the Convention of the Legal Capacity, Privileges and Immunities are approved. The member countries commit to specialize in equipment for industries and in metals extraction. Some proposals for the coordination of plans for the period up to 1965 and exchange of views in the following periods are made. cf.: **Bulgaria / COMECON – December 10-14, 1959 (HC)**

### **Czechoslovakia / India – December 1959 (KCA)**

An Indo-Czechoslovak agreement on economic cooperation is signed in New Delhi. Czechoslovakia will permit India credit amounting to 231,000,000 rupees. The credit will be used for payment for Czechoslovak supplies of machinery and equipment for the projected forge plant and other projects included in the third Indian Five-Year Plan. Czechoslovak experts will be loaned to India for the equipment of a technological institute in India and the Indian technicians will be trained at Czechoslovak industrial and scientific institutions.

### **East Germany – December 1959 (KCA)**

At a meeting of the central committee of the Socialist Unity Party, Ulbricht proposed that the collectivization of farms should be speeded up, but that this should be done “on a voluntary basis.”

### **Yugoslavia / U.N. – December 1959 (MOL)**

Yugoslavia joins the United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (often referred to as the Geneva Convention).

### **Western Bloc – December 1959 (KCA)**

In Paris, a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the five Western countries represented in the new ten-nation Disarmament Committee is held simultaneously with the “Western summit” and the meeting of the North Atlantic Council. They decide to suggest that the other five members of the Disarmament Committee begin work on or around **March 15, 1960** in Geneva. **December 22:** The French Ambassador in Moscow presents an aide-memoire to the Soviet

Government on behalf of the five Western members of the Committee inviting the five Eastern members to the meeting in Geneva. **December 28:** After consulting the five Eastern members, the Soviet Government replies that there is no objection to a meeting of the Disarmament Committee in Geneva on or around **March 15**.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – December 1, 1959 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union concludes cultural and scientific agreements with Britain.

**Hungary / Soviet Union / U.S. – December 2, 1959 (LBC)**

During his visit in Hungary Khrushchev admits in a speech given in the Ganz factory that some Soviet leaders opposed intervention in Hungary in 1956. - **December 8.** The U.S. representative in the U.N. calls on the General Assembly to demand of the Soviet and the Hungarian governments the termination of executions resulting from 1956.

**Greece/Soviet Union —December 3, 1959**

The Greek Prime Minister Constantine Karamanlis has accused the Soviet Premier Khrushchev of interference in Greek Domestic affairs after threatening Greece in his speech presented in Budapest on December 1st. Mr. Karamanlis stated that the speech aimed at encouraging the Greek Communist minority to continue their actions.

**Yugoslavia (Macedonia) / Bulgaria – 3 December, 1959**

Bulgarian leaders are attacked by the Skopje daily "*Nova Makedonija*" (November 28th) for carrying out "a policy of the destruction of nationality" against the "Macedonian minority in Bulgaria."

**Hungary / U.N. – December 9, 1959 (HC)**

The general assembly of the United Nation condemns Hungary and the Soviet Union in the case of the "Hungarian question".

**COMECON – December 10–14, 1959 (HC)**

The 12th session of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance takes place in Sofia. The COMECON Charter and the Convention of the Legal Capacity, Privileges and Immunities are approved. The member countries commit to specialize in equipment for industries and in metals extraction. Some proposals for the coordination of plans for the period up to 1965 and exchange of views in the following periods are made.

**Soviet Union / France – December 11, 1959 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union concludes cultural and scientific agreements with France.

**Soviet Union / East Germany – December 11, 1959 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government issues a statement through the Tass Agency reiterating that the USSR will not agree to talks on German reunification "without the Germans or behind their backs" while also stating that the USSR would not refuse to discuss the conclusion of a peace treaty which falls within the competence of the four Powers. If the Western Powers do not wish to cooperate, the Soviet Union has no choice but to relieve itself of maintaining the occupation regime in Berlin and to conclude a corresponding agreement with the Government of East Germany. The Soviet Union does not desire to cause any damage to the prestige of the Western Powers and is prepared to guarantee West Berlin's free city status and non-interference in the political and economic affairs of western Berlin.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – December 12, 1959 (MOL)**

In his speech in Zagreb, Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito threatens the Hungarian government to publish all documents if the Hungarian government upholds its accusation that Yugoslavia interfered into Hungary's internal affairs in 1956. He also reacts to the charges of the Seventh Congress of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party against Yugoslavia.

**Cyprus – December 13, 1959 (PLC)**

Archbishop Makarios III is elected president of the Republic of Cyprus.

**Poland / U.N. – December 13, 1959 (KCA)**

Elections for three non-permanent seats on the Security Council are held in the U.N. General Assembly on **October 12**. On that day, Ceylon and Ecuador are elected as non-permanent members, but both Poland and Turkey, receiving the highest number of votes for the third seat, failed to gain a two-thirds majority of the vote. For the third seat, 52 ballots are required before Poland is elected to the Council on December 13 to fill the seat vacated by Japan. The seat is awarded to Poland under the agreement that after one year Poland will relinquish the seat to Turkey for the next two years as Turkey was the other principal candidate for the seat.

**Yugoslavia / Sudan – December 14, 1959 (KCA)**

An agreement is signed in Khartoum under which the Yugoslav Marine Force will train a number of Sudanese officers, NCOs and privates.

**Romania / Eastern Europe – December 18, 1959 (KCA)**

A 227-mile pipeline linking Romania's methane-gas fields with the industrial area in north-eastern Hungary was put into operation. This marks the completion of the first phase of the Soviet plan to create a coordinated chemical industry in Eastern Europe by making the oil and natural gas resources of the USSR and Romania available to Czechoslovakia, Poland, East Germany, and Hungary by a pipeline network.

**Yugoslavia – December 18, 1959 (ACY)**

Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito receives a group of Slovene priests from the Ciril-Metodsko Društvo and speaks of the improved relations between the government and the Catholic Church and says that there is growing realism among some bishops and church leaders, giving hope for the future; any disagreements between them can be settled by discussion.

**Soviet Bloc – December 19, 1959 (PLC)**

USSR, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary and the GDR sign treaty to build Friendship (*Druzhba*) Pipeline.

**France / U.K. / U.S. / West Germany – December 19-25, 1959 (KCA)**

The "Western summit" meeting opens in Paris between President de Gaulle of France, President Eisenhower of the United States, Macmillan of Britain, and Adenauer of the German Federal Government on **December 19**. At the end of the "Western summit" three documents were issued including a joint communiqué announcing that President Eisenhower, President de Gaulle, and Macmillan have sent letters to Khrushchev inviting him to an East-West summit conference in Paris to begin on **April 27, 1960**. On **December 25**, Khrushchev replies agreeably. Following consultations **May 16 1960** was decided upon for the four-Power meeting.



**Soviet Union / U.S. – December 21, 1959 (LBC)**

U.S. President Eisenhower communicates the Western powers' manifesto for an East-West summit to be held in April 1960. – **December 28.** The USSR accepts the West's proposal for the time and place of the summit.

**Soviet Union – December 22, 1959 (MMS)**

Moscow, Agreement on the peaceful use of atomic energy.

**Italy / Soviet Union – December 22, 1959 (KCA)**

A protocol providing for greatly increased trade exchanges between Italy and the Soviet Union is signed. The agreement constitutes an increase of 40% and represents a total value of 125,000,000,000 lire.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – December 22, 1959 (HC)**

Hungary and the Soviet Union sign the agreement about the peaceful usage of nuclear energy.

**Soviet Union – December 22-25, 1959 (KCA)**

A plenary session of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party hears reports on agricultural progress in various parts of the country and adopts a resolution on agricultural policy. Khrushchev criticizes the Communist Party leaders in Kazakhstan for failure to harvest the Republic's full crop. Deliveries of grain to the State totaled 45,900,000 tons compared with an average of 48,400,000 tons during 1955-58. This decrease is largely due to a drought in the summer of 1959. Khrushchev questions the methods of payment on collective farms. The central committee adopts a resolution approving Khrushchev's proposals for revision of the system of payment of collective farms and instructs the Presidium to consider proposals for changes in the organization of collective farms.

**Bulgaria – December 24, 1959 (KCA)**

The National Assembly approves further Cabinet changes.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – December 24, 1959 (LBC)**

Soviet-American talks on Soviet lend lease debt are resumed. – **December 28.** Agreement is signed on the export to the Soviet Union of USD 20 million worth of textile machinery. – **December 29.** A British firm signs an agreement to build a sugar beet plant in the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union – December 26, 1959 (KCA)**

A 16-man Soviet expedition reaches the South Pole after departing from the Mirny base three months earlier. This is the fourth expedition to reach the South Pole over land.

**Soviet Union / Iraq – December 27, 1959 (KCA)**

Iraq and the Soviet Union sign a technical training agreement under which the USSR will assist in setting up 10 large Soviet-staffed centers to train over 4,000 Iraqis in radio, telecommunications, oil, agriculture, machinery, electricity, and other fields.

**Yugoslavia – December 28, 1959 (KCA)**

At Vinca, near Belgrade, Yugoslavia's first atomic reactor goes into operation at the Boris Kidrič Institute of Nuclear Science.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – December 29, 1959 (KCA)**

President Eisenhower announces that the United States' voluntary moratorium on nuclear testing during the Geneva Conference expires on **December 31**, and after that the U.S. is free to resume nuclear weapon testing but that no tests will be held "without announcing our intention in advance of any resumption." The president also stated that no resumption of tests is expected.

**Soviet Union / South Korea – December 30-31, 1959 (KCA)**

Tass reports on **December 30** that the unarmed Soviet survey ship Ungo was attacked and seriously damaged on **December 28** by a South Korean warship in the East Korean Bay. Tass warns that "all similar provocations by ships which undertake piratical attacks will be met with adequate measures, going as far as annihilation." On **December 31**, the South Korean Navy and the Coast Guard deny that any of their ships had fired at the Ungo or been involved in any shooting incident on **December 28**.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – December 31, 1959 (KCA)**

It is announced that President Eisenhower will probably visit the Soviet Union in June (1960).

**East Germany / West Germany – December 31, 1959 (KGD)**

143,917 people flee from the GDR to the FRG and West Berlin in 1959.

## 1960

### **Soviet Union / Finland – 1960 (KCA)**

Relations between the Soviet Union and Finland improve, characterized by the conclusion of a cultural agreement and a treaty for settling border disputes.

### **Romania – 1960 (RUR)**

Industrial production is 67% above the 1955 level.

### **Romania – 1960 (RUR)**

The government institutes many clear anti-Soviet measures. The names of streets are changed from Russian to Romanian and Russian language requirements are dropped from school curricula.

### **Romania – 1960 (RFN)**

Romania supports the Soviet Union on all facts of the Congo crises.

### **Romania – 1960 (RFN)**

Decision to de-Russify and Romanize the language is approved. The constitution is changed in order to form a socialist state.

### **Romania – 1960–1965 (SRR)**

All economic indices double. In certain areas of production, such as mining, electric power and machine building the rate of increase is even higher.

## **January**

### **East Germany – January 1960 (KCA)**

First Secretary of the SED, Walter Ulbricht directs that the socialization (collectivization of farms) should be complete before the end of the current seven-year economic plan and orders a blitz campaign, to run from January 15 to May 1, 1960, to achieve the objective. Despite Ulbricht's "voluntary" basis, reports from German Church leaders agree with those from farmers who fled East Germany that peasants were forced to hand over their property and that ruthless methods were used to convince them to do so.

### **Soviet Union – January 1960 (KCA)**

Two successful tests of a new rocket designed for inter-planetary flight are made by the Soviet Union. On January 7, Tass announces that Soviet scientist and designers are "working to develop a more powerful rocket to launch heavy earth satellites and undertake space flights to the planets of the solar system." On January 8, the Soviet Foreign Ministry informs the Governments of all countries that the target area for rocket launches covers 43,000 square kilometers in mid-Pacific remote shipping lanes. On January 20, the first launch takes place. The rocket travels at over 26,000 km per hour and the nose cone hits the ocean near the pre-determined target. Devices within the rocket are able to transmit data to ground stations and ships throughout the flight. On January 31, the second launch occurs. It is reported that the two tests have "successfully completed the present stage of development work" and the target area is free for shipping and aircraft again.

**Hungary – January 1, 1960 (HC)**

A census puts Hungary's population at 9, 977, 970 inhabitants.

**Hungary – January 4, 1960 (OSA)**

The state continues the issuance of extraordinary subsidies to Churches in Hungary.

**Egypt / Soviet Union – January 9, 1960 (KCA)**

Work on the Aswan High Dam officially begins. President Nasser thanks the Soviet Government for its technical and economic assistance.

**South Korea / China – January 10, 1960 (KCA)**

The South Korean Office of Marine Affairs announces that a South Korean coastguard vessel was attacked off Inchon by more than 10 Chinese armed junks.

**Hungary – January 10, 1960 (OSA)**

Károly Olt, the head of the State Agency on Religious Affairs (Állami Egyházügyi Hivatal) greeted the members of the episcopate and the National Peace Committee's Catholic Council on their meeting for the beginning of the New Year.

**Hungary – January 10, 1960 (HC)**

Government resolution 1002/1960 setting out a 15-year construction plan for public housing is issued. (It specifies the construction of one million dwellings.) The government also issues resolution 3/1960 providing for an additional rental charge in case of ineffective use of housing.

**Czechoslovakia – January 13, 1960 (KCA)**

A reorganization of the system of local government is announced.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – January 13, 1960 (KCA)**

Alexander Soldatov is appointed Soviet Ambassador to the United Kingdom, succeeding Jacob Malik.

**Soviet Union – January 14, 1960 (CAC/LBC)**

Khrushchev orders the reduction of Soviet armed forces by 1.2 million, from 3.6 million to 2.4 million. Khrushchev declares that the force reduction is made possible by the development of Soviet nuclear forces. According to the Soviet politician the air force and the navy lost its previous significance, the air force will be replaced by missile forces. Khrushchev opines that the forthcoming summit will reduce the danger of war. On January 19, the Soviet Communist Party and Government states that a large part of the savings obtained from reducing the armed forces will be used to increase health benefits to the population. An expenditure of 1,800 rubles will be spent on new hospitals, research centers, etc. Funding will be concentrated on the eradication of polio, combating heart and vascular disease, influenza, and measles. On January 27, a decree states that the reductions in defense expenditures will also be used to popularize a healthier diet. Also, more food shops will be built and large amounts spent on refrigeration facilities. Also, it is announced in Moscow that the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs has been abolished and its functions transferred to the Ministries of Internal Affairs of the Union Republics.

**Hungary – January 16, 1960 (KCA)**

Changes to the Hungarian Government are announced. Gyula Kállai as First Deputy Premier, Pál Losonczi as Minister of Agriculture, Imre Dögei appointed Ambassador in Beijing, Rezső Nyers as Minister of Finance. György Marosán is relieved of his post as a Minister of State and will become a member of the Presidential Council. Kállai is a close associate of Kádár and was arrested for “Titoism” in the early fifties and imprisoned for three years. He held the post of Foreign Minister in 1949 until his imprisonment in 1951. The changes are regarded by the Western press as strengthening and consolidating the position of

**Yugoslavia – January 17-29, 1960 (KCA)**

A Franciscan monk is the leader of a group of individuals sentenced to lengthy prison terms after being convicted of endeavoring to establish an underground Croat nationalist organization and maintaining ties with Croatian émigrés abroad.

**Yugoslavia / Cuba – January 17–20, 1960 (MOL)**

The Foreign Minister of Cuba, Paul Roa visits Yugoslavia. Except the establishment of diplomatic missions, no concrete result is reached.

**Egypt / Soviet Union – January 18, 1960 (KCA)**

It is announced that the Soviet Union will participate in the second stage of the construction of the Aswan High Dam on the same basis as the first. Also, on January 18 an agreement is signed providing for Soviet aid in the construction of a shipyard at Alexandria. In the end of 1959 around 20 contracts for designing, building, and supplying equipment for industrial enterprises in the U.A.R. were signed by Soviet export agencies.

**Hungary / Great Britain – January 19, 1960 (HC)**

Hungary and Great Britain sign a long-term economic trade agreement. Re-organization of industrial sectors in support of light industry takes place in Budapest.

**Soviet Union / Afghanistan – January 19, 1960 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union signs an agreement in Kabul to provide technical assistance in carrying out the Jelalabad power project for Afghanistan. The project includes an 11,000-kilowatt hydro-electric station on the Kabul River, a 73ft. high dam, a 43-mile canal, five bridges, and three aqueducts. The project, which should take four years to complete, will irrigate 64,500 acres of land.

**Soviet Union / India / Nepal – January 20-February 5, 1960 (KCA)**

Soviet head of state Voroshilov visits India and Nepal.

**Hungary – January 22, 1960 (HC)**

A trade assembly on catering is organized by the Ministry of the Interior.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 27, 1960 (LBC)**

Soviet-American talks in Washington on lend lease are broken off since the Soviet ambassador demands the extension of the talks to the questions of a Soviet-American trade agreement and long-term U.S. loans to the Soviet Union. On behalf of the U.S. negotiators Bohlen states that a trade agreement and loans require the changing of U.S. laws and an agreement is needed on lend lease.

**Soviet Union / Japan – January 27-March 1, 1960 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government and the Japanese Government enter into conflict over relations with the United States. On January 23, the Soviet Government gives the Japanese Ambassador in Moscow a memorandum that protests the new treaty of mutual cooperation and security signed by Japan and the United States on December 19, 1959. On January 28, the Japanese Foreign Ministry accuses the Soviet Government of interfering in Japan's domestic affairs and of trying to impose an additional condition on the Soviet promise of 1956. On February 5, the Soviet demand for the withdrawal of foreign troops in Japan is formally rejected by the Japanese Government. On February 24, a Soviet Note reaffirms the USSR's position regarding foreign troops in Japan. On March 1, the Japanese Government denies that the U.S. - Japanese treaty violates any Japanese agreement with the Soviet Union.

**February****East Germany / Soviet Union – February-March 1960 (KCA)**

The Soviet Commander-in-Chief in Eastern Germany issues new passes to members of Allied military missions which results in a dispute between the Western and Soviet military authorities in Germany. The new passes entitle members of the U.S., British and French military missions to travel in the "German Democratic Republic," where previously they had stated the "Soviet Zone of Germany." This implies that holders of the passes are registered by the East German Ministry of the Interior, raising the question of recognition of the East German regime. On February 19, the Western Commanders-in-Chief send identical letters to the Soviet military missions stating that the new passes are "unacceptable." The Soviet Embassy states that there is "no real change in the previously existing position." The movements of the Soviet military missions to the French Army, the British Army, and the American Forces in Germany are restricted. On March 14, the dispute is ended when the Soviet military authorities withdraw the new passes and accept the validity of the old passes. All restrictions on the movement of the personnel of the Soviet military missions in Western Germany are lifted.

**Soviet Bloc – February 2-3, 1960 (HC/MMS)**

Socialist agriculture is the main topic at an assembly of the Communist Parties of the Socialist countries of Europe in Moscow.

**U.S. – February 3, 1960 (LBC)**

U.S. President Eisenhower announces that America is willing to sell atomic weapons to countries that stand by the U.S. against the apparently aggressive intent of communism. – *February 18*. U.S. secretary of state Christian Herter proposes a disarmament system, which would eliminate the threat of accidental war.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – February 3, 1960 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union stops jamming BBC broadcasts to the USSR. On February 5 an exhibition of Soviet books opens in London.

**Warsaw Pact – February 4, 1960 (MMS/ CAC)**

The WP Political Consultative Committee's 3. meeting takes place in Moscow. Khrushchev's optimistic assessment of the likelihood of Western concessions on Germany elicits criticism from the Chinese observer of what he sees as a Soviet policy of conciliation toward the West.

**Soviet Union – February 4, 1960 (KCA)**

Additional statistical information is released regarding the population census. The total population is recorded at 208,826,650. The urban population is 48 percent and the rural 52%. The Soviet Union is population by over 100 nationalities; the most numerous are Russians (114,588,000), Ukrainians (36,981,000), Byelorussians (7,829,000), and Uzbeks (6,004,000). Other Union nationalities and ethnic groups are included. Of non-Soviet nationalities other than Germans or Poles there are 324,000 Bulgarians, 314,000 Koreans, 253,000 Greeks, 155,000 Hungarians, 106,000 Romanians, 93,000 Finns, 35,000 Turks, 26,000 Chinese 25,000 Czechs, 21,000 Persians, and 14,700 Slovaks. A notable feature of the census returns is the significant expansion of the Russian population in the Non-Russian republics resulting from agricultural development in the Central Asian republics and the eastward movement of industry. For example, in Kazakhstan, the Russian population outnumber the Kazakhs 4,014,000 to 2,755,000. Nearly  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the population was born after the October Revolution of 1917. 124,600,000 people gave their native language as Russian.

**Hungary – February 4, 1960 (HC)**

The Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party announces the stabilization of collective farms.

**Soviet Union / Cuba – February 4-14, 1960 (KCA)**

First Deputy Premier Anastas Mikoyan visits Cuba and signs an agreement guaranteeing that the Soviet Union will buy 4,425,000 tons of sugar in 1960-1964; that the USSR will grant a loan of \$100,000,000 for the purchase of Soviet machinery and materials; will offer technical assistance; and discussions of the resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries will be held. On leaving Cuba, Mikoyan stated that if the Cuban Government requests military aircraft, the Soviet Government is willing to sell it to them. Additional Soviet-Cuban economic agreements are signed on June 18.

**Soviet Union / Italy – February 6-11, 1960 (KCA)**

President Gronchi of Italy visits the Soviet Union. This is the first visit by an Italian Head of State to the Soviet Union. A joint communiqué on his visit is issued in Moscow on February 9. On February 9 a cultural agreement is signed providing for exchanges of scientists, students, writers, artists, and journalists; exchange of scientific and technical documentation and information between the Soviet and Italian academies of science and other scientific institutions; and the promotion of tourism.

**Czechoslovakia – February 9, 1960 (OSA)**

The Report on the Progress of the Economy was published in 1959, notably including details that living conditions were slowly improving (including a fall in infant mortality).

**East Germany – February 10, 1960 (KCA/NNT)**

The *Volkskammer* passes a Bill creating a 13-member National Defense Council (Nationaler Verteidigungsrat) under the chairmanship of Walter Ulbricht. The Council is responsible for coordinating the land, sea, and air defenses of the GDR.

**Yugoslavia – February 10, 1960 (KCA)**

Roman Catholic Archbishop of Zagreb and Primate of Yugoslavia, Cardinal Alojzije Stepinac dies in his hometown to which he has been restricted since 1951. He is succeeded by Mgr. Franjo Šeper.

**Poland / U.S. – February 11, 1960 (KCA)**

Poland and the U.S. sign an agreement under which the U.S. will sell to Poland a further 22,000,000 bushels of wheat under the U.S. farm surplus disposal program, at a cost of \$41,500,000. Payment will be made in Polish zlotys. This agreement brings the total U.S. farm surplus products purchased by Poland since 1957 to \$235,600,000.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / U.K. – February 11, 1960 (KCA)**

New American proposals for overcoming the deadlock at the three-Power Geneva conference on the discontinuance of nuclear weapons tests are announced together with a statement from President Eisenhower. During the next month the U.S., British and Soviet representatives at Geneva had extensive but largely unsuccessful discussions concerning the new proposal and counter-proposals submitted by the Soviet representative. The American proposal was unacceptable to the Soviet Union because it left open the possibility of resuming underground nuclear explosions below the specified “threshold.”

**Soviet Union / India / Burma / Indonesia / Afghanistan – February 11–March 5, 1960 (KCA)**

Khrushchev, Gromyko, and Mikhailov (Minister of Culture) tour India, Burma, Indonesia, and Afghanistan and conclude agreements on economic and technical cooperation and cultural relations with India and Indonesia. On **February 11**, Khrushchev arrives in Delhi and addresses the Indian Parliament. In his speech he attacks “colonialism” describing Western aid to developing countries as a “new colonial policy.” He makes no reference to the territorial dispute between China and India. On **February 12**, Khrushchev has a long private talk with Nehru and then attends the signing of two agreements on further Soviet economic aid to India and Indo-Soviet cultural and technical cooperation. At a later speech in India Khrushchev claimed that only the Soviet Union provides true economic assistance. On **February 16**, a joint communiqué is issued at the end of Khrushchev’s visit to India. It affirms Khrushchev’s appreciation of India’s policy of neutrality and Nehru’s support for the Soviet Union’s proposals for disarmament. The Indo-Soviet economic agreement dealt with how India will use the Soviet credit of 1,500,000,000 rubles accepted by the Government in September 1959. On **March 7**, it is announced that India and the Soviet Union will work together on peaceful uses of atomic energy, including the design and construction of nuclear power stations. On **February 16**, Khrushchev flies to Rangoon. On February 18, a communiqué states that it had been agreed to conclude a cultural agreement between the Soviet Union and Burma in the near future and to draft a program for cultural and scientific exchanges in 1960. Burma supports Khrushchev’s disarmament proposals and calls for a suspension of nuclear tests and the communiqué refers to the Soviet approval of Burma’s policy of neutrality. On **February 18**, 1960, Khrushchev arrives in Jakarta for his first visit to Indonesia. While addressing university students on **February 21**, Khrushchev announces that the Soviet Government will establish a “People’s Friendship University” in Moscow for students from Asia, Africa, and Latin America. On **February 22**, while addressing a mass meeting, President Sukarno protests the fact that there will be no Asian representative at the forthcoming summit conference despite the fact there are 1,600,000,000 people in Asia and Africa who are neither in the Communist nor Western blocs. On February 26, Khrushchev addresses the Indonesian Parliament and expresses his support for President Sukarno’s appeal for an Asian representative. On **February 28**, a joint communiqué is issued in which it is stated that the Soviet Government has agreed to give Indonesia a \$250,000,000 loan and an atomic reactor. Two agreements on Soviet-Indonesian economic and cultural cooperation are also signed. On March 2, Khrushchev arrives in Kabul for a short visit to Afghanistan during which he has a series of talks with King Mohammed Zahir Shah and the Afghan Prime Minister Sardar Mohammed Daud. On **March 4**, a joint communiqué states that



Khrushchev and Sardar Daud discussed the future of the Pushtu people and “expressed their agreement that the application of the principle of self-determination on the basis of the U.N. Charter for settling this issue would be a reasonable way of easing tension and ensuring peace in the Middle East.” A Soviet-Afghan cultural cooperation agreement is also signed. On March 6, the Afghan Government announces that the USSR has given Afghanistan 50,000 tons of wheat. On **March 6**, responding to Khrushchev’s statement in a speech that “historically Pushtunistan has always been part of Afghanistan,” the Pakistani Foreign Minister expresses his regret that the USSR is interfering in another country’s internal affairs. He then challenges the Afghan Government to hold a referendum to judge whether the Pathans of Afghanistan wish to join Pakistan.

**Poland / Czechoslovakia / Hungary / East Germany – February 12, 1960 (KCA)**

Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and East Germany approve the creation of a television network, *Intervision*, linking the four countries. The Soviet Union, Romania, and Bulgaria are expected to join at a later date.

**Yugoslavia – February 12, 1960 (KCA)**

Yugoslavia becomes a member of the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization.

**Soviet Union / France – February 13, 1960 (LBC/PLC)**

France carries out a successful nuclear test explosion. – The Soviet Union condemns the event and declares that it makes the problem of disarmament more difficult.

**Hungary – February 14, 1960 (HC)**

The government issues decree no. 6/1960 regulating benefits for elderly and disabled members of collective farm.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – February 16, 1960 (KCA)**

The Soviet representative submits an alternative plan to the American submission on February 11 to the Geneva Conference including “temporary simplified criteria” for initiating on-site inspections which was considered by the Western representatives, but the ensuing discussions remain deadlocked on the criteria to be used to determine whether an explosion is eligible for on-site inspection.

**Soviet Union / Egypt – February 19, 1960 (KCA)**

It is stated in Moscow that more than 100 industrial projects will be built in the U.A.R. with Soviet support. The Aswan High Dam, six steel plants, six engineering works, oil, chemical, textile, and food industry establishments as well as irrigation systems are included in this assistance. 18 percent of the U.A.R.’s exports are going to the USSR and 15 percent of their imports come from the USSR. The total volume of Soviet aid to under-developed Afro-Asian countries is more than 7,000,000,000 rubles.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 20, 1960 (LBC)**

A Soviet delegation comprising of five prime ministers of Soviet republics and seven oblast presidents concludes its U.S. visit.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 22, 1960 (LBC)**

The U.S. secretary of commerce permits U.S. firms to hand over technological information to the USSR as part of commercial deals to build industrial plants.

**Soviet Union / West Germany – February 25, 1960 (KCA)**

The German Federal Republic and the Soviet Union sign a protocol regulating trade and payments between the two countries in 1960. Under the agreement, goods worth 620,000,000 rubles will be delivered by either side. The main Soviet exports will be wheat, food-grains, timber ores, oil and oil products, and raw cotton. The Soviet Union agreed to a major reduction in coal exports to West Germany because of difficulties in the West German coal industry. In return, West Germany increased its import quotas for Soviet oil and petroleum products. German exports will consist of industrial equipment and investment goods, chemical products, medical equipment, pharmaceutical products, artificial fibers and yarn, woolen textiles, footwear, and leather.

**Yugoslavia – February 27, 1960 (KCA)**

27 political prisoners, who had been sentenced in February and March 1958 on charges of conspiring to overthrow the regime, are released by the Yugoslav Government. The sentences were suspended subject to their good behavior; they were not technically pardoned or given amnesties. The four released prisoners are Alexandar Pavlović, Bogdan Krekić, Dragoslav Stranjaković, and Milan Zujović.

**March****Romania – March 1960 (RUR)**

First Secretary Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej merges the leadership positions of the government and the party. This is in direct conflict with the Soviet desire for collective leadership.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – March 1-9, 1960 (KCA)**

It was reported that the three Western Powers were considering flights above 10,000ft in the air corridors between the Federal Republic and West Berlin, but that the Soviet representative on the four-Power Air Safety Center in Berlin would be informed first. The Soviet Embassy states that no such notification has been received and that these flights would “violate the air sovereignty of the German Democratic Republic.” On March 3, the U.S. State Department confirms the flights had been considered but no decision taken. On March 7, the British Foreign Secretary also confirms this, and states that the issue is practical and not political as modern aircraft have higher operational altitudes. On March 9, the U.S. Secretary of State reports that President Eisenhower decided that there was no “operational necessity” for flights above 10,000ft in the corridors, but the Secretary also reaffirms that the Western Powers have the right to fly into West Berlin at any height.

**Hungary / Austria – March 4, 1960 (OSA)**

A young Hungarian was seriously injured by an exploding landmine while crossing the Austrian border with two others. His friends helped him, dragging him through the border and rushing to a nearby village for help. He was taken to a nearby hospital, the three helped by a Hungarian refugee living in Austria since 1956. The three were granted political asylum the next day.

**Soviet Union / West Germany / Spain – March 4, 1960 (KCA)**

Following widespread concern in the last week of February 1960 concerning press reports that the German Federal Government is negotiating with Spain for the establishment of German military supply bases in that country, the Soviet Government presents a Note to the West German Ambassador in Moscow which alleges that the “Spanish-West German intrigues” are

aimed at “causing friction between the parties to East-West talks, sabotaging the work of the ten-Power Disarmament Committee, and complicating the work of the summit meeting.” The Note drew attention to the “grave consequences of its steps aimed at setting up *Bundeswehr* bases on foreign territories and establishing military cooperation with Franco Spain.” The USSR also sends notes to the U.S., British, and French Governments expressing the hope that they would “prevent the implementation of the military plans of the German Federal Republic.”

**Bulgaria / U.S. – March 7, 1960 (KCA)**

The American Legation in Sofia reopens. Edward Page arrives in Sofia as the first American Minister to Bulgaria since February 1950. Peter Vulov was previously appointed Bulgarian Minister in Washington.

**Yugoslavia / China - 8 March, 1960 (OSA)**

After Khrushchev's key-note speech in Bucharest in which he broadly suggested that only Moscow knows how to interpret Marxism-Leninism correctly, he reaffirmed the policies of the 20th Party Congress. He accused unspecified communists (presumably the Chinese) of continuing childishly to harp on about the inevitability of imperialist wars despite the fact that the world has changed since Lenin's day. The Chinese response was quick to follow. The speech by Peng Zhen, the Mayor of Beijing and member of the Chinese Politburo, was notable for a markedly more moderate tone than has been used in previous Chinese pronouncements and in an effort to bury the ideological hatchet.

**Yugoslavia / India – March 11, 1960 (KCA)**

India and Yugoslavia sign a cultural agreement in New Delhi.

**Czechoslovakia / Bulgaria – March 11, 1960 (OSA)**

Although Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria are the two countries in the Soviet bloc with the highest levels of collectivization, both continue to have private plots in collective farms.

**Soviet Union / Romania – March 11, 1960 (OSA)**

A Romanian economic delegation, led by deputy premier and chief COMECON delegate Alexandru Barladeanu, arrived in Moscow. The goal of the trip is to discuss prospects on Romanian economic development and trade between the Soviet Union and Romania.

**Hungary / East Germany – March 12, 1960 (HC)**

Hungary and the GDR sign an agreement on the peaceful usage of nuclear energy.

**West Germany / U.S. – March 12–22, 1960 (KCA)**

Adenauer visits the U.S. and Japan. In Washington between March 15–16 Dr. Adenauer and President Eisenhower discuss disarmament, East-West relations, and the problem of Germany and Berlin. The President and the Chancellor reaffirm their commitment to achieving the reunification of Germany and that the preservation of “the freedom of the people of West Berlin... must underlie any future agreement affecting the city.”

**Hungary / Poland – March 15, 1960 (HC)**

A governmental delegation, led by János Kádár travels to Poland. On March 20 both countries sign an economic trade agreement for the period 1961-1965.

### **Soviet Union / U.S. – March 15–June 27, 1960 (LBC)**

The Geneva disarmament talks begin. The West puts forward a joint proposal. First step: The establishment of an international disarmament agency, which supervises the reduction of armed forces. The coordinated reduction of armed forces to 1.5 million men each by the United States and the Soviet Union, and to a proportionate level by the other powers; the national armed forces would be supervised by an international disarmament organization; the figures of national defense budgets would be placed at its disposal; the deployment of weapons of mass destruction in outer space would be precluded; the production of fissionable material for military purposes would be terminated; there would be measures against surprise attacks; an international organization would be created under U.N. auspices to avoid aggression, the agreement would be extended to other states. Second step: Appropriate measures against surprise attacks; the maximization of armed forces for the U.S. and the Soviet Union on 2.1 million and the stocking of the amount and types of weapons agreed upon. Third step: further reduction of armed forces at the level required by international security, so that no country or groups of countries could oppose international law. The ban and further reduction of nuclear arms, the use of fissionable material for peaceful purposes; the final liquidation of military missiles; the establishment of an international organization to supervise military expenditure; the final reduction of armed forces; the supervision of the production of all types of weapons. – *March 21*. Proposal by Soviet delegate Zorin, who suggests that the reduction of nuclear arms should take precedence over the reduction of conventional arms. (The Soviet Union opposes the three step Western plan because the size of the armed forces, 2.1 million, would be higher than the 1957 proposal (1.7 million); the participants would be able to withdraw the weapons from storage facilities found on their own territory; there is no concrete time frame for its realization. – *March 19*. Eisenhower assures Khrushchev that the U.S. will not give nuclear arms to its allies. – The USSR proposes a limited test ban treaty. – *March 29*. The U.S. and Great Britain accept the Soviet proposal for a test ban treaty. – April 4, 1960: The Soviet representative to the Geneva Conference categorically rejects the Western disarmament proposals and will not regard them as a basis for discussion. He also rejects a U.S. proposal for a bilateral U.S.-Soviet agreement to prevent the military use of outer space. – April 5, 1960: The French spokesman for the Western Powers at the Geneva Conference states that the Western Powers will not use the Soviet plan or any plan similar to it as the basis for discussions. He then lists the disarmament principles that are fundamental for the Western Powers. The Soviet representative suggests that the Eastern and Western Disarmament Plans be withdrawn, and the conference should discuss principles from the U.N. General Assembly resolution of November 1959. He then suggests five basic principles as a starting point for discussions. The Western powers reject them claiming they are the same as the original Soviet proposals.

### **Yugoslavia – March 15, 1960 (KCA)**

The Yugoslav Government's desire to normalize relations with all religious denominations in Yugoslavia is revealed in a statement released by the Federal Executive Council.

### **Yugoslavia / Bulgaria - 15 March, 1960 (OSA)**

The Skoplje daily "*Nova Makedonija*" on March 11th published an article, which criticised the "hypocritical attitude" of the Bulgarian leaders who advocate for a "policy of understanding" in the Balkans on one hand, and allow their papers and periodicals "to smear Yugoslavia" on the other.

### **Poland – March 16, 1960 (KCA)**

Poland becomes a member of the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization.

**Yugoslavia / Austria – March 16-19, 1960 (MOL)**

The Foreign Minister of Austria, Bruno Kreisky visits Yugoslavia.

**Yugoslavia / Albania – March, 17 1960 (OSA)**

The Belgrade daily "*Borba*" on March 16th protests against the Albanian claim that the Soviet bloc countries are "especially united against the Yugoslav revisionists." Writing under the title "Hoxha's Platform for Unity", "*Borba*" claims that it would be much better if the Soviet bloc countries and parties would "unite in the struggle for peace and international cooperation" rather than against Yugoslavia.

**U.N. – March 17-April 26, 1960 (KCA)**

The second United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea takes place.

**Yugoslavia – March 18, 1960 (KCA)**

The Roman Catholic Bishop of Skopje is given a suspended sentence of 18 months on charges of receiving money from the Holy See, and therefore, violating currency regulations.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 19, 1960 (LBC)**

Eisenhower assures Khrushchev that the U.S. will not give nuclear arms to its allies. – The USSR proposes a limited test ban treaty.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – March 19, 1960 (KCA)**

An important step-forward occurs when it is announced that the Soviet Union has, in effect, accepted the American "threshold" figure submitted to the Geneva Conference on February 11, and also the proposal for three-Power research and experimentation in exchange for the Western Powers accepting a voluntary moratorium on nuclear tests below the "threshold."

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – 21 March, 1960 (OSA)**

Internal trade in Bulgaria is very poorly organised according to a report by Tanjug's correspondent in Sofia, Velimir Budimir, published in the Belgrade daily "*Politika*" in the issue of March 17th.

**Soviet Union / France – March 23-April 2, 1960 (KCA)**

Khrushchev visits France. He engages in political discussions with General de Gaulle at the Elysee Palace and Rambouillet and takes an extensive tour of the French provinces. In nearly all of his speeches in France, Khrushchev emphasizes the danger of a revival of "German militarism" and the importance of Franco-Soviet cooperation. In his major speech on March 24, Khrushchev stresses that the Soviet Union did not wish to drive France and her allies, Britain and America, apart. On April 2, Khrushchev makes a television broadcast to the French people. In addition, three communiqués are published at the conclusion of Khrushchev's visit covering Khrushchev's conversations with President de Gaulle, Franco-Soviet scientific and technical cooperation, and cooperation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

**Soviet Union / Ethiopia – March 27, 1960 (KCA)**

A protocol on Soviet aid to Ethiopia is signed by the two Governments in Addis Ababa. It provides that the Soviet Union will build a large oil refinery at the Red Sea port of Assab, construct a gold mine with a processing plant, undertake an extensive geological survey of Ethiopia, and explore the possibility of building an iron and steel plant in Ethiopia. This protocol lays down the details for the agreement reached in July 1959 between the Emperor Haile Selassie and the Soviet Government.

**Hungary – March 27, 1960 (HC)**

Governmental resolution 1006/1960 aiming to strengthen collective farms through technical expertise is issued.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia - 28 March, 1960 (OSA)**

In spite of new uniform purchasing prices introduced recently in Czechoslovakia's agriculture, new difficulties will appear "very soon" according to Z. Jevtic in the Sarajevo daily "*Oslobodjenje*" published on March 23rd. Writing under the title, "Turning Point in Czechoslovakia's Agriculture" Jevtic says that although the new system of purchasing prices is much better than the old one of "dual prices" ("the compulsory delivery prices" and "contractual prices"), some other measures introduced in Czechoslovak agriculture are of a discouraging nature.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – March 29, 1960 (KCA)**

Camp David talks between US President Eisenhower and British Prime Minister Macmillan end with a joint declaration signed by both, which states that 1) once a treaty is signed banning all tests of nuclear weapons above a seismic magnitude of 4.75, the two countries will agree to a moratorium on smaller detonations for an agreed duration; 2) such agreement will be conditional on the USSR entering into joint arrangements for coordinated research on methods of detection. On March 31, the proposals are formally put forward at Geneva. The Soviet representative calls them "hopeful" and an "encouraging step forward", adding that it will be meticulously studied by the Soviet side.

**Soviet Union / Romania – March 29, 1960 (OSA)**

Radio Bucharest announced that on the previous day, an agreement had been signed between the Soviet Union and Romania on the mutual delivery of goods between Soviet and Romanian consumer co-operatives.

**Romania / U.S. – March 30, 1960 (LBC)**

Romania and the U.S. sign an agreement for the settlement of American private claims against Romania, which pays 24.5 million dollars. As a result of the treaty the Romanian private claims in the U.S. are released.

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – March 30, 1960 (HC)**

Hungary and Czechoslovakia sign a long- term economic trade agreement.

**Poland / Cuba – March 31, 1960 (KCA)**

A Cuban-Polish trade and technical cooperation agreement is signed in Havana. Among other products, it provides Cuba with Polish ships, fishing vessels, aircraft, helicopters, steel foundries, and agricultural machinery. Cuba will export sugar, coffee, tobacco, canned fruit, copper nickel, and other metals to Poland.

**April****Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / Poland / Yugoslavia / U.K. – April-May 1960 (KCA)**

The United Kingdom appoints new ambassadors to several Eastern-bloc countries. Sir Frank Roberts is appointed Ambassador to the Soviet Union, A.H. Lincoln as Minister in Bulgaria, C.

C. Parrott as Ambassador in Czechoslovakia, Sir George Clutton as Ambassador in Poland, and Michael Justin Creswell as Ambassador in Yugoslavia.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – April 1, 1960 (LBC)**

Yugoslav-American treaty is signed on the peaceful use of atomic energy. The U.S. provides Yugoslavia with a small nuclear test reactor. – May 5. The U.S. gives Yugoslavia a 14.5-million-dollar loan to purchase U.S. made locomotives.

**Hungary – April 1, 1960 (HC/ KCA)**

On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the liberation of Hungary the Presidential Council issues decree no. 10:1960 granting a partial political amnesty. Remaining terms of imprisonment not exceeding six years are reduced to three years' probation. Those serving life sentences for crimes against humanity before December 31st, 1952 are also granted amnesty. Those who have served at least ten years are released. Well-known writers Tibor Déry and Gyula Hay as well as Imre Nagy's son-in-law, Ferenc János, are released. Former Defense Minister Mihály Farkas, sentenced to 16 years' imprisonment for "serious violations of the law," is also released.

**East Germany – April 3, 1960 (KCA)**

Churches make strong protests about the methods used for collectivization under First Secretary Walter Ulbricht's plan that was supposedly "voluntary."

**Bulgaria – April 5, 1960 (KCA)**

Bulgaria becomes a member of the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization.

**Hungary / Austria – April 5, 1960 (OSA)**

Two fully armed Hungarian soldiers were picked up by an Austrian border patrol in southern Burgenland province. The two – whose names were not revealed – have asked them for asylum.

**Soviet Union / East Germany / Poland – April 5, 1960 (KCA)**

The Soviet State Commission for investigating war crimes issues a statement that Dr. Oberlander, the West German Federal Minister for Refugees, is guilty of committing war crimes and crimes against humanity for his participation in the massacre of Polish Jews and Ukrainians in Lvov. These allegations when investigated at The Hague, were found to be without foundation. The GDR tried him in absentia from April 20-29 and found him guilty. West Germany did not recognize these proceedings. Oberlander resigned on May 4 but strongly denied the allegations and asked for a committee of inquiry to clear his name.

**U.S. – April 6, 1960 (KCA)**

The U.S. Information Service releases a summary to show the divergent positions of the Western and Soviet Disarmament proposals as of March 15, the opening day of the 10-nation Disarmament Conference.

**Soviet Union – April 6, 1960 (KCA)**

After circling the earth for 691 days, the Russian satellite *Sputnik III*, which was put into orbit on May 15, 1958, enters the denser layers of the atmosphere and disintegrates.

**Soviet Union – April 7, 1960 (PLC)**

The USSR declares that the illegal possession of radios is a crime.

**Cyprus – April 7, 1960 (PLC)**

The Cyprian constitution is accepted.

**Yugoslavia / Albania – April 8, 1960 (OSA)**

An article published in the Belgrade daily "*Politika*" of April 7th claims that Albanian leaders attack Yugoslavia "because of internal difficulties which they are not able to explain to their people" and "because of the fear that any free contacts between the two countries would prove damaging to the Albanian situation." It continues that since the beginning of March "there were at least 11 major attacks against Yugoslavia included in the statements of responsible and authoritative Albanian persons."

**Czechoslovakia – April 9, 1960 (HC)**

A new territorial division is passed into law in Czechoslovakia.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / Western Europe – April 12, 1960 (LBC)**

The Western powers agree on the agenda of the Geneva summit: disarmament and nuclear test ban treaty; Germany and Berlin; other East-West problems. – *April 14*. The West offers to terminate the production of atomic and hydrogen bombs and the international control of atomic bombs. – *April 26*. The disarmament principles of the West are revealed: disarmament is progressive, it is not tied to any time limit and starts with the simplest things. Conventional and nuclear disarmament is linked so that neither side can gain superiority. Disarmament must be controlled by an international organ tied to the U.N., weapons must be banned from outer space, weapons of mass destruction and their delivery vehicles are to be banned. The West recommends the establishment of mobile supervising groups to control arms reduction. The groups comprised of Soviet and American observers would start their work immediately to control mutual troop reductions. – *April 13*. Great Britain announces that it is terminating its Blue Streak nuclear program because it could be launched from a stationary launch pad only. – *April 14*. The State Department reveals that the U.S. is planning to sell mobile Polaris type IRBMs to England and other NATO states.

**Hungary – April 12, 1960 (HC)**

Government resolution 11:1960 validates Hungarian Civil Law.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Soviet Union – April 14, 1960 (KCA/NNT)**

The East German Government announces that after beginning in 1952 collectivization of agriculture in the GDR is complete. The GDR is the second Eastern European country outside the Soviet Union to have completely collectivized. Czechoslovakia and Hungary have "socialized" 70% of all farmlands in each country and in Poland 88% of land is still worked by individual proprietors.

**Indonesia / Hungary – April 14, 1960 (HC)**

Sukarno, President of the Indonesian Republic arrives in Hungary for a four-day visit.

**East Germany / West Germany – April 15, 1960 (KCA)**

5,023 refugees arrive in the West, among them many peasant families, craftsmen, artisans, and small businessmen. For the whole of April 17,000 individuals fled to the West, the highest monthly total in a year and a half.



**Yugoslavia – April 18-22, 1960 (KCA/MOL)**

The Fifth Congress of the Socialist Alliance of the Working People of Yugoslavia meets in Belgrade. President Tito opens the congress with a summary of economic developments since 1953 and of the Five-Year Plan for 1961-1965. He also spoke about the Yugoslav theory on the development of Socialist society, peaceful coexistence and the internal situation in Yugoslavia. The Congress decides that they should extend Alliance membership eligibility to all Yugoslav citizens who enjoy the right to vote. Minister of Interior Alexander Ranković is elected general secretary of the Alliance. Many foreign Socialist and nationalist delegations attended. None of the Eastern European Communist parties sent representatives but the Hungarian Patriotic People's Front, the East German National Front, and the Polish National Unity Front sent observers.

**Czechoslovakia – April 18–July 11, 1960 (KCA)**

The Czechoslovak Constitution undergoes changes. On April 18, Czechoslovakia publishes its new draft Constitution after the Czechoslovak Communist Party's Central Committee has approved it. It replaces the Constitution adopted in 1948 and makes a number of changes. On July 5-6 the draft is submitted to a two-day Communist Party conference in Prague. President of the Republic, Antonin Novotny, proposes an amendment to the Constitution that officially describes Czechoslovakia as a "Socialist Republic" and not a "people's democracy." On June 12, general elections are held but prior to the elections a law reduces the membership of the National Assembly to 300. The Prime Minister is Viliam Siroky. On July 11 the new Constitution is unanimously adopted by parliament. Several Ministries are changed, renamed, merged, combined, or abolished.

**Soviet Union / New Zealand – April 18-24, 1960 (KCA)**

The New Zealand Prime Minister, Walter Nash, visits the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Government. He has discussions with Khrushchev at the Black Sea resort of Gagri on April 20; attends a luncheon given in his honor by the Soviet Government; talks with Mikoyan and Gromyko; calls on Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, Kliment Vorshilov; tours Moscow, Leningrad, and Kiev; and visits scientific and cultural institutions and places of historic interest. A joint Soviet–New Zealand communiqué is issued.

**China – April 21, 1960 (PLC)**

The Chinese communist Party announces its ultra-revolutionary theses on Lenin's anniversary.

**East Germany / West Germany – April 22, 1960 (KCA)**

The German Federal Government reports that over 100,000 refugee farmers were already settled in West Germany after the war and 70,000 are already waiting for land. The current refugees will probably never farm again.

**Czechoslovakia – April 22, 1960 (OSA)**

Following the 1959 Politburo Resolution on Philosophy, the Czechoslovak Communist Party has reprimanded University Philosophy departments for their apparently insufficient condemnation of revisionism; in February, the Slovak Politburo followed suit and furthermore criticized Polish influence in Slovakia.

**Czechoslovakia – April 24, 1960 (OSA)**

From this date, the CPCz Central Committee reduces the state-controlled retail prices of certain industrial products and food items in a bid to improve the standard of living.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – April 25, 1960 (KCA)**

The Geneva Conference resumes after the Easter recess and the Soviet representative is informed that America and Britain are ready to being a meeting of experts on May 11 to plan a three-Power seismic research program. The Soviet representative states that the Soviet Government hoped to accept that date or one near it.

**Hungary – April 29, 1960 (KCA)**

The ban on travel by American citizens to Hungary is lifted. It was implemented on February 3, 1956.

**May****Albania / Soviet Union – May 1960 (KCA)**

After the trial of Rear-Admiral Teme Sejko who was accused of leading a pro-Soviet group that planned a coup d'état against Albanian leadership, relations between Soviet Union and Albania, already strained, further deteriorate.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – May 1, 1960 (CAC/LBC/HC)**

A U-2 type U.S. reconnaissance plane is shot down over the Soviet Union. Its pilot, Francis Gary Powers is captured. Initially the U.S. tried to deny the truth, later they admitted that the plane was performing military reconnaissance. – *May 5*. Khrushchev claims that the purpose of the mission was to torpedo the summit. – Khrushchev's warning: the countries that permit reconnaissance planes to take off from their territories risk destruction by Soviet missiles. – *May 16*. The summit collapses on the opening day, since Eisenhower would not formally apologize for the U-2 incident, although it publicly suspended all U-2 flights. – The Soviet Union rejects the U.S. explanation to the effect that the U-2 mission served defense and security objectives. – *May 26*. The U.N. Security Council rejects by a 7:2 vote the Soviet Union's draft resolution to condemn the U.S. for the U-2 incident. – *May 27*. At a Senate hearing Secretary of State Herter acknowledges that no separate decision was made to suspend the U-2 flights because of the upcoming summit. According to the U.S. the Soviet Union is continuously spying – in 1959, 300 agents had to be expelled – at the same time it would not agree to an "open skies" agreement which would make spying redundant.

**West Germany / France / U.K. / U.S. – May 1, 1960 (KCA)**

The three Western Commandants in Berlin issue a statement expressing concern at the "militaristic demonstration in the Soviet Sector" of Berlin for May Day celebrations.

**East Germany / U.K. / U.S. – May 2, 1960 (KCA)**

A British Foreign Office statement expresses the sympathy of the British Government with those subjected to collectivization – "a further tragic consequence of the inability of the Germans in the Soviet Zone to elect a government of their own choice." The U.S. State Department expressed deep sympathy and "sorrow and indignation over this suppression of basic human rights."

**Poland / Czechoslovakia / Greece – May 2, 1960 (KCA)**

For the first time since the war, the Greek Government resumes full diplomatic relations with Poland and Czechoslovakia and appoints Ministers to the Greek Legations in Warsaw and Prague. This follows the signing of important economic agreements by Greece with Poland and

Czechoslovakia in March. The Greco-Polish agreement provides for the construction by a Polish group of a sugar-beet factory in northern Greece with a capacity of up to 2,000 tons per day. The cost of the factory, 90,000,000 drachmas, will be paid in the form of Greek products exported to Poland, and the remaining 10 percent will be paid in foreign currency to the Polish group. A contract signed between the Hellenic Telecommunications Organization and a Czechoslovak business provides for \$3,000,000 worth of telephone equipment from the Czechoslovak business to be used for the extension of telephone exchanges in the leading cities of Greece. Payment to Czechoslovakia for the equipment will be made entirely in Greek tobacco exports.

#### **Soviet Union / Burma – May 4, 1960 (KCA)**

In an exchange of Notes, the Burmese and Soviet Governments agree to abandon the implementation of three of the Soviet “gift projects” agreed upon in 1957. They include a sports stadium, a theater, and agricultural and industrial exhibition buildings. The technological institute, a hotel, and a hospital agreed on will be completed.

#### **Soviet Union – May 4, 1960 (KCA)**

The following changes in the USSR Council of Ministers and in the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union are announced: Frol Kozlov is relieved of his duties as First Deputy Premier of the Council of Ministers and becomes a secretary of the central committee of the CPSU; Alexei Kosygin becomes a First Deputy Premier in the Council of Ministers; Nikolai Ignatov becomes a Deputy Premier in the Council of Ministers; Ekaterina Furtseva becomes Minister of Culture; Vladimir Novikov comes a Deputy Premier in the USSR Council of Ministers and concurrently chairman of Gosplan; Alexei Kosygin, Nikolai Podgorny, and Dimitri Polyansky become members of the presidium of the central committee of the CPSU; A. B. Aristov and P. N. Pospelov are relieved of their duties as secretaries of the central committee, but Aristov remains a member of the party presidium and Pospelov as an alternate member; Nikolai Belyaev and Alexei Kirichenko are dropped from the presidium of the CPSU; Arseny Zverev, the Minister of Finance since 1946, asked to be relieved because of ill health. He is replaced by Vasily Garbuzov.

May 7, 1960: Marshal Voroshilov requests to be relieved of the chairmanship of the presidium of the Supreme Soviet on the grounds of ill health. Leonid Brezhnev is unanimously approved as his successor by the Supreme Soviet.

May 4, 1960: In the same session of the Supreme Soviet, Khrushchev announces the Government’s decision to abolish income taxes on the wages and salaries of factory and office workers, to be enacted between 1960-1965; abolish the tax on single men and women, people living alone, and those with small families; complete the change to the six or seven hour workday; make a start in 1964 to reduce the work day to six or five hours.

May 5, 1960: The central committee of the CPSU and the Council of Ministers has decided to revalue the ruble by raising “the purchasing power of the Soviet monetary unit tenfold and to raise the gold content of the ruble and its rate of exchange in relation to foreign currencies.” From January 1961 new currency will replace the current banknotes and with the issue of new currency all prices, charges, wages, pensions, etc. will be re-calculated on the scale of ten to one. The change has no real external effects as the Soviet currency is not exchangeable against foreign currencies in the non-communist world.

#### **Soviet Union / Israel – May 4, 1960 (KCA)**

The Israeli Foreign Ministry announces that the Soviet Government has rejected a request by Ben-Gurion for a meeting with Khrushchev in view of “statements by Israeli public figures, and even Ministers of the Government, that are not conducive to the furthering of peace.”

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – May 5, 1960 (KCA)**

An exchange of notes is published that provides for the British export to Yugoslavia of British books, films, and other educational and cultural material up to an annual value of £125,000.

**Soviet Union / Togo – May 5, 1960 (KCA)**

A joint communiqué issued by the Soviet Union and the Republic of Togo announces the agreement to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level following Togo's proclamation of independence.

**Soviet Union / Czechoslovakia – May 6, 1960 (KCA)**

The man who assassinated Leon Trotsky in 1940 and was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment under the name of Jacques Mornard is released by the Mexican government and immediately deported. "Mornard" flew to Havana on a Czechoslovak passport accompanied by two officials of the Czechoslovak Embassy. He is expected to sail for Europe.

**Soviet Union – May 7, 1960 (KCA)**

Riga-born Soviet chess master Mikhail Tal becomes chess champion of the world at 23 after winning the title from Mikhail Botvinnik.

**Soviet Union / Cuba – May 8, 1960 (KCA)**

Embassy level diplomatic relations are resumed between Cuba and the Soviet Union. The Soviet Ambassador to Cuba, Sergei Kudriavtsev, arrives on August 18.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – 12 May, 1960 (OSA)**

The issue of May 11th of the Ljubljana daily "*Delo*" attacks the Bulgarian News Agency BTA for claiming that in 1944 and 1945 Bulgarian troops "liberated" many parts of Yugoslavia, "even Istria" which once belonged to Italy.

**Hungary – May 13, 1960 (HC)**

The glass factory Zagyvapálfalva in Nógrád County is opened.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – May 14, 1960 (KCA)**

The International Academy of Astronauts is formed with both American and Soviet scientists as members.

**Soviet Union – May 15, 1960 (KCA)**

A 4.5-ton space ship with a pressurized cabin carrying a dummy pilot is launched in the Soviet Union. It is put into orbit at a height of about 200 miles and circled the earth every 91.2 minutes. Clear signals are received in many parts of the world including the Soviet Union, the United States, and Britain.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – May 16, 1960 (KCA)**

The Summit Conference is supposed to convene in Paris, but breaks down before the opening session owing to demands made by Khrushchev to President Eisenhower in connection with the U-2 incident. At a private meeting, Khrushchev asserts that U.S. reconnaissance flights over Soviet territory "have been and remain the calculated policy of the United States." Therefore, the Soviet Union cannot participate in the Summit Conference unless the U.S. Government immediately stops these flights over Soviet territory, apologizes for the past flights, and punishes the persons responsible. Khrushchev also proposes that the conference be postponed for six to eight months. Khrushchev also states that the "provocative and aggressive" actions of

the U.S. towards the Soviet Union make it inadvisable for the President to visit the USSR in June. President Eisenhower responds that the flights had been stopped and will not be resumed and are not an issue for the Summit Conference. Khrushchev had accused that the conference had been “torpedoed” by “American reactionary circles” and the President responds that Khrushchev, after “brushing aside all arguments of reason,” came “all the way from Moscow to Paris with the sole intention of sabotaging this meeting on which so much of the hopes of the world have rested.” Subsequent attempts by President de Gaulle and Macmillan to save the conference fail and the U.S. President, the British Prime Minister and the Soviet Prime Minister leave Paris on May 19.

#### **Hungary – May 17, 1960 (KCA/HC)**

General Géza Révész, Minister of Defense since 1957, has been appointed Ambassador in Moscow and will be succeeded at the Defense Ministry by Lieutenant-General Lajos Czinege.

#### **Hungary – May 18, 1960 (OSA)**

Hungarian peasant refugees give a detailed report on the collectivization methods applied by the Hungarian government from autumn 1959 until spring 1960, while explaining events in their home village. The interview conducted by a member of the Hungarian Programming Desk in Munich of Radio Free Europe include information on work schedules, assembly operations, the force used by agitators and more.

#### **Soviet Union – May 18, 1960 (KCA)**

While still in Paris after the failed Summit meeting of May 16, Khrushchev holds a press conference. During the question session Khrushchev confirms that the Soviet Union will continue to participate in the Geneva negotiations but “About the disarmament talks – we are almost convinced that our partners in Geneva do not want disarmament.... What is happening in Geneva is merely procrastination.” He states that if the procrastination continues the Soviet Union will take the issue to the U.N. General Assembly. He also announces the intentions of the Soviet Union to conclude a separate peace treaty in Berlin.

#### **Romania / Eastern Block – May 20-27, 1960 (HC)**

An assembly of the Communist parties of the Socialist countries takes place in Bucharest.

#### **Soviet Union / East Germany – May 20-30, 1960 (KCA)**

Khrushchev visits East Berlin for discussions with East German leaders. In a speech at which Walter Ulbricht, Prime Minister Otto Grotewohl, and Marshal Malinovsky are present, Khrushchev reiterated that the Summit meeting of May 16 was wrecked by U.S. actions but emphasized that the USSR would “do nothing to worsen the international situation and bring it back to the worst time of the Cold War.” His speech in East Berlin is moderate and contains an assurance that the Soviet Union will “continue to follow the Leninist policy of peaceful co-existence.” He also maintained the Soviet Union’s right to conclude a peace treaty with Eastern Germany, but indicated that the present situation in Berlin would have to be maintained until a new summit conference can be held. On May 30, Marshal Malinovsky states that he has ordered the Commander-in-Chief of the Soviet Rocket Forces to strike at any base used by an intruder plane if the Soviet Union’s airspace is violated.

#### **East Germany – May 23-24, 1960 (OSA)**

A meeting of the Socialist Unity Party (SED)’s Politburo takes place, which facilitates and sets the tone for several upcoming district delegate conferences in the German Democratic Republic. These are mainly concerned with the ideological dissonance among SED party

members, as well as between party aims and the regime's achievements. The self-critical attitude manifests in a series of speeches given by prominent party members such as Otto Grotewohl and Walter Ulbricht in cities across East Germany in late May and early June.

**Hungary – May 27-28, 1960 (HC)**

The Second National Congress of the Patriotic People's Front takes place in Budapest.

**East Germany – May 27, 1960 (OSA)**

The SED's renewed self-criticism manifests in the removal of several middle-tier functionaries. Walter Münchenhagen the party's first secretary of Dresden's city committee, as well as his deputy are purged from their posts for misguided opinions, passivity, and opportunism. Fritz Reuter, the party's first district secretary, is also replaced for not doing enough work for the party.

**Soviet Union – May 30, 1960 (KCA)**

The newspaper *Izvestia*, published by the Soviet Government, appears for the first time as an evening paper instead of a morning paper.

**Soviet Union – May 30, 1960 (KCA)**

Acclaimed novelist, poet, and *Dr. Zhivago* author Boris Pasternak dies near Moscow.

**June**

**East Germany – June, 1960 (OSA)**

Purges of middle-tier SED officials continue in what becomes known as the 'Dresden Disease'.

**Hungary / Austria – June, 1960 (OSA)**

A uniformed Hungarian soldier was arrested by Austrian police who asked for political asylum.

**Yugoslavia / Indonesia – June 1960 (MOL)**

Indonesian President Sukarno visits Yugoslavia.

**Czechoslovakia – June 1, 1960 (OSA)**

Plans for regional reorganization among the CzR's Regional Committees lead to the election of new officials.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 2, 1960 (CAC/LBC)**

The Soviet Union makes a proposal for general and complete disarmament. The Soviet Union puts forward a new three step disarmament plan. Disarmament would be supervised by an international organ, the members of which would receive the right to veto certain issues. Disarmament would be controlled from the air and the ground, international observers would have to be allowed to visit any territory. In the first step the accumulation and production of nuclear weapons would be banned and nuclear arms delivery vehicles would be destroyed. The second phase would maximize the armed forces of the USSR and the U.S. to 1.7 million; in the third step all armed forces except limited militias would be eliminated. – *June 17*. Critique of the Soviet plan: if in the first step nuclear arms would be liquidated, the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Europe would upset the military balance and the small countries of Europe would be at the mercy of the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union – June 3, 1960 (KCA)**

At a Kremlin press conference, Khrushchev announces a new disarmament proposal that would have been presented by the USSR at the Summit Conference in Paris that was aborted on May 16. He also makes a personal attack on President Eisenhower, calling his presidency a “dark period” in American and world history. Though he expressed support for the Soviet disarmament proposal of September 1959 (presented to the United Nations) he stated that the Soviet Government were “prepared to agree on a different sequence for carrying out disarmament measures, if that sequence is more acceptable to the Western Powers.” A draft of a disarmament treaty was sent by Khrushchev to the Heads of Governments of all countries.

**Finland – June 4, 1960 (MKM)**

An equestrian statue of Former Finnish President Carl Gustav Emil Mannerheim is unveiled in Helsinki city centre.

**Soviet Union – June 7, 1960 (KCA)**

It is announced in Moscow that Professor Vassily Emelyanov has been appointed chairman of the State Atomic Energy Committee of the USSR Council of Ministers. Professor Emelyanov was chief of the Central Atomic Energy Board, which was recently reorganized under the above name.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt – June 7-24, 1960 (KCA/MOL)**

President of the United Arab Republic Gamal Abdel Nasser makes State visits to Greece and Yugoslavia. On June 13 he makes his third trip to Yugoslavia and begins discussions with President Tito on non-alignment and neutrality at the Isle of Brioni. At the end of Nasser's visit, on June 20, a joint communiqué is released covering several issues: world peace being a task for all countries, not just the Great Powers; the value of Soviet disarmament proposals; the desire to increase efforts for the development of emerging countries; the ending of the Algerian war based on self-determination; and the construction of a joint ministerial committee between Yugoslavia and the UAR to increase cooperation in economic, technical and commercial fields.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – June 8, 1960 (KCA)**

The Committee of Free Jurists in West Berlin announces that Dr. Walter Linse, the former leader of the Free Jurists died in the Soviet Union on December 15, 1953 following his kidnapping and transport to East Berlin in July 1952. The death of Dr. Linse had been reported by the Soviet Red Cross in response to inquiries from the West German Red Cross. The Soviet authorities had previously denied all knowledge of the matter. The kidnapping was carried out by the East German security services. Dr. Linse was reported to have been handed over to the Russians in the autumn of 1952 and sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment.

**Hungary / Austria – June 8, 1960 (OSA)**

The Reuters news agency reported, that two Hungarian soldiers in full uniform defected to Austria the previous day and asked authorities for political asylum. One of them was armed, and has handed over his weapon and ammunition when giving himself up to the police. Both events occurred in Burgenland province.

**Soviet Union / Switzerland – June 9, 1960 (KCA)**

Josef Kuzmin is appointed ambassador to Switzerland on June 9, and is replaced as chairman of the State Scientific and Economic Committee by Alexander Zasyadko. On June 15, Kirichnko is dismissed as party secretary in the Rostov region. Belyaev is dismissed from his post in Stavropol on June 26.

**Czechoslovakia / Cuba – June 10, 1960 (KCA)**

Cuba and Czechoslovakia sign an economic and trade and payments agreement in which Czechoslovakia grants Cuba up to \$20,000,000 in credit for the purchase of industrial plants and machinery. Eight factories in Cuba will be built by the Czechoslovak *Technoexport* organization.

**Soviet Union / China – June 13-16, 1960 (PLC)**

Sino-Soviet tensions increase at the socialist countries' meeting in Bucharest on the eve of the Communist Romanian Workers' Party's upcoming 8th congress (June 20-25). Only the Albanian Communist Party supports the CPC.

**Soviet Union / Switzerland – June 16, 1960 (KCA)**

The European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) announces an agreement for exchanging scientists with the Nuclear Research Center at Dubna. Three Soviet scientists will arrive in Geneva for a six-month stay and in the future three CERN scientists will travel to Dubna.

**Poland / Cuba – June 19–25, 1960 (KCA)**

Captain Nunez Jimenez visits Warsaw, meets with Gomulka and other Polish Ministers. Diplomatic relations between Cuba and Poland will resume. An agreement for the expansion of Cuban–Polish trade and scientific and technical cooperation is signed.

**Soviet Bloc / Asia – June 20–25, 1960 (CAC/KCA)**

Party leaders of all the Eastern European and Asian Communist countries except for Yugoslavia met at the third congress of the Romanian Workers' Party. On June 24, the twelve countries release a communiqué restating their support for Khrushchev's policy of "peaceful coexistence" and their view that the current state of the world reaffirms the correctness of the Marxist-Leninist theses. Khrushchev addresses the leaders and defends his actions at the Summit conference as there was criticism in some communist countries of his actions. There a division of opinion between the Soviet and Chinese Communist parties is apparent. During the Soviet–Chinese row at the Romanian party congress, Albania sides with China.

**Romania – June 20-25, 1960 (SRR)**

The Party's third congress is held in Bucharest. Gheorghiu-Dej summarizes the country's economic achievements and outlines future economic goals. He urges the acceptance of a proposed six-year plan and claims that the rate of growth in industrial production is the fastest in Eastern Europe, the collectivization of agriculture is virtually complete. Romania proclaims to have reached a sufficient level of socialist development that entitled the country to major status in the Soviet bloc and COMECON.

**Romania / Soviet Union – June 21, 1960 (LBC)**

Prime Minister Khrushchev's speech at the Congress of the Romanian communist party: Contrary to Lenin's statement war is not inevitable among present circumstances, the only way is peaceful coexistence.

**Greece / Turkey / Yugoslavia – June 24, 1960 (PLC/KCA)**

The Greek Foreign Ministry announces that the 1954 Balkan alliance between Greece, Yugoslavia, and Turkey has "ceased functioning in its original form." This supports an earlier Yugoslav declaration that the Pact had basically ceased to exist.



**Soviet Union / Warsaw Pact – June 24, 1960 (KCA)**

Marshal Andrei Grechko succeeds Marshal Ivan Koniev after he is relieved of his post as Commander-in-Chief of the joint armed forces of the Warsaw Treaty countries. Marshal Koniev requested to be relieved for health reasons.

**Soviet Bloc – June 24, 1960 (MMS)**

Summit meeting of the Soviet Bloc leaders in Bucharest.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 25, 1960 (LBC)**

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee's report on the U-2 incident on the basis of the hearings: the U.S. government, in view of the Soviet tradition of secrecy should have stopped the U-2 mission in view of the upcoming summit even though report came of "important information" (the committee was not informed of this); President Eisenhower made a mistake by taking responsibility for the incident when based on Khrushchev's remarks he could have avoided it. Because of the U-2 incident the summit was cancelled.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – June 25, 1960 (MOL)**

Yugoslav spokesman Drago Kunc condemns First Secretary of the CPSU Nikita S. Khrushchev for his incorrect assessment of Yugoslav foreign policy at the third congress of the Romanian Workers' Party.

**Poland / India – June 27, 1960 (KCA)**

India and Poland sign a shipping agreement providing for a regular service to operate between the two countries with 12 yearly trips each way.

**Soviet Union – June 27, 1960 (LBC)**

The Soviet Union unilaterally cancels the Geneva disarmament talks. The reason: the West did not consider seriously the Soviet disarmament proposal of June 2. The Soviet delegates and the East European participants left the meeting despite the fact that the Western side announced through informal channels that a new proposal would be presented in a couple of days. – The new disarmament proposal is revealed, which places the main emphasis is on measures against surprise attacks, the annihilation of nuclear delivery vehicles and the strict supervision of all stages of disarmament. The compromise proposal aims at general and full disarmament, only an armed international contingent for peace supervision would remain.

**Yugoslavia / The Netherlands June 29, 1960 (MOL)**

The Foreign Minister of the Netherlands visits Yugoslavia.

**Soviet Union / East Germany – June 30, 1960 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government issues notes to the three Western ambassadors protesting against the use of West Berlin for West Germany's military preparations. These follow similar notes issued by the GDR on June 6. The West Berlin Government denies that the Bundeswehr is recruiting in West Berlin, an allegation in the note.

**Soviet Union / Austria – June 30-July 12, 1960 (KCA)**

Khrushchev and his delegation arrive in Vienna on June 30 on a state visit to Austria. Khrushchev's delegation tours the country and meets with members of the Austrian Government. He gives many speeches and a press conference in which he criticizes the U.S. and West Germany, states that the NATO bases in Italy are a threat to Austria, that the Soviet Union will defend Austria's neutrality, and attacks Adenauer. Khrushchev gives a television

broadcast on July 7 on the Soviet Union's economic progress and the issue of disarmament. On July 8 a joint Austro-Soviet communiqué is issued. After receiving notification of the U.S. and West German concerns regarding the failure of the Austrian Government to disassociate itself from the attacks made by Khrushchev, Raab distances himself from Khrushchev's attacks on West Germany, Italy, the U.S., and particularly, Adenauer. He also states that protecting Austria's neutrality is exclusively an Austrian affair. On July 12 an Austrian Cabinet communiqué states the rejection of the US and West German protests as the Austrian government had no way to alter Khrushchev's speeches on Austrian territory but that it did not agree with the substance of them.

## **July**

### **COMECON – July 1960 (CEC)**

The 13th session of COMECON is held in Budapest. The main topics are the specialization in agriculture, agricultural engineering, farm chemicals and engineering. The unification of long-term plan period with 1980 horizon is envisaged. A commission is set up on use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. The COMECON Rules of Procedure are agreed.

### **Hungary – July 1960 (KCA)**

Preliminary statistics from the January 1, 1960 census taken in Hungary are published. The population was 9,977,879 of which 5,160,515 are women. 5,300,000 people are employed, 1,860,000 of these work in agriculture. The populations of the largest cities are included and Budapest has a population of 1,807,299.

### **Yugoslavia / Greece – July 1960 (MOL)**

The Foreign Minister of Greece, Constantine Karamanlis visits Tito.

### **Yugoslavia / U.N. – July 1960 (RYN)**

Yugoslavia supports the U.N. intervention in Congo. It responds promptly to U.N. Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld's request for technical personnel, contributing pilots and mechanics to the United Nation Operation in the Congo (ONUC).

### **Soviet Union / Western Bloc / U.N. – July 1960 (KCA)**

On July 1, an American RB-47 out of a base in Britain is shot down by a Soviet fighter while on an electro-magnetic survey flight over the Arctic Ocean. The American search for the plane was called off on July 7. On July 11, the Soviets present Notes to Norway, Britain, and the U.S., stating that they had shot down the plane, killing four of the six crewmen. Soviet authorities claim the plane violated Soviet airspace and territorial waters. The U.S. maintains that it was shot down over international waters and had not violated Soviet airspace and demands the return of the two surviving crewmembers. At a Kremlin press conference on July 12, Khrushchev accuses the U.S. of "openly provoking a serious war conflict." Gromyko sends a message to the Security Council president on July 13 asking for an urgent meeting of the Council to consider the incident. The Security Council holds a debate on the issue from July 22-26. The debates end with Soviet vetoes of a U.S. draft resolution on an investigation of the incident and an Italian draft resolution on allowing the International Red Cross to have access to the two survivors. On July 26 the Soviet, American, and Italian resolutions all fail due to lack of support or veto. On July 13, a separate *aide-memoire* is sent to the U.S. by the Soviets protesting the

repeated “buzzing” of Soviet ships by American aircraft. The U.S. denies these allegations. The same complaint was made to the U.K., Canada, France, Norway, and Denmark.

#### **Indonesia / Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Romania – July 1960 (KCA)**

On his tour of Eastern Europe, the Indonesian Prime Minister signs an agreement on Soviet aid to Indonesia on the use of atomic energy and a long-term trade agreement. In Prague the Minister concludes an economic agreement under which complete factories, industrial equipment, and other capital goods of a total value of 12,000,000 rupiahs will be provided by Czechoslovakia. In Hungary, it is agreed that a Hungarian delegation will visit Indonesia within the year to negotiate a technical and scientific cooperation agreement covering mining, oil prospecting, communications and other fields. In Romania the Minister and the Romanian Prime Minister agree to exchange trade missions to explore the possibility of concluding a long-term trade agreement between the two countries.

#### **Cyprus / Greece / Turkey / U.K. – July 1, 1960 (PLC)**

Treaty of guarantee between the Republic of Cyprus and Greece, the United Kingdom and Turkey, and alliance treaties between Cyprus and Greece and Cyprus and Turkey signed, thereby making Cyprus an indirect NATO member.

#### **Poland / U.S. – July 2, 1960 (KCA)**

The U.S. and Poland sign a further agreement for the sale of U.S. surplus farm products to Poland. Including \$10,500,000 in ocean freight charges, the total amount involved is \$130,000,000. Also \$61,000,000 of credit is extended to the Polish Government by the Export-Import Bank intended for purchasing medical supplies, industrial equipment, and farm products.

#### **Soviet Union – July 5–7, 1960 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union launches two successful tests of a multi-stage ballistic rocket designed for space flight.

#### **Italy – July 5–7 (KCA)**

During a series of Neo-Fascist, Anti-Fascist, and Communist demonstrations in Italy a Molotov cocktail is thrown into the gardens of the Soviet Trade Office in Rome and explodes and a large bomb is found in the courtyard of the Soviet Embassy in Rome. Another bomb is found outside the Hungarian legation.

#### **Czechoslovakia – July 6, 1960 (OSA)**

The All State National CPCz Conference in Prague sees the Czechoslovak Republic proclaiming the second official “socialist state” in Europe, after the USSR (the name of the country was changed to: Czechoslovak Socialist Republic); discussion of Czechoslovakia’s upcoming third Five Year Plan; and debates over the draft revised constitution. The constitution, drafted in April, is significant for a number of reasons: it explicitly expresses the affiliation of a satellite country to the Soviet bloc for the first time; it undervalues individuals’ rights through a framework of “collective freedom”; and it abolishes the partition of state power into legislative, executive and judiciary, as well as Slovakia’s executive branch, severely limiting its autonomy.

#### **Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – 8 July, 1960 (OSA)**

The Comecon suffers from "huge unsolved problems" for the solution of which "one will need much time." This is the focus of a commentary published in the latest issue of the Belgrade

quarterly "*Medjunarodni Problemi*" (International Problems) which appeared at the end of June. Zhivorad Jevtió, a Yugoslav expert on Czechoslovak affairs, reviewed the Czechoslovak publication "The Development of the International Division of Labor in the Socialist World System (Razvoj me zinarodní dělby práce v socialistické světové soustavě) published by SNPL (State Publishing House) in Prague in the latter part of 1959. This publication is a symposium of the discussions which took place at the Comecon representatives' meeting in Prague on the 15th and 16th December 1958.

#### **Soviet Union / Cuba / U.S. – July 9, 1960 (KCA)**

Khrushchev states the Soviet Government's total support for the Cuban revolution, accuses the U.S. of plotting against Cuba, and criticizes the U.S. reduction of the Cuban sugar quota. Khrushchev implies that the USSR would respond with rockets if the U.S. attempts a military intervention in Cuba. President Eisenhower issues a statement declaring that the U.S. will never allow the establishment of a Communist regime in the Western Hemisphere.

#### **Czechoslovakia – July 9, 1960 (OSA)**

President Antonín Novotný accepts the resignation of the government, with plans to announce the new government shortly; and the newly elected National Assembly holds its first meeting.

#### **Hungary / Iraq – July 11, 1960 (OSA)**

A Hungarian diplomat and his family and two Hungarian technicians have recently asked for political asylum in Baghdad. The defections followed the decision of Poland's commercial attaché to ask for political asylum.

#### **Soviet Union / U.S. – July 11, 1960 (LBC)**

The Soviet air defense shoots down an RB-47 type aircraft, which was allegedly performing air reconnaissance over Soviet territory. The U.S. denies this and questions whether the plane strayed over Soviet territory. – *July 12*. Khrushchev's war threat: The U.S. is increasing international tension; it is threatening with war. He holds Eisenhower personally responsible, just like the British and the Norwegian prime ministers for providing the spy plane with bases. – The U.S. announces: the plane was over international waters and never got 30 miles closer to Soviet waters. The plane was carrying out electromagnetic observations going on for ten years. – Britain announces it will discuss the question of bases with the U.S. – The democratic platform is announced in the U.S.. According to this the U.S. cannot live in armed camps with totalitarian ideologies. A lasting peace is needed in which the universal values of human dignity, the law secures justice. Therefore, America's military, political economic and moral strength must be restored. In the field of disarmament the banning of nuclear tests must be accomplished, outer space can be used for peaceful purposes only, the possibility of surprise attack and accidental war must be avoided. – For the captive nations: the U.S. strives for lasting friendship with these nations, which penetrates deeper than ideology and politics and promotes a better world. The U.S. wants better relations through personal, cultural, commercial and non-government links. – *July 15*: the Soviet Union's note to the U.S.: Moscow rejects the U.S. claim according to which the U.S. RB-47 was conducting legal experiments over the Barents Sea. – *July 18*. The American response: the USSR shot down the plane illegally and the crew's release is demanded. – *July 19*. British Prime Minister MacMillan's letter to Khrushchev: "due to mistakes or accidents we can all end up in a situation we cannot escape".

#### **Czechoslovakia – July 11, 1960 (PLC)**

According to its new constitution, Czechoslovakia's new name is Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

**Czechoslovakia – July 11, 1960 (OSA)**

President Antonin Novotny appoints a new government, consisting of 30 ministers like the previous one.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 12, 1960 (CWC)**

At a press conference, Khrushchev states that the Monroe Doctrine has died and it should be buried. He also states that rumors that the Soviet Union wants bases in Cuba are incorrect. The Soviet Union does not want to interfere in Latin American affairs and Dr. Castro's regime is not communist, he states. In response, a reaffirmation of the Monroe Doctrine's principles is issued by the U.S. State Department. The statement also says the Soviet accusations of U.S. aggression against Cuba are a non-existent threat. On August 10, President Eisenhower states that if Cuba or any other country falls under the control of international Communism, definite action by the U.S. will be required.

**East Germany – July 14, 1960 (KCA)**

It is announced that the East German Deputy Premier and Defense Minister is relieved of his Defense portfolio and given the task of "coordinating and controlling the execution of the decisions of the central committee of the Socialist Unity Party and the Council of Ministers." Colonel-General Heinz Hoffmann becomes the new Defense Minister. Several other cabinet changes are made.

**Soviet Union – July 16, 1960 (KCA)**

It is announced that Leonid Brezhnev has been elected as chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and will no longer be secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party. Former head of state Marshal Voroshilov had requested to be relieved from membership of the Presidium for health reasons, but he is still a member of the Supreme Soviet.

**Poland / U.S. – July 16, 1960 (LBC/PSN)**

Under the Polish–American agreement Poland will pay \$40 million in twenty years instalments to American citizens for property which has been nationalized in Poland. Poland starts talks on the compensation of American owners of 45 million dollars' worth of bonds issued by the Polish government in the interwar years. The U.S. releases one million dollars' worth of Polish property frozen after World War II. – *July 21*. A Polish–American aid agreement is signed which envisions the sale of 130 million dollars of American agricultural commodities for zlotys. This included in the past four years the U.S. sold 426 million dollars of agricultural goods to Poland.

**Cuba / Eastern Europe – July 17–21, 1960 (KCA)**

Major Raul Castro visits Moscow on his "goodwill tour" of Eastern Europe. On July 21, a communiqué is issued that states Major Castro's gratitude, on behalf of the Cuban Government, for the political and moral support of the USSR. It also states Khrushchev's confirmation that the Soviet Union will use all means to prevent a military intervention in Cuba by the U.S.

**Poland / Soviet Union / Czechoslovakia / Bulgaria / Romania – July 17, 1960 (OSA)**

On the occasion of the anniversary of the battle of Grunwald 100,000 people participated in a mass demonstration on the battlefield where Polish and Lithuanian armies defeated the Teutonic knights of the cross in 1410. In his speech the Polish Communist leader Gomulka states that the wolfish character of German imperialism has not changed in five centuries. However, Gomulka affirms the need for peace and friendship between the Polish and the German nations. Grunwald ceremonies have been linked with an effort to increase the patriotism of Polish youth and their

support for the Communist party. A delegation from the Supreme Soviet and delegations from Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Romania attended the celebration, but the East German delegation was not present. During the ceremonies, a hilltop monument to the Polish Grunwald victory was unveiled.

#### **Poland / Soviet Union / Czechoslovakia – July 18, 1960 (OSA)**

During the ceremonies for the anniversary of the Polish victory in Grunwald battle, N. Organov, the leader of the delegation of the Supreme Soviet visiting Poland, affirms that the Soviet government firmly stated on several occasions that the Western frontiers of Poland on the Oder-Neisse line are inviolable and that the Soviet Union would defend that border as its own border. Organov adds that the Soviet government's warning should be taken seriously by US and its allies especially following the US provocation represented by the recent flights of US planes over Soviet territory. J. Duris, the leader of Czechoslovakia's government delegation, also speaks by affirming that the united and invincible socialist camp would respond to every possible aggression against Poland with the assistance of the US.

#### **Hungary – July 19, 1960 (HC)**

An international pest control conference takes place in Budapest.

#### **Soviet Union / U.S. / U.N. / Belgium – July 20–21, 1960 (KCA)**

At the Security Council debate, the Soviet representative at the United Nations accuses Belgium of "continuing an open struggle against the legitimate Government of the Congo Republic." He also submits a draft resolution that proposes the immediate end to armed intervention in the Congo and the withdrawal of the forces and calls on the U.N. to respect the territorial integrity of the Congo Republic. He later asserts that the U.S. is mistaken if it thinks it can "bully" the Soviet Union in regard to the Congo. The USSR later withdrew its proposal.

#### **U.S. / U.N. – July 21, 1960 (KCA)**

The U.S. requests a convening of the U.N. Disarmament Commission to continue discussions following the breakup of the 10-nation talks by the Soviet Union. August 16-18: The U.N. Disarmament Commission holds a three-day meeting at the initiative of the U.S. Government on July 21 and unanimously adopts a resolution to continue efforts for the earliest possible continuation of negotiations to find a solution to the question of disarmament under international control.

#### **East Germany / Cuba – July 21, 1960 (KCA)**

The East German News Agency reports that 15 complete factories will be built for Cuba by the GDR. This is an attempt to make Cuba independent of Western imports in certain fields.

#### **Soviet Union / U.S. – July 22, 1960 (LBC)**

Soviet U.N. representative Kuznetsov on the RB-47 incident: "this is not yet war, but preparation for war". According to Kuznetsov England and Norway became "accomplices" by placing their bases at the U.S.'s disposal. – *July 25*. According to Kuznetsov the RB-47 was obviously on an aggressive mission. – *July 26*. The U.N. Security Council rejects the Soviet draft proposal to condemn the U.S. for performing intelligence flights over the USSR. At the same time the USSR vetoes the U.S. proposal to investigate the incident on the spot and rejects an Italian proposal for the Red Cross to contact the American crew on a humanitarian basis. – U.N. representative Cabot-Lodge claims there is proof that a Soviet fighter wanted to force the RB-47, which was flying 50 miles north of the USSR to fly over Soviet territory and then at time different from the one signalled by the Soviet Union shot it from Soviet territory.

According to Lodge the Soviet Union is carrying out extensive spying close to the American coast with specially equipped ships and planes.

**Soviet Union – July 25, 1960 (CAC)**

Soviet Marshal Andrei Grechko replaces Marshal Ivan Konev as Warsaw Pact supreme commander.

**COMECON – July 26-29, 1960 (HC/MMS)**

The 13th session of the COMECON takes place in Budapest.

**Poland – July 26, 1960 (OSA)**

It is reported that the decision to conduct a national Polish census was taken on the 24 July 1960. The census has to include statistics, housing and building alongside agriculture. Details about the preparatory work for the census are given. It is also reported the date of the previous Polish census, which was conducted in December 1950, thus the 1960 one was expected to be more reliable for the Five-Year Plan.

**Czechoslovakia / Indonesia – July 27, 1960 (KCA)**

A weekly air service between Prague and Jakarta via Ciaro, Bombay, and Rangoon comes into operation.

**Cyprus – July 31, 1960 (PLC)**

First Cyprian parliamentary elections mirror ethnic cleavages: Greek Cypriotes gain 35, Turkish Cypriotes gain 15 mandates.

**August**

**Hungary / Italy – August 25–September 11, 1960 (HC)**

The XVII Summer Olympic Games take place in Rome. Hungarian athletes win six gold, eight silver and seven bronze medals.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – August 1960 (MOL)**

U.S. Deputy Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Dillon visits Yugoslavia. According to Hungarian sources, the Yugoslavs suggest the signing of a new 5-year barter agreement between Yugoslavia and the United States and ask for further credit for the Yugoslav economy and planned currency reform.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 1, 1960 (LBC)**

The U.S. rejects a Soviet proposal to continue disarmament talks within the U.N. – *August 16*. The USSR rejects the U.S. proposal for nuclear arms reduction, which recommended that the two powers hand over 30 thousand kilograms of U-235 for peaceful aims.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – August 3, 1960 (KCA)**

Khrushchev replies to Macmillan's letter of July 19 regarding the British Prime Minister's concern over new trends in Soviet policy following the breakdown of the Summit meeting. Khrushchev's letter agrees that relations have deteriorated but blames this and the wrecking of the meeting in Paris on the United States.

**Albania / Bulgaria / Poland / Yugoslavia - August 4, 1960 (OSA)**

In the daily paper "*Politika*" published in Belgrade, Popovic talks about Poland's constant foreign trade deficit. He explains that one of the reasons for this was fluctuating coal prices, trade relations in Europe and the poorly planned 5 Year Plan. In the same newspaper, he publishes a detailed report on the lack of basic amenities in some towns in Bulgaria, although all goods should be plentiful. He writes that one of the reasons for these shortcomings is the negligence of the Bulgarian Ministry of Commerce officials.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 4, 1960 (KCA)**

Although the Soviet Union did not reply to a U.S. note sent on May 10 or an aide-memoire on July 11, regarding the trial and treatment of U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers, it did reply to a second note sent on July 30. On August 4 the Soviet Foreign Ministry stated that the Power's family's attorneys would not be allowed to participate in the case but that his family could meet with the lawyer provided to Powers.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria / Poland - August 4, 1960 (OSA)**

A report published in an issue of the Belgrade daily "*Politika*" in August says that foreign trade represents the "bottleneck" of the Polish economy and it explains the reasons behind the foreign trade deficits in Poland.

**Hungary – August 5, 1960 (OSA)**

A Hungarian man aged 24 was sentenced to prison for one year and six months for provoking another to defect. The man who previously committed other offences has returned to Hungary from Western Europe after an amnesty decree in 1957.

**Soviet Union – August 5, 1960 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union issues a decree proclaiming that the Soviet Union's territorial waters will extend 12 nautical miles from the coastal base lines but that different limits may be set under special agreements between the Soviet Union and other countries.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – August 12, 1960 (KCA)**

British, French, and U.S. notes are sent to Moscow and refute the Soviet accusations made in Soviet notes sent on June 30.

**Albania – August 13, 1960 (PLC)**

Enver Hoxha rejects Khrushchev's invitation to Moscow.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – August 13, 1960 (MOL)**

An announcement is issued on the discussions between the representatives of the British Labor Party and the League of Communists of Yugoslavia.

**Hungary / U.S. – August 13, 1960 (LBC)**

The State Department does not allow the Hungarian military attaché to return to the U.S. after vacation. He is accused of wanting to acquire secret military information.

**Cyprus – August 16, 1960 (PLC)**

After 82 years of British rule, Cyprian independence is declared. Greek archbishop Makarios III sworn in as president, Turkish Fazıl Küçük becomes vice-president.



**Hungary/Cuba – August 16, 1960 (HC)**

Hungary and Cuba sign a long-term economic trade agreement for the period 1961-1965 in Havana.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 17–19, 1960 (KCA)**

The trial of American U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers begins in Moscow. Powers is charged under Article 2 of the Law on Criminal Responsibility for Crimes against the State. If convicted, he could be sentenced to death or to imprisonment for up to 15 years. The indictment gives the full details of the flight and crash and states that Powers has confessed his guilt. August 19: Following the presentations by the prosecution, and the defense and Powers' testimony the judges deliberated for four hours and then sentenced Powers to ten years confinement, the first three to be served in prison. A personal appeal for clemency is filed by Powers to Khrushchev and a similar appeal will be sent to Soviet head of state Brezhnev by the Powers family.

**Hungary / Austria – August 19, 1960 (OSA)**

Austrian police have identified the body of a man found dead 10 meters inside Hungarian territory near the Hungarian frontier. He was found to be a German living in Hungary for a long time suspected of smuggling people from Hungary to Austria. The cause of his death is unknown.

**Soviet Union – August 19–21, 1960 (KCA)**

A second Soviet spaceship is put into orbit with mice, rats, two dogs, plants and other organisms aboard on August 19. The ship travels 700,000 kilometers and is brought back to earth on August 21 with the animals unharmed.

**East Germany / Burma – August 25, 1960 (KCA)**

Notes are exchanged in Rangoon between the East German Deputy Premier and the Burmese Foreign Minister providing for the opening of consular relations between the two states. However, Burmese officials state that this does not imply Burmese diplomatic recognition of the German Democratic Republic.

**Soviet Union / Ghana – August 25, 1960 (KCA)**

A Soviet-Ghanaian cultural agreement and a protocol on cultural exchanges between the USSR and Ghana for 1960-61 are signed. On August 28 an economic and technical cooperation agreement is signed in Moscow.

**Yugoslavia / Albania - August 26, 1960 (OSA)**

The first reaction to Edvard Kardelj's anti-Chinese book, which was reproduced in eight successive issues of the Belgrade daily "Borba" has not come from Peking, but from Albania. The Albanian Communist Party's media organ, Zeri i Popullit, published a critique stating that, despite the book, Titoist Communism consisted of revisionism, that it would be remembered by concentration camps, executions, trials, and clearly lacked humanism.

**Soviet Union / Egypt – August 27, 1960 (KCA)**

The U.A.R. and the USSR sign an agreement providing for Soviet economic and technical assistance in completing the final stage in building the Aswan High Dam. A long-term loan of 900,000,000 rubles is included.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – August 28, 1960 (OSA)**

Three attempts to defect are detailed by an article. One tells the story of a young man who has previously successfully fled Hungary but came back as a spy and wanted to flee again. Another man wanted to escape punishment for a pub brawl, the other simply lost his way home in the night and found himself in Yugoslavia the next morning. All three were intercepted by border patrol.

**East Germany / West Germany – August 30, 1960 (KCA)**

The East German Government announces that from midnight August 30–31 until midnight September 4–5 only West German citizens with valid residence visas are permitted to cross into the Eastern zone. These restrictions are intended to prevent the use of territory of the GDR for militaristic and revanchist meetings. This is in reference to German Association of Ex-prisoners of War and Missing Person's Relatives' rally and the German Federal Refugee Association's rally to be held in West Berlin from September 1–4. West Berlin citizens are exempted from the ban.

**Hungary / Italy – August 30, 1960 (OSA)**

Two Hungarian sports fans who followed the Hungarian Olympic team to Rome have asked for political asylum in Italy. The couple walked into a police station and announced their intention not to return to Hungary. They were the first known defectors since the games began.

**Soviet Union / India – August 30, 1960 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government grants India an additional 500,000,000 rubles of credit for India's Third Five-Year Plan.

**East Germany – August 31, 1960 (KCA)**

The Three Western Commandants in Berlin protest the restrictions announced by the Soviets on August 30 to the Soviet Commandant as a violation of the agreements of June 20, 1949. A statement is issued in Bonn condemning the East German actions in Berlin as illegal and that the organizations holding rallies were neither militaristic nor revanchist. – The Eastern sector of Berlin is sealed off from all West German citizens without special permits. On September 1, the restrictions are extended to the border between East and West Germany. The rallies pass quietly.

**September****Hungary / Czechoslovakia – September 1, 1960 (HC)**

Visa requirements for travel between Hungary and Czechoslovakia are eliminated.

**Albania / Yugoslavia / Soviet Union - September 2, 1960 (OSA)**

The anti-Chinese book published by Yugoslavian Deputy Prime Minister Edvard Kardelj is discussed in detail and criticised in the Soviet newspaper "Pravda." While accusing Yugoslavia of being revisionist, the article also mentions Chinese dogmatists. This article sparked a backlash in Yugoslavia. After the Sino-Soviet split, Yugoslavia openly accused Albania of being more pro-Chinese than pro-Soviet. They mention that Khrushchev, who claimed to be hegemon of the Communist Bloc, could not even control the tiniest communist state of Albania.

**East Germany / West Germany / France / U.K. / U.S. – September 3, 1960 (KCA)**

The British, French and American Ambassadors in Bonn issue statements condemning the East German action and reaffirming the right of the Western Allies to decide who may travel in the air corridors to Berlin.

**Finland / Soviet Union – September 3, 1960 (KMP)**

The sixtieth birthday celebration of President Urho Kaleva Kekkonen's, in which the Soviet First Secretary Nikita Khrushchev also participates, takes place. During the meeting Khrushchev states that the Soviet Union will not complicate the ongoing negotiations of Finland's EFTA membership but in return will expect her to keep the Soviet Union as the most-favored nation in trade.

**East Germany / West Germany – September 5, 1960 (KCA)**

The Ban on travel of West Germans to East Berlin is lifted but the East German News Agency warns that the West Germany is planning "new provocations" and that Ulbricht has declared that no representative of the West German Government has any reason to be in Berlin.

**France – September 5, 1960 (LBC)**

Speech by French President Charles de Gaulle on NATO: NATO will have to be changed in at least two respects: it must be extended to the Middle East and Africa, secondly, beside integration defense must receive a national dimension. According to the President it has to be founded on European cooperation and the "reality" of the nation state. – *October 9*. According to de Gaulle without an independent nuclear force France would not be a European power or sovereign state, only an integrated satellite.

**Soviet Union / Austria – September 5, 1960 (KCA)**

Vyacheslav Molotov arrives in Vienna as the new permanent Soviet representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency; unlike his predecessor, Molotov is granted ambassadorial status.

**Soviet Union / U.N. – September 5, 1960 (KCA)**

UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld questions the Soviet delegation to the U.N. about the direct Soviet aid sent to Lumumba's government in the Congo.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 6, 1960 (KCA)**

William H. Martin and Berron F. Michell, two mathematicians employed by the American National Security Agency appear in Moscow after disappearing in June. They have defected to the USSR and at a press conference state the reasons for their defection and attack the U.S. Government its policies "dangerous to world peace." Their statement alleges that the U.S. has deliberately violated the airspace of other nations for many years. Their position within the NSA and the information they had access to "could in no way be prejudicial to the security of U.S. communications" reports the Pentagon. The Soviet Union has granted them citizenship. On the same date, in a statement, President Eisenhower describes the two men as "self-confessed traitors" and the U.S. Department of Defense issues a statement denying the allegations of the two mathematicians.

**East Germany – September 7, 1960 (KCA)**

President of the German Democratic Republic, Wilhelm Pieck, dies at age 84.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 7, 1960 (KCA)**

President Eisenhower states that the U.S. views the Soviet supply of aircraft and other material to Lumumba's government in the Congo very seriously and urged the Soviet Government to stop its unilateral actions and support the collective efforts of the U.N.

**Soviet Union / Congo / U.S. / U.N. – September 8, 1960 (KCA)**

The Soviet Tass Agency publishes an attack on the U.N. Command in the Congo, accusing the U.N. of conspiring with the "deposed President" Kasavubu who is an "instrument of imperialist policy." It alleges that the U.S. and other Western Powers are using the flag of the U.N. in order to intervene in the Congolese internal affairs. On September 9 an urgent meeting of the Security Council is held at the request of Hammarskjöld. The Soviet Union and Yugoslavia had also requested meetings. The Soviet Union requested a meeting in a statement demanding the replacement of the present U.N. Command in the Congo and for the airfields and Leopoldville radio to be returned to Lumumba's Government.

**East Germany – September 8, 1960 (AGD)**

The GDR submits a plan for the disarmament and neutrality of Germany to the United Nations General Assembly.

**East Germany – September 8, 1960 (KCA)**

New restrictions on free travel in Berlin are imposed by the East German Council of Ministers. West German citizens need permits for any entry into East Berlin. Brandt warns the West Berlin Senate that further East German restrictions are to be expected. A British Foreign Office spokesman denounces the East German restrictions.

**Yugoslavia / U.N. – September 8, 1960 (KCA)**

The Yugoslav permanent delegate to the U.N., Dobrovoje Vidić, criticizes the actions of the U.N. Command in the Congo in a letter to the Security Council President.

**East Germany / West Germany / France / U.K. / U.S. – September 9, 1960 (KCA/ADG)**

The French Commandant and acting Allied chairman personally protests to General Zakharov on the instructions of the British, American and French governments. A three-Power working committee meets to agree on countermeasures to the restrictions to East Berlin. The Allies agree to refuse temporary travel permits to certain groups of East Germans wishing to travel to the West.

**Soviet Union / Mongolia – September 9, 1960 (KCA)**

Khrushchev and the Mongolian Prime Minister, Marshal Zedenbal, sign an agreement under which the Soviet Government is responsible for granting additional economic and technical aid to Mongolia to assist in the implementation of Mongolia's third Five Year Plan. The Soviet Union also grants Mongolia a long-term credit of 615,000,000 rubles.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / U.N. – September 10, 1960 (LBC)**

In a memorandum the U.S. leadership informs the Soviet U.N. mission that in order to guarantee his personal security Khrushchev's freedom of movement at his appearance at the U.N. General Assembly will be limited to New York City's Manhattan district. According to the memorandum the problem of Khrushchev's personal security is complicated by his hostile remarks and the shooting of an American plane over international waters. – Similar messages are delivered to the U.N. missions of Albania and Hungary, in which the personal movement of Mehmet Shehu and János Kádár is restricted. – *September 13.* The Soviet Union protests

against the limitation of Khrushchev's movement and deems it an intervention into the normal functioning of the Soviet U.N. mission, which calls into question the further operation of the international organ on American territory. – The State Department rejects the Soviet note.

**East Germany – September 12, 1960 (KCA/KGD)**

Following the death of Wilhelm Pieck (September 7) an amendment to the Constitution abolishing the office of State President and replacing it with a Council of State is unanimously passed by the East German *Volkskammer*. Walter Ulbricht is then unanimously elected as Chairman of the new Council of State.

**East Germany – September 13, 1960 (KCA)**

East German radio announces that the GDR Government will no longer recognize West Berlin passports held by citizens of West Berlin as valid. West Germans who wish to travel to the GDR will need an ID card with a special East German permit attached.

**Hungary / Austria – September 13, 1960 (OSA)**

Four Hungarian tourists decided to defect to the West. They arrived on streamers on the Danube to Vienna and failed to show up on time for their departure.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 14, 1960 (KCA)**

Nikolai Fedorovich Artamonov appears before the U.S. House Committee on Un-American Activities. Before his defection in June 1959, Artamonov was commander of a Soviet destroyer. His testimony states that Khrushchev's disarmament proposals are inconsistent with Soviet military strategy which is based on surprise nuclear attack.

**East Germany / West Germany – September 14, 1960 (KCA)**

German Federal Government decides to prevent West German restrictions from visiting the Leipzig Fair as long as the East German restrictions remain in place. Also, General Zahkharov rejects the Western protests.

**OPEC – September 14, 1960 (PLC)**

Organization of Petrol Exporting Countries (OPEC) founded in Baghdad.

**Western Europe / Soviet Bloc – September 14, 1960 (KCA)**

A report for the Council of Europe prepared by Dr. Agnes Maxsein states that there are now over 2,000 jamming units divided into 225 stations in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. The report presents ways for Western countries to counteract the increased jamming.

**Albania / Yugoslavia – September 15, 1960 (OSA)**

Yugoslav Marshal Tito and the Albanian Prime Minister Mehmet Shehu start their travel together on the British ship "Queen Elizabeth" to attend the UN General Assembly Session in New York.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia / Poland – September 15, 1960 (KCA)**

The Czechoslovak and Polish military missions in West Berlin state that their countries will also not recognize West Berlin passports held by West Berliners.

**Hungary / Cuba – September 16, 1960 (KCA)**

Hungary and Cuba sign an economic agreement in Havana providing for an \$8,000,000 credit from Hungary to Cuba. A technical and scientific cooperation agreement is also signed; it provides for an exchange of experts.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria / Macedonia - September 16, 1960 (OSA)**

The September 13th issue of the Skopje daily "*Nova Makedonija*" attacks Radio Sofia on a broadcast in Macedonian in which "Greater Bulgarian chauvinistic ideas" are propagated. The author of the article in "*Nova Makedonija*", Dimch Belovski, criticises Radio Sofia for praising the "traitor" Metodi Shatorov who in 1941, after the Bulgarian occupation of the Yugoslav part of Macedonia, greeted the Bulgarian troops not as foreign occupiers but as "liberators".

**Hungary / Austria – September 18, 1960 (OSA)**

Three Hungarian men successfully fled to Austria. Two of them were seriously injured by an exploding mine, one losing his left foot, the other his right leg under the knee. The two were rescued and helped by their fellow escapee.

**USA – September 19, 1960 (HC)**

On board the ocean liner *Baltika*, a delegation from the Soviet Union led by Nikita Khrushchev, a Hungarian delegation led by János Kádár, a Bulgaria delegation led by Todor Zhivkov and a Romanian delegation led by Gheorghiu-Dej travel to New York city for the 15th session of the United Nations.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / Laos – September 21, 1960 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government issues a declaration condemning the interference of the U.S., and SEATO in Laos. The U.S. denies the accusations.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 22, 1960 (LBC)**

The U.S. President's speech in the U.N.: the Geneva disarmament talks must be resumed, which must concentrate on accidental war and the growing number of nuclear weapons. The U.S. is willing to stop producing fissionable material as soon as an international observation committee begins to operate; it is ready to place its nuclear materials under international control on a mutual basis. – Khrushchev's speech: the U.S. replaces international law with piracy and honest talks with perfidy. The USSR puts forward a new disarmament plan, which in many ways meets the Western proposal "halfway". The first phase resembles the one of June 2: it wishes to reduce the size of the armies to 1.7 million for the U.S. and the Soviet Union, in contrast to the American proposal, which plans this reduction for the second phase. – *October 13*. Khrushchev's farewell speech in the U.N.: he demands general and full disarmament, threatens to boycott the disarmament talks in case this aim is not accepted. Khrushchev warns: the Soviet Union will quit the political committee of the GA, the U.N. Disarmament Commission and the Geneva disarmament talks unless the political committee works out the principles of disarmament based on the Soviet proposal. Khrushchev threatens Britain: "the well-known...unsinkable aircraft carrier would cease to exist on the first day of... war". – *October 18*. According to presidential candidate John F. Kennedy Eastern Europe is the "most vulnerable" spot of the Soviet Union, where the U.S. could launch an offensive against communism. Kennedy criticizes the administration for not having forged a closer relationship with Poland and Hungary in 1955–1956. According to Kennedy the U.S. must "identify with" the freedom aspirations of Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe. According to Kennedy, American strength diminished in the last year as compared to that of the communists.

**Yugoslavia / U.N. – September 22, 1960 (RYN/MOL)**

In his speech before the U.N. General Assembly, President Tito condemns the Western countries for seeking to perpetuate their economic exploitation of the Congo behind a facade of independence and deplore the ineffectiveness of the United Nations in securing the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the beleaguered Congo. Tito also criticizes the rearmament of the Federal Republic of Germany and supports the Soviet suggestion for non-proliferation.

**U.N. – September 23, 1960 (HC)**

The procedural committee of the General Assembly of UN returns “Hungarian Questions” to its schedule.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria - September 23, 1960 (OSA)**

"A delegation of the Sofia district committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, led by the Secretary Iliev, arrived in Nis (Serbia) Wednesday", announces “Tanjug” in a dispatch from September 21st. The delegation will spend three days in the Nis district as guests of the district committee of the League of Communists and the district people's committee. This is the first Party delegation from Bulgaria to visit Yugoslavia after the Hungarian revolution in 1956.

**Soviet Union / U.N. – September 25, 1960 (KCA)**

It is announced that Valerian Zorin has been appointed the permanent representative at the United Nations and Soviet member of the Security Council. He replaces Arkady Sobolev who returned to the USSR in July after a sudden illness.

**West Germany – September 26, 1960 (KCA)**

The Public Prosecutor in Bonn has dropped the criminal proceedings against Professor Oberlander after the extensive investigation produced no evidence to support the charges.

**Romania / U.N. – September 27, 1960 (CAC)**

At the United Nations, Romania, with Soviet support, proposes a Balkan collective security treaty, and a nuclear- and foreign base-free zone.

**Bulgaria – September 28, 1960 (CAC)**

Bulgarian party chief Todor Zhivkov urges a reduction of forces in the Balkans to the level of border guards, and calls for the Balkans to be the first area of general and complete disarmament.

**Austria – September 29, 1960 (OSA)**

Three Hungarians have escaped to Austria using the railway, stopping at Ebenfurt station and asking for help. They were transferred to the proper authorities.

**Albania / Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – September 30, 1960 (OSA)**

As negotiations in New York between Nikita Khrushchev and Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia continue, Yugoslavia is visited a Bulgarian Communist Party delegation.

**Soviet Union / U.N. – September 30, 1960 (PLC)**

Khrushchev stands up for Romanian membership in his speech at the U.N.

**Soviet Union / Somalia – September 30, 1960 (KCA)**

The Somali Republic and the Soviet Union establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level between the two countries.

**October****Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – October 1960 (KCA)**

The Geneva Nuclear Test Negotiations enter their third year without any further progress having been made on any of the substantive questions.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – October 1960 (KCA)**

Since the 1959 accident with a U-2 aircraft, a number of American and Soviet diplomats have been expelled after allegations of espionage. On October 16, 1959 Russell Langel, chief security officer at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow is expelled by the Soviet Government for carrying out intelligence activities in the Soviet Union; on July 22, 1960 Pyotr Yezhov, Third Secretary of the Soviet Embassy in Washington is declared *persona non grata* and expelled from the U.S. after being accused of abusing his diplomatic status; on August 10, 1960 Colonel Edwin Kirton the U.S. Embassy's Air Attaché in Moscow is expelled from the Soviet Union on charges of engaging in intelligence activities; on August 14, 1960 Valentin Ivanov, the Soviet Embassy's First Secretary in Washington is expelled from the U.S. for violating the norms of diplomatic behavior. He is the highest ranking official to be declared *persona non grata*; on August 26, 1960 U.S. Embassy in Moscow Economic attaché George P Winters is expelled from the USSR; on October 27, 1960 Igor Melekh, a senior Soviet official of the U.N. Secretariat is arrested on charges of trying to obtain intelligence data.

**Poland / Soviet Union / U.S. – October 1, 1960 (LBC)**

Presidential candidate John F. Kennedy's speech at the meeting of the Polish American congress: it is the "task" of the U.S. to help the satellites break away from the Soviet Union and "to pursue a policy of patiently encouraging freedom and carefully pressuring tyranny, a policy that looks toward evolution, not revolution – a policy that depends on peace, not war". He calls the Republican doctrine of liberation an empty phrase.

**Soviet Union – October 1, 1960 (KCA)**

The People's Friendship University in Moscow opens. It is for students from Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

**Yugoslavia / U.N. – October 1, 1960 (RYN)**

At the session of the U.N. General Assembly, India, the United Arab Republic, Ghana, Indonesia, and Yugoslavia attempt to sponsor a meeting between Premier First Secretary of the CPSU Nikita S. Khrushchev and President Eisenhower. The leaders of the five nonaligned states request the United States and the Soviet Union to „renew their contacts, interrupted recently, so that their declared willingness to find solutions of the outstanding problems by negotiation may be progressively implemented.”

**Soviet Union / Algeria – October 2, 1960 (KCA)**

Khrushchev has talks with the Foreign Minister of the "Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic", Ferhat Abbas, while attending the U.N. General Assembly in New York. At a press conference, Khrushchev declares that President de Gaulle had recognized the existence of the



Provisional Government by entering into negotiations with it but refused to state whether the Soviet Union recognized it.

**Hungary / U.N. – October 3, 1960 (HC)**

In a speech to the General Assembly of the U.N. János Kádár speaks about peace within the colonial system, the “Hungarian question”, and expresses support for Chinese memberships of the United Nations.

**Soviet Union (Kazakhstan) – October 3, 1960 (OSA)**

After the criticism of chairman Mukash Khasenov Radio announced his sudden death without any cause.

**Soviet Union / Algeria – October 6-7, 1960 (KCA)**

Ferhat Abbas, Foreign Minister of the “Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic” flies to Moscow on October 6 and at a reception at the Tunisian Embassy he makes an appeal for Soviet aid to the insurgents in Algeria. On October 7 Khrushchev announces that meetings with the Provisional Government represent de facto recognition of the Government and pledge to give the maximum aid “which will help them to win their freedom.”

**Bulgaria / Cuba – October 8, 1960 (KCA)**

The Bulgarian and Cuban Governments agree to establish embassy-level diplomatic relations and sign a credit agreement, a five-year commercial treaty, and a technical and scientific aid agreement.

**Hungary / Austria – October 9, 1960 (OSA)**

An army cadet has crossed the border while his unit was on a manoeuvre near the Austrian border. According to him, his escape took him four hours crawling on his hands and knees through the mined and barbed wired border strip.

**COMECON – October 11–13, 1960 (HC/MMS)**

The first session of the committee on nuclear co-operation within the COMECON takes place.

**Soviet Union / Italy – October 11, 1960 (KCA)**

It is announced that the Soviet Union and Italy have signed an agreement under which the USSR will supply Italy with 12,000,000 tons of oil over the next four years. In exchange, Italy will supply steel tubes, oil pipeline equipment, and synthetic rubber. The total amount involved is \$200,000,000.

**Soviet Union / Laos – October 13, 1960 (KCA)**

The new Soviet Ambassador to Laos arrives in Vientiane, he meets with Prince Souvanna on Oct. 15 and on the 17th it is announced that the Soviet Government has offered financial aid to Laos.

**Soviet Union – October 20, 1960 (KCA)**

The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet issues a decree ratifying the Antarctic Treaty.

**Soviet Union – October 22, 1960 (KCA)**

A four-mile underground railway in Kiev begins operating. This is the third underground in the Soviet Union.

**Czechoslovakia / Iraq – October 23, 1960 (KCA)**

It is announced that the Czechoslovak and Iraqi Governments have signed an economic cooperation agreement. The agreement provides for a Czechoslovak credit of 12,000,000 dinars to Iraq and the Czechoslovak construction of oil refinery installations and thermal and hydroelectric plants in Iraq.

**Soviet Union – October 24, 1960 (KCA)**

The Supreme Commander of Soviet Rocket Forces is killed in an air crash. He is succeeded by Marshal Kiril Moskalenko.

**Norway / Soviet Union – October 24, 1960 (KCA)**

Norwegian Foreign Minister Halvard Lange makes a statement in the *Storting* on Norway's foreign and defense policies with direct reference to Norway's relationship with the Soviet Union. He contests any attempts by the Soviet Union to dictate Norway's Foreign Policy.

**Albania / China – October 24, 1961 (KCA)**

Representatives from Albania and China sign economic agreements. In addition, the two governments state their ideological affinity and reaffirm their hostility to the "Tito clique."

**Soviet Union / India – October 24, 1960 (KCA)**

India and Soviet Union agree to double their trade in three years.

**Czechoslovakia / Cuba – October 25, 1960 (KCA)**

The Czechoslovak Government increases its credit to Cuba from the \$20,000,000 agreed upon in June to \$40,000,000 to be used for Cuban development of its machine-building industry.

**Hungary / U.K. – October 25, 1960 (KCA)**

Britain and Hungary sign a civil aviation agreement in London that provides for through services between London and Budapest beginning in April 1961 and consisting of two flights a week in each direction.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / Laos – October 27, 1960 (KCA)**

Prince Souvanna of Laos states that the Laotian government the Soviet unconditional financial aid offer but also that U.S. military aid will resume without delay and US general economic aid will be increased to its normal level.

**November****Soviet Union / North Korea – November 1960 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government signs a protocol agreeing to relieve North Korea of repayment of Soviet credits worth 760,000,000 rubles and to postpone the repayment of a 140,000,000-ruble credit.

**Soviet Union / Cuba – November 1, 1960 (KCA)**

In Moscow, talks begin on the expansion of Soviet-Cuban trade.

**Hungary/Soviet Union – November 3-December 4, 1960 (HC)**

A Hungarian delegation visits the Soviet Union led by First Secretary János Kádár.

### **Yugoslavia / Bulgaria / Turkey - November 7, 1960 (OSA)**

The November 5th issue of Belgrade daily "*Borba*" sharply attacks Radio Sofia for "jongleurism" in connection with the reporting on the Bayar-Menderes trial in Turkey.

### **USA – November 8, 1960 (HC)**

In the United States of America the Democrat John Fitzgerald Kennedy is elected President.

### **Romania / U.K. – November 10, 1960 (KCA)**

Britain and Romania sign a financial agreement under which the Romanian Government will pay £1,250,000 as a full and final settlement of British claims arising from the Peace Treaty with Romania and claims for British property and interests affected by Romanian nationalization. The payment will be made in annual instalments and the total amount is due January 31, 1967. A three-year trade agreement between Britain and Romania is also signed.

### **Soviet Bloc /Communist parties – November 10–December 1, 1960 (PLC/JVJ/MMS/KCA)**

Moscow meeting of 81 Communist and workers' parties. Declaration by 81 Communist Parties. Reaffirmation of Coexistence Policy. The Sino-Soviet Ideological Controversy.

There are delegations from 81 countries (Yugoslavia has not been invited). The conference, characterized by heated debate, reaches agreements which deal with controversial issues such as peaceful coexistence and the inevitability of war, and puts forward plans for future Communist tactics. Sino-Soviet controversy threatens to split international Communist movement: Albania sides with the Chinese, East Germany and Czechoslovakia are thought to have reservations on Soviet policies. The main dividing issues:

- Soviets think that Lenin's theory of inevitability of war under capitalism is no longer valid, while Chinese maintain that it is a "naïve illusion".
- Soviets emphasize that nuclear war would prove disastrous for every party concerned and are in favor of peaceful coexistence between the two blocs, while Chinese think that China could survive a nuclear war, which would result in further victories for communism.
- Soviet Union is more cautious than China in assisting nationalist movements in colonial and underdeveloped countries in view of their possible repercussions on international situation.
- Soviets contend that in underdeveloped countries communists should ally themselves with bourgeoisie in the struggle for national independence, which would pave the way for the transition to socialism. China disagrees.
- Soviets maintain that intensive industrialization is the essential prerequisite for the transition from Socialism to Communism, while the Chinese affirm that agricultural expansion is the one essential base.

After reaching his most acute point in August 1960, the contrast during September and October tends to calm down.

The final declaration states, inter alia, that:

- the time is not far off when Socialism's sphere of world production will be greater than that of capitalism; as long as imperialism exists there would be soil for wars and aggression; the meeting regards as a main duty of all the countries of socialist camp to defend the German Democratic Republic from Western Germany provocations; the aggressive nature of capitalism has not changed but real forces have appeared that are capable of foiling its plans of aggression: war is not fatally inevitable but, should capitalists decide to wage it, the peoples will sweep capitalism out of existence and bury it; peaceful coexistence between different social system does not imply conciliation between the Socialist and the bourgeois ideologies, but ideological and political disputes between States have not to be settled through war.

-as for colonial and underdeveloped countries, the collapse of colonial system is deemed imminent and the urgent tasks of national rebirth cannot be effectively accomplished unless a determined struggle is waged against imperialism by all the patriotic forces of the nation, united in a single national democratic front. Socialist countries consider their internationalists duty to help the peoples strengthening their independence.

-as for forms of transition to socialism, the choice of its social system is deemed as the inalienable right of people of each country. The working class can defeat the reactionary anti-popular forces, securing a firm majority in Parliament, and create the necessary conditions for peaceful realization of the Socialist revolution.

-as for revisionism and dogmatism, Yugoslavs are characterized as revisionists.

Repeating the 1957 formula, revisionism remains the main danger but “dogmatism and sectarianism in theory and in practice could also become the main danger at some stages of development of individual parties.”

The Moscow Conference also adopts a peace appeal, which calls for cooperation between Communists, Socialists, trade unionists, and others in support of the immediate prohibition of the testing, manufacture, and use of nuclear weapons, and the conclusion of a treaty on general disarmament. In his November 16 speech, Enver Hoxha attacks the CPSU for intervening in the internal affairs of the Albanian Communist Party, and leaves the conference the day after. Hoxha relates that he was pressured by the Soviets to side with the USSR against the Chinese. The meeting again strongly criticizes the revisionism in Yugoslav politics. The relationships between Yugoslavia and the Soviet satellites are on a new low. The Yugoslav Communist Party does not participate, the Chinese Communists only sign the conclusions after long debates.

#### **Romania / Soviet Union – November 11, 1960 (KCA)**

In Moscow, the Soviet Union and Romania sign an agreement providing for Soviet technical assistance to Romania in constructing and extending several industries.

#### **Soviet Union – November 14, 1960 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union announces a new external value for the ruble and the fixing of its gold content. The Soviet Finance Minister also indicates the discontinuation of the “two-tier” exchange rate. On January 1, 1961 these changes will come into effect along with the change of the internal value of the ruble and new rubles will also be introduced. On November 15 explanations for the changes were published in *Pravda*.

#### **Soviet Union / Morocco – November 15, 1960 (KCA)**

It is announced that the Moroccan Government has accepted the Soviet Union’s offer of military aid. This aid will primarily consist of the delivery of jet fighters; the delivery of 12 Mig fighters and two Ilyushin bombers will compose the first phase of the aid program.

#### **Poland / U.S. – November 17, 1960 (HDP)**

Poland regains the status of most-favoured-nation in trade with the United States.

#### **Finland / Soviet Union – November 20—24, 1960 (KMP)**

U. K. Kekkonen travels to Moscow for a five-day visit. During the meeting it is officially agreed that the Soviet Union wouldn’t oppose Finland’s EFTA membership and that the Soviets are willing to rent the Saimaa canal to Finland for 50 years.

#### **Soviet Union / Cambodia – November 21, 1960 (KCA)**

Cambodian Prince Sihanouk has talks with Khrushchev and other Soviet leaders. Both express concern the situation in Laos and call for complete disarmament under international control.

**France – November 22, 1960 (LBC)**

The French National Assembly passes a law that includes de Gaulle's plan to build an independent French nuclear force.

**Yugoslavia / Austria – November 24-27, 1960 (MOL)**

The Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia, Koča Popović visits Vienna. The joint declaration states that the discussions took place in friendly atmosphere.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / Poland – November 28, 1960 (KCA)**

Poland, the Soviet Union, and East Germany sign an agreement on shipping on their inland waterways. It provides for opening a permanent shipping line to the Berlin river ports from Kaliningrad, conditions for transit shipments between the Soviet Union and Poland and guarantees that all three countries will receive equal profits from shipments.

**December****Yugoslavia / U.S. – December 1960 (LUY)**

The United States leads a condominium of Western governments and agencies in underwriting Yugoslavia's third five-year plan due to begin in 1961 in the amount of 275 million dollars. The Americans guarantee 100 million dollars of this amount from the Export-Import Bank, the Development Loan Fund and the Mutual Security Program. The International Monetary Fund underwrites 75 million dollars, and some Western European governments and banks make up to balance of 100 million dollars.

**Yugoslavia / Italy – December 1960 (MOL)**

The Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia, Koča Popović visits Rome.

**Bulgaria / Soviet Union – December 1, 1960 (KCA)**

In Moscow, a protocol providing for Soviet technical aid to Bulgaria is signed. Under the protocol Soviet assistance will be provided in order to expand the Lenin iron and steel works, an oil refinery, a copper smelting works, and a power station.

**Soviet Union / Mauritania – December 4, 1960 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union vetoes Mauritania's application for membership of the U.N. This is because the Council decided to proceed without placing the admission of Mongolia on the agenda alongside Mauritania as the Soviet Union had requested. This is the 91st veto the USSR has cast in the Security Council.

**Yugoslavia / Poland – December 5, 1960 (MOL)**

A 5-year long term agreement is signed between Yugoslavia and Poland.

**Poland / East Germany – December 6, 1960 (PLC/HDP)**

Polish census places the country's population at 29.7 million. No questions about ethnicity are asked in the questionnaires. Germany places the number of ethnic Germans living East of the Oder-Neisse border – the so-called former Eastern territories of Germany – at 1.6 million.

**Yugoslavia / U.N. – December 7, 1960 (RYN)**

The Yugoslav delegate at the United Nations informs Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld that because of the impermissible attitude of the U.N. forces in not actively supporting the legally constituted Lumumba Government, Yugoslavia “does not wish in any way to bear or share the responsibility for what is now happening in the Congo.” Accordingly, it is withdrawing its diplomatic mission from Leopoldville and “its pilots and other personnel stationed in the Congo at the request of the United Nations.”

**Hungary – December 8, 1960 (KCA)**

The Minister of Agriculture gives a statement before the Hungarian National Assembly in which he announces plans to socialize the remaining 23 percent of agricultural land still in individual farms in the upcoming winter. Compared with 30.7% in 1958, 77% of arable land “now belongs to the socialist sector of agriculture.”

**Romania / U.S. – December 9, 1960 (LBC)**

An American-Romanian agreement is signed on exchange programs in science, industry, post-graduate studies, theater, cinema, sports and tourism.

**Yugoslavia / East Germany – December 13, 1960 (MOL)**

A five-year long-term agreement is signed between Yugoslavia and the German Democratic Republic.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / Laos – December 13, 1960 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union accuses the United States of supporting Prince Boun Oum’s government in the civil war in Laos. In response, the U.S. accuses the USSR of helping left-wing forces.

**U.N. – December 14, 1960 (PLC)**

General Assembly accepts a U.N. resolution on dissolution of the colonial system. The 16 newly independent African countries and Cyprus are granted membership (“Africa’s Year”). Power relations within the U.N. shift.

**OEEC – December 14, 1960 (PLC)**

As the legal successor of the OEEC, 18 European countries, the U.S. and Canada create the Paris-based Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), comprising the developed countries of the world. The official date of foundation is September 30, 1961. Among others, Japan (1964) and Finland (1969) join the organization.

**East Germany – December 15–17, 1960 (ADG/KGD)**

At the 11th session of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED), Walter Ulbricht demands a peace treaty with the FRG for ten years. The 1961 economic plan is changed to reflect the fact that its goals have proven to be unattainable.

**U.S. / NATO – December 16, 1960 (LBC)**

At the Paris meeting of the NATO Council Secretary of State Herter offers five nuclear submarines armed with Polaris nuclear missiles for the establishment of a NATO nuclear force. He makes the offer contingent on whether NATO will accept a command system based on a consensus for the planned nuclear force and whether it will purchase 100 nuclear missiles for the member states. – Although according to U.S. law the U.S. must retain control over the nuclear warheads given to NATO, it is the primary political aim of the U.S. to station American nuclear weapons on NATO territory under American control in order to carry out the accepted

defense plans. Herter proposed that NATO should begin to work out the multilateral control system of a nuclear force, which would provide common defense in the area of MRBMs. He stated that in order to set up an independent NATO nuclear force Congressional approval had to be sought for a law, which would make U.S. participation possible. – *December 13. Pravda* calls the plan to set up an independent NATO nuclear force “a terrible plan” the aim of which is to increase the arms race and to arouse conflict in Central Europe.

#### **Hungary – December 16-18, 1960 (HC)**

The first congress of the Hungarian Communist Youth Alliance is held in Budapest.

#### **Hungary / Romania – December 19, 1960 (PLC)**

The Magyar Autonomous Region in Romania renamed Mureş-Magyar Autonomous Region. Share of the Hungarian population decreases to 62.2%, while that of the Romanian population increases to 35%.

#### **Albania – December 21, 1960 (PLC)**

As a demonstration of anti-Soviet propaganda, Albania commemorates Stalin’s birthday.

#### **Hungary / Austria – December 21, 1960 (OSA)**

Three men have attempted to escape to Austria. One of them broke his leg but was dragged by his fellow escapees to the Austrian bank of the Pinka river. Hungarian border guards have crossed the border and took him back, while the other two went to find help.

#### **Poland – December 22, 1960 (KCA)**

The Polish Government passes constitutional and electoral law amendments. These amendments institute the simultaneous holding of elections for the *Sejm* and local councils at all levels, and fixes the maximum number of members of the next *Sejm* at 460.

#### **Soviet Union / Ghana – December 23, 1960 (KCA)**

A protocol is signed as an annex to the Soviet-Ghanaian agreement of August 28 on economic and technical cooperation between the two countries.

#### **Soviet Union / North Vietnam – December 23, 1960 (KCA)**

An agreement on Soviet assistance to North Vietnam is signed in Moscow. The Soviet Union will help North Vietnam build infrastructure. In addition, a trade agreement is also signed, with hope for an increase of commercial exchanges.

#### **Soviet Union / North Korea – December 24, 1960 (KCA)**

An agreement on Soviet technical assistance to North Korea is signed in Moscow. Under this agreement the Soviet Union will supply North Korea with machinery and equipment and other goods necessary for the development of North Korea’s economy, while North Korea will deliver some goods and commodities to Soviet Union.

#### **Hungary / Romania – December 19, 1960 (PLC) → December 24.**

The Magyar Autonomous Region in Romania renamed Mureş-Magyar Autonomous Region. Boundaries of the region were also modified, Hungarian-speaking territories were detached and Romanian-speaking areas were attached to it. Share of the Hungarian population decreases from 77.3% to 62.2%, while that of the Romanian population increases to 35%.

**Hungary – December 25, 1960 (OSA)**

A man was sentenced to five months in prison for attempting to cross the border.

**Hungary – December 25, 1960 (HC)**

*Népszabadság*, the official newspaper of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party publishes an article by János Kádár about the assembly of Moscow.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – December 27, 1960 (KCA/LBC)**

The Yugoslav Secretary of Finance, Mincev, announces in the Federal Assembly a monetary and trade reform involving the progressive liberalization of imports and the creation of a uniform exchange rate with the U.S. dollar. To facilitate the reforms, credits from IMF, the U.S., and Western European countries have been allocated. Yugoslavia receives a 275-million-dollar Western loan to launch its economic reform program. Yugoslavia re-evaluates the dinar, introduces a new five-year-plan, reduces the state control of foreign trade, plans to join GATT and promotes competition within Yugoslav industry.

**Hungary/Vietnam – December 29, 1960 (HC)**

Hungary and Vietnam sign a long-term economic agreement.

**Poland – December 29, 1960 (KCA)**

The Polish Council of State decides that elections shall be held on April 1961.

**Poland / Canada – December 31, 1960 (KCA)**

An agreement is signed between Canada and Poland for the return of the Polish art treasures smuggled out of Poland after the German invasion and deposited in Quebec. The Polish "government in exile" strongly protests against the agreement.

**Finland – December 31, 1960 (PLC)**

Census in Finland. 92.4% of the country's 4.1 million inhabitants are Finnish, 7.4% Swedish.

**East Germany / West Germany – December 31, 1960 (KGD)**

199,188 people flee from the GDR to the FRG and West Berlin in 1960.



## 1961

### **Soviet Union – 1961 (KCA)**

A fundamental reorganization of scientific research is carried out in the Soviet Union, involving the creation of a State Committee for Coordination. The primary aim of the reshuffle is to avoid the duplication of effort that characterized the former system.

### **Soviet Union / Japan – 1961 (KCA)**

The Soviet and Japanese Premiers, Khrushchev and Hayato Ikeda, correspond regarding the U.S. –Japanese Security Treaty, the legal ownership of South Sakhalin and the Kurile Islands (formerly part of Japan, Soviet territory since 1945) and Japanese claims over sovereignty over the two southernmost islands of that group. Khrushchev declares that the Soviet Union will not transfer to Japan her rights over the islands.

### **Soviet Union / Albania / China – November–December 1961 (KCA)**

The denunciation of Stalin and of the Albanian leaders by the Soviet leaders at Soviet Communist Party Congress produces widespread repercussions in the Communist countries. In December 1961, diplomatic relations between Soviet Union and Albania break off; the Chinese Communist Party decides against overtly breaking with Soviet Union, but adopts a sympathetic attitude towards “Stalinist” views of the Albanian leaders. It emphasizes, however, the importance of maintaining the “the unity of the socialist camp” including Albania. In the other eastern European countries the Soviet de-Stalinization movement launched in 1956 is greatly intensified after the 22nd congress.

### **Romania / Italy – 1961 (ABR)**

Economic agreement is signed between Italy and Romania.

### **Romania – 1961 (RFN)**

Romania is elected to the East European seat on the Security Council for a split term of one year.

### **Soviet Union – 1961 (OSA)**

The ‘All-Union Institute of State Patent Research’ is founded to support technological advancement in the USSR.

### **Yugoslavia / Hungary – 1961 (HC)**

Based on data from the Yugoslavian census, the number of Hungarians living in the country is 504, 368.

## **January**

### **Bulgaria – January 1, 1961 (KCA)**

A monetary reform providing for the replacement of the lev by the “new lev” comes into effect. One new lev will be the equivalent of ten old levs. The reform has been made necessary by the development of the country’s productivity.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 1, 1961 (LBC)**

Soviet prime minister Khrushchev announces: the U.S. people voted against Cold War when it elected Kennedy president. – *January 6*. The U.S. proposes to the Soviet Union to start talks on the “partial relaxation” of travel controls involving each other’s citizens. – *January 12*. Eisenhower’s state of the union address: The U.S. has contained “communist imperialism,” but the world problems created by communism continue to exist and threaten peace in Berlin, Cuba and Laos.

**Hungary – January 5, 1961 (HC)**

According to a publication by the Ministry of Agriculture, collective farms make up 82% of the country’s arable land.

**Soviet Union / UN – January 5, 1961 (OSA)**

Fifteenth anniversary of the first meeting of the UNGA and UNSC. For the 1961 fiscal year the Soviet bloc states have stated that they will not pay their share on any amount beyond a \$50 million total.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – January 5, 1961 (MOL)**

Yugoslavia receives \$27,7 billion from the United States as development loan.

**Soviet Union – January 6, 1961 (CWC)**

Khrushchev expresses the Soviet support for wars of national liberation as they result from Western imperialism and colonialism.

**Soviet Union / Indonesia – January 6, 1961 (KCA)**

New material essential to the Indonesian armed forces is sold by Soviet Union to Indonesia. Indonesian personnel will go to the Soviet Union to learn how to operate the new military material.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – January 9, 1961 (KCA)**

A new Anglo–Soviet agreement, on scientific, technical, educational and cultural relations which will run for over two years, is signed in Moscow. It is an expanded version of a similar agreement signed one year before. The agreement also allows Britain to publish a Russian-language magazine in the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / Ethiopia – January 13, 1961 (KCA)**

A Soviet-Ethiopian agreement on cultural cooperation is signed in Addis Ababa.

**Greece / Soviet Union —January 20, 1961 (OSA)**

A spokesman of the Greek Foreign Ministry commented on a series of recent articles about Greece that were published in the Soviet press, criticizing the attempts of the Soviet Government to conduct Cold War rhetoric. He pointed out that the renewed interference in Greek internal affairs is unacceptable and constitutes a violation of international law. The Greek delegate also stated that Greece will not deviate from the current policy of maintaining good relations with the Soviet Union provided that the Soviet Government will show respect toward Greek sovereignty.

**Yugoslavia – January 20, 1961 (KCA/MOL)**

Milovan Djilas, former Yugoslavian Vice-President is released from prison after serving half of the seven-year sentence imposed on him. He has assured that he would not persist with “activities” that has led him to prison.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 20, 1961 (LBC/KCA)**

Chairman of the Presidency of the Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev and party first secretary Khrushchev congratulate on the inauguration of President Kennedy and express their hope that “by joint efforts we shall be able to attain a radical improvement of relations between our countries”. Soviet leaders are confident that “moving step-by-step it is possible to remove the existing suspicion and distrust” between the USSR and the U.S. President Kennedy expresses appreciation of the Soviet congratulations. – Kennedy’s inauguration address: “Finally to those nations which would make themselves our adversary, we offer not a pledge but a request: that both sides begin anew the quest for peace, before the dark powers of destruction unleashed by science engulf humanity in planned or accidental self-destruction. We dare not tempt them with weakness. For only when our arms are sufficient beyond doubt can we be certain beyond doubt that they will never be employed. By neither can two great and powerful groups of nations take comfort from our present course – both sides overburdened by the cost of modern weapons, both rightly alarmed by the steady spread of the deadly atom, yet both racing to alter that uncertain balance of terror that stays the hand of mankind’s final war.”

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 25, 1961 (LBC/KCA)**

The Soviet Government, “guided by a sincere desire to usher in a new stage in relations between the USSR and the U.S.,” decides to release two American airmen shot down over the Barents sea in July 1960 and since detained in the USSR. The Soviet Union and the U.S. affirm that neither country demands the payment of compensation. President Kennedy warns American aircraft against violating the airspace of the Soviet Union. - *February 8*. The Kennedy administration begins the high-level revision of U.S.-Soviet relations after the ambassador in Moscow was called home to report.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 27, 1961 (OSA)**

Khrushchev unofficially and semi-officially attempts to establish direct connections with the new U.S. administration under Kennedy.

**Hungary – January 29, 1961 (HC)**

*Népszabadság* reports a statement by the Central Statistics Office about the completion of the second three-year plan.

**Yugoslavia / China - January 30, 1961 (OSA)**

A new campaign "for the correction of style in the work of village functionaries" has started in China. "Tanjug" correspondent in Beijing, Vasil Magdeski claims that "the basic aim of this campaign is a purge of harmful elements who infiltrated the Party and state organs; at the same time the campaign is aimed at preventing the activities of saboteurs."

## **February**

### **COMECON – February-March 1961 (CEC)**

The 14th session of COMECON is held in Berlin. Specialization in chemicals is envisaged. Trade agreements are concluded. The work on plan coordination up to 1980 is reviewed.

### **East Germany – late February, 1961 (OSA)**

At the All-German Synod, the 80-year-old Bishop F. K. Otto Dibelius announces his resignation as Chairman of the Eastern Church Conference, as well as his upcoming resignation as Bishop of Berlin-Brandenburg. This follows a strained relationship with the East German Government. The moderate Friedrich-Wilhelm Krummacker is later elected in his place as Chairman of the Council.

### **Yugoslavia / Bulgaria - February 1, 1961 (OSA)**

"*Borba*" of January 30th published a letter by Vančo Apostolski from Skoplje, capital of Yugoslavia's Macedonian RP, in which the Bulgarian Party organ "*Rabotnichesko Delo*" is attacked for its "falsification of Macedonian national history."

### **Poland – February 3-5, 1961 (HC)**

A meeting of the East-West roundtable takes place in Warsaw.

### **Soviet Union / Italy – February 5, 1961 (KCA)**

In response to Italy's granting a military base for West German units in Sardinia, the Soviet embassy sends a Note to the Italian government which expresses concern for "helping to restore the armed forces of the West German revenge-seekers."

### **Soviet Union – February 12, 1961 (KCA)**

A Soviet interplanetary rocket is launched towards Venus.

### **Albania / Greece / Yugoslavia – February 13, 1961 (KCA)**

At the Fourth Albanian Communist Party Congress, First Secretary of Communist Party, Enver Hoxha, accuses Yugoslavia and Greece of having organized an attack on Albania, with the assistance of Albanian "traitors", and NATO. He claims that attack has completely failed. The Yugoslav government utterly rejects these allegations, and claims that the Albanian government is "intent on further poisoning relations with Yugoslavia." Hoxha, who supported Chinese theories in a recent Moscow conference, declares that "friendship with the Soviet Union has been and will be the cornerstone of our policy." However, the conference hall in which the Congress was held was decorated with Stalin portraits, a practice abandoned in the other Communist countries (but for China) since Khrushchev's attack on Stalin's policy at the 20th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party in 1956.

### **Yugoslavia / Africa – February 13-April 27, 1961 (MOL)**

Tito makes a more than 70-day long journey in certain states of Western Africa. He visits Ghana, Togo, Liberia, Mali, Guinea, Morocco and Tunisia where he meets the President of the Provisional Algerian Government Ferhat Abbas. At the end of his journey, he spends five days in Egypt and meets Gamal Abdel Nasser, President of the United Arab Republic.

### **Hungary / Mongolia – February 16, 1961 (HC)**

A Mongolian government delegation arrives in Budapest for a friendly 10-day visit.

**Soviet Union – February 17, 1961 (KCA)**

The Venus rocket launched February 12 ceases to transmit or to respond to command signals.

**Hungary – February 18, 1961 (HC)**

A government declaration condemns the January assassination of Patrice Lumumba, Prime Minister of the Congo. Demonstrations in solidarity with the Congolese are held nationwide.

**Hungary – February 19, 1961 (HC)**

The Hungarian Socialist Workers Party program is published: The program specifies the domination of agriculture by Socialist production.

**Soviet Union – February 20, 1961 (KCA)**

As a result of widespread shortcomings in food production, a number of major changes in Soviet agricultural policy and organization are announced. Changes are intended to promote wider use of scientific methods, to decentralize agricultural administration and to offer collective farmers new incentives to increase production.

**Hungary – February 20, 1961 (KCA)**

The Hungarian government announces that the campaign for the collectivization of agricultural land has been completed. Cooperative farms account for 90% of arable land.

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia February 20, 1961 (HC)**

Antonín Novotný, the President of Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia makes a four-day visit to Hungary.

**Soviet Union / India – February 21, 1961 (KCA)**

An economic cooperation agreement between India and the Soviet Union is signed in New Delhi. New Soviet credits should help to implement six industrial projects under the agreement of August 1960.

**Soviet Union – February 21, 1961 (KCA)**

A new Soviet press agency, called *Novosti* (News), is founded in Moscow.

**Soviet Union / UN / Congo – February 21, 1961 (OSA)**

Moscow maintains total silence on setbacks administrated to Communist bloc policy in the U.N. and offers no explanations for why Soviet policy in the Congo failed.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 22, 1961 (KCA)**

The U.S. ambassador in Moscow, Thompson, leaves Washington with a personal message for Khrushchev from President Kennedy, the contents of which are not disclosed.

**Soviet Union / UN / Congo – February 23, 1961 (OSA)**

The UN Security Council defeated a Soviet resolution attacking Secretary Hammarskjöld and passed a resolution defeating Soviet proposals to end UN intervention in the Congo.

**Soviet Union – February 24, 1961 (OSA)**

In attempt to quell economic abuses, the Soviet government announces an increased punishment for violation of currency regulations and for the concealment of state (economic) crimes. Four weeks later, this punishment is stiffened further, with a possibility of 5-15 years of exile and compulsory labor.

**Soviet Union – February 26, 1961 (KCA)**

A State Procurement Committee is set up to reorganize redistribution in Soviet agriculture. Following these shortcomings in agriculture, new appointments are made, such as the replacement of Ukraine's and Kazakhstan's Prime Ministers.

**Soviet Union – February 28, 1961 (OSA)**

An addendum to the law on criminal liability for anti-state crimes was issued. Violation of the rules of currency transactions, as well as speculation in currency values or securities, is punishable by imprisonment from 3 to 8 years with confiscation of all property or without confiscation, but with mandatory confiscation of all currency values and securities. Concealment from state crimes is punishable by imprisonment from 1 to 5 years, or exile for up to 5 years.

**Yugoslavia / China - 28 February 1961 (OSA)**

The former and the present Tanjug correspondents in Peking, Branko Bogunovic and Vasil Magdeski, have published articles on the recent Chinese economic difficulties. They indicate that the reduction of capital investments and the introduction of the so-called "small freedoms in people's communes are the two most important recent changes in Red China. Writing in the February 26th "*Borba*" Bogunovic said that the Chinese leaders have been compelled "by reality" to modify some of their policies which have resulted in tremendous food shortages in China.

**March****Hungary / Czechoslovakia – March 1, 1961 (HC)**

According to a census held on this day, the number of Hungarian inhabitants living in Czechoslovakia is 533.934.

**Albania / Yugoslavia – March 2, 1961 (KCA)**

The Yugoslav government announces that the staff of its diplomatic mission in Albania will be reduced to a minimum since conditions under which the Yugoslav delegation has lived are too hard to accomplish their duties.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – March 3, 1961 (MOL).**

A barter agreement for 1961-1965 is signed between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.

**Soviet Union / Pakistan – March 4, 1961 (KCA)**

Pakistan and the Soviet Union sign an agreement on Soviet cooperation in searching for oil in Pakistan in Karachi. However, this does not imply that Pakistan will shift toward neutrality.

**Romania – March 5, 1961 (KCA)**

A new Grand National Assembly of 465 members is elected in Romania for a four-year term after a single list of candidates was presented by the People's Democratic Front.

**Soviet Union / US – March 7, 1961 (OSA)**

The Soviet Union has agreed to withdraw charges against the US for the U-2 and RB-47 incidents.

**Soviet Union / Poland / East Germany / Mongolia – March 10, 1961 (OSA)**

The March 3 issue of “*Izvestia*” published a new list of exchange rates for the ruble with all countries of Eastern Europe and Mongolia. It is interpreted as a major economic concession in form of devaluation of the ruble in relation to some Eastern European currencies, specifically the Polish and East German currencies.

**Cyprus – March 14, 1961 (PLC)**

Cyprus is admitted to the Commonwealth.

**Soviet Union – March 17, 1961 (OSA)**

A definite shift in the communist propaganda line occurs. Signs of an increasingly critical line appear in the Soviet press regarding the policies of the new Kennedy Administration.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – March 18, 1961 (MOL)**

Hungarian Deputy Foreign Minister Jenő Kállai criticizes Yugoslavia with a campaign against the Socialist countries. The Yugoslavs refute the charges in a note of protest.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 19, 1961 (KCA)**

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, who was attending the resumed 15th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, meets with U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk; no statement is issued.

**Soviet Bloc – March 20–22, 1961 (MMS)**

Meeting of the representatives of Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Poland, Bulgaria, Romania, and Hungary in Budapest on civil aviation.

**Romania – March 21, 1961 (KCA)**

The Romanian Constitution has been modified: a Council of State is created elected by the Assembly. It will consist of a President, three Vice-Presidents and 13 members.

**Romania / Soviet Union – March 21, 1961 (KCA)**

During its session the Romanian Assembly passes a bill, imitating Soviet Union's pattern of regional economic coordination, providing for the establishment of Economic Councils in each region. The aim is economic decentralization.

**Soviet Union – March 21, 1961 (KCA)**

The Soviet delegate at the Geneva Nuclear Test Negotiations, Tarapskin, proposes that the control organization should be headed not by a neutral administrator, but by a three-man administrative council, or a triumvirate, representing the Socialist, Western and neutral countries.

**Yugoslavia / Guinea – March 21-27, 1961 (MOL)**

Yugoslav President Tito meets President of Guinea Ahmed Sékou Touré.

**Soviet Union – March 23, 1961 (KCA)**

Kharlamov, head of the Press Department of the Soviet Ministry, announces the end of censorship of outgoing press dispatches by Foreign Correspondents in the USSR. It is noted that the word “censorship” is never outright mentioned in his announcement. However, the relaxation of the censorship is not announced in Soviet newspapers.

**East Germany – March 23, 1961 (OSA)**

Death of German Communist Party founder and later GDR Minister for Foreign and International Trade, Heinrich Rau.

**Soviet Union (Kazakhstan) – March 24, 1961 (OSA)**

Personnel changes occur in North Kazakhstan. The second secretary M. Dairov was transferred to another post because of criticism of his work with agriculture. His position was taken over by Utebayev.

**Finland – March 27, 1961 (PLC)**

Finland joins EFTA as an associate member.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 27, 1961 (KCA)**

Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko visits the White House for a meeting with President Kennedy. No statement is issued, but Gromyko tells reporters that the conversation was useful and that the two discussed the Laos question.

**Warsaw Pact – March 28-29, 1961 (CAC/KCA/MMS/HC/KDG)**

The Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty holds a meeting in Moscow to discuss the German problem, disarmament and other international questions. Enver Hoxha of Albania is absent. Party leader Walter Ulbricht of East Germany presided. Ulbricht urges the sealing-off of East Berlin. The meeting also deals with the growing crisis over the Vlorë naval base in Albania. The Committee condemns Albania for its harassment of Soviet sailors, but the subsequent worsening of the situation leads Moscow to withdraw its ships from the port. At the conclusion of the meeting, a communiqué is issued which reaffirms the members' support for a policy of peaceful coexistence and renews the demand for a peace treaty with both Western and Eastern Germany.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – March 30, 1961 (KCA)**

In Belgrade, the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia sign a five-year trade agreement that aims for a 100% increase in mutual trade exchanges.

**Soviet Union – March 31, 1961 (KCA)**

It is reported in Moscow that 145 people have been killed and many homes demolished through the collapse of a dyke in the suburbs of Kiev on March 13.

**April****Yugoslavia / Albania – April 1961 (MOL)**

The Yugoslav Ministry of Foreign Affairs publishes a White Book on Yugoslav-Albanian relations.

**Soviet Union / Nigeria – April 3, 1961 (KCA)**

Nigeria and the Soviet Union establish diplomatic relations.

**Albania / Yugoslavia - April 5, 1961 (OSA)**

The issue of March 29th of Zagreb weekly "*Vjesnik u srijedu*" (The Wednesday Herald) published an article under the title "Laboratory of Horror." The article, written by Midorag



Asanin is said to be the first instalment in a series of articles dealing with the confessions made by the "Albanian Sigurimi Agents" (state security) in the course of various trials held in Yugoslavia. The article indicates that in Albania there are 14 concentration camps and 22 prisons holding 30,000 people.

**Poland – April 5, 1961 (KCA)**

Bohdan Winiarski is elected president of the International Court of Justice. For the first time the court has a president from a Communist country.

**Soviet Union / China – April 7, 1961 (KCA)**

China and the Soviet Union sign a trade protocol for 1961 in Moscow.

**Hungary / Japan – April 11, 1961 (HC)**

Hungary and Japan sign an economic trade agreement, the first since the end of World War II.

**East Germany – April 12, 1961 (KGD)**

The People's Chamber passes a "Code of Labor Laws", (Gesetzbuch der Arbeit) which declares that everyone is entitled to a job. However, the right to strike is not included.

**Soviet Union – April 12, 1961 (OSA)**

The second time within 5 weeks the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet issued a decree changing Article 25 of the all-union "Law on State Crimes". The article dealt with violations of currency regulation.

**Soviet Union – April 12, 1961 (PLC/HC)**

Yuri Gagarin becomes the first man in outer space. Khrushchev describes the flight of the *Vostok 1* as a service to whole mankind. Gagarin is given the honorable title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – April 15-19, 1961 (KCA)**

In a message sent to the Belgrade Conference of Non-aligned Countries, Khrushchev argues that the tense international situation has been "created by the increasingly active forces of aggression and revenge," the USSR approves every attempt "aimed at cramping the forces of war."

**Poland – April 16, 1961 (KCA)**

General elections for a new *Sejm* are held in Poland. The distribution of seats in the new *Sejm* is as follows: Polish United Workers party, 255, United Peasant Party 117, Democratic Party 39, non-party candidates 38, others 11. According to the *New York Times* Warsaw correspondent, "the elections were run off with a measure of secrecy ...unique in this part of the world." The Roman Catholic Church adopts a strictly neutral attitude toward the vote, reflecting the deterioration in relations which has taken place during the previous years.

**Hungary – April 16, 1961 (HC)**

Decree no. 1961/7 from the Presidential Council rescinds decree no. 1957:34 on the people's courts.

**Cuba / U.S. – April 17, 1961 (OSA)**

Start of the "Bay of Pigs invasion" by American forces against Cuba intended to overthrow the Castro regime.

**Soviet Union / Cuba / U.S. – April 18, 1961 (CWC/KCA)**

In a message sent to President Kennedy, Khrushchev declares that the USSR will give the Cuban government and people “all necessary assistance in beating back the armed attack on Cuba” and calls on U.S. to halt the aggression against Cuba. Kennedy restates the Monroe Doctrine. On April 22 Khrushchev sends another letter to President Kennedy, stating that the USSR seeks no advantages in Cuba and does not intend to establish any bases. He then adds “the USSR cannot concede to the United States any right to control the destinies of other countries.”

**Poland – April 19, 1961 (CAC)**

A separate Polish Front within the Warsaw Pact established.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – April 20, 1961 (KCA)**

In a Note to the Soviet Union, the U.S. Government asserts that the Soviet demands for a triumvirate at the head of the control organization to be established by the Geneva Nuclear Test Negotiations are unacceptable to Western Powers. The heightening of the Berlin crisis during the spring brings the Geneva negotiations to a complete impasse.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt – April 22, 1961 (RYN)**

Because of the Bay of Pigs invasion, Yugoslav President Tito and UAR President Gamal Abdel Nasser issue a joint communiqué, in which they express, *inter alia*, their anxiety at the ominous international situation and call for consultations among uncommitted countries, “in order to strengthen world peace, preserve the independence of all nations, and remove the danger of intervention in the internal affairs of other countries.”

**Greece / Soviet Union —April 23, 1961 (OSA)**

The Soviet Union filed a complaint against Greece over an anti-Soviet speech allegedly made by the Greek Ambassador to Cyprus. The Soviet ambassador to Greece, Mikhail Sergeyev, protested to Foreign Minister C. Tsatsos regarding a recent intensification of anti-Soviet propaganda in Greece.

**Yugoslavia / Switzerland – April 24, 1961 (MOL)**

The representatives of Yugoslavia and Switzerland conclude an agreement in Bern. According to the agreement, Switzerland offers a loan of 22 million Swiss franc to Yugoslavia.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – April 24, 1961 (KCA)**

The British and Soviet Foreign Ministers at the Geneva Conference issue three statements appealing for a cease-fire in the civil war in Laos. A de facto cease-fire comes into effect on May 3.

**Soviet Union – April 24, 1961 (KCA)**

*Izvestia* releases further details of Major Yuri Gagarin’s orbital flight, including that Major Gagarin maintained continuous radio and telephone contact with Earth. It was reported that during the flight he felt well, and everything was functioning correctly.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt – April 26, 1961 (RYN)**

Yugoslav President Tito and UAR President Gamal Abdel Nasser send a joint letter to the heads of the twenty-one nonaligned states setting forth their mutual problems and suggesting that a

conference be convened prior to the next session of the UN General Assembly. On May 4 the decision to hold preparatory talks in June is announced.

**Soviet Union / Albania – April 26, 1961 (PLC)**

USSR ceases support for Albania.

**Albania / China – April 27, 1961 (KCA)**

The Chinese Government announces that China will supply Albania with grain and other foodstuffs.

**Soviet Union – April 28, 1961 (OSA)**

The Soviet Union, while boasting that it had a third of the world's production, contributed less than 4 percent to UN technical assistance programs to underdeveloped countries.

**May**

**Soviet Union / U.K. – May, 1961 (KCA)**

Contacts between Great Britain and Soviet Union are enhanced by an agreement on the exchanges of television programs, a five-year agreement for exchanges of information on the peaceful uses of atomic energy, and the opening in Moscow of a British fair trade.

**East Germany / Bulgaria – May, 1961 (OSA)**

Bulgaria rejects a request from East Germany to extend permissions for Bulgarian skilled workers to take up jobs in the GDR. This was an attempt by East Germans to tackle the labor shortage in the country.

**Hungary – May 4-6, 1961 (HC)**

The International World Congress takes place in Budapest.

**Soviet Union – May 4, 1961 (OSA)**

“Anti-Parasite” laws in the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic decree 2-5 years of exile and forced labor for those who refuse to engage in ‘socially useful work’. With similar laws having been enacted in other republics as early as 1957, when the decree passed a few weeks later in Ukraine, the “anti-parasite” legislation came into effect throughout the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union – May 6, 1961 (KCA)**

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet decides to extend the death penalty.

**U.S. / NATO – May 8, 1961 (LBC)**

At the Oslo meeting of NATO U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk repeats the U.S. offer to provide NATO with five Polaris submarines. His plan differs from the previous one. The submarines would be subordinated to NATO units which are under U.S. command and which carry out NATO defense missions. The new plan does not contain the original proposal on the submarines’ joint NATO command nor the one hundred missiles Europe was supposed to purchase and use. – The rethinking of nuclear doctrine is announced: the conventional forces of NATO will be significantly raised so that NATO could be able to repel a non-nuclear attack

with conventional forces; a decision is made not to use nuclear arms until the Soviet conventional attack can be contained by similar NATO forces.

**Soviet Union – May 19, 1961 (OSA)**

The KGB began to arrest people who illegally sell currency. These arrests were carried out based on the recent change in the legislation. The new law set imprisonment for a period of 3 to 8 years with confiscation of all property if found guilty. This crackdown was a good indicator of the struggle against illegal currency traders.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – May 19–June 4, 1961 (KCA)**

The Soviet exhibition in London at Earl's Court stresses import and export possibilities in Anglo-Russian trade. Talks to further improve economic relations are held, and a cultural agreement is concluded.

**Soviet Union / Albania – May 20, 1961 (OSA)**

Albanian show trials begin in Tirana on May 15 to try people involved in a plot to overthrow the Hoxha regime. The plot was possibly organized and inspired by the USSR to remove Albanian leaders who aligned their country with China.

**Eastern Bloc / U.S. – May 21, 1961 (LBC)**

The U.S. secretary of commerce Luther H. Hodges announces that American export to the Eastern bloc went up from 89.3 million dollars in 1959 to 193.4 million dollars in 1960, the highest value for 13 years. The U.S. import from these countries in 1960 remained on the previous year's level of 80.9 million dollars. Almost 75% of the export went to Poland, the large part of the rest to the USSR.

**Soviet Union / Poland – May 25, 1961 (OSA)**

An anti-Semitic purge in Poland begins in the ranks of the foreign trade ministry, the foreign service, the army and the security apparatus. Poland aims to align with the Soviet Union where Jews are practically banned from the security apparatus, army, and foreign service as they are considered unreliable.

**Soviet Union – May 29, 1961 (KCA)**

The *Economic Gazette* announced that the Soviet Union has been divided into 17 large economic areas instead of 13 as hitherto.

**Hungary / Indonesia – May 29, 1961 (HC)**

Sukarno, the President the Republic of Indonesia makes a three-day visit to Budapest. A delegation representing Polish agricultural concerns makes a three-day visit to Budapest.

**Albania / Yugoslavia - May 30, 1961 (OSA)**

The issue of May 28th of the Belgrade daily "*Borba*" gave a short biographical data on the two chief defendants at the Tirana trial, Teme Sejko and Tahir Demi, both sentenced to death on May 27<sup>th</sup>. It gave the impression that the two former Albanian leaders Sejko and Demin were Soviet agents. Writing under the title "Tirana Trial" the article claimed that the trial against Sejko, Demi and their comrades was actually aimed against "the Tirana April 1956 Party conference" which was mentioned many times during the trial in Tirana. "*Borba*" revealed details from this conference attended by 450 delegates, the majority of whom resisted Hoxha's and Shehu's "tyrannical rule." Hoxha and Shehu themselves did not participate in the

conference. Beqir Balluku was there as their representative. However, the resistance was so great that Enver Hoxha decided to come himself.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – May 30, 1961 (KGD)**

Moscow ensures a loan of two billion German marks DM and the delivery of machines and food supplies to the GDR.

**Soviet Bloc – May 30-June 2, 1961 (MMS)**

Meeting of the COMECON's Committee on Atomic Energy Cooperation in Moscow.

**June**

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 3–4, 1961 (LBC / CAC)**

U.S. President Kennedy and Soviet party first secretary Khrushchev meet in Vienna. In the course of the talks they review nuclear tests, disarmament and the question of Germany. No solution is found to the Berlin crisis. The U.S. president refuses to yield to Soviet demands on Berlin. Both reaffirm their support for a neutral and independent Laos under a democratic government.

**Soviet Union – June 5, 1961 (OSA)**

Soviet courts appeared in interpreting the law about black-market and currency. It did not involve the use of decrees only for maximum punishment but also involved punishments under more general provisions of the "Law on the State Crime" and several punishments can be given.

**Soviet Union / Italy – June 7, 1961 (KCA)**

A four-year trade agreement is signed by Italy and the Soviet Union for 1962-1965.

**Soviet Union – June 8, 1961 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government protests against Western powers since several committees of the West German *Bundestag* have been meeting from the beginning of June. These deeds are deemed "major provocations" by the Soviets.

**Soviet Union – June 12, 1961 (LBC)**

A Soviet disarmament proposal is put forward in Geneva. The Soviet Union does not accept the international observation of atomic tests without the right of veto, but aims for general and full disarmament.

**Soviet Union / Albania – June 13, 1961 (OSA)**

Tensions increase between the Soviet Union and Albania as the Albanian military attaché in Moscow is reported to have been expelled from Moscow for openly criticizing Khrushchev. As a reprisal, at the end of May the Soviet military attaché and his staff reportedly left Tirana.

**Soviet Union / Egypt – June 14, 1961 (OSA)**

Cairo launches a major newspaper and radio campaign against Moscow as Egyptian authorities start retaliating against the continued Soviet anti-Nasser campaign.

**Czechoslovakia / U.S. – June 15, 1961 (LBC)**

The U.S. expels a member of the Czechoslovak U.N. mission in New York on charge of espionage. - *October 3*. The U.S. expels the third secretary of the Czechoslovak embassy in Washington. This is in response to the fact that the second secretary of the U.S. embassy in Prague was expelled.

**East Germany – June 15, 1961 (KGD/KCA)**

The Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic Walter Ulbricht declares at a press conference in East Berlin: "Nobody has the intention of building a wall." He expresses his confidence that the Berlin question will be settled within a year. Ulbricht states that a peace treaty will come and will make West Berlin a neutral free city with access guaranteed by East German authorities, and that the GDR will control all communications with West Berlin.

**Soviet Union / East Germany / U.S. – June 15, 1961 (KCA)**

Khrushchev, in a televised broadcast to the Soviet people, addresses the disarmament problem, in particular with the protracted Geneva talks on the banning of nuclear weapons. He declares himself ready to accept international control on disarmament if U.S. accepts general and complete disarmament. He says that the control on the ban on nuclear experiments should be exercised by a three-person commission representing Socialist, Western and neutral states. Khrushchev declares that a peaceful settlement to the Berlin and German question should be attained within 1961, adding that USSR will sign a separate treaty with East Germany if such a treaty is not signed by all the powers that were at war with Germany. Three questions are raised: first, any attempt to change the Oder-Neisse frontier between Germany and Poland would involve the risk of thermo-nuclear war. Second, in the event of a peace treaty between the USSR and the GDR, the Western powers should negotiate their access to West Berlin by road, air, water. Third, West Berlin should be a free city under a regime of its choosing, with guaranteed access to and contacts with the rest of the world.

**Yugoslavia / China - June 16, 1961 (OSA)**

"The policy of the people's communes in China has been similar to the situation of a runner who, after the race, found himself at the point from which he started." This claim is made in the conclusion of an article published in the June 15th issue of the Yugoslav Party weekly "*Komunist*". The author of the article in "*Komunist*" P. Ducie claims that the Chinese leaders have been compelled to abandon almost all of their plans for people's communes which they once considered as the best way to reach Communism in the shortest possible time.

**Soviet Union – June 18, 1961 (OSA)**

The Soviet press announces that nearly 7,000 citizens had been decorated by the Supreme Soviet for their contributions to Gagarin's space flight. Khrushchev was the only person named in their release.

**Soviet Union / China – June 19, 1961 (KCA)**

China and the Soviet Union sign agreements on economic, scientific and technical cooperation in Moscow.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – June 19, 1961 (OSA)**

The 40th anniversary of the Kazakh USSR will be celebrated on June 24th. The celebration will be held in the Oblast level.

**Hungary / Bulgaria – June 23, 1961 (HC)**

A Bulgarian government delegation led by Todor Zhivkov, First Secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Prime Minister Anton Yugov, travel to Hungary.

**Czechoslovakia – June 24, 1961 (KCA)**

A reorganization of leading posts in the Czechoslovak government is announced in Prague.

**Poland – June 26-30, 1961 (HC)**

The Postmasters Generals of the Socialist countries meet in Warsaw.

**Czechoslovakia – June 26, 1961 (KCA)**

The National Assembly introduces and adopts a bill to ensure stricter supervision of the work of Czechoslovak Government and industrial establishments.

**Yugoslavia / China – June 28, 1961 (OSA)**

"Not even in their imagination can the Chinese people picture the rights now enjoyed by working people in Yugoslavia," claims Djordje Bogojevic in the Belgrade daily *"Borba"* of June 27th. Bogojevic, a former *"Borba"* correspondent in Beijing who was expelled from China in the previous year, disputed the content of an anti-Yugoslav article published in the June 1st issue of the Chinese Party periodical *"Red Flag."* The Chinese author Liao Yuan claims that Yugoslavia's system of workers' councils has been the result of "the capitalist evolution" being adopted by the "Titoist clique." He also claims that the "workers' self-management system in Yugoslavia has represented yet another clear proof of her betrayal of the proletarian cause and her service to imperialists and reactionaries." Bogojevic explains that in China there prevails "a strictly centralistic system" in which all production plans "are imposed upon individual enterprises from above."

**Soviet Union / U.K. – June 30, 1961 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union decides to terminate fishing agreements with the United Kingdom.

**July****Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – July 1961 (LUY)**

A long-range treaty on economic cooperation is signed by Yugoslavia with the Soviet Union to help achieve the objectives of the new five year plan. The Soviet Union provides approximately 800 million dollars over the next five years through 1965.

**Eastern Europe / Ghana – July-August 1961 (KCA)**

Ghana's President Kwame Nkrumah makes an extensive tour of Eastern Europe, including the Soviet Union. He stresses that the Soviet experience and progress has "been an important lesson for all of us" and the "African liberation movement would have suffered the most brutal persecution" had it not been for the Soviet Union.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – July 1, 1961 (LBC)**

The U.S. department of agriculture announces that Yugoslavia is buying 33.6 million dollars' worth of agricultural commodities from the U.S. for its own currency.

**Soviet Union / Pakistan – July 3, 1961 (KCA)**

In Karachi, Pakistan and Soviet Union sign a contract for the supply of Soviet equipment and expert services for oil and gas exploration.

**Yugoslavia – July 4, 1961 (RYN)**

At a mass meeting commemorating the twentieth anniversary of the Yugoslav uprising at Užice, Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito underscores two of his motivations for arranging the Belgrade Conference of the nonaligned nations: first, to prevent the United Nations from going the way of the League of Nations and becoming an instrument of one or another group of great powers; second, since the nonaligned countries, acting individually, cannot accomplish “anything really effective with regard to the improvement of the international climate regarding of how correct and just their attitudes Yugoslavia may be,” it is essential that “united, resolute action by the greatest possible number of countries that do not belong to either bloc” be taken.

**Hungary – July 4-8, 1961 (HC)**

The Rail Ministers of the Socialist countries meet in Budapest.

**East Germany – July 5, 1961 (OSA)**

The daily *Neues Deutschland* announces a series of changes in the government’s management of the East German economy following the 13<sup>th</sup> Plenum of the Socialist Unity Party (SED). These include granting a new post as ‘coordinator of basic economic tasks’ to Bruno Leuschner, as well as the creation of a new ‘People’s Economic Council’. These changes are justified by the need to deal urgently with new and important challenges to the GDR’s economic planning.

**East Germany – July 6, 1961 (KCA)**

After months of tension with West Germany because of the Berlin situation, Chairman Walter Ulbricht presents a “German Peace Plan” and accuses West Germany of violating the terms of Potsdam Conference. Ulbricht expresses his vision of a Confederation, free from foreign influence, that will achieve German reunification. Moreover, he envisages the holding of general, free and secret democratic elections for an all-German parliament and the formation of an all-German government with Berlin as its capital.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 7, 1961 (KCA)**

In response to a U.S. note, Khrushchev proposes that the questions of ending nuclear tests should be jointly dealt with the question of general and complete disarmament. Khrushchev reaffirms that the troika principle, which envisages that the control functions should be exercised by a three-man commission representing the Socialist, Western and neutral states, is the only one capable of ensuring just and objective control over compliance with a test-ban agreement.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – July 8, 1961 (MOL)**

Yugoslav Foreign Minister Koča Popović visits the Soviet Union. The aim of his visit is to improve relations between the two countries.

**Soviet Union / Germany / U.S. – July 8, 1961 (LBC)**

Khrushchev halts Soviet troop reductions and raises military expenditures by 25%. The reason: the East–West crisis around the German question and the status of Berlin. – *July 25*. U.S. President Kennedy announces that America will defend Berlin even at the cost of force. – *July 26*. The US President asks Congress to call in the reserves. – *August 7*. Khrushchev once again threatens to sign a separate peace treaty with the GDR, which would terminate the West’s occupation rights in Berlin. – *August 13*. The eastern part of Berlin is closed off in order to avert



the further migration of its inhabitants to West Berlin. The construction of the Berlin wall begins. The U.S. accuses the USSR of breaking the 1949 Paris agreement. – August 15. Formal British–French–American protest is given to the Soviet command in Berlin. – *August 27*. Because of the Berlin crisis France deploys troops from Algeria to France.

**EC / Greece – July 9, 1961 (PLC)**

The European Community and Greece draw up a treaty of association (which enters into force on November 1, 1962). Greece becomes a full member of the EC in 1981.

**Soviet Union – July 9, 1961 (KCA)**

A large-scale demonstration of Soviet military aircrafts is marked by the appearance of a number of new types of fighters and bombers. The display of Soviet air strength is staged the day after Khrushchev's announcement that Soviet defense expenditure would be increased by one third.

**Soviet Union / North Korea – July 10, 1961 (KCA)**

An agreement on joint technical assistance with North Korea is signed. In addition, the Soviet Union grants long-term credit on favorable terms.

**Italy – July 11, 1961 (PLC)**

A series of terrorist attacks begin in South Tirol, lasting till 1965.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – July 11–16, 1961 (LBC)**

Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin's visit to the U.K. He is received by the British foreign secretary and the Queen.

**Soviet Union / Ghana – July 12, 1961 (OSA)**

Khrushchev tries to convince Ghanaian President Nkrumah during his visit to the Soviet Union, as well as others from Asia and Africa that the USSR's path is the way of the future.

**Poland – July 15, 1961 (HDP)**

A new law on education withdraws religious instruction from schools and adds an eighth grade to the elementary school curriculum.

**Yugoslavia / China / North Korea – July 15, 1961 (MOL)**

A joint declaration of the People's Republic of China and the People's Republic of Korea accuses the policy of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia of revisionism.

**Soviet Union / East Germany / Western Bloc – July 17, 1961 (KCA)**

Western Powers emphatically reject any attempt by the USSR to alter unilaterally the *status quo* in West Berlin or to conclude a valid peace treaty with East German authorities. They reiterate their willingness to reach an agreement on the German question, and to uphold the rights of the Western allies in Berlin.

**Poland / Albania – July 19, 1961 (OSA)**

Due to ongoing tense relations both at the Soviet Bloc and bilateral level between Albania and Poland, the Albanian ambassador in Warsaw is declared a "persona non grata" by the Polish government. After the incident bilateral relations got even cooler.

**U. S. / Europe – July 25, 1961 (CAC)**

President Kennedy announces a troop buildup in Europe.

**Hungary – July 28, 1961 (HC)**

The President of Ghana, Kwame Nkrumah makes a four-day visit to Budapest.

**Soviet Union – July 30, 1961 (KCA)**

*Pravda* publishes a new draft program for the Soviet Communist Party. It is the third program to be issued in the history of the party—the previous two in 1903 and in 1919. The program consists of two parts: a general statement of Communist theory, and the second puts forward the party proposals for economic and political developments in USSR for the next 20 years. These include an increase of 500 per cent in industrial output and the free provision of many public services. The program condemns the personality cult and, in order to avoid excessive concentration of power, proposes that the period for which party officials may hold office should be limited; the new rules, unlike the party program often revised, emphasize the necessity of maintaining party unity but also affirm the right of every party member to criticize any other Communist.

**Bulgaria / Greece – July 31, 1961 (KCA)**

Greco–Bulgarian relations further deteriorate after the Bulgarian Prime Minister strongly attacks the Greek government by stating that it does not represent the Greek people. Bulgarian press and radio attacks on Greece had intensified after a high-level NATO conference near the Greek-Bulgarian border.

**August****East Germany / West Germany – August, 1961 (KCA)**

In the first days of August, the number of refugees seeking asylum in West Berlin sharply increases, in an unprecedented scale since the 1953 uprising in East Germany. Throughout July 1961, the total figure is 30,444. The people who fled are chiefly young and skilled, which is a source of main concern for the future of the East German economy. Heightening this is the issue of *Grenzgänger*, people living in East Germany but working and earning their money in West Germany.

**East Germany / Albania – August–September, 1961 (OSA)**

Albania is the only country in the Eastern Bloc not to send an official congratulations to the GDR's Walter Ulbricht for sealing off East Berlin. This omission follows the much-speculated absence of Albania's first secretary Hoxha from an August 3 to 5 Warsaw Pact conference convened in Moscow to discuss the German question, as well as other tensions with members of the bloc.

**Soviet Union / East Germany / West Germany – August 3, 1961 (KCA)**

The Soviet government, in response to Western Powers expressing that they would not accept any unilateral Soviet attempt to end their existing rights in Berlin, accuses West Germany of “militarism” and “revanchism.” The Soviets demand the early conclusion of a German peace treaty with both German states and threaten again to sign a peace treaty with the GDR. However, the Soviets also stress that a change in the position of Western Powers will be welcomed by the USSR.

**Soviet Bloc / West Germany – August 3–6, 1961 (CAC/HC/KGD/MMS/PLC)**

Meeting of the First Secretaries of the Communist and Workers' parties of the Warsaw Pact in Moscow. They discuss the economic-and foreign policy questions related to the German peace treaty., The Soviets agree to the closing of the borders between East and West Berlin, The decision to build the Berlin wall – with Romania's minority report – is made. Its construction is intended to avert the economic collapse of the GDR.

**Soviet Union / Italy – August 3-5, 1961 (KCA)**

Italian Prime Minister Amintore Fanfani visits Moscow for discussions with Khrushchev on the international situation, with special reference to the Berlin problem. Talks have proceeded in a favorable atmosphere.

**Soviet Union / Western Bloc – August 7, 1961 (KCA)**

In a televised broadcast, Khrushchev says that the USSR may have to call up reservists and move troops to her Western borders in reply to the American measures. However, he calls upon Western Powers to "sit down sincerely at the conference table" and negotiate.

**Soviet Union – August 7, 1961 (KCA)**

Major Gherman Titov, a Soviet Air Force officer, lands safely after orbiting the Earth for over 25 hours in the Soviet spaceship *Vostok II*.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 9, 1961 (KCA)**

In response to a U.S. note, which denounces the troika proposal as making "a mockery of effective international control" the Soviets accuse the U.S. of "standing by its former positions" and of "showing no readiness to solve the problem of ending nuclear weapon tests on a mutually acceptable basis."

**Soviet Union / Italy – August 11, 1961 (KCA)**

Khrushchev warns Italian Prime Minister Amintore Fanfani and the Greek ambassador of the potential dangers to their countries from the presence of NATO bases there.

**East Germany / West Germany – August 13, 1961 (HC/KCA/KGD)**

The East German authorities close the border between East and West Berlin, and also between Berlin and the surrounding East German territory, leaving only 13 official crossing-points open. A special broadcast says that these measures have been taken in agreement with a decision by the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty Organization and they would remain in force until the conclusion of a peace treaty. As a result the flood of refugees diminishes but does not cease.— *August 14*. A declaration by the Warsaw Pact governments approves the checkpoint system.

**Soviet Union / Japan – August 14-22, 1961 (KCA)**

Anastas Mikoyan, Soviet first Deputy Prime Minister, visits Japan. His warnings about the alleged danger which Japan might face if she does not withdraw from the security treaty with U.S. are strongly contrasted.

**Hungary – August 15, 1961 (HC)**

A delegation of the Hungarian government, led by Ferenc Münnich, Chairman of the Council of Ministers travels to Indonesia and India.

**East Germany / West Germany – August 16, 1961 (KSG)**

The borders between the GDR and the FRG are closed to all citizens of the GDR.

**Soviet Union / West Germany / East Germany / U.S. / Poland – August 16, 1961 (OSA)**

The Soviet Union is restating its intention to conclude a peace treaty with the GDR and sealing off East Berlin from West Berlin; supports the GDR's claim to exercise control over all access to West Berlin.

**Poland / Soviet Union / U.S. – August 16, 1961 (OSA)**

Economic negotiations between the U.S. and Poland continue as allegations of cuts in Soviet grain delivery quota are made.

**East Germany / West Germany – August 17, 1961 (KCA)**

Concrete barriers topped with barbed wire are erected by East German authorities to fill in existing gaps between the crossing points.

**Hungary – August 19, 1961 (HC)**

The first astronaut, Yuri Gagarin makes a four-day visit to Budapest.

**East Germany / West Germany – August 22, 1961 (KCA)**

East German authorities create the following with regards to the newly established Berlin wall: a “no-man’s land” of 100 meters’ width on both sides of the border, reduction of the number of crossing points to six, and forbidding West Berliners to enter East Berlin without special visas in order to prevent the entry of “spies” into the Eastern sector.

**Soviet Union / Laos – August 22, 1961 (KCA)**

The Geneva Conference approves a draft declaration on Laotian neutrality.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / West Germany – August 23, 1961 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government alleges that “revanchists... and spies” are being allowed to travel along the air corridors linking West Germany with West Berlin and calling on the U.S., Britain and France to stop what are described as “unlawful and provocative” activities by West German politicians in West Berlin.

**East Germany / West Germany – August 24, 1961 (JWG)**

The Council of Ministers of the GDR restricts the rights of settlement in specific areas of the GDR. Citizens, who have their homes within a five-kilometer border area with the FRG, must move elsewhere by September (“Action Cornflower”).

**East Germany – August 25, 1961 (JWG)**

For the first time a refugee, Günter Litwin, is shot at the Berlin wall while attempting to flee to West Berlin.

**Soviet Union / East Germany – August 25, 1961 (KCA)**

East German party leader Walter Ulbricht says that Allied traffic to Berlin will remain subject to Soviet control until a peace treaty is signed. However, this does not change the fact that Berlin is the capital of the GDR, and after the signing of a peace treaty all traffic will be taken over.

**East Germany / Western Bloc – August 26, 1961 (KCA)**

Western powers protest against restrictions introduced in by the East German authorities and threats to the Berlin air corridors.

**Soviet Union – August 31, 1961 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union announces that is resuming nuclear testing in the atmosphere because of the “aggressive policies of the NATO nations and their preparations for a new war”. It thereby ends the self-imposed moratorium from 1958.

**Soviet Union – August 31, 1961 (HC)**

After reviewing the position of the Western powers, the Soviet Union announces the resumption of nuclear military experiments.

**September****Bulgaria / Soviet Union – September, 1961 (KCA)**

Bulgaria’s first atomic reactor, built by Soviet Union for research and industrial purposes, goes into operation.

**Soviet Union – September, 1961 (KCA)**

Khrushchev expresses his agreement with many of the conference points, including the need for general and complete disarmament and the abolition of colonialism. Moreover, he argues that “it would be a good thing if other countries which have not recognized both German states...would recognize them *de jure* and establish relations with them.”

**East Germany / Poland – September, 1961 (OSA)**

It is reported that Poland refused a request from East Germany to allow Polish technicians, as well as unskilled and skilled workers, to take up jobs in the GDR. The Polish decision takes into account their own needs for manpower and possible social tensions due to wage discrepancies in the two Eastern Bloc countries.

**Yugoslavia / Non-Aligned Movement – September 1-6, 1961 (PLC/LUY/RYN/MOL)**

The Conference of Non-aligned Nations opens in Belgrade. It is the first conference of the heads of state of the non-aligned countries. Coincidental with the opening of the conference, the Soviet Union resumes nuclear testing in the atmosphere. In his welcoming address President Tito avoids the subject. On September 3, however, he speaks on the substantive issues of international concern: disarmament, Berlin, colonialism, economic development, and coexistence. First flailing France for not complying with U.N. resolutions on the discontinuance of nuclear testing, he then blandly observes that „matters have not reached a point where the Soviet Government has published a statement on the resumption of nuclear weapons tests.” Far from even attempting a dispassionate assessment of the dangers of French and Soviet testing, Tito denounces the French, but has nothing severe to say about the Soviets: „We are not surprised so much by the communiqué on the resumption of atomic and hydrogen weapons tests, because we understand the reasons adduced by the Government of the USSR. We are surprised more by the fact that this was done on the day of the opening of this Conference of Peace.” Yugoslavia *de jure* recognizes Algeria. The conference ends with a 400-word „Statement on the Danger of War and Appeal for Peace” drafted by Jawaharlal Nehru.

**Hungary – September 1, 1961 (HC)**

A delegation of the Romanian government, led by First Secretary Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej travels to Hungary for a ten-day visit.

**Soviet Union / Western Bloc – September 2, 1961 (KCA)**

The Soviets reply to the August 26 Western protest by calling upon the Western powers to end the unlawful and provocative actions of West Germany. They maintain that there is no intention to restrict links between West Berlin and West Germany.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 5, 1961 (CWC)**

The United States announce that they are resuming underground nuclear testing because the Soviet Union did so.

**East Germany – September 5, 1961 (JWG)**

FDJ (*Frei Deutsche Jugend* – Free German Youth) action begins in order to remove TV aerials that were used to receive broadcasts from Western TV stations.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 7, 1961 (LBC)**

Khrushchev announces that he is ready to meet Kennedy to solve the outstanding international problems. He warns that the USSR would not renounce the first use of the A bomb; in case of aggression the Soviet Union would defend Yugoslavia. He proposes the signing of peace treaties with the two German states. – *September 25*. The U.S. President states in the U.N.: the United States is ready to fulfill its obligations in Berlin “with any means”. – The new U.S. disarmament program: test ban treaty before the disarmament talks; terminating the production of fissionable materials for military use and stopping other countries from acquiring fissionable materials; nuclear non-proliferation agreement; the preservation of outer space from nuclear arms; gradual disarmament and the transformation of existing nuclear arms for peaceful use; cessation of production and testing of nuclear delivery vehicles and their gradual liquidation.

**Soviet Union / India – September 7-11, 1961 (KCA)**

Prime Minister of India Jawaharlal Nehru pays a five day visit in Soviet Union to hand Khrushchev in person the peace appeal which has been unanimously adopted at the Belgrade conference. Khrushchev and Nehru note with satisfaction that friendly relations and cooperation between the Soviet Union and India have been developing.

**Warsaw Pact – September 8-9, 1961 (CAC/HC/MMS)**

The Warsaw Pact’s ministers of defense meet in Warsaw. and agree to increase military preparedness and to proceed with “Buria,” the first military exercise to involve all the Warsaw Pact armies as a coalition.

**Warsaw Pact – September 28–October 10, 1961 (CAC)**

The “Buria” exercise takes place, the first of its kind to model a massive invasion of Western Europe.

**Soviet Union / Western Bloc – September 8, 1961 (KCA)**

Western powers refute the September 2 Soviet arguments, recalling the four-power agreements governing air access to Berlin. They repeat the warnings against any interference with Allied flights.

**Soviet Union / Western Bloc – September 9, 1961 (KCA)**

In response to Western appeals, Khrushchev says that the Soviet government has decided to resume nuclear tests because it could not “disregard the possibility of aggression” against the USSR. The Geneva Conference goes into recess. With the exception of other Communist countries, the resumption of nuclear tests is a source of great concern in the rest of the world.

**Soviet Union – September 10, 1961 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union announces that tests of “more powerful and improved versions of multi-stage carrier rockets of space vehicles” would be carried out in the central Pacific.

**Soviet Union – September 10, 1961 (KCA)**

A new hydro-electric power station is inaugurated in Stalingrad.

**Hungary – September 12, 1961 (HC)**

Personnel changes to the government and Party leadership are suggested in a session of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party taking place in Budapest.

**Hungary – September 13, 1961 (KCA/HC)**

The Hungarian government undergoes a major reorganization. The Presidential Council elects János Kádár as Chairman of Council of Ministers. Kádár remains First Secretary of the Socialist Workers’ Party. János Péter becomes foreign minister.

**Hungary – September 14, 1961 (HC)**

The session of the Central Committee of the Communist Youth Alliance takes place in Budapest. It elects Árpád Pullai as First Secretary.

**Soviet Union / Belgium – September 19, 1961 (KCA)**

Spaak, Belgian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, visits Moscow for a discussion with Khrushchev.

**East Germany – September 20, 1961 (JWG)**

Erich Honecker, the Central Committee’s Secretary for Security approves the use of firearms against “border infringers”. The People’s Chamber passes the “Law for the Defense of the GDR”, which invests the State Council with nearly unlimited emergency powers.

**Poland – September 29, 1961 (OSA)**

The Polish government is refusing to help solve the East German shortage of manpower in the GDR by sending Polish technicians and labourers to East Germany. Press sources claim the decision is linked to the decreasing labour supply in Poland, an excuse considered untrue by the German newspapers. Other sources attribute the Polish Government’s negative decision to the higher salaries received by Polish workers in East Germany, resulting in moral problems upon their return to Poland. The report points out that an agreement was reached to allow Polish students from East German universities, especially of chemistry, to work in the GDR.

## **October**

### **Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – October, 1961 (ACY)**

The Serbian Orthodox patriarch travels to Moscow for a fortnight visit. He and his suite are received by Brezhnev.

### **Hungary – October 5, 1961 (HC)**

Hungary is admitted to the governing body of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

### **Hungary – October 7-12, 1961 (HC)**

The Parliament approves the laws number 1961: II and III addressing the second five-year economic development plan, the education system and the age limit for mandatory education.

### **East Germany / Soviet Union – October 7, 1961 (OSA)**

The Soviet Union sends a high level delegation to the GDR's anniversary celebrations, which includes: Anastas Mikoyan, First Deputy Chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers; M. G. Perkuvn, the USSR's ambassador to the GDR; A. L. Orlov, Soviet Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, among others. This show of support demonstrates the emphasis placed on the German question in the year 1961, and by far rivals the less prominent representation in the preceding year (although the ten-year anniversary in 1959 had witnessed important Soviet delegation as well).

### **Soviet Union – October 10, 1961 (KCA)**

Tuva, a region in Siberia, becomes an autonomous republic of the Soviet Union. Tuvans are a Turkic people.

### **Hungary – October 13, 1961 (KCA)**

György Marosán has been appointed Vice-chairman of the Presidential Council of Hungary.

### **Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 13, 1961 (LBC)**

At an NSC meeting Kennedy stated that the U.S. must reevaluate its relations with Yugoslavia. This came when Congress attacked the sale of 13 fighter planes to Belgrade. According to the Pentagon the sale is in the best interest of the U.S., since Yugoslavia is denying strategically important territory to the USSR in South-East Europe. – *November 23*. The U.S. embassy in Belgrade informs the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry that the US is willing to negotiate the sale of further agricultural products to Yugoslavia. The sale of 500 thousand tons of grain has been already agreed upon, Yugoslavia wants one million tons more.

### **Soviet Union – October 17-31, 1961 (PLC/CAC/HC)**

Marking the second wave of destalinization, the CPSU's 22nd congress' new party program sets Communism (to be achieved within two decades) as one of its goals. In his October 17 speech, Khrushchev attacks China through referencing Albania's anti-Soviet policies. Chou En-Lai responds in kind. A major cleavage within the international Communist movement thus becomes public. Khrushchev rescinds his decision to sign a separate peace treaty with East Germany. The Congress condemns the political methods used in the period of the personality cult and the divisive positions of Chinese leaders during that period.



**Greece / Soviet Union —October 20, 1961 (OSA)**

Greece accused the Soviet Union of intervening in the country's domestic affairs, following the Soviet objection regarding recent maneuvers in northeastern Greece by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / U.S. – October 27, 1961 (JWG)**

American tanks face Soviet tanks at the sector crossing "Checkpoint Charlie". Both sides are given the order to fire if fired upon.

The Justice Ministers of the West German federal states decide to establish a Central Investigation Point with the task of recording acts of violence committed by GDR authorities.

**Soviet Union / East Germany – October 27, 1961 (KCA)**

Khrushchev reaffirms the Soviet's Government desire to enter into discussions with Western Powers on the German question and its willingness to postpone signing a peace treaty with East Germany until after December 31.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – October 27–28, 1961 (CAC)**

A confrontation between U.S. and Soviet tanks at the Checkpoint Charlie crossing into West Berlin takes place.

**Soviet Union – October 28, 1961 (KCA)**

The Soviet series of rocket tests in the mid-Pacific end; all tests are said to be successful.

**Soviet Union / Finland – October 30, 1961 (KCA)**

The Soviet government presents a note to Finland proposing consultations "on measures to ensure the defense of both countries from the threat of a military attack by Western Germany and allied states."

**Warsaw Pact / China – October 31, 1961 (CAC)**

Chinese observers are excluded from Warsaw Pact meetings.

**Soviet Union – October 31, 1961 (OSA)**

Informational aspects of a Soviet nuclear tests remain propagandistically relevant and the Soviets may have gained important technical knowledge from the tests.

**November****Soviet Union / Eastern Europe – November 1961 (KCA)**

Many cities and towns in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe which were renamed in honor of Stalin are again renamed.

**Soviet Union – November 1, 1961 (PLC)**

Stalin's body is removed from Lenin's Mausoleum.

**Yugoslavia / Poland – November 2, 1961 (MOL)**

Yugoslavia signs a treaty on economic cooperation with Poland.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 2-4, 1961 (KCA)**

After numerous nuclear tests in September by the United States, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission announces 15 more tests. No announcements are made by Soviet government. Except in the Communist countries, these arouse world-wide indignation.

**Soviet Union / Albania / China – November 3, 1961 (OSA)**

The Chinese *People's Daily* carries the Albanian counterstatement to Khrushchev. A passage attacks Khrushchev by name and accuses him of being a liar, slanderer, bully, anti-Marxist, and disruptor of bloc unity.

**Soviet Union – November 4, 1961 (KCA)**

The Secretariat of the Fourth International (a pro-Trotskyist organization) in a letter sent to Soviet Communist Party demands the rehabilitation of Trotsky and other prominent Bolsheviks leaders who were executed in 1936-1938.

**Soviet Union / Albania – November 7, 1961 (KCA)**

Enver Hoxha accuses Khrushchev of abandoning Marxism-Leninism and of delaying a settlement of the German question through fear.

**Albania / Yugoslavia - November 8, 1961 (OSA)**

An RFE report indicates that Enver Hoxha used Titoist formulations to defend his Stalinist positions. Enver Hoxha was attacking Nikita Khrushchev for attempting "to make the decisions of one Party binding on all the parties". It also claims that similar phrases could be found a hundred times in most of Enver Hoxha's speeches made in Yugoslavia since 1948 against Stalin and his successors.

**Soviet Union / Finland – November 8, 1961 (KCA)**

A Finnish representative meets Gromyko for explorative talks to get further explanations on the October 30 Soviet note regarding defense from a possible attack by West Germany and allied states. The Soviet note causes surprise and concern throughout Scandinavian Governments.

**Soviet Union – November 9-11, 1961 (PLC)**

All cities named after Stalin renamed. Among others, Stalingrad is renamed Volgograd on November 10.

**Soviet Union / Finland – November 11-12, 1961 (KCA)**

Finnish Foreign Minister Karjalainen visits Moscow to discuss with Gromyko the Soviet Note to Finland of October 30 which has asked for joint military consultation "in view of the threat from Western Germany."

**Soviet Union – November 12, 1961 (KCA)**

Molotov, the former Soviet Foreign Minister and a member of the "anti-party" group returns to Moscow. He refuses to comment on the charges against him.

**Soviet Union / Ethiopia – November 15, 1961 (KCA)**

It is announced in Addis Ababa that a contract has been signed for the Soviet government to build an oil refinery in the Red Sea.

**Czechoslovakia / Albania – November 15-17, 1961 (KCA)**

At its meeting, the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party decided that the late President Gottwald should be removed from his mausoleum in Prague. President Antonín Novotný spoke of Gottwald's personality cult and legal abuses. This was part of broader de-Stalinization measures across the Eastern bloc. In addition, President Novotný recalled the failure of Albanian leaders to respond to notes from the Czechoslovak Communist Party, and in response, Czechoslovakia should limit its contact with Albania.

**Yugoslavia / India / Egypt – November 18-19, 1961 (MOL/RYN)**

A conference between Yugoslav President Tito, UAR President Gamal Abdel Nasser and Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru takes place in Cairo. During their meeting, Tito persuades Nehru and Nasser to sign a joint communiqué urging the developing countries to examine the dangers threatening their vital economic interests. This course of action is a response to economic pressure exerted by the United States against Yugoslavia for its unwillingness at the Belgrade Conference to criticize the Soviet Union for having unilaterally broken the informal nuclear test ban moratorium that has been in effect since 1958.

**Soviet Union – November 21, 1961 (OSA)**

3 residents of Leningrad were sentenced to death for currency speculation. 6 of their accomplices received terms in prison ranging from 5 to 12 years.

**Soviet Bloc / Western powers – November 21, 1961 (LBC)**

The London based Institute for Strategic Studies reports that the Western powers are superior to the Soviet bloc in almost all important indicators of military strength. The estimated data for 1962:

	<b>The West</b>	<b>China and the East bloc</b>
<b>Number</b>	7.9 million	8.2 million
<b>ICBM</b>	63	50
<b>IRBM</b>	186	200
<b>Atomic submarines</b>	22	6
<b>Conventional submarines</b>	260	480
<b>Medium and long range bombers</b>	2800	1290
<b>Aircraft carriers</b>	58	None

**Poland / Albania – November 22, 1961 (KCA)**

Gomułka accused Albanian leaders of “senseless political adventurism” with regard to the German question and questioned the Chinese view on the German question.

**Soviet Union / Albania – November 21, 1961 (OSA)**

The USSR demands repayment on loans from Albania, originally scheduled for repayment beginning in 1970. Soviet bloc technicians and advisors are withdrawn from Albania and Soviet credits are no longer available to Tirana.

**Soviet Union – November 22, 1961 (OSA)**

The election of Soviet and East European Orthodox churches into the World Council of Churches takes place. Soviet motivation was to increase respectability of churches in question among Western Christians and to assure a broader presentation of the Soviet point of view.

**Soviet Union — November 24, 1961 (OSA)**

The de-Stalinization process resulted in all geographical textbooks and atlases in the Soviet Union being once again out of date. The extended number of toponyms named after Stalin was swiftly changed, after his death, opting for less controversial alternatives that will not be so susceptible to the turbulence of the political scene. Stalingrad, thus, is renamed Volgograd. The same fate awaits places that were named after members of the anti-party group, as an outcome of a constant historical re-examination.

**Soviet Union / Finland – November 25, 1961 (KCA)**

Finnish President Urho Kekkonen confirms Finland's neutrality which is "an essential part of Soviet Union's security policy" and says that the concern of the Soviet Union over German rearmament is understandable. A protocol covering trade exchanges in 1962 between Finland and Soviet Union is signed in Moscow.

**Bulgaria / Soviet Union – November 28-29, 1961 (HC/PLC) à November 29.**

After some hesitation, the Bulgarian Communist Party's leadership sides with the USSR in the Sino-Soviet dispute. This also marks Todor Zhivkov's final victory within the Party: former secretary general secretary Vulko Chervenkov is excluded from the Party's leadership (subsequently from the party at the November 1961 8th Congress). Traicho Kostov is rehabilitated. The USSR honors the decision with economic benefits. Also, the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party expels Vulko Chervenkov from its Politburo on the grounds that he "did not draw all the necessary conclusions from the liquidation of the personality cult." This was part of broader de-Stalinization measures across the Eastern bloc.

**East Germany – November 28, 1961 (PLC)**

According to the Socialist Unity Party's leadership, no personality cult evolved in East Germany, therefore there is no need to correct any errors.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 28, 1961 (LBC)**

*Izvestia* publishes an interview with U.S. President Kennedy, although the text, according to the State department, is distorted. – Secretary of State Dean Rusk expresses hope in the continuation of East-West talks. In his view East-West talks must involve four points: arms control, particularly agreements to prevent of "war by accident or miscalculation"; resolution of "specific crises which reached the point of clear and present danger"; prevention of "future crises" by "continuous communication between ourselves and the communists"; mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of health, science space research and atomic energy. – *November 29.* According to Kennedy there can be no harmonic relationship between the two blocs until the German and the Berlin questions are solved.

**Romania – November 24-December 1, 1961 (KCA)**

At a meeting of the Central Committee of the Romanian Workers' Party, the Soviet measures against Stalin's personality cult were approved. In addition, the Central Committee condemned the Albanian Party of Labor, and persons who were responsible for the Stalin cult in Romania. This was part of broader de-Stalinization measures across the Eastern bloc.

## **December**

### **Czechoslovakia – December 1961 (HC)**

The Central Committee of the Czechoslovakian Communist Party condemns the methods used in 1946-48 Czechoslovakian-Hungarian exchange of inhabitants called “re-Slovakization” - and other anti-Hungarian discriminatory policies.

### **East Germany – December, 1961 (HWD)**

The Politburo of the SED issues a communiqué ‘The Woman – the Peace and the Socialism’. The provision of equal rights for women is declared as “an indispensable principle of Marxism-Leninism” and “concerns the whole society”. The speeding up of qualifications for women is proposed.

### **COMECON / Albania – December 1961 (CEC)**

The 15th session of COMECON is held in Warsaw. The basic principles of ISDL are adopted. Joint exploitation of raw materials and fuels is envisaged, along with specialization in agriculture and shipbuilding and transport coordination. Albania does not attend this meeting.

### **East Germany – December 1, 1961 (KCA)**

West German sources reported that people who had been imprisoned in the GDR for insulting Stalin were released. In addition, Walter Ulbricht fielded charges that he was creating a personality cult akin to that of Stalin. This was part of broader de-Stalinization measures across the Eastern bloc.

### **Soviet Union – December 4-15, 1961 (HC)**

The World Alliance of Labor Unions holds its 5th Congress in Moscow.

### **Soviet Union / Albania – December 4, 1961 (OSA)**

A full delegation of Albanian trade unions arrived in Moscow and attended the opening of the 5<sup>th</sup> international congress of trade unions.

### **Bulgaria – December 9, 1961 (KCA)**

The Presidium of the Bulgarian National Assembly relieves Vulko Chervenkov from his duties as Deputy Premier on accusations that he fostered a personality cult. This was part of broader de-Stalinization measures across the Eastern bloc.

### **Soviet Union / Albania – December 10, 1961 (PLC)**

The Soviet Union terminates diplomatic relations with Albania following the Albanian support of China in the Sino-Soviet dispute. Albania leaves the COMECON on December 12. Other Socialist countries do not follow the Soviet example.

### **Hungary – December 10, 1961 (HC)**

The government reduces prices of coffee, tea, sweets, citrus fruit, spices and a few industrial goods, and increases prices of tobacco and beer.

### **Soviet Union / U.S. – December 12, 1961 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government requests the U.S. Government to extradite Gen. Heusinger to the Soviet Union to stand trial for war crimes allegedly committed by him while a member of the German General Staff. The U.S. does not accept.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / U.N. – December 13, 1961 (KCA)**

The United States and the Soviet Union present a joint resolution in the General Assembly to resume disarmament negotiations “as a matter of urgency”, which is unanimously adopted.

**Hungary – December 15-16, 1961 (HC)**

The Parliament approves 1961: V law on the penal code, the VI law on the protection of land, and then VII law on the forest and wild areas.

**Poland / U.S. – December 15, 1961 (KCA)**

A new agreement on sale of U.S. surplus farm products to help to meet urgent Polish needs is signed in Washington.

**Soviet Union / Albania – December 19, 1961 (CAC)**

The Soviet Union and Albania sever diplomatic relations after a stormy period that included disputes with China, a covert Soviet attempt to oust Albanian leader Enver Hoxha, and the expulsion of Soviet vessels from the Vlorë naval base.

**Soviet Union / Hungary / U.N. – December 20, 1961 (KCA)**

The General Assembly adopts a 16-Power resolution deploring “the continue disregard by the USSR and the present Hungarian regime of the General Assembly resolutions concerning the situation in Hungary”.

**U. N. – December 20, 1961 (HC)**

The 16th session of the General Assembly of the United Nation puts the “Hungarian question” on its schedule.

**Soviet Union / Belgium – December 21, 1961 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government warns the Belgian Government of the “dangerous consequences” of granting military bases for the *Bundeswehr* on Belgian territory.

**Soviet Union / Greece – December 21, 1961-January 4, 1962 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government asks the Greek Government for “an explanation” of “recent reports about the installation of foreign nuclear weapons in Greece” on December 21. On January 4, the Greek Government describes the Soviet Note as an “unacceptable interference.”

**Hungary / Albania – December 21, 1961 (HC)**

The Foreign Ministry of Hungary re-calls its Albanian Ambassador from Tirana after accusing the Albanian Ambassador of engaging in propaganda activities against the People’s Republic of Hungary. The Albanian counselor is subsequently expelled from Hungary.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – December 26, 1961 (KCA)**

It is announced in Washington that Anatoly Dobrynin has been appointed new Soviet Ambassador for the U.S.

**Hungary – December 30, 1961**

Government resolution 1027/1961 approves the establishment of a Carrier Center.

## 1962

### **Romania – 1962 (RFN)**

There is no visible sign of any Romanian deviation from the Soviet Union. Romania and the Soviet Union express similar positions in Security Council on two critical issues - Kashmir and the Cuban missile crisis.

### **Romania – 1962 (SRR)**

The educational and professional standards reach levels of high competence, adequate for the constantly rising expectations of a rapidly developing industrial society.

### **Soviet Union / Finland – 1962 (PLC)**

Throughout the year, the USSR grants Finland shipping rights to the Saimaa Channel.

### **Eastern Bloc / Western Bloc – 1962 (LBC)**

According to reports trade between the free world and the communist states reached an all time peak: 4.1% of the aggregate trade of Western world, its value was 5.2 billion dollars. The communist export to the U.S. was 125.2 million dollars in 1962, 0.7% of its 21.7 billion dollar turnover. This region represents 3.6% in French and 3.5% in British trade.

## **January**

### **Soviet Union / U.S. – January 1962 (KCA)**

Khrushchev suggests that the USSR and the U.S. should pool their efforts to explore the outer space.

### **Yugoslavia – January 1, 1962 (MOL)**

The delegation of Krsto Popivoda, member of the Federal Executive Council, arrives back from Tanganyika. In a press release he expresses his confidence that his meeting with Tanganyikan leaders will open wide prospects for the political, economic, cultural and other cooperation between the two countries.

### **Yugoslavia / Burma – January 1, 1962 (MOL)**

Mirko Milutinović is Yugoslavia's new ambassador to Burma.

### **East Germany – January 2, 1962 (KCA)**

The Federal German Ministry for Refugees and Expellees announce that during 1961 a total of 207,026 refugees from Eastern Germany have arrived in Western Germany. Walter Ulbricht admits, in a *Pravda* interview, that the departure of so many workers has caused the loss of a 40% of national income.

### **Cuba – January 3, 1962 (PLC)**

The Pope excommunicates Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

### **Hungary – January 4, 1962 (HC)**

The first Hungarian-manufactured 50mW hydrogen cooling turbo-generator is created in the Klement Gottwald factory of Budapest.

**Yugoslavia / India – January 7, 1962 (MOL)**

The delegation of Vida Krumić, Chairman of the Foreign Exchange Committee leaves for India to sign a barter agreement for the fiscal year of 1962.

**Yugoslavia / Morocco – January 7, 1962 (MOL)**

It is announced that Yugoslavia is shipping medical equipment in the value of 24 million dinars to Morocco for Algerian refugees.

**Yugoslavia – January 7, 1962 (MOL)**

Hundreds of houses collapsed in the vicinity of Makarska due to a strong earthquake.

**Yugoslavia – January 7, 1962 (MOL)**

The commercial ship Šabac collides and sinks on the English Channel. Of the 33 member crew, 28 people lost their lives.

**Hungary – January 7, 1962 (HC)**

500 professionals are dispatched to collective farms to strengthen the leadership of common economic units.

**Yugoslavia / Pakistan – January 9, 1962 (MOL)**

Yugoslav foreign trade companies offer \$10 million loan to Pakistan for the purchase of hydro energetic and other industrial machinery.

**Yugoslavia / East Germany – January 9, 1962 (MOL)**

Negotiations start in Belgrade between the delegations of Yugoslavia and the German Democratic Republic for a barter agreement for the fiscal year of 1962.

**Yugoslavia – January 9, 1962 (MOL)**

An Austrian delegation arrives in Belgrade for concluding a barter agreement for the fiscal year of 1962.

**Albania – January 9, 1962 (KCA)**

An editorial article in the Albanian Communist Party newspaper expresses the Albanian Government's desire to resume diplomatic, trade and cultural relations with all Western countries, even with Greece, provided the Greek Government abandon its claim on South Albania. The Albanian Government had maintained diplomatic relations only with Italy, France and Austria. Some Greek nomads, who were in Albania since 1949, have been repatriated.

**Yugoslavia – January 10, 1962 (MOL)**

The new Yugoslav ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary presents his credentials to the Mongolian president.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – January 10, 1962 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government in an aide-mémoire to the British Government condemns "the gross interference" of the United States in South Vietnam's internal affairs.

**Hungary – January 10, 1962 (HC)**

The first Hungarian anti-pressure industrial power plant is initiated in the Paper Factory of Csepel.



The Minister of Culture and Education is held responsible for the registration of names, marriages and other family-related ceremonies.

**Yugoslavia / U.N. – January 11, 1962 (MOL)**

Mišo Pavičević, permanent member of the Yugoslav U.N. delegation, is elected president of an U.N. aid agency for the developing countries.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 11-23, 1962 (LBC)**

Kennedy's state of the union address: the U.S. continues to support nations in choosing their own futures, political systems if it does not violate the rights of others. America's military position is continually improving but its strength is put to trial on several levels and must be prepared to meet a conventional attack with conventional forces. – Kennedy expresses his concern about the conclusion of a report on scientist training in the Soviet Union and asks the Scientific Advisory Committee to make recommendations for the society's complex need for the necessary amount of well-trained scientists and engineers.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 12, 1962 (CWC)**

U.S. Ambassador Thompson and Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko meet in Moscow to discuss the issue of Berlin.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – January 13, 1962 (MOL)**

Negotiations for a Hungarian-Yugoslav road traffic agreement conclude in Budapest.

**Finland – January 15, 1962 (KPV)**

Presidential elections to choose electors begin.

**Albania / China – January 16, 1962 (PLC)**

Albania and China sign a commercial treaty. The PRC's share in Albanian foreign trade increases from 1960's 4.3% to 46.6%.

**Soviet Union – January 22, 1961 (KCA)**

Sergei Lapin is appointed Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – January 23, 1962 (MOL)**

A Bulgarian delegation arrives in Belgrade to negotiate on the construction of the Niš-Dimitrovgrad road.

**Bulgaria / Yugoslavia - January 24, 1962 (OSA)**

"Heavy industry is Bulgaria's economic obsession" reads the title of a report from Sofia by the social correspondent of the Belgrade daily "Borba", Risto Bayalski. Writing in the paper's January 21st issue, Bayalski describes his visit to Kremikovtsi, a place about 20 kilometres away from Sofia, where a huge metallurgical combine is being built.

**East Germany – January 24, 1962 (KCA/AGD)**

The People's Chamber (*Volkskammer*) unanimously approved a bill introducing general military conscription, and another setting up a Military Criminal Code. Under the first bill, men between 18 and 26 years will have to serve for 18 months on active duty. This law has been preceded by another law which gives the government full power to undertake measures deemed necessary to counteract the "increased war preparation of West German militarists". The

Volkskammer introduces laws on the right of the military to strike and an increase in the powers of the State's attorney.

**Hungary – January 26, 1962 (HC)**

In the Kerepesi Cemetery of Budapest a memorial to the martyrs of Vörös Brigád (the Red Squad) is opened.

**Yugoslavia – January 27, 1962 (MOL)**

*Socialism and War* by Edvard Kardelj is published in London.

**Soviet Union — January 28, 1962 (OSA)**

Following a governmental decree, all toponyms, dating back from 1930, named after members of the anti-party group will be revoked. Anti-party members V. Molotov, K. Voroshilov, L. Kaganovich, and G. Malenkov were the leading opponents of Khrushchev's de-Stalinization practices and were publicly accused of contributing to Stalin's terrorist regime. In most cases, the degree at hand confirms alterations that had already been implemented.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / U.N. – January 29, 1962 (KCA)**

The Geneva test ban conference breaks up in complete deadlock and mutual recriminations. It has lasted for more than three years without results. The U.S. and Britain withdraw from the conference because of long-standing Soviet refusal to negotiate a test-ban treaty on the basis of verified international controls, whilst the Soviet delegate accuses the Western Powers of wrecking the conference because they have failed to secure "espionage facilities under the guise of international control".

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – January 30, 1962 (MOL)**

An agreement on scientific cooperation is signed between Yugoslavia and Bulgaria in Belgrade.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 30, 1962 (LBC)**

U.S. President Kennedy negotiates with the editor-in-chief of Izvestia, Khrushchev's son in law Adzubei in the White House. Kennedy confides that he is aware of Adzubei's special relationship with Khrushchev and calls the talks frank.

**Warsaw Pact – January 30-February 1, 1962 (MMS)**

The WP ministers of defense meet in Prague.

**Soviet Union / China – January 30, 1962 (OSA)**

Moscow is seeking alternative air routes in Asia in anticipation of the possibility that the Chinese may withdraw permission to overfly Chinese territory at some point.

**February**

**Poland – February 2, 1962 (OSA)**

The annual record of beet sugar production in Poland for the year 1962 is reported. Details on the increased tons of sugar beets are given with comparisons of previous years harvests. It is reported that a great amount of sugar was lost due to an inadequate transport system.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt – February 1962 (RYN)**

Yugoslav President Tito and President of the United Arab Republic Gamal Abdel Nasser again discuss, *inter alia*, ways of eliminating barriers to international trade.

**Yugoslavia / France – February 2, 1962 (RYN)**

The French government demands the recall of the Yugoslav ambassador because Yugoslavia has extended *de jure* recognition to the Provisional Government of Algeria at the time of the Belgrade Conference of nonaligned nations.

**Hungary – February 2, 1962 (HC)**

The National Solidarity Committee is formed in order to support people fighting for freedom in the world.

**Soviet Union / West Berlin – February 2, 1962 (OSA)**

The Soviet Union has made new proposals on the issue of West Berlin, including membership in the UN and Western and Soviet guarantees for each other's access to avoid GDR issues of control.

**Finland – February 3-4, 1962 (KPV/TPE)**

Parliamentary elections are held. As a result the Agrarian League strengthens its position towards the other two biggest parties in the country namely the Social Democratic Party and Finnish People's Democratic League (SKDL).

**Yugoslavia / Egypt – February 4, 1962 (KCA)**

President Tito and President Gamal Abdel Nasser agree on consultations between non-aligned countries in view of the tense international situation.

**Czechoslovakia – February 6-7, 1962 (KCA)**

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Rudolf Barak, has been expelled from the Communist Party for "misuse of his office as Minister of the Interior and illegal administrations of State funds."

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – February 8, 1962 (MOL)**

An agreement on road traffic regulations between Yugoslavia and Hungary is signed in Budapest.

**Hungary – February 9, 1962 (HC)**

The Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party discussed the development of economic leadership.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 10, 1961 (KCA)**

Captain Powers, the pilot involved in the U-2 accident, although being sentenced to jail, is handed over, in an "act of clemency", the American authorities in exchange for Colonel Rudolf Abel, who was sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment in the U.S. on charges of espionage activity for the USSR.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – February 10, 1962 (KCA)**

Khrushchev welcomes the joint message of President Kennedy and Harold Macmillan, who proposed that Geneva disarmament conference should begin at Foreign Minister Level. The

Soviet leader proposes that the three heads of government should personally take part in the opening phases.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 13, 1962 (LBC)**

The West rejects Khrushchev's plan for the forthcoming Geneva talks on the highest level but they are willing to raise the talks to the foreign minister level. The talks would be pursued on a higher level if they promise success. – *February 21*. Khrushchev sends another note in which he renews his demand to hold the Geneva talks on the prime ministerial or head of state level in even stronger wording. – *February 24.-25*. Kennedy rejects Khrushchev's demands for the Geneva talks again. On March 3 Khrushchev agrees that the conference should begin at Foreign Ministers' level.

**Poland – February 15, 1962 (PSN)**

The *Sejm* passes the Supreme Court Act under which the Supreme Court becomes "the highest judicial body which supervises the functioning of the general and special courts of law in the sphere of judicial decisions".

**Poland – February 15, 1962 (PSN)**

The *Sejm* passes a new Citizenship Act under which "acquisition of the citizenship of a foreign state entails the loss of Polish citizenship".

**Soviet Union / Cuba – February 18, 1962 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union expresses its support for the regime of Fidel Castro in Cuba.

**U.S. – February 20, 1962 (PLC)**

Space pilot John H. Glenn becomes the first American in outer space.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 21, 1962 (LBC)**

In a letter Khrushchev offers for the U.S. and the USSR to discover space together, with the pooling of scientific, technical and material resources. In his response the President welcomes Khrushchev's proposal for Soviet-American cooperation in space research. Kennedy informs Khrushchev that he will give the appropriate instructions to responsible officials to prepare new and concrete proposals for the immediate plans of cooperation. – *March 7*. Kennedy proposes a five-point plan for cooperation in space research to the Soviet Union.

**Hungary / Egypt – February 21-March 7, 1962 (HC)**

Jenő Incze, Minister of Foreign Trade travels to Cairo and negotiates a deepening of the economic relations between the two countries.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt – February 21, 1962 (MOL)**

Yugoslav President Tito arrives in Cairo as guest of Gamal Abdel Nasser.

**Soviet Union / Sri Lanka – February 22, 1962 (KCA)**

A three-year trade agreement between the Soviet Union and Ceylon is signed.

**Soviet Union – February 22, 1962 (KCA)**

Marshall Kirill Moskalenko claims that the Soviet Union has successfully solved the problem of destroying enemy rockets in flight.

**Soviet Union / Norway – February 22, 1962 (KCA)**

A Soviet-Norwegian fisheries agreement is signed in Moscow.

**Soviet Union / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland – February 22, 1962 (KCA)**

The first southern section of the 2,500-mile east European pipeline, the “Friendship Oil Pipeline” project designed to link the USSR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Eastern Germany is completed.

**Bulgaria – February 25, 1962 (KCA)**

Elections take place. All the candidates for the 321 seats in the National Assembly are nominated by the Fatherland Front. The vast majority of them are members of the Communist Party.

**Soviet Union – February 27, 1962 (KCA)**

A decree published in the bulletin of the Supreme Soviet extends death penalty to corruption, rape and attacks on police.

**March****Yugoslavia – March 1962 (RNF)**

The executive bureau of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia holds a closed session to discuss the political directions of the system. The session sees sharp political conflicts but ultimately produces a decision to take concrete steps to address certain problems and shortcomings. Among these problems are localism, chauvinism, and national particularism.

**Finland – March 1, 1962 (SFF/LJF)**

Presidential elections: Urho Kekkonen secures his second term as a President. The Soviet note has had its greatest impact on the outcome of the election by breaking the unity of Kekkonen’s opponents whose common candidate, Olavi Honka, withdrew his candidacy in the name of national unity, ensuring Kekkonen’s reelection by a wide margin.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt – March 1, 1962 (MOL)**

An agreement is signed between the competent agencies of Yugoslavia and the United Arab Republic on the establishment of direct radio and telephone contact between Cairo and Belgrade.

**Yugoslavia / Tunisia – March 5, 1962 (MOL)**

A five-year cultural agreement is signed between the representatives of Yugoslavia and Tunisia.

**France – March 5, 1962 (LBC)**

France announces that it does not wish to participate in the Geneva arms reduction talks, since it sees no point in sending representatives to a conference where there is no hope of a solution.

**Hungary / East Germany – March 5, 1962 (HC)**

Hungary and GDR establish an Economic and Scientific Co-operation Agreement in Leipzig.

**Yugoslavia / North Africa – March 6, 1962 (MOL)**

President of the Federal Distance Planning Committee Avdo Humo leaves for Mali, Morocco, Tunisia and Libya.

**Hungary / Cyprus – March 6, 1962 (HC)**

Hungary and Cyprus sign an agreement on trade and finance.

**Hungary / Austria – March 7, 1962 (OSA)**

An investigation initiated six weeks prior reaches its conclusion. On January 25th, human remains were found on the Austrian side of the border. A few days previously, a letter reached the Austrian security authorities from Mrs. Horváth, a Hungarian citizen. She attempted to warn Austrian relatives that her son, László Horváth, is planning to reunite with his father, who had been living abroad since 1948. A few hours after his escape attempt, Hungarian police informed Mrs Horváth that László met his death because of an exploding mine.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – March 7, 1962 (OSA)**

19-year-old Sándor Simonyi Trasszer robs his foster parents to gather enough money in order to defect through the Yugoslavian border. He performs the crime together with his friend, Sándor Tóth. The two boys are apprehended by the guards before they can cross the border. Simonyi Trasser had been living with his uncle and aunt since he was 7 years old, the couple adopted him legally.

**Yugoslavia / Turkey – March 7, 1962 (MOL)**

An agreement on trade in the value of \$22 million for 1962 is signed in Ankara between the representatives of Yugoslavia and Turkey.

**Soviet Union – March 8, 1962 (CAC)**

The Soviets make a proposal for general and complete disarmament.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 8, 1962 (LBC)**

An agreement for a two-year Soviet-American scientific-cultural exchange program is signed. – An agreement is made on the production of a Soviet-American movie. – *May 30*. The first concert of Benny Goodman's seven week tour of the Soviet Union in Moscow. – *July 6*. The State Department lifts strict travel restrictions for Soviet tourists and the participants of exchange programs.

**Hungary / Guinea – March 8, 1962 (HC)**

Hungary and Guinea sign a long-term trade agreement in Budapest.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – March 9, 1962 (MOL)**

A Secretary of the U.N. European Economic Committee Vladimir Velebit arrives in Moscow on the invitation of the Soviet government.

**Hungary / U.K. – March 9, 1962 (KCA)**

A cultural agreement between Great Britain and Hungary is signed in London.

**Hungary – March 9, 1962 (HC)**

The National Technical Committee holds its inaugural session in Budapest.

**Soviet Union / Great Britain / U.S. – March 11, 1962 (LBC)**

East-West talks on the foreign minister level begin in Geneva on Berlin, disarmament and the ban of nuclear tests. Participants: Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko, British Foreign Secretary Home and Secretary of State Rusk.

**Yugoslavia / Albania – March 12, 1962 (MOL)**

A trade agreement for the financial year of 1962 is signed in Tirana between the representatives of Yugoslavia and Albania.

**Yugoslavia – March 13, 1962 (KCA)**

The Yugoslavian Parliament unanimously approves a bill granting an amnesty to some 150,000 Yugoslav refugees abroad.

**Hungary – March 14-16, 1962 (HC)**

Academic delegates from the Socialist countries hold negotiations in Warsaw on various forms of co-operation.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 14, 1962 (LBC)**

With the participation of 17 nations a disarmament conference begins in Geneva. Originally 18 countries were meant to take part, but France failed to send a representative. According to the Soviet proposal national armed forces should be liquidated in four years. – According to the U.S. plan nuclear vehicles should be reduced by 30% in three years; the Soviet Union and the US should each divert 50 thousand kilograms of fissionable material for peaceful use; measures to reduce the risk of war by accident, miscalculation, surprise attack, or communication problems; working out acceptable methods to forestall violation of the disarmament agreement. The U.S. wants to inspect all phases of the troop and arms reduction, just like the number of the remaining troops and weapons. The USSR rejects the inspection of remaining troops. – The U.S. wants to control disarmament with the aid of an international organization, which would be led by a committee comprising of many nations and would be administered by an executive body. The Soviet Union wants to see the participation of three nations (troika principle) in the control organ, wants a two-thirds majority in voting and wants veto rights through the U.N. – The U.S. wants a 2.1 million maximal level for the armed forces, the USSR wants 1.7 million. – In the first phase the U.S. would reduce nuclear vehicles by 30%, while the Soviet Union wants to see their total liquidation. The U.S. wants to stop the production of fissionable material in the first phase, while the USSR in the second. – *March 28.* Washington and Moscow are unable to agree on the agenda. The Soviet Union demands the establishment of nuclear free zones in Central Europe and Africa; a non-aggression treaty between NATO and the Warsaw Pact; a nuclear non-proliferation treaty. The U.S. demands: nuclear test ban treaty and the reduction of the production of fissionable materials; measures against surprise and accidental war. – *March 27.* The White House on U.S. strategy: the West must stop a possible Soviet attack “with all means at its disposal,” but under no circumstances would the U.S. carry out a first strike.

**Soviet Bloc – March 14-16, 1962 (MMS)**

Delegations of Academies of Sciences of the Eastern Bloc take part in a meeting in Warsaw (also represented: Mongolia and Vietnam)

**Soviet Union – March 16, 1962 (KCA)**

Khrushchev claims that the Soviet Union has developed a “global rocket” capable of striking any target from any direction. According to him, this rocket has made all early-warning systems obsolete.

**Soviet Union – March 16-28, 1962 (KCA)**

Five Soviets *Sputniks* are launched as part of a program to study the ionosphere.

**Romania – March 17, 1962 (KCA)**

It is officially announced that the process of agricultural collectivization has been completed and private farming is brought to an end.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 17, 1962 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government sends a statement to the participants in the Geneva Conference of 1954 stating that the introduction of U.S. military personnel and equipment into South Vietnam violates the Geneva Agreement. The statement urges the British Government to call upon the U.S. to cease interfering in the internal affairs of South Vietnam and violating the Geneva Agreement.

**Yugoslavia – March 17, 1962 (MOL)**

A delegation of Svetozar Vukmanović, member of the Executive Committee of the Federal Committee of the Socialist Alliance, leaves for Western Africa.

**Hungary – March 18, 1962 (KCA/HC)**

The body of Count Mihály Károlyi, first president of the short-lived Hungarian Republic in 1918–1919, is back from London and placed in the Károlyi burial in a public ceremony at Kerepesi Cemetery in Budapest.

**Soviet Union – March 18, 1962 (KCA)**

Elections take place throughout the USSR for the two Houses of the Supreme Soviet. Over 70% of the candidates stand for the first time.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 20, 1962 (KCA)**

Khrushchev says that Soviet-American cooperation in major projects such as lunar or interplanetary exploration would necessarily be dependent on a prior disarmament agreement.

**Yugoslavia / Tunisia – March 20, 1962 (MOL)**

A long-term loan agreement between Yugoslavia and Tunisia is signed as part of the economic cooperation between the two countries.

**East Germany – March 21-23, 1962 (KCA)**

Walter Ulbricht states that it has been decided to change some of the targets in the Seven-year Plan due to shortages in raw material supplies. The economic situation had deteriorated considerably during 1961 as a result of agricultural difficulties and of large-scale emigration to Western Germany.

**Soviet Union – March 22, 1962 (KCA)**

The Soviet Communist Party and the Council of Ministers jointly announce that major changes will be introduced in the management of agriculture. This includes the establishment of nation-



wide agricultural committees responsible for agricultural development. Food prices are subjected to a drastic increase.

**COMECON / Soviet Union – March 22-26, 1962 (HC)**

The Central Statistical Offices of COMECON countries meet in Moscow to discuss co-operation.

**Soviet Union / Albania – March 24, 1962 (OSA)**

Radio Moscow announced in an Albanian language broadcast the intent of the Red Cross and the Crescent Societies of the Soviet Union to supply victims of the Albanian earthquake with food and medicine.

**Hungary – March 25, 1962 (HC)**

Governmental order number 9/1962 eliminates registration and tuition fees for medium-level schools.

**East Germany / West Germany – March 25, 1962 (KGD)**

The SED admits the reunification of Germany in the “National Document”. However, its precondition is the “victory of Socialism” in the GDR and later in the FRG as well. Walter Ulbricht mentions the possibility of a “German confederation”, including the GDR, the FRG and West Berlin, lying “in the territory of the GDR”.

**Soviet Union / Cuba / U.S. – March 27, 1962 (KCA)**

The U.S. State Department declares that there is “no evidence that the Soviet Union has supplied Cuba with missiles, or that missile bases are under construction in Cuba.”

**Soviet Union / The Netherlands – March 27, 1962 (KCA)**

Dr. Alexei Golub, a Soviet scientist who has sought political asylum in the Netherlands, causing a strain in Soviet-Netherlands relation, returns to the Soviet Union.

**Yugoslavia / China / Russia - March 27, 1962 (OSA)**

One day after having attacked the Russians on March 24th, the Belgrade daily "*Borba*" opens fire against the Chinese and their "dogmas and outworn phrases." The anti-Chinese attack in "*Borba*" appears in the paper's March 25th issue which discusses a recent article in the Peking periodical "Red Flag" written by Kung Tun. Even though the Chinese author, "*Borba*" says, made the greatest effort to present himself as a defender of new ideas and trends in the world, he actually "repeated the old favourite topic of Chinese propaganda," accusing the "Yugoslav revisionists."

**Hungary – March 28-30, 1962 (HC)**

An extended session of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party takes place in Budapest. The scheduled topics include agriculture, the competitiveness of labor and foreign policy.

**Hungary – March 29–31, 1962 (HC)**

The 5th Congress of the National Alliance Co-operative Society takes place in Budapest.

**Poland – March 29, 1962 (KCA)**

Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński renews his request for the appointment of a parliamentary commission to investigate relations between Church and State and to ensure that the

Government conforms to the provisions of the Constitution on religious freedom. The same day, the *Sejm* adopts a new law on public assemblies, which must be authorized in advance by the Ministry of the Interior with the exception of religious services held in churches.

## **April**

### **East Germany / Soviet Union – April, 1962 (OSA)**

Soviet Marshal I. S. Konev, sent to East Germany in August 1961, returns to Moscow. This is symbolic of a gradual de-escalation of superpower tensions in Berlin.

### **Romania – April 1962–December 1964 (RUR)**

Party membership increases dramatically.

### **Poland / U.S. – April 1, 1962 (KCA)**

An agreement in Washington with U.S. has been reached on joint medical research program.

### **Yugoslavia – April 1, 1962 (MOL)**

Yugoslav President Tito gives an interview to *Observer* on the new Yugoslav constitution and Yugoslav foreign policy.

### **Soviet Union – April 2, 1962 (KCA)**

A Russian moon rocket, *Lunik IV*, is launched. On April 5, it passes within 5,280 miles of the moon and goes into a planetary orbit around the sun. Seven more unmanned *Cosmos* earth satellites were launched by the USSR between December 22, 1962 and May 24, 1963.

### **Hungary – April 3, 1962 (HC)**

A light-metal foundry is opened in Székesfehérvár.

### **Hungary / Yugoslavia – April 4, 1962 (OSA)**

Ferenc Rajter, a citizen of Yugoslavia, gets in trouble with the local police. In order to escape punishment, he runs away to Hungary. Upon his arrival, Hungarian Antal Toplak takes him to border guards. Rajter is given a one-year prison sentence and is banned from entering the Hungarian People's Republic for five years.

### **Yugoslavia / Senegal – April 4, 1962 (MOL)**

Discussions on economic cooperation between Yugoslavia and Senegal start in Belgrade.

### **Yugoslavia – April 7–12, 1962 (KCA/MOL)**

Milovan Djilas is rearrested, less than 15 months after his release. His arrest is connected with a book he has written, *Conversations with Stalin*.

### **Bulgaria – April 10, 1962 (OSA)**

The youth in Bulgaria is under strong "bourgeois influence" which prevents them from understanding Communism. This claim has been made by the Tanjug correspondent in Sofia, A. Markovic, who quoted an unnamed Bulgarian periodical. According to Markovic the periodical analyzed a poll organized by "a youth paper".

**Hungary – April 10–13, 1962 (HC)**

An international crude oil conference takes place in Budapest with 300 domestic and 100 international participants.

**Yugoslavia – April 11, 1962 (MOL)**

It is announced that Yugoslav Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Koča Popović pays an official visit to Brazil between May 8-13, 1962.

**Finland – April 13, 1962 (KMP)**

A new conservative government is formed under Ahti Karjalainen. It includes the Agrarians, the National Coalition, the People's Party of Finland and the Swedish People's Party of Finland (RKP).

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – April 14–15, 1962 (HC)**

The Hungarian Workers' Cultural Club of Czechoslovakia holds its 8th National Assembly in Bratislava/Pozsony.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – April 16, 1962 (MOL)**

The Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union Andrei A. Gromyko arrives in Belgrade on an official visit. He stays in Yugoslavia until April 21. Tito personally meets him on April 18.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – April 18, 1962 (LBC)**

The U.S. presents a general disarmament plan in Geneva, the aim of which is full and general disarmament. The process of disarmament would be controlled by an international disarmament organization, which would be established by within the U.N. after the agreement is signed. In the first phase most weapons would be reduced by 30%, the rest would be reduced by 30% in the second stage, while all would be destroyed in the third stage. In the first phase the production of fissionable material suitable for military use would be stopped and a certain amount would be handed over for peaceful use (according to the American proposal 50 thousand kilos of U-235). A nuclear non-proliferation treaty would be signed. In the second stage the remaining fissionable material would be reduced. In the third phase all nuclear weapons, the fissionable material suitable for their production and production facilities would be destroyed. In the first phase the U.S. and the USSR would reduce their troops to 2.1 million each, the other designated countries to a proportionately lower level, while the remaining ones to 100 thousand or 1% of their population. In the second phase the two great powers would reduce their armies to 50% of the remainder the rest to a predetermined percent. At the end of the last phase only militias and U.N. peace-keeping forces would remain. – Some of the foreign military bases would be closed in the second stage, the rest in the third one. – In the first phase measures would be taken to avoid accidental war, or armed conflict by miscalculation. – U.N. peace keeping: first phase: preparation to set up UN forces, the determination of its composition, size, control, command, training reserve and financial supply. Nations would use all means for the peaceful resolution of conflict, including forums outside the U.N. and would accept the jurisdiction of the International Court. In the second phase the U.N. peace-keeping force would be erected and would reach its full size in the third phase. The international disarmament organ would control disarmament. – *April 24.* The Soviet Union rejects the plan. According to Valerian Zorin the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court and the U.N. peace keeping force is illegal. In his view the U.N. peace force could be used at the instruction of the U.N. Security Council only. The document constitutes a violation of the U.N. charter and would legalize espionage.

**Hungary / France – April 19, 1962 (OSA)**

Lajos K., a 16-year-old student attempts to escape to France with his friend, Ferenc R. The two boys steal a motorbike. They are caught by the police in the area of Szeged.

**Yugoslavia / Indonesia – April 19, 1962 (MOL)**

According to the agreement concluded in Jakarta, Yugoslavia gives a \$15 million loan to Indonesia.

**Yugoslavia – April 19, 1962 (MOL)**

A delegation of Yugoslav Muslims leaves for Mecca.

**Poland / U.S. – April 19, 1962 (KCA)**

An additional agreement to the one signed on December 1961 for the sale of U.S. surplus farm products is concluded in Washington.

**Soviet Union / China – April 20, 1962 (KCA)**

An agreement on Sino-Soviet trade exchanges is signed in Beijing. It mainly concerns commodity exchanges.

**Soviet Union – April 20, 1962 (KCA)**

General Ivan Yakubovski is appointed Soviet Commander-in Chief in succession to Marshal Ivan Konev. He already held this post prior to August 1961.

**Czechoslovakia – April 20, 1962 (KCA)**

Rudolf Barak is sentenced by a military court in Prague to 15 years' imprisonment.

**Hungary – April 21, 1962 (HC)**

Népszabadság reports that Hungarian, Romanian and Soviet military units are performing military training exercises in Hungary.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – April 21, 1962 (LBC)**

A Yugoslav-American treaty is signed in Belgrade: almost 25 million dollars worth of agricultural goods are sold to Yugoslavia. Out of this dinars are paid for 14.5 million dollars worth of wheat and lemon, the rest is to be paid for in dollars in 15 years.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – April 22, 1962 (MOL)**

An agreement on American loan to Yugoslavia is signed in Belgrade between the representatives of the two countries.

**Soviet Union – April 23-25, 1962 (KCA)**

The new elected Supreme Soviet of the USSR holds its first session.

**Hungary / Italy – April 23-May 7, 1962 (HC)**

A delegation of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party led by László Orbán, a member of the Central Committee of the Party, visits Italy.

**Soviet Union / Greece – April 25, 1962 (KCA)**

A new three-year trade agreement, which concerns commodities exchanges, is signed in Moscow between Soviet Union and Greece.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – April 26, 1962 (MOL)**

Osman Karabegović and Filip Bajković, Chairmen of the Executive Committee of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Montenegro, respectively, arrive in Washington as guests of the State Department.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – April 29, 1962 (HC)**

The construction of the Hungarian phase of the Béke electric transmission line is completed connecting the Hungarian and the Soviet energy systems.

**Yugoslavia / China - April 30, 1962 (OSA)**

All aluminium and enamelled utensils, thermos flasks, razor blades, tooth paste, wireless sets, woollen ready-made suits, as well as many products of silk will in the future be sold in China "only by coupons." The Tanjug correspondent in Beijing, Vasil Magdeski, reports in an article published in "Borba" on April 28th that "even foreigners in China are subjected to this restriction although they have not yet received any coupons." Magdeski further reports that most of the "collected goods" gathered in the course of the campaign called "clean all corners will be sent to villages."

**May****Soviet Union – May 1962 (KCA)**

It is announced that the first Soviet hovercraft will go into service in the summer of 1962.

**Yugoslavia – May 1962 (ACY)**

Russian Orthodox Patriarch Alexei returns the visit of the Serbian Orthodox patriarch the previous autumn. Alexei and the other members of his delegation are received by President Tito, and both Alexei and Bishop Nikodim, who accompanies him, are given decorations.

**Yugoslavia – May 1962 (LUY)**

Milovan Djilas' new book, *Conversations with Stalin* is published in the United States.

**U.S. / NATO – May 5, 1962 (LBC)**

The U.S. provides NATO command with five nuclear submarines and 80 Polaris missiles. The submarines remain under the control of the U.S. navy, but its commands are received through NATO high command. The warheads belonging to the missiles remain under the exclusive control of the American President. – The NATO states receive all information on nuclear weapons accumulated on their territory and data needed for political decisions.

**Hungary – May 5, 1962 (HC)**

The government issues order number 12/1962 is establishing technical higher education institutions.

**East Germany / West Germany – May 5, 1962 (KGD)**

12 GDR citizens flee to West Berlin through a tunnel under the Berlin Wall.

**Yugoslavia – May 6, 1962 (RYE/RNF)**

Yugoslav President Tito delivers an important address in Split, highlighting the dangers associated localism and telling his audience that there is real danger that each republic is just

out for itself, ignoring the interests of the Yugoslav community as a whole. Tito's speech is interpreted as signaling a pro-centralist hard line in Yugoslav economic policy.

**Poland / United Kingdom / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – May 7, 1962 (OSA)**

Russian, Polish, and Yugoslav delegates are among the attendees of the international five-day conference held by the Institute of Marine Engineers. They discuss the operation of propelling machinery in ships.

**Yugoslavia / South America – May 8, 1962 (RYN/MOL)**

Koča Popović starts his visit in Latin America and becomes the first Yugoslav foreign minister to visit the region. He visits Brazil, Chile, Bolivia, and Mexico.

**Czechoslovakia – May 9, 1962 (PSČZ)**

President Antonín Novotný announces the amnesty for political prisoners, who had not been released in 1960.

**Soviet Union – May 12, 1962 (KCA)**

One of the largest Soviet development projects, the Kara Kum canal, has been completed.

**Hungary / West Germany – May 14, 1962 (OSA)**

Hungarian surgeon Károly Tasnády asks for political asylum after attending the 79th Congress of the German Surgical Society held in Munich. He is also known as a sportsman and represented Hungary at international sporting events.

**Yugoslavia – May 14, 1962 (PLC)**

Milovan Djilas, who was rearrested on April 7, is sentenced to another five years imprisonment.

**U.S. / France – May 15, 1962 (LBC)**

De Gaulle states at a press conference that no matter what happens France will be a nuclear power and will have a part in the formulation of its own fate. According to observers de Gaulle's remark refers to the fact that France no longer believes in the U.S. promise for Europe's nuclear defense. – *June 4*. French prime minister Georges Pompidou states at a WEU meeting that Europe's growing military and economic power makes it necessary to reorganize NATO to reflect the changes in the balance between Europe and the U.S.. The age when NATO was built on a U.S. with atomic monopoly and a France enfeebled by war is over. – *May 17*. Kennedy refutes de Gaulle's views: the U.S. does not believe in the series of nuclear deterrents, but that NATO's strength provides sufficient defense. The moment a nation starts to think that nuclear deterrence ensures its independence, we are in a very dangerous situation.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – May 19, 1962 (LBC)**

Khrushchev's speech in Sofia: he asks whether President Kennedy wants to compete in "who will be first to press the button?" "We do not want such a competition." "We want only to keep our powder dry and be ready." The speech came in response to the outline of U.S. strategy given by Kennedy, which the Soviets – in spite of Kennedy's denial – interpreted in such a way that the U.S. is ready to launch a nuclear war against the Soviet Union.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – May 19, 1962 (MOL)**

A supplementary agreement is reached between the United States and Yugoslavia. According to the agreement, the United States is going to ship cotton to Yugoslavia in the value of \$7 million.

**Yugoslavia – May 23, 1962 (MOL)**

A new law on social security is passed by the federal parliament.

**East Germany / West Germany – May 25, 1962 (KCA)**

The East German Government states that it desires the West German Government to make deliveries of hard coal, machinery, chemicals and foodstuffs, and allow East Germany to make payment for the extra goods at a later date by means of reciprocal deliveries. Adenauer states that it cannot consider any credits to the East German regime unless freedom of passage between East and West Berlin is restored.

**Hungary – May 25, 1962 (HC)**

For his 50th birthday, the First Secretary of the Hungarian Workers' Party János Kádár is awarded the Hero of the Socialist Labor and the Distinction of the Hungarian People's Republic.

**Hungary – May 26, 1962 (HC)**

Work begins on the re-construction of the railroad bridge over the river Dráva.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – May 30, 1962 (MOL)**

Yugoslav Foreign Minister Koča Popović meets U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk. George Kennan, who is also in Washington, elaborates that Yugoslavia is a completely free country and will remain such.

**Yugoslavia / Mali – May 30, 1962 (MOL)**

The first ambassador of the Republic of Mali to Yugoslavia arrives in Belgrade.

**Hungary – May 31-June 2, 1962 (HC)**

The 25th session of the World Alliance of Labor Unions takes place in Budapest. Peaceful coexistence and disarmament are the scheduled topics of discussion.

**June****Romania – June 1962 (RUR)**

The Soviets increase the pressure on the Romanian leadership. They require greater economic planning and supranational planning in the frame of COMECON.

**Poland – June 1, 1962 (KCA)**

Wycech is elected chairman of the central committee of the Polish United Peasant Party.

**Soviet Union – June 1-3, 1962 (PLC)**

Workers' demonstrations in Novocherkassk against price rise – cheering for Lenin in opposition to Khrushchev – put down by the military. Estimated number of casualties is 70-80.

**Soviet Union – June 2-July 23, 1962 (KCA)**

At the Geneva Conference, Khrushchev expresses satisfaction for Laos' stabilization. An international agreement guarantees its neutrality.

**Albania – June 4, 1962 (KCA)**

General elections are held. They result in a 100% vote for the single list of candidates put forward by the communist Party and the Communist-controlled National Front.

**Hungary – June 5-12, 1962 (HC)**

Representatives of agricultural research facilities of the Socialist countries hold an assembly in Budapest.

**Soviet Bloc / Mongolia – June 6, 1962 (CAC/CEC/HC/MMS/PLC)**

Meeting of the COMECON countries' leaders in Moscow. Amendments to the Charter are approved. Mongolia is admitted to full membership. The Executive Committee is established, along with three more Standing Commissions and the Institute of Standardization. The summit ratifies the *basic principles* and decides, in principle to create a common bank and monetary unit. The repercussions of the Sino-Soviet dispute and problems with Albania and Romania are also discussed. Soviet proposal is accepted for a division of labor within the economic grouping; it is opposed by Romania – currently following an ambitious Six Year plan (1960-1965) – and the dispute later contributes to Bucharest's taking a dissident position within the Warsaw Pact.

**Warsaw Pact – June 7, 1961 (CAC)**

A PCC meeting in Moscow publicly urges the conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany although Khrushchev has already given up on the idea.

**Hungary / Austria – June 8, 1962 (OSA)**

Hungarian state security officer Béla Lapusnyik defects to Austria on May 9. Upon his arrival, he shares valuable information with the Austrian authorities. Lapusnyik informs them of a spy network from mostly Hungarian origin operating with Vienna. The spies share military, political, and industrial information with the communist states.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 8, 1962 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union and the United States sign an agreement on cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space.

**Yugoslavia – June 10, 1962 (MOL)**

The Serbian parliament elects Slobodan Penezić new Secretary of the Executive Council of Serbia. Meanwhile, the Slovenian parliament elects Vida Tomšič president of the Slovenian parliament.

**Yugoslavia – June 11, 1962 (RYN)**

Invitations are issued in the name of six countries – Yugoslavia, the United Arab Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Sudan, and Guinea – asking developing countries to come to Cairo the following month to discuss a variety of common economic concerns.

**Soviet Union / Canada – June 14, 1962 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government presents a note to Canadian leadership in Ottawa protesting against what it describes as the “preparation of Canada for nuclear armament.” Canada dismissed the note as an “inadmissible interference in internal affairs.”



**Yugoslavia / Italy – June 15, 1962 (MOL)**

A delegation of Yugoslav Minister of Interior Aleksandar Ranković leaves for Italy to discuss further cooperation between Yugoslavia and Italy.

**Hungary – June 15, 1962 (HC)**

In Budapest, the modernized Déli railway station is opened to the public.

**Hungary – June 16, 1962 (HC)**

Decree number 1962:13 mandating education from years six through ten is issued.

**Hungary – June 18-21, 1962 (HC)**

A delegation from Dahomey visits Hungary. The two countries sign an agreement establishing diplomatic relations. They also sign agreements on trade, finance, technical & scientific assistance and cultural exchanges.

**Poland – June 19, 1962 (OSA)**

An RFE report provides details behind the Polish–Albanian trade pact for 1962. Details about the planned trades products and supplies are provided alongside information about the signing ceremony.

**Soviet Union – June 19, 1962 (KCA)**

It is announced in Moscow that the Supreme Soviet has lowered the registration age for call-up from 18 to 17. It is given no reason for the change.

**Yugoslavia – June 20, 1962 (MOL)**

Rear Admiral David McDonald, Commander of the Sixth American Fleet visits Dubrovnik.

**Hungary/Senegal – June 21-23, 1962 (HC)**

A delegation of the government of Senegal visits Hungary.

**Yugoslavia / U.N. – June 21, 1962 (MOL)**

Mišo Pavičević, permanent Yugoslav representative to the U.N., informs the Secretary General that Yugoslavia is going to participate in the preparatory work of an international agreement prohibiting the use of nuclear energy for military ends.

**Yugoslavia – June 22, 1962 (MOL)**

As a result of discussions between the Yugoslav Investment Bank and the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) Yugoslavia receives \$30 million for the construction of the Bajina-Bašta water plant.

**Soviet Union / Egypt – June 23, 1962 (KCA)**

New three-year trade agreements between the Soviet Union and the United Arab Republic are signed in Moscow.

**East Germany / Iraq – June 24, 1962 (KCA)**

A Consulate-General of the GDR is opened in Baghdad. Iraq states that this does not imply any recognition of the German Democratic Republic under international law.

**Poland – June 28-29, 1962 (KCA)**

The *Sejm* approves a bill authorizing the taking-over by the state of neglected farms which offer no prospect of improved output under their present owners.

**Hungary – June 30, 1962 (HC)**

A national place conference takes place in Budapest to elect participants for Hungarian delegations to the World Peace and Disarmament Conference. Government resolution 1016/1962 establishes the Institution of Culture Relationship support the development of foreign cultural relations.

**July****Soviet Union / India / China – July-August 1962 (KCA)**

An agreement for the delivery of Soviet *Mig* fighters is signed between India and the Soviet Union. In October 1962, China invades the territory of India. During the Sino-Indian conflict, no Soviet fighters are delivered to India. October 25, 1962: The Soviet Union, according to an article in *Pravda*, urges India to accept China's proposals of settlement after the Himalayan border crises. On November 5, 1962, the Soviet Union calls for a cease-fire and immediate round-table talks between India and China.

**East Germany / North Vietnam – late July, 1962**

Four East German engineers return to the GDR from North Vietnam after spending three months in the country. They claim that the aim of helping the Vietnamese process hard coal into coke was achieved.

**East Germany – July-August 1962 (KCA)**

Persistent food shortages are experienced, leading to the introduction of rationing measures, which rationed certain commodities.

**Yugoslavia – July 1962 (RYE)**

The Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia assembles for its 4th Plenum. The plenum adopts unexceptionable recommendations on short-run reflationary measures to get the economy moving again and a firm statement that decentralization and economic integration to achieve economies of scale through mass production are not incompatible goals. The principal theses and the preliminary draft of the new constitution are submitted and then approved by the plenum.

**China / Soviet Union — July 3, 1962**

A warning was issued by Khrushchev to everyone who might think of attacking the People's Republic of China "will meet a crushing rebuff". At the same time in the US, the Secretary of State Dean Rusk dismissed these words for a simple bluff.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – July 3, 1962 (LUY)**

Secretary of State Dean Rusk outlines the position of the administration toward aid and trade with Yugoslavia in an interview with John Scali on *Issues and Answers*.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – July 3-6, 1962 (MOL)**

Yugoslav-Soviet discussions on the barter agreement for 1963-1965 are underway in Moscow.

**Poland / Egypt – July 5, 1962 (KCA)**

An economic cooperation agreement between Poland and the United Arab Republic is signed in Warsaw. It provides for the delivery by Poland of industrial plants and equipment.

**East Germany / Cambodia – July 7, 1962 (KCA)**

A Consulate-General of the GDR is opened in Phnom Penh. Cambodia states that this does not imply any recognition of the German Democratic Republic under international law.

**China / Soviet Union — July 9, 1962 (OSA)**

Military aid by USSR to Communist China is continues despite ideological differences. By this date, Communist China was operating a fleet of about 3000 Soviet warplanes as the Chinese industry unable to produce a warplane and was not believed to be capable to do so.

**Soviet Union – July 9-14, 1962 (HC)**

The Congress of Peace and Disarmament takes place in Moscow. The Hungarian delegation is led by Árpád Szakasits, the Secretary the National Peace Committee.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt – July 9-18, 1962 (RYN)**

The Cairo Economic Conference declares itself „resolutely in favor” of a world trade conference which should deal with such vital issues as the expansion of trade, primary commodity trade, and relations between developing and developed countries. At Yugoslav urging, it also calls upon the developing countries to break out of the capital accumulation vise in which they found themselves by expanding mutual trade among themselves and by promoting various other forms of mutual economic cooperation.

**COMECON – July 10-12, 1962 (HC)**

The first session of the executive committee of the COMECON takes place in Moscow. The Hungarian delegation is led by Antal Apró, the Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers. The subject of the session is the international regulation of machinery.

**Czechoslovakia – July 10-11, 1962 (KCA)**

The Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party has abandoned the third Five-Year Plan and replaces it by a One-Year Plan for 1963 and a Seven-Year Plan for 1964-1970. Targets have not been reached in agriculture and in certain fields of industry.

**Czechoslovakia – July 11, 1962 (KCA)**

Governmental changes are announced in Prague.

**Soviet Union – July 14, 1962 (OSA)**

4 Moldovans with Jewish names, with a female doctor among them, were sentenced in total to 33 years in prison in connection with illegal transactions with gold and currency.

**Soviet Union – July 17, 1962 (KCA)**

It is announced in Moscow that Dymshitz, the first Jew to be appointed to a leading governmental post since the dismissal of Lazar Kaganovich, has been appointed new chairman of state planning committee. He substitutes Nikolai Novikov, who became permanent Soviet representative on the executive committee of COMECON, which has been set up in June as part of a drive by the Communist countries to counter the European Common Market by a more effective integration of their economies.

**Hungary – July 21, 1962 (HC)**

Decree no. 1962:18 mandates the tapering-off cure treatment for alcoholics.

**Soviet Union – July 22, 1962 (KCA)**

It is announced that the Soviet Union will resume nuclear tests. The Soviet Union claims its right to resume tests because the “United States was the first to start nuclear weapon tests and has held many more of them than has the Soviet Union.” Nuclear tests took place, mostly over Novaya Zemlya, without prior announcement. In the period from August 5 to December 22, 1962, 35 tests were detected by the Atomic Energy Commission. Tests continued until December 25. On November 7, Khrushchev announces that tests will end on November 20, although Soviet scientists will continue working on future experiments until the test ban treaty is signed.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 23, 1962 (LBC)**

Moscow proposes the establishment of a direct telephone link between the Kremlin and the White House. – Kennedy’s response: he is not planning a direct link with the Kremlin since the main problem between them is not in communication but understanding.

**COMECON – July 25, 1962 (HC)**

The member countries of the COMECON sign an agreement establishing a dispatch system in Prague.

**Finland – July 29-August 5, 1962 (KMP/HC)**

The seventh World Festival of Youth and Students, which is known for its leftist roots, takes place in Helsinki. Urho Kekkonen intends not to participate in the festival but after the erupted riots and assaults, which are opposing the festival, he decides to take part in the Hungarian national concert as a kind of apology.

**August****Hungary – August 1962 (HC)**

Diplomatic Letters of Hungarian Foreign Policy is published.

**Romania / Soviet Union – August 1962 (RUR)**

Khrushchev authors an article in a Soviet magazine calling for greater cooperation among COMECON members, directed mainly to Romania.

**Hungary – August 6-10, 1962 (HC)**

The 5th congress of the International Journalist Alliance takes place in Budapest.

**Hungary – August 8, 1962 (HC)**

A Peace Assembly of Hungarian Protestants Churches takes place in Budapest.

**Hungary / West Germany – August 10, 1962 (OSA)**

Hungarian kayakers Gábor Máthé and Oszkár Faix request political asylum after a kayak competition held in Munich.

**Soviet Union – August 11-15, 1962 (KCA)**

The first double space flight is successfully carried out by two Russian cosmonauts, Major Nikolayev and Lieutenant-Colonel Popovich.

**Hungary – August 14-16, 1962 (HC)**

An extended session of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party takes place. The scheduled topics include guidelines for congress; modification of congressional protocol and the settling of unlawful court cases begun in the period of the personality cult against participants of the workers' movement.

**East Germany – August 17, 1962 (KGD)**

The 18-year old Peter Fechter is shot while attempting to escape at the Berlin wall. He bleeds to death in the border zone because people on both sides of the wall fail to come to his aid.

**Hungary – August 18, 1962 (KCA)**

In Budapest the expulsion from the Hungarian Socialist Workers' (Communist) Party of Mátyás Rákosi, the former party leader and Ernő Gerő, the former Deputy Premier and First Secretary is announced. The expulsion is part of a process of de-Stalinization in the Soviet Bloc.

**Soviet Union – August 22, 1962 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union announces that it will abolish the post of Soviet commandant in Berlin.

**Yugoslavia / China / India - August 23, 1962 (OSA)**

The Tanjug correspondent in New Delhi, Moma Blagojevic, compares economic development in China and India, stressing that the Indian press believes "India has not been behind China in economic development, except in heavy industry." Blagojevic's report was published in the Yugoslav press on August 21st. He states that economic experts who in the past compiled statistical data comparing Chinese and Indian economic development believed that until 1958 China was ahead of India.

**Poland – August 26, 1962 (KCA)**

Relations between the Polish Government and the Roman Catholic Church undergo a further deterioration during the latter half of 1961, arising primarily from the ending of religious instruction in State schools and the introduction of measures for State supervisions outside schools. Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński, the primate of Poland, strongly attacks the new Education Law, who, according to him, is violating the 1956 agreement on Church-State relations.

**Soviet Union – August 27-September 3, 1962 (HC)**

Marxist economists of 23 European, Asian and American countries hold an assembly in Moscow. They discuss state monopoly capitalism and the new conditions confronting the working class.

**China / Soviet Union — August 27, 1962 (OSA)**

The Soviet news agency Tass reports of an agreement being signed between the Soviets and the Chinese regarding trade for the first 6 months of 1962 after lengthy negotiations. That same day, a breakfast was held in favor of signing this agreement that was passed in a warm, and friendly atmosphere.

**Soviet Union / Cuba – August 27, 1962 (PLC)**

Soviet-Cuban agreement on immediate weapons shipment.

**Soviet Union / Finland – August 27, 1962 (KCA)**

A Soviet-Finnish agreement providing for the lease to Finland of the Soviet part of the Saimaa Canal is initialed in Helsinki.

**September****Soviet Union / Cuba – September 3, 1962 (KCA)**

It is announced in Moscow that the Soviet Union has agreed to deliver arms to Cuba in view of the threats of “imperialist quarters” against that country. Soviet technical experts have joined Cuba.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 4, 1962 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government protests to the U.S. Government against an alleged violation of Soviet Airspace over Sakhalin Island by an American U-2. The U.S. Government admits it, but it affirms that there were very bad climatic conditions.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / United States / Canada – September 7, 1962 (OSA)**

The Soviet Defense Ministry issues an order withdrawing members of the Soviet Army, Navy, and Frontier Forces stationed in East Berlin since August 1961. Over the summer, Canada and the United States had already gradually withdrawing many troops sent as reinforcements during the Berlin Crisis.

**East Germany / West Germany - September 8, 1962 (OSA)**

Walter Ulbricht delivers a speech at an open meeting at the Leipzig Fair. Hundreds of West German workers attend the speech.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 11, 1962 (KCA)**

The United States is denounced by the USSR for preparing an “act of aggression” against that country. They are given a warning that any attack on Cuba would “be the beginning of unleashing of war.”

**Hungary – September 11-15, 1962 (HC)**

An international mathematic conference is organized in Tihany (at Lake Balaton) with 40 foreign and 16 Hungarians participants.

**Hungary – September 12-15, 1962 (HC)**

An international scientific conference takes place in Budapest attended by scientists from 16 countries.

**Hungary – September 15, 1962 (HC)**

Decree no. 1962:21 on public roads is issued by the Presidential Council.

**Soviet Union / Iran – September 15, 1962 (KCA)**

The Persian Government gives the Soviet Government an assurance that Persia will not allow “any foreign Power to establish rocket-launching sites of any kind on Persian territory.” In reply, the Soviet Government expresses its satisfaction at the decision, which will “further the promotion of peace in the area.”

**Hungary – September 16, 1962 (HC)**

Decree no. 1962:22 on higher education institutions is issued by the Presidential Council.

**Hungary – September 17, 1962 (HC)**

Crude oil from the Volga region begins arriving in Hungary through the Friendship Pipeline.

**East Germany / Romania - September 18, 1962 (OSA)**

Neues Deutschland published Bruno Leuschner's speech during the visit to Romania about GDR's future economic course.

**Soviet Union – September 18, 1962 (KCA)**

It is officially announced in Moscow that a new Soviet foreign trade organization, *Litsenzintorg*, has been set up to sell abroad patents to Soviet inventions and licenses for their use, and also to negotiate for the use of foreign patents by the Soviet Union. Therefore, the Soviet Union is willing to end the "pirating" of patents which has hitherto freely carried out.

**Soviet Union / France / West Germany – September 18, 1962 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government issues a statement denouncing what it describes as the "Bonn-Paris axis" following President de Gaulle's recent State visit to Western Germany. The Soviet Government accuses the axis of collusion "aimed at worsening the international situation and stepping up the arms race."

**China / Soviet Union — September 20, 1962 (OSA)**

According to U.S. sources the Soviet-Chinese trade in 1961 developed problems with the USSR receiving about \$180,000,000 less in goods compared to projected levels. According to reports there was an 80% cut in machinery exports to China from USSR.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – September 20, 1962 (OSA)**

In Kazakhstan an announcement was made about the dismissal of the first secretary Shymkent Obkom. It was the second change of leadership over the course of one week.

**East Germany / Romania / Poland / Czechoslovakia - September 21, 1962 (OSA)**

A delegation led by Walter Ulbricht end a five-day official state visit to Romania. According to a published communique, the visit is mostly focusing on the economic relations between the two countries. Moreover, it aimed to consolidate the relations of Romania with Poland, Czechoslovakia, and East Germany, with the ultimate goal to attain a peace treaty and a new status for West Berlin.

**Hungary – September 21, 1962 (HC)**

The Collage of Education in Nyiregyhaza opens.

**Yugoslavia – September 22, 1962 (MOL)**

Modification of the Yugoslav constitution.

**Soviet Union / Turkey – September 22, 1962 (KCA)**

Nearly 1,000 Cossacks, the descendants of families who have lived in Turkey for more than a century, return to the Soviet Union.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – September 23-October 3, 1962 (JVJ)**

First Secretary of the CPSU Nikita S. Khrushchev visits Yugoslavia to improve relations between the two countries. A barter agreement is signed for the fiscal year of 1963 and a joint communiqué is published at the end of his visit. The Belgrade Declaration of 1955 is affirmed.

**Soviet Union – September 24, 1962 (KCA)**

The Supreme Soviet decides to postpone the reduction and abolition of income tax for factory and other workers.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – September 24, 1962 (KCA)**

Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet Brezhnev pays an official visit to Yugoslavia, which marks a major advance in the improvement in relations between the two countries which was in progress since 1959 and especially since 1960, when the controversy over “revisionism” was overshadowed by the one over the “dogmatism” of the Chinese and Albanian Communist Parties. The first high-level contact between the two countries since 1957 was in April 1961. President Tito says that “certain differences” need not be an obstacle to lasting cooperation between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia. On September 25 Brezhnev denounces West Germany revenge seekers, and on October 2, President Tito gives a strong warning against the danger of a revival of German militarism. At the end of the visit a strong increase in the volume of trade between the two countries is agreed. However, in China Brezhnev’s visit provokes an intensification of anti-Yugoslav propaganda.

**Soviet Union – September 25, 1962 (KCA)**

It is announced in Moscow that the reorganization of Ministry for Construction of Power stations has been decided in order to improve the industry’s management and ensure the complete electrification of the country.

**Soviet Union / Cuba – September 25, 1962 (KCA)**

Castro announces that Soviet Union will build a port in Cuba as a base for its Atlantic fishing fleet.

**Soviet Bloc – September 25-26, 1962 (MMS)**

Meeting of the COMECON Executive Committee in Moscow.

**Soviet Union / Finland – September 27, 1962 (KCA)**

The Soviet-Finnish agreement providing for the lease to Finland of the Soviet part of the Saimaa Canal is signed in Moscow.

**October****Romania / Poland / East Germany / Soviet Union – October 1962 (RCW)**

The ministry of armed forces of Romania issues detailed report on events in Poland. Military maneuvers of troops of the Soviet Union, Eastern Germany and Poland are held in order to regroup their forces.

**Romania / Soviet Union – October 2, 1962 (RFP)**

Khrushchev presents the Basic Principles of the International Socialist Division of Labor, which, in effect, relegates the less-developed East European states to the status of suppliers of raw materials to the more advanced countries in order to construct a world Socialist economy.



Romania opposes. The division of work is incompatible with Romanians national requirement for a speedy industrialization, creation of a supra-national planning is a new formula for Soviet domination.

**China / Soviet Union — October 3, 1962 (OSA)**

Former Chinese ambassador to the USSR Liu Hsiao reappeared and was received by Frol Kozlov on September 5th due to his “impending departure” and then subsequently on the 12th of the same month by Gromyko for the same reason.

**China / Soviet Union — October 4, 1962 (OSA)**

Russian Consulate in Harbin was closed, and the official Consul-General was reported to have left for Moscow. It was stated by a Chinese businessman who wanted to remain anonymous that he was in Harbin and saw the Russian Consulate being sealed off by Chinese officials.

**Romania / Cuba / Soviet Union / U.S. – October 4, 1962 (RFP)**

A Romanian diplomat declares to the U.S. that Romania had not been consulted over the Soviet decision to place nuclear missiles in Cuba and is not therefore a party to the dispute. Romania would remain neutral in any conflict generated by such actions as the Soviet deployment of nuclear missiles in Cuba.

**Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – October 5, 1962 (KCA)**

Todor Zhivkov arrives in Belgrade to discuss closer economic cooperation between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. It is a significant improvement in the relations between the two countries, since Bulgaria is the Eastern bloc country that has denounced Yugoslav revisionism the most strongly.

**Poland / Soviet Union – October 8, 1962 (OSA)**

An article was published in Pravda which reviewed the fourth volume of “The History of the Great Patriotic War of the USSR 1941-1945” and the Red Army’s activities in Poland are discussed.

**Italy – October 11, 1962 (PLC)**

Second Vatican Council for reviewing the basic tenets of Catholic faith begins under Pope John XXIII.

**Hungary – October 11-12, 1962 (HC/KCA)**

A lengthy session of the Central Committee of the Hungarians Workers’ Party takes place in Budapest. György Marosán is dismissed from his party positions. *October 14.* – György Marosán, a former Social Democrat who spent several years in prison during the Rákosi regime, has been expelled from the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party. There was a conflict between Marosán and the Central Committee on September 1, which led him to submit his resignation from that body without waiting for the Central Committee’s decision.

**Soviet Union – October 12, 1962 (OSA)**

15 people were caught speculating in gold and all had Jewish names. In Chernivtsi, 55 pounds of gold bars and diamonds were found, and even checks were transferred to the Bank of England. The presence of a large number of Jews in the speculation can also be seen as antisemitism. The Soviet Embassy in Washington denied that Jews are being subject to

persecution and discrimination. President of Nazi Victims Organization Georgi M. Kornienko reports that anti-Semitism was on the rise in the Soviet Union.

**Hungary / COMECON – October 13, 1962 (KCA/HC)**

The Hungarian section of the "Friendship Oil Pipeline" built under the auspices of the COMECON is officially opened.

**Cuba – October 14, 1962 (CAC)**

The discovery of Soviet nuclear-capable missiles on Cuba marks the start of the Cuban missile crisis.

**U.S. / Cuba – October 15, 1962 (PLC)**

The U.S. learns about Soviet missile deployment in Cuba.

**Albania / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia - October 17, 1962 (OSA)**

The Albanian newspaper *Zeri i Popullit* has published an article entitled "A Great Betrayal of Marxism-Leninism" attacking the Soviet-Yugoslav communique of 3rd October 1962, and its positive implications for Yugoslavia, in terms of bloc relations.

**Soviet Union – October 18, 1962 (KCA)**

Reports are confirmed that the best-known victims of Stalin's purges (Bukharin, Rykov, Tomsky, Pyatakov and Radek) have been rehabilitated.

**Czechoslovakia – October 19, 1962 (KCA)**

Ten days after closing the Gottwald Mausoleum, the statue of Stalin in Prague is demolished.

**Hungary / U.S. – October 20, 1962 (PLC)**

Hungarian-American agreement: the "Hungarian question" is removed from the U.N. General Assembly's agenda on December 20. General Amnesty granted in Hungary March 22, 1963.

**Hungary – October 21, 1962 (HC)**

Decree no. 1962:24 from the Presidential Council establishes regulations on communal courts.

**Hungary/Soviet Union – October 21- November 15, 1962 (HC)**

Hungarian-Soviet economic negotiations take place in Moscow. Both parties sign an agreement on the production of aluminum through 1980.

**U.S. / Cuba – October 22, 1962 (PLC)**

Kennedy announces a blockade around Cuba, taking effect October 24. The Cuban Missile Crisis begins.

**Cuba / Soviet Union – October 22, 1962 (CAC)**

Marshal Grechko informs Warsaw Pact representatives about the Cuban situation and the Warsaw Pact orders an alert that lasts until November 21.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / Cuba – October 22-29, 1962 (KCA/LBC/PLC).**

The Cuban Missile Crisis. *October 23.* According to the Soviet government Cuba's blockade could lead to a thermonuclear war. It is decided to raise the "military preparedness" of the Warsaw pact countries. The Soviet Government issues a statement denouncing the American "blockade" of Cuba as "an act of piracy." It is asserted that Soviet arms supplied to Cuba are

solely for defensive purposes. – *October 24*. U Thant, General Secretary of United Nations, suggests to President Kennedy and Khrushchev a “truce” of two or three weeks for negotiations, during which the U.S. should suspend its quarantine of Cuba and the Soviet Union should suspend all arms shipments to that country. Through the British philosopher Bertrand Russell Khrushchev offers a summit to Kennedy to solve the crisis. – *October 25*. Khrushchev welcomes the U Thant initiative. Valerian Zorin, the Soviet delegate at the United Station, refuses to answer the American delegate: he asked the Soviet delegate whether Soviet missiles bases in Cuba exist. – *October 26*. U Thant sends Khrushchev a message expressing “grave concern” lest Soviet ships already on their way to Cuba “might challenge the quarantine imposed by the United States” and aggravate the crisis. Khrushchev says that he agreed with the Secretary-General’s request and has ordered Russian vessels to stay out of the interception area as a “purely temporary move” which could not last long. Khrushchev sent a letter to President Kennedy, which is not made public. It is understood to have offered the removal of Soviet missiles for Cuba if the U.S. discontinue its naval quarantine and give assurances against an invasion of Cuba. – *October 27*. Khrushchev sends another letter to President Kennedy. He proposes that the Soviet Government should remove from Cuba “those means which you regard as offensive” and make a declaration to this effect to the United Nations; that the U.S. should “remove its similar means from Turkey” and make a corresponding pledge. Kennedy replies to the first unpublished letter and agrees that the U.S. should remove the naval quarantine and give assurances against the invasion of Cuba and that Soviet weapons systems should be withdrawn from Cuba. – *October 28*. In a letter to Kennedy, Khrushchev announces that the Soviet Government decided to cease further works at the weapons sites in Cuba, to dismantle the weapons themselves and their return to Soviet Union. Castro makes no comment on the U.S.S.R. decision: he has apparently not been consulted. – *October 29*. The U.S. suspends the blockade.

#### **Finland / France – October 24—November 4, 1962 (KMP)**

Urho Kekkonen visits France and President Charles de Gaulle assures that he fully understands Finland’s will to preserve her neutrality and competitiveness in the common market equal to the other Scandinavian countries.

#### **Poland – October 24, 1962 (PSN)**

Poland issues a pro-Soviet statement criticizing the U.S. blockade of Cuba.

#### **Hungary – October 25, 1962 (HC)**

A three-day gerontology conference takes place in Budapest.

#### **Yugoslavia – October 30, 1962 (LUY)**

President Tito expresses the Yugoslav and non-aligned position on the Cuban missile crisis in a carefully worded letter to Acting Secretary General of the United Nations U Thant.

### **November**

#### **Greece – November 1, 1962 (PLC)**

Greece becomes an associate member of the Common Market.

**Soviet Union – November 2, 1962 (KCA)**

The first space probe directed towards Mars is successfully launched in the Soviet Union.

**Greece / Soviet Union —November 3, 1962 (OSA)**

Greek diplomat George Venetsianos has been ordered by the Soviet Government to leave the country without any specific explanation for this decision. Soviet authorities took Mr. Venetsianos into custody on October 5th for questioning. The Greek Embassy denounced this incident by pointing out that it consists of a violation of his diplomatic immunity.

**Hungary / Indonesia – November 5, 1962 (HC)**

The Parliament passes the 1961 Hungarian-Indonesian Friendship Agreement into law.

**Bulgaria – November 5-14, 1962 (KCA)**

The eighth congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party is held in Sofia. The prime minister, Anton Yugov, and a deputy premier, Georgi Tsankov, are expelled from the central committee. Vulko Chervenkov, who was the prime minister before Anton Yugov, is expelled from the party. The congress ended the previous crisis inside the communist party leadership between Stalinist leaders and the Zhivkov faction. The Congress is interrupted while Todor Zhivkov visits Moscow to negotiate with Khrushchev to secure support for a purge in the Bulgarian party leadership. The main dispute inside the party concerns the Soviet Union-China issue. On November 14, Zhivkov makes a speech in which he proposes peaceful co-existence as the solution to the conflict. The new committee of the party is elected. On November 14, the Secretariat and Politburo are elected as follows: Boyan Bulgaronov, Dimiter Ganev, Mitko Grigorov, General Ivan Mikhailov, Encho Staikov, Stanko Todorov, Boris Velchev, Todor Zhivkov, and Zhivko Zhivkov as full members, and Dimiter Dimov, Pencho Kubadinsky and Tano Tsolov as candidate members. On November 19, the Bulgarian National Assembly formally relieves Yugov of the Premiership and elects Zhivkov to succeed him.

**Hungary – November 7, 1962 (HC)**

János Kádár, the First Secretary of the Socialist Workers' Party makes a three-day official visit to Moscow.

**Hungary / Austria – November 8, 1962 (HC)**

Hungary and Austria sign a five-year trade agreement.

**Soviet Union / Cuba – November 11, 1962 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union provides Cuba with Soviet aid, especially in the form of raw materials. In 1961, Cuba also signed long-term trade agreements with many countries of the Eastern bloc.

**Hungary – November 12-14, 1962 (HC)**

An international aluminum industry conference takes place in Budapest.

**Soviet Union / Sri Lanka – November 14, 1962 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union establishes a regular shipping service with Ceylon.

**China / Soviet Union — November 15, 1962 (OSA)**

The October bulletin that was released by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) notes that there is very steep decline in the amount of trade between the USSR and Communist China from 1959 to 1962. In particular, Soviet imports of Chinese

products such as wheat, rice, oil seeds, tea, meat, eggs, wool, silk, tobacco, fruit have decreased to less than a tenth of the recorded amount in 1962 compared to 1959.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – November 15, 1962 (HC)**

Hungary and Soviet Union sign agreement on industrial production. Hungary signs the Geneva declaration on the construction of major international roads.

**Austria / Czechoslovakia / Hungary – November 17, 1962 (OSA)**

Hungarian László Ziermann defects to Austria by crossing the Hungarian border on the frozen Danube near the Czech-Austrian border.

**Hungary – November 17, 1962 (HC)**

An electrified railway between Budapest and Miskolc is opened to the public.

**China / Soviet Union — November 19, 1962 (OSA)**

*The New York Times* reports a steep decline in the trade of agricultural commodities to the Soviets from Communist China. The most severe decline was in rice and oilseed shipments. The volume of rice declined from 658,400 metric tons in 1959 to just 2,300 metric tons in 1962.

**Soviet Union – November 19-23, 1962 (KCA)**

A plenary session of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party is held in Moscow. Radical changes to the party are approved. The changes to the organization of the economy are intended to increase the efficiency of industry and agriculture. The organization of the party based on territorial basis will be replaced by organization „from top to bottom“ along production lines. All industrial research will be placed under the State Committee of the Council of ministers. The work of the Academy of Science will be concentrated on the most important tasks. The state planning Committee will no longer supervise the annual fulfillment of long-term plans, but the task will be transferred to a new body: The National Economic Council. The Scientific and Economic Council will be renamed the State Planning Committee and will become responsible for long-term planning.

**Yugoslavia / Poland – November 19-24, 1962 (KCA)**

The Polish Foreign Minister Adam Rapacki makes an official visit to Yugoslavia and expresses his satisfaction with the friendly co-operation between Poland and Yugoslavia.

**Hungary – November 20-24, 1962 (HC/KCA)**

The 8th congress of the Socialist Workers' Party takes place in Budapest. János Kádár remains First Secretary. The members of the political committee are János Kádár, Antal Apró, Béla Biszku, Lajos Fehér, Jenő Fock, Sándor Gáspár, Gyula Kállai, Zoltán Komócsin, Ferenc Münich, Dezső Nemes, Sándor Rónai, Miklós Somogyi, István Szirmai. The congress opens with a speech from János Kádár, Prime Minister and First Secretary of the Party. He emphasizes the importance of drawing all sections of the nation into public life. Many prominent non-Communist Hungarians are invited to the congress as guests. Kádár expresses hope that co-operation with Yugoslavia will improve further and that relations with the U.S. will normalize. Turning to the situation in Hungary, Kádár claims that the basis of Socialism was laid in the area of industry and agriculture. The congress concludes on November 24 and fully endorses "the policy of one nation," which Kádár had put forward in December 1961, and "the policy of liberalization policy and de-Stalinization measures."

**Soviet Union / U.S. / Cuba – November 20, 1962 (PLC)**

Following the assurance of the removal of Soviet medium and inter-medium missiles from Cuba, the U.S naval blockade of Cuba is lifted.

**Yugoslavia / China – November 23, 1962 (OSA)**

A Yugoslav publication provided background information on relations between Belgrade and Beijing. The "Yugoslav Survey", a Belgrade quarterly publication, claims that an article published in the "People's Daily" on May 5th, 1958 marked "the resumption of a negative attitude towards Yugoslavia by the Government of the People's Republic of China and the start of a systematic anti-Yugoslav campaign which is still underway."

**Romania – November 26, 1962 (KCA)**

It is announced that a Franco-British consortium has secured a contract for the building of a state-plate mill in Romania.

**Eastern Europe / U.S. – November 27, 1962 (LBC)**

The report of the subcommittee of the Foreign Relations Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives on U.S. policy towards Eastern Europe. The chairman of the subcommittee, Edna F. Kelly declares that the State Department and the Voice of America (VOA) did not do everything "to sustain the spirit of resistance in Eastern Europe and nationalistic aspirations of the captive nations" of Eastern Europe. As an example Kelly cited that the VOA failed to broadcast the subcommittee's hearings. – Furthermore the report is critical of the government's reluctance to persuade the U.N. to condemn "colonialism" in Eastern Europe and urged that in order to counter the threat to Berlin to demand the settlement of East-Central European problems on the lines of the treaties signed by the allies after World War II.

**Greece / Soviet Union —November 27, 1962 (OSA)**

The Greek Government issued a rejection of the Soviet accusations against Petros Molyviatis, a second secretary at the Greek Embassy in Moscow, regarding the diplomat's involvement in espionage.

**Yugoslavia / France / U.K. – November 27, 1962 (MOL)**

Financial talks with Great Britain and France.

**Yugoslavia / China – November 28, 1962 (MOL)**

Yugoslavia sends a note of protest to China because of the anti-Yugoslav campaign in Chinese press. According to Yugoslav charges, the campaign started in 1958 and 272 article in 6 journals were published between January 1 and November 10, 1962.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – November 28, 1962 (KCA)**

A contract has been concluded by two British companies for the supply of steel-making and rolling-mill equipment for a new integrated State steelworks in southern Yugoslavia.

**Soviet Union / East Germany – November 29, 1962 (OSA)**

Karl Mewis, the head of the East German planning commission, announces the plan to receive new loans from the Soviet Union for the year 1963, amounting to an additional 560 million rubles, on top of an already existing debt of 1,700 million rubles.

**Soviet Union / Finland – November 30, 1962 (KCA)**

The protocol on Finnish-Soviet trade in 1963 under the five-year agreement is signed.

## **December**

### **Yugoslavia – December 1962 (RYE)**

Conference of the Yugoslav Association of Economists is convened to discuss the economic implications of the new Constitution, then in the final drafting stage. While several points of views are expressed, the dominant one holds that the recession is primarily the consequence of excessive liberalization, unequal rates of regional development and in-supportive increases in personal incomes.

### **Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – December 1, 1962 (OSA)**

The number of Obkom committees, district committees and city committees increased by 2.5 times. Political cabinets, freelance lecturers and propagandists exceeded 9,000 people. A large number of freelance departments and commissions have been created.

### **Yugoslavia / Soviet Union / Hungary – December 2 (MOL)**

On his way to the Soviet Union, Yugoslav President Tito travels through Hungary. Chairman of the Presidential Council István Dobi gives a dinner in his honor in Budapest.

### **Hungary – December 2-28, 1962 (HC)**

A Hungarian government delegation travels to Guinea, Mali, Dahomey, Guinea, Nigeria, Algeria and Morocco. Gyula Kállai, one of the Deputy chairmen of the Council of Ministers, leads the delegation.

### **Yugoslavia / Soviet Union / Hungary – December 2-21, 1962 (KCA/LUY)**

President Tito leaves Belgrade to visit the Soviet Union. The visit is probably designed to serve several purposes. First, it is in return of the visit by Soviet head of state Brezhnev the previous October. Second, it is a retaliation to the discriminatory Section 231 of the United States Trade Expansion Act of 1962 and an attempt to cement closer economic relations with the Soviet Union and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (COMECON). And thirdly, it is a direct ideological slap at Communist China by both the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, particularly in regard to Cuba and the Sino-Indian border dispute. Despite the fact that the journey was officially described as a holiday, he was accompanied by vice-president Aleksandar Ranković and other political, economic and military experts. On the way, Tito stops to have dinner with János Kádár in Hungary. On December 4, Tito arrives in Moscow. On December 5-6, negotiations on the international situation and on relations between Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union led by Tito and First Secretary of the CPSU Nikita S. Khrushchev take place in the Kremlin. Ranković, Gromyko, Ansatas Mikoyan and Andropov also take part in the talks. On December 18-20, Tito visits Kiev accompanied by Khrushchev. On December 21, the tour concludes in Budapest with talks with János Kádár. After returning to Belgrade, Tito claims that Yugoslavia will not change its foreign policy, but it will develop closer co-operation with Socialist countries and peaceful co-existence with all countries regardless of their social system. Tito expresses optimism about the policy of the Soviet Union, although he admits that there are still some issues on which they do not agree. On January 10, 1963, in Belgrade, an agreement for increased cooperation is signed.

### **Poland / U.K. – December 4, 1962 (KCA)**

The Polish embassy in London announces that the Polish Government has repaid part of the Polish sterling debts under the Anglo-Polish financial agreement of November 11, 1954.

#### **Czechoslovakia – December 4-8, 1962 (KCA)**

The 12th congress of the Czechoslovak Communist Party is held in Prague. The congress is marked by heated disputes between the Czechoslovak leaders and the Chinese delegation over questions of policy and ideology. A Chinese Note of November 17 protests the cessation of supplies from Czechoslovakia without prior warning. --*December 5*. A Czechoslovak Note protests the retention of Czechoslovak technicians and their families in China, apparently as a reprisal for the suspension of exports. Antonín Novotný, the president of the Republic, remains in control and no de-Stalinization measures are approved. The five-year plan is cancelled due to a region-wide economic crisis since early 1961. Instead a seven-year plan (1964-1970) is accepted, with a provisory three-year plan until 1964. *December 8*. The congress elects a new central committee without any major changes. – *January 5, 1963*. The new Cabinet is implemented with František Krajčír as a deputy prime minister.

#### **Soviet Union / U.S. / U.N. – December 5, 1962 (KCA)**

The U.S. and Soviet representatives at the United Nations sent a join letter to U Thant announcing that the two countries reached an agreement for cooperation in space research.

#### **Hungary – December 6, 1962 (HC)**

Népszabadság publishes a framework for international co-operation; a Hungarian space research facility is established.

#### **Hungary – December 7, 1962 (HC)**

The Presidential Council schedules parliamentary and municipal elections. The University of Forestry and Timber industry opens in Sopron.

#### **Soviet Union / Cuba – December 10-19, 1962 (KCA)**

Trade negotiations between Cuba and the Soviet Union take place in Moscow. On February 2, the trade protocol for 1963 is signed by Senor Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Ansatas Mikoyan.

#### **Soviet Union – December 12, 1962 (OSA)**

A Soviet court announced a verdict on the "currency traders" of the Georgian SSR. Within 10 days, the Judicial Collegium for Criminal Cases of the Supreme Court of the Georgian SSR considered the case on charges of M. A. Kakiashvili, D. A. Katsoshvili, N. M. Gogishvili, Sh. Sh. Nanaziashvili, M. A. Mikhelashvili, and S. R. Khananashvili were charged with violating the rules of foreign exchange transactions and speculation in foreign exchange values. All defendants pleaded guilty. The court sentenced the leader of the group to M.A. Kakiashvili to the strictest punishment – execution. The rest of the defendants received varying prison sentences.

#### **Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – December 12, 1962 (KCA)**

Khrushchev speaks to the Supreme Soviet on foreign policy. In his speech, he replies at length to the Chinese and Albanian allegations that the Soviet Union had pursued an appeasement policy towards the United States during the Cuban Crises. Khrushchev also speaks about relations with Yugoslavia. He admits that “the most of the guilt for the deterioration is borne by Stalin,” but he emphasizes that “Yugoslav comrades bear their share of guilt” also. He expressed the necessity to cooperate with Yugoslavia as “it is impossible to deny that it is a Socialist country.” Khrushchev regards as reasonable China’s unilateral cease-fire concerning



the Sino-Indian border conflict. Tito, having heard of Khrushchev's speech, agrees with him on basic lines.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – December 12, 1962 (LBC)**

The U.S. delegation in Geneva urges the establishment of a direct fax or telephone line between the White House and the Kremlin. Kennedy supports the idea. According to the President the war crisis showed that in the atomic age there is need for rapid communication between the leading powers of the world. In the course of the crisis communication was slow, and many times they had to rely on open communications and this lasted for hours.

**Soviet Union / U.N. – December 13, 1962 (KCA)**

Nikolai Fedorenko, a career diplomat and a specialist in Far Eastern Affairs, has been appointed Soviet permanent representative at the United Nations in succession to Valerian Zorin, who has been the Soviet permanent representative since September 1960.

**NATO – December 13-15, 1962 (LBC)**

The Paris meeting of the NATO council affirmed that the main task of the organization is to develop conventional forces. The council expressed its readiness to promote East-West talks in the midst of diminishing international tension.

**COMECON – December 14-20, 1962 (CEC/KCA) → December 1962**

The 17th session of COMECON is held in Bucharest. The Executive Committee of COMECON agrees to establish a system of multilateral settlements among COMECON member-countries; preliminary discussions on setting up International Bank for Economic Cooperation (IBEC); approval of a plan for the construction of a common pool of good wagons; approval of certain measures for co-operation in the field of shipping; continuation of the system of price-fixing agreed to in 1958; and standardization of the provisional statute of the COMECON. *December 22.* Albania ceases its participation in the work of COMECON.

**Poland / Syria – December 20, 1962 (KCA)**

As Poland plays an increasingly important part in Syria's cotton export, an economic co-operation agreement between Poland and Syria is signed in Damascus.

**U.N. – December 20, 1962 (KCA)**

The General Assembly of the United Nations decides to end the appointment of Sir Leslie Munro as its special representative for Hungary, citing the fact that Hungary has not cooperated sufficiently with the representative. Consequently, it was announced that Secretary General U Thant has received an official invitation to visit Budapest during 1963. Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union are elected to the Economic and Social Council for 1963, together with Argentina, Austria, Japan and the United Kingdom.

**France / U.K. / U.S. – December 21, 1962 (LBC)**

Joint announcement by the U.S. and Great Britain on an agreement to develop a joint Western nuclear force. American and British nuclear arms and military unit will be sent to a multilateral nuclear force, which will be established after consultation with the NATO member states. – The British nuclear force is placed under NATO command except when, according to the government, national interests are at stake. – *December 27.* France rejects Kennedy's offer to equip France with Polaris missiles to form a French nuclear force linked to NATO.

**China / Mongolia – December 26, 1962 (KCA)**

Chinese Prime Minister, Chou En-lai, and Mongolian Prime Minister, Marshal Yumjaagiin Tsedenbal, sign an agreement delimiting the 2,500-mile frontier between China and Mongolia. Marshal Tsedenbal gives a speech supporting the policy of the Soviet Union towards Cuba.

## 1963

### **Italy – 1963 (PLC)**

Trieste becomes the capital of the Italian Friuli-Venezia-Giulia region.

### **Romania – 1963 (RFN)**

Romania starts to pursue an autonomous foreign policy in the U.N. by deviating from the lead position of the Soviet Union.

### **Romania – 1963 (RUR)**

Soviets attempt to reach an agreement with the Romanian delegation, but Romanians do not agree with any proposal that the Soviets or other COMECON members make.

### **Romania – 1963 (SRR)**

Romania does not reject the possibility of remaining a faithful member of the Soviet bloc on compromise terms favorable to the Romanians. To gain such terms, the Romanian leadership relies mainly on the Sino-Soviet conflict and the consequential disunity of the socialist camp. This concept is rejected by the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, East Germany. Consequently, Romania adopts national and international policies of an increasingly independent character. At home, Romania pursues the ever closer identification of the Romanian historical tradition with the communist tradition.

### **Romania – 1963 (SRR)**

Relations with Hungary are correct. Steps to curtail the cultural autonomy of the Hungarians in Transylvania after the revolt are taken.

### **Romania – 1963 (ABR)**

Economic agreement is signed between France and Romania.

## **January**

### **Austria / Czechoslovakia / Hungary – January 3, 1963 (OSA)**

Vendelin Marchovic and Vojtech Halasz successfully defect by crossing the Morava River with an inflated air mattress. A few days before this incident, two Hungarians by the name of Róbert Németh and Bálint Tarcs cross the Austrian border on foot.

### **Hungary / U.N. – January 3-8, 1963 (HC)**

Vladimir Velebit, General Secretary of the Economic Committee of the United Nations visits Budapest.

### **Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – January 3, 1963 (OSA)**

The Plenum of the Kazakh Central Committee changed the composition of the ruling bodies. The most important release was announced about the First and Second Secretaries of the CP Central Committee. Also, the newly elected Presidium included 9 members, instead of 11 regular members and 2 alternative members. The composition of the Presidium and Secretariat became almost the same. The major reason for the shake-up of Kazakh party leadership was the poor harvest but other reasons were also played a part.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 7, 1963 (KCA)**

A joint Soviet-U.S. letter is sent to the U.N. Secretary-General, U Thant. Adlai Stevenson and Vasili Kuznetsov, the U.S. and Soviet envoys dealing with the Cuban missile crisis, assure that it is no longer necessary to occupy the attention of the Security Council with the issue of Cuba.

**Soviet Union / Cuba – January 8, 1963 (OSA)**

Reports of Castro's speech in front of students in Havana in which Castro expressed dissatisfaction with Cuba's treatment by the Soviets.

**Soviet Union / Finland – January 9, 1963 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union concludes contracts with Finland for the supply of equipment for armed forces and defensive missiles. The deliveries from the Soviet Union will consist of one squadron of *Mig-21* fighter aircraft.

**Hungary – January 10, 1963 (HC)**

The press publishes an electoral call of the Patriotic People's Front. National parliamentary and regional elections begin, lasting until 29 of January.

**U.S. – January 11, 1963 (LBC)**

Figures are published on the U.S. commercial turnover (without military deliveries, in billions of dollars):

	1961	1962
<b>Export</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>20.8</b>
<b>Import</b>	<b>14.50</b>	<b>16.4</b>
<b>Deficit</b>	<b>2.46</b>	<b>2.0</b>

**East Germany – January 12, 1963 (KCA)**

The Chairman of the State Planning Commission, Karl Mewis, is relieved of his post and replaced by Dr. Erich Apel. In February and March of 1963, more government changes occur. On April 17, two bills transfer powers from the Council of Ministers to the Council of State. On May 15, 1963, a "Workers and Peasants Inspection" organization is established. On November 15, 1963, in its first meeting the new Cabinet elects a Presidium consisting of Otto Grotewohl, Willi Stoph, Alexander Abusch, Dr. Apel, Dr. Lothar Bolz, Bruno Leuschner, Alfred Scholz and others.

**Cuba / East Germany / West Germany – January 12, 1963 (KGD)**

Cuba and the GDR establish diplomatic relations, while the FRG breaks off its relations with Cuba.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – January 12, 1963 (OSA)**

A number of party officials in the Kyzylorda region have been dismissed because of "serious shortcomings and errors". The criticism of "serious shortcomings and errors" were admitted by the plenum.

**France / U.S. – January 14, 1963 (LBC)**

France rejects participation in a NATO nuclear force. – *January 24*. Kennedy rejects de Gaulle's charges that the US wants to rule over Europe in the awareness of its nuclear superiority. – *February 5*. From de Gaulle's speech: "Macmillan told me in Rambouillet in December 1962 that we are right in wanting to build a nuclear force. In spite of this we need our own. We should link them together irrespectively of the U.S. Then he left me and went to

the Bahamas. This was before January the 4th.” – Georges Pompidou reiterates that the French vetoed Britain’s membership in the EEC because London signed the Nassau treaty on the joint nuclear program. Pompidou accused Britain of signing a treaty in 48 hours without consultation with the French that wants/intends to surround France and the other European states. – *February 27*. According to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman J. W. Fulbright the French President dealt a serious blow to U.S. foreign policy. The most severe decision was to exclude Britain from the EEC and that it follows an independent nuclear policy. – *February 27*. Seven Western European states announce that they support the Anglo-American plan to set up a unified Western European nuclear force. The multilateral force would be made up of navy units equipped with Polaris missiles. The NATO force commander would be European, who would be subordinated to the traditionally American supreme commander of NATO.

#### **East Germany – January 15-21, 1963 (PLC/HWD)**

At its 6th Congress, the Socialist Unity Party of Germany accepts its first official party program. Following the Soviet example, it sets Communism as its final goal.

#### **Soviet Union – January 17, 1963 (KCA)**

A decree is issued, which enables the new Party and State Control Committee to bring before the courts people infringing on the State. As a result of this decision, many governmental changes are made. Alexander Shelepin, Dimitry Polyansky, Nikolai Novikov, Michail Lesechko, Pyotr Lomako, Dymshytz, Neporozhny and Novykov become leaders of new state organs. In his speech, Khrushchev criticizes the organization of the economy and the functioning of organs responsible for economic planning. He expresses discontent with the absence of specialization and centralization in industrial and scientific research.

#### **Hungary – January 20, 1963 (HC)**

*Népszabadság* publishes a statement of the Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party on the relationship between the Communist and Workers’ parties and other relevant questions.

#### **France / West Germany – January 22, 1963 (PLC)**

Treaty of reconciliation (*Élysée Treaty* or Treaty of Friendship) concluded by France and West Germany thwarts the U.K.’s accession to the EEC.

#### **Hungary – January 24, 1963 (HC)**

The Presidential Council issues decree no. 2/1963. outlining co-operation and leadership within industry.

#### **Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – January 26, 1963 (OSA)**

Purge in the Central Committee of the CPSU. Withdrawal of Daulenov from the members of the Central Committee of the CPSU. The reason was announced by the article in the journal “*Party Life of Kazakhstan*”, according to which Daulenov, while holding a responsible post, allowed himself rudeness in dealing with ordinary people, violated party ethics. These words were also confirmed by the statements of Kunaev, the former First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan.

#### **EEC / U.K. – January 29, 1963 (PLC)**

Ongoing accession negotiations (since November 1961) between the U.K. and the EEC discontinue.

**Finland – January 31, 1963 (KMP)**

Finland purchases missiles for defensive needs from the Soviet Union and the U.K. The agreement is made possible by a new interpretation of the Paris Peace Treaty that creates the future framework of the Finnish policy of neutrality.

**February****Soviet Union / France – February 1, 1963 (KCA)**

A new three-year trade agreement between France and the Soviet Union for the period 1963-65 is signed in Moscow following the expiration of the previous three-year agreement on December 21, 1962. The trade exchange will increase by 15% compared to the 1959-1962 period.

**China / Soviet Union — February 2, 1963 (OSA)**

Communist China accuses the Soviet Union with purposefully interfering with the Beijing radio in order to keep their side of the story away from the Soviet and people and prevent them from knowing the full truth in this ideological confrontation.

**Soviet Union – February 5, 1963 (KCA)**

Admiral Sergei Gorshkov states that the Soviet Army is equipped with new submarines and surface ships. On February 21-22, Marshal Sergey Biryuzov and Marshal Rodion Malinovsky emphasize the strength and capability of the Soviet Union's rocket forces in connection with the 45th anniversary of the Soviet armed forces.

**Hungary – February 6-9, 1963 (HC)**

The Executive Committee of the World Democratic Youth Alliance holds its session in Budapest. It publishes a proposal for peace and disarmament.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 8, 1963 (CWC)**

The United States resume underground nuclear testing. The decision is criticized by the Soviet Union.

**East Germany – February 8, 1963 (OSA)**

East German authorities issue a decree abolishing the Ministry for Agriculture, substituting it for a newly minted 'Agricultural Council' which is accountable to the Council of Ministers. This reorganization mirrors developments in the USSR and serves to centralize power in the Council of State.

**Hungary – February 10, 1963 (HC)**

The new Tisza Bridge is opened in a public ceremony in Szolnok.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – February 11, 1963 (LUY)**

The Soviet daily *Pravda* asserts that Yugoslavia can already be considered as within the Communist camp despite some ideological differences.

**Soviet Union / India – February 11, 1963 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union supplies twelve aircraft to India.

**Yugoslavia / China – February 12, 1963 (LUY)**

The Chinese party daily *Jenmin Jih Pao* declares that Sino-Soviet differences can only be settled if the Soviet Union condemn Yugoslav revisionism. From this is evident that the Yugoslav ideological position on peaceful coexistence and non-alignment becomes the central issue in the Sino-Soviet dispute.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 12, 1963 (LBC)**

The NBC office is closed in Moscow in reprisal for NBC “severely distorting Soviet reality with the obvious aim of arousing hostile sentiments against the Soviet Union”.

**COMECON / Romania – February 15-21, 1963 (HC/RUR)**

The fuel stocks of the Socialist countries and energy-related geological research are discussed at the 4th session of the Executive Committee of the COMECON in Moscow. The meeting is a watershed in Romanian-Soviet relations. The Romanian delegation strongly disagrees with other delegations.

**Soviet Union / NATO / Warsaw Pact – February 20, 1963 (LBC)**

The Soviet Union presents a draft for a NATO-Warsaw Pact non-aggression treaty in Geneva.

**Hungary – February 24, 1963 (HC)**

Parliamentary and regional elections take place. The 97.2 % of eligible voters take part and 98.9% vote for representatives of the Patriotic People's Front.

**East Germany - February 26, 1963 (OSA)**

Neues Deutschland warns that the country needs to increase its domestic agricultural production in order to secure adequate foodstuff supplies for the entire population.

**Warsaw Pact – February 28, 1963 (HC/MMS)**

Meeting of the WP defense ministers in Warsaw.

**March****Romania – March 1963 (SRR)**

Original expression of Romania's rejection of Soviet domination of the bloc and camp is pro forma limited to COMECON.

**Hungary – March 1, 1963 (OSA)**

Ferenc Böröcki, a patient at the Sopron Hospital attempts to convince his roommates to defect with him. He is arrested by the police.

**Soviet Union – March 1, 1963 (OSA)**

“Trud” reports on the case of two currency traders who bought gold coins for foreigners for Soviet money and resold them to a certain person in Yerevan. The men received a prison term of 12 years, the rest of the accomplices received shorter sentences, and the relatives of the convicted were not imprisoned. In the case of the “Kharkiv money changers”, money changers who made transactions worth one million new rubles, 6 people were sentenced to death. In the case of the “Latvian money changers”, no one received capital punishment.

**Romania – March 5-8, 1963 (PLC)**

After Romania quits negotiations, the Communist Party's leadership rejects the COMECON's decision reached in February in Moscow.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria - March 6, 1963 (OSA)**

During his official visit to Yugoslavia in 1962, the Bulgarian Vice-Premier in charge of economic affairs, Zhivko Zhivkov, signed an agreement with the Yugoslavs providing for the construction of the highway. The construction of the new highway between the Yugoslav town of Nish and the Bulgarian frontier, a distance of 83 kilometres, was set to start on the April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1963. This was reported by the Belgrade daily "Politika" on March 3<sup>rd</sup> which calls this highway "a component part of the London-Calcutta route." The Yugoslavs intended to present the highway as opening of Bulgaria to Westerners.

**Poland – March 7, 1963 (KCA)**

General Marian Spychalski, the Polish Defense Minister, is nominated Marshal of Poland.

**Poland / West Germany – March 7, 1963 (HDP)**

Poland and West Germany sign a commercial agreement for the period of 3 years.

**East Germany / West Germany – March 8, 1963 (OSA)**

The previous day an East German customs official applies for political asylum in West Germany.

**Hungary – March 11, 1963 (HC)**

The Regional Council of Budapest holds its first session. The Chair of the Executive Committee is István Sarlós.

**Soviet Union – March 12, 1963 (OSA)**

The problem of gold in the USSR and the Soviet ruble. The low value of the Soviet ruble forces Soviet citizens to buy gold in many ways. Since Soviet money had no value in international payments, the Soviet Union made all market payments in gold. Gold was considered a very valuable currency, and Lenin bequeathed to treat it with care and economy. Gold reserves in the Soviet Union were very high, the USSR was in second place in the world in gold production. But gold was used only in extreme cases. Gold mining was a state monopoly. In this regard, the theft of gold and its resale by speculators was common.

**Soviet Union – March 13, 1963 (KCA)**

A joint meeting of the presidium of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party and the USSR Council of Ministers takes place under the chairmanship of Khrushchev. As a result of this meeting, a Supreme Council of the National Economy of the USSR is established. Then main task of the Council is to manage industry and construction in the Soviet Union. On March 8, two new State Committees are established under the Soviet Council of Ministers.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 20, 1963 (LBC)**

A U.S.-Soviet agreement is signed on joint communicational and meteorological satellite projects.

**Hungary / Romania – March 20, 1963 (HC)**

The Kádár government that took office on September 13 in 1961 is re-organized. Gyula Horgos, József Veres and Ferenc Lévárdi are ministers in the new government. A delegation of twenty



members of Romania's military travels to Budapest. Leontin Sălăjan, Minister of the Armed Forces leads the delegation.

**Hungary – March 21 and 25-26, 1963 (HC)**

A new Parliament, elected on February 24 holds its first session. It elects members of the Presidential Council and Parliamentary Committees. It also approves the budget for 1963.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – March 21-27, 1963 (MOL)**

On the invitation of Antal Apró, Chairman of International Relations, Mihajko Todorović, Vice Chairman of the Executive Council of the Federal Peoples' Republic of Yugoslavia, visits Hungary and discusses the possibilities of Yugoslav-Hungarian economic cooperation.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – March 22-26, 1963 (HC)**

Hungarian-Yugoslavian economic negotiations take place in Budapest during which the establishment of a Hungarian-Yugoslavian co-operation committee is agreed.

**Hungary – March 22, 1963 (HC)**

Decree no. 1963:4 commences a general amnesty. Those who broke the law during the time of the personality cult are granted amnesty. Those who have been found guilty of anti-revolutionary activities or of committing anti-state crimes in the previous six years also receive amnesty.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – March 22, 1963 (OSA)**

A Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Republic of Kazakhstan was held. Kazakhstan's economy made successive losses and first secretary Ismail Yusupov alleged that the reason for this was the ineffective work of chairmen of the collective farms and their fast replacement.

**Hungary – March 26, 1963 (KCA)**

Many political personalities who were imprisoned after the uprising in 1956 are released under a government amnesty. Among those released are István Bibó, Minister of State in Imre Nagy's cabinet during the 1956 uprising, and Colonel Sándor Kopácsi, deputy commander of the National Guard.

**Romania / Albania – March 28, 1963 (PLC)**

Romania reestablishes diplomatic relations (terminated in 1961) with Albania.

**East Germany – March 29, 1963 (OSA)**

The news agency ADN announces the creation of a government commission headed by Premier Alexander Abusch for the promotion of uniform education. This state commission is intended to translate the principles of socialist education in the spirit of the 6<sup>th</sup> East German Party Congress into training programs and textbooks for all ages.

## **April**

### **Soviet Union / U.K. – April 1963 (KCA)**

Following the outbreak of the Laotian Crises, Gromyko has discussions with the British Ambassador in Moscow, Sir Humphrey Trevelyan. The result of these talks is a joint letter sent to Prince Souvanna on April 8.

### **Romania / Albania – April 1963 (ABR)**

A Romanian ambassador to Albania is appointed.

### **Poland – April 1, 1963 (HDP)**

Prices of coal, electric power, gas, central heating and water are raised. Rise in the prices of milk, alcohol and matches follow on September 15, 1963.

### **Hungary – April 2, 1963 (HC)**

The central committee of the Hungarian Socialist and Workers' Party announces the initiation of a system of the higher institutions and the elimination of admission criteria based on ancestry.

### **Czechoslovakia – April 3-4, 1963 (PSČZ)**

The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia admits that during the 1950s the infringement of socialist legality had occurred.

### **Soviet Union / U.S. – April 5, 1963 (LBC)**

The USSR accepts the U.S. proposal to establish a direct link of communication between the two capitals to avoid accidental war. Washington warmly welcomes this development and regards it as the first positive result of the Geneva talks. See June 20, 1963.

### **Yugoslavia – April 7, 1963 (PLC)**

The Yugoslav Federal Assembly accepts a new constitution, effectively renaming the country Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY). The office of Prime Minister, abolished in 1953, is reintroduced. The Federal Assembly will consist of five chambers instead of two. The voting system will be more complicated, with a combination of direct and indirect elections. – *June 30*. A joint session of the five chambers unanimously re-elects President Tito for a fourth term.

### **Romania / China – April 8, 1963 (PLC)**

A Sino-Romanian trade agreement is signed.

### **Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. / West Germany / NATO – April 8, 1963 (KCA)**

The Soviet Government protests to the U.S., U.K., and German Federal Government against the proposal for a multilateral NATO nuclear force. On May 20, the Soviet Union proposes the creation of a Mediterranean nuclear-free zone.

### **Yugoslavia / Kosovo – April 10, 1963 (PLC)**

A law on the status of the autonomous province Kosovo-Metohija (Kosmet) is passed.

### **Italy – April 11, 1963 (PLC)**

Pope John XXIII's *Pacem in Terris* encyclical.

**Soviet Union – April 17-25, 1963 (HC)**

The fifth session of the Executive Committee of COMECON takes place in Moscow. Among the topics discussed are co-operation and professionalization within the chemical industry and machine production.

**East Germany – April 17, 1963 (OSA)**

The East German *Volkskammer* approves Judicial Reforms. Final authority over decisions in lower and district courts is transferred from the Ministry of Justice to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court itself is made responsible to the *Volkskammer* and the State Council rather than to the Ministry of Justice. Precedent for these reforms' dates back to June 1962.

**Hungary / Greece – April 18, 1963 (HC/KCA)**

Hungarian-Greek economic negotiations take place in Athens. Financial, naval and aeronautical agreements are signed. – *April 27*. Compensation, air and trade agreements are signed between Hungary and Greece. The agreements constitute the first case of a global settlement of all outstanding economic matters between Greece and a country of the Soviet Bloc.

**Warsaw Pact / Poland – April 18-22, 1963 (CAC)**

The Warsaw Pact exercise "Mazowsze" in Poland prepares for possible nuclear war with NATO that would result in the likely destruction of most Polish cities.

**Yugoslavia / China / India - April 18, 1963 (OSA)**

One of five resolutions published on April 15th by the Politburo of the Indian Communist Party accuses the Chinese leaders of having strengthened the rightist elements in India as a result of their actions in the Himalayas. This was reported by the New Delhi correspondents of the Belgrade dailies "*Politika*" and "*Borba*" on April 16th.

**Soviet Union / Cuba – April 21, 1963 (KCA)**

Fidel Castro arrives in Murmansk for a one-month visit to the Soviet Union. On April 22, 1963, he is welcomed in Moscow by Khrushchev. A joint communiqué is issued on the same day containing an assurance that the Soviet Union will assist Cuba in any attack by the United States. On January 21, 1964, a trade agreement between the Soviet Union and Cuba is signed.

**China / Soviet Union — April 22, 1963 (OSA)**

Tass reports the signing of a trade protocol for the year of 1963 between the Soviet Union and Communist China without mentioning any figures. The trade had been in great decline since 1960 largely due to agricultural reform failures in China as well as the ideological differences between the two countries. In the report, Tass says that this agreement will contribute to the repayment of debt of \$320 million in credits.

**United Nations – April 22, 1963 (HC)**

The 18th session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe takes place. Deputy Foreign Minister Károly Szarka is elected as Vice President.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – April 22, 1963 (HC)**

Whilst living in Moscow, Hungarian born economist Jenő Varga is given the Lenin-Award for an analysis of scientific questions of contemporary capitalism.

**Soviet Bloc – April 23-30, 1963 (MMS)**

Meeting of experts on nuclear energy in Prague.

**Yugoslavia / China / India - April 24, 1963 (OSA)**

The Communists of India do not follow either the Russian or the Chinese road to socialism but rather their own. This is the main focus of the 35,000-word article by the Indian Communist leader, Dange, published in the April 21st issue of "New Age" and quoted by the New Delhi correspondent of the Belgrade daily "*Politika*", Nenad Stavjel. Writing in the paper's April 22nd issue under the title "Real Roots of Conflict," Stavjel said that Dange's article was approved by the Politburo of the Communist Party of India and answered an article published on March 9th in the Beijing "*People's Daily*."

**Soviet Union / U.K. – April 28-29, 1963 (KCA)**

Two large orders with British firms for chemical plants are signed in London.

**May****Yugoslavia / U.S. – May 4-5, 1963 (LUY/LBC)**

U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk squeezes in a twenty-four hour visit with President Tito, Foreign Minister Koča Popović and other Yugoslav officials on the way back from New Delhi. The main theme of the talks is Yugoslavia's most favored nation status.

**Cuba / Soviet Union – May 5, 1963 (CAC)**

Khrushchev at a meeting with Castro rules out Cuban membership in the Warsaw Pact or a Soviet-Cuban military alliance.

**Finland / Yugoslavia – May 5-12, 1963 (EAJ)**

President Urho Kekkonen visits Yugoslavia on the invitation of President Tito.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – May 7-11, 1963 (KCA)**

The trial of Oleg Penkovsky, a senior Russian scientific officer, and Greville Maynard Wynne, a British businessman, on charges of espionage for the British and American intelligence services takes place in Moscow. Penkovsky pleads guilty and is sentenced to death. Wynne is sentenced to eight years detention in prison and a labor colony.

**Soviet Bloc – May 9-11, 1963 (MMS)**

Meeting of Ministers of Posts and Telecommunications (5th session) in Budapest. They discuss the development of international telecommunications; television technology and the mechanization of postal services.

**Hungary – May 9-12, 1963 (HC)**

The 20th Congress of Hungarian Labor Unions takes place in Budapest.

**Soviet Union / Bulgaria – May 11, 1963 (OSA)**

A delegation of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR arrived in Sofia, led by P.M. Demichev, member of the Supreme Soviet and the Secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt – May 12-16, 1963 (KCA)**

President Gamal Abdel Nasser of the United Arab Republic visits Tito on the Yugoslav island of Brioni.

**Finland / Hungary – May 12-15, 1963 (LKS)**

Urho Kekkonen arrives to Hungary for an unofficial visit on his way back from Yugoslavia. Despite the visit is unofficial Kekkonen is treated as an official guest of Hungarian head of state (chairman of the Presidential Council) István Dobi and he meets all the Hungarian Socialist Worker's Party (MSZMP) leaders including First Secretary János Kádár.

**Yugoslavia – May 13, 1963 (HC)**

The constitution of the Yugoslav autonomous region of Voivodina inhabited by a Hungarian minority is ratified. It states the rights of the ethnic minority including the extension of the mother language to the official level.

**U.N. – May 14 - June 27, 1963 (KCA)**

A special session of the U.N. General Assembly is held for the purpose of adopting financial measures. Nikolai Fedorenko declares that the Soviet Union will not pay from 1963 onwards for any operation of which it disapproves. Seven resolutions are adopted by the Administrative and Budgetary Committee. All the countries of the Soviet group voted against all resolutions. Yugoslavia voted for the resolutions and abstained on two of them.

**East Germany – May 15, 1963 (OSA)**

The SED Central Committee and the Council of Ministers publish a resolution abolishing the governmental 'Central Commission for State Control', responsible for party and state agencies. Simultaneously, a 'Worker's and Farmer's Inspection System' is created, which is accountable to both the agencies that founded it, unlike its predecessor which was responsible only to the Council of Ministers.

**Hungary / Poland – May 16-18, 1963 (HC)**

A Hungarian delegation visits Poland. János Kádár the First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party leads the delegation. Negotiations take place on international affairs and the possibility of developing economic co-operation.

**Yugoslavia – May 18, 1963 (RYN)**

At a Plenum of the Central Committee of the League of Communists, President Tito exudes optimism and speaks with obvious elation of fraternal ties with the Soviet Union and stresses that these are not inconsonant with Yugoslavia's desire to maintain good relations with the Western countries. He also castigates Beijing, asserting that the Chinese cast unwarranted aspersions on the socialist nature of Yugoslav society and anti-imperialism underlying its foreign policy.

**Soviet Bloc – May 20-24, 1963 (MMS)**

Ministers of Transportation meet in Warsaw.

**NATO – May 24, 1963 (LBC)**

The foreign ministers of NATO announce that they accept the measures leading to an international nuclear force. At French insistence this was announced as the routine reorganization of NATO's present nuclear force. The units comprising the inter-allied force will keep their national character in spite of the fact that they will be subordinated to NATO

command. The financial resources and manpower will be provided by the national governments and the units of the international force will remain under national jurisdiction so they can be withdrawn from NATO command by the national governments. The US and Britain retain supreme command over nuclear weapons.

**Albania / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia - May 27, 1963 (OSA)**

Fadil Hoxha spoke on May 23rd at the election meeting in Kosovska Mitrovitsa. He accuses Enver Hoxha of having "shot hundreds and hundreds of Albania's best sons" and "having deported thousands of people to numerous concentration camps."

**Greece – May 27, 1963 (PLC)**

Nationwide demonstrations in Greece following the assassination of communist MP G. Lambrakis on May 22. – *June 11*. Prime Minister Karamanlis resigns and emigrates.

**Finland – May 28, 1963 (HHN)**

Urho Kekkonen proposes the plan to officially consolidate the existing nuclear-weapon-free status of the Nordic countries.

**Hungary /Soviet Union – May 28, 1963 (HC)**

A Hungarian party delegation led by Rezső Nyers departs for the Soviet Union. It studies the methods of the Soviet Communist Party for guiding the development of industry and agriculture.

**Yugoslavia / China / Germany - 29 May 1963 (OSA)**

The East Berlin correspondent of the Belgrade daily "*Politika*", Boshidar Dikić, reports that "it is assumed" in East Berlin that the recent order forbidding GDR citizens to contact foreign diplomatic missions "is aimed at suppressing the influence of Chinese diplomats." Dikić's report, which was published in the May 27th issue of "*Politika*" explains the "new procedure" to be followed by the East Germans if they wish to contact any foreign embassy. Dikić stresses the fact that "all foreign diplomatic missions on the ambassadorial or ministerial level existing in the German Democratic Republic belong exclusively to socialist countries."

**June**

**Bulgaria / Israel – June 1963 (KCA)**

A settlement is reached between the Bulgarian Government and Israel regarding the incident of July 27, 1955 when Bulgarian fighters shot down a Constellation airliner of El Al, the Israeli Airline, over Bulgarian territory. Under the agreement, Bulgaria is to pay financial compensation to each of the families of the 22 Israeli victims.

**Vatican – June 3, 1963 (HC)**

Pope John XXII. dies. His successor is Paul VI.

**Hungary / France – June 5-17, 1963 (HC)**

Franco-Hungarian economic negotiations take place in Budapest. A long-term economic trade agreement between the two countries is signed.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 10, 1963 (CWC/KCA/PLC)**

The Soviet Union and the United States decide to install a hot line between two countries. – *June 20*. Agreement on Moscow-Washington telex hotline. On June 22, this direct communication link between the Soviet Union and the U.S. is established. The aim of this “hot line” is to reduce the risk of war occurring by accident or miscalculation.

**Soviet Union / Australia – June 10, 1963 (KCA)**

It is announced in Moscow that William L. Morrison, First Secretary of the Australian Embassy in Moscow, has been declared *persona non grata*, on charges that he has engaged in espionage for a long time. – *June 11*. The Australian Minister for External Affairs, Sir Garfield Barwick, describes the Soviet charges as completely untrue.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 10, 1963 (LBC)**

In a speech Kennedy calls on the Americans to support the cause of disarmament by revising their stance toward peace, the Soviet Union and the cold war. He declares that communism is basically repulsive for the Americans, but they can respect the Russian people for their achievements in science, outer space and industrial growth. The U.S. must pursue a policy that makes the Russians interested in peace. According to Kennedy paradoxically the two strongest powers are the most threatened by annihilation, these two states bear the largest burdens. Even the most hostile states keep their obligations undertaken in treaties that serve their own interests. History teaches us that hostility among nations does not last forever. – The President reveals an Anglo-American invitation for preparatory talks for a test ban treaty. – Khrushchev rejects Kennedy’s invitation for test ban talks.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – June 10, 1963 (KCA)**

Talks between Khrushchev, Harold Macmillan and Kennedy are announced at American University in Washington. The negotiations will take place in Moscow and are aimed at early agreement on a comprehensive test-ban treaty. On the same day, it is simultaneously announced that Great Britain will be represented by Lord Hailsham and the United States by Averall Harriman.

**Hungary – June 14-16, 1963 (HC)**

The Fifth Hungarian Peace Congress takes place in Budapest.

**China – June 14, 1963 (PLC/KCA)**

The CPC’S Theses summarize the Party’s reservations against “Soviet hegemony” in 25 points. A letter is sent by the Chinese government to the Soviet Union attacking Khrushchev’s political theories and many aspects of his policy. – *June 27*. The Soviet Government demands the recall of three Chinese Embassy officials and two Chinese post-graduate students who had distributed copies of the Chinese letter in the Soviet Union. – *July 14*. The Soviet Party replies and accuses China of being prepared to sacrifice hundreds of millions of lives in a nuclear war. Tension between the two communist countries increases. – *July 19*. China claims that the Soviet letter does not accord with facts. As a result of this, talks are held from July 5-20, but they do not bring any agreement.

**Soviet Union – June 16, 1963 (PLC)**

The first woman in outer space is Soviet astronaut Valentina Tereshkova.

**Finland – June 16, 1963 (SFF)**

Rafael Paasio replaces Väinö Tanner as a leader of the Social Democrats and transforms the party's image away from the tannerite past.

**Romania – June 20, 1963 (ABR)**

Romania publishes the letter dated June 14, 1963 of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union on Sino-Soviet Relations, not published in the Soviet bloc states.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – June 20, 1963 (KCA)**

An agreement for the construction of a hydro-electric power and navigation scheme on the Danube is signed by Belgrade and Bucharest.

**Czechoslovakia / U.K. – June 24, 1963 (KCA)**

The British Government asks for the recall of Přemysl Holan, a third secretary of the Czechoslovak Embassy, who had been detected trying to persuade a member of the public to obtain secret information. – *June 28*. The Czechoslovak Government asks for the recall of W. N. Hillier-Fry, First Secretary at the British Embassy in Prague.

**East Germany – June 24-25, 1963 (JWG/HWD)**

The economic reform “New Economic System of Planning and Direction for the People's Economy” (NÖSPL, Neues Ökonomisches System der Planung und Leitung) is introduced by the SED. Erich Apel declares at an economic conference of the Central Committee of the SED in June that people should be made familiar with the NÖSPL and convinced to support it. The reform aims at central planning and an increase in the responsibilities of individual enterprises. The NÖSPL leads to a real improvement of the economic situation of East Germany. In 1964 work efficiency increases by 7%, national income grows by 5%. The standard of living also improves; the long-term increase in the supply of consumer durables is proof of this.

**West Germany / U.S. – June 25, 1963 (LBC)**

Kennedy's famous speech in West Berlin: “*Ich bin ein Berliner.*”

**Hungary / Nigeria – June 28, 1963 (HC)**

Hungary and Nigeria sign an economic and scientific agreement in Budapest.

**Czechoslovakia – June 28, 1963 (KCA)**

Czechoslovak communist newspaper Rudé Právo announces that Vladimír Clementis, the former Foreign Minister who was executed in 1952 on charges of treason, “titoism” and “Trotskyism” has been posthumously rehabilitated.

**Soviet Union / East Germany – June 28-July 4, 1963 (KCA)**

Khrushchev visits East Germany. The visit takes place shortly after President Kennedy visited West Germany. It is the second Khrushchev visit in 1963, after he attended the sixth congress of the East German SED in January. The official purpose of this summer visit is to attend the celebration of the 70th birthday of Walter Ulbricht, the East German Communist leader. Antonín Novotný, Gomulka, Kádár and Todor Zhivkov also attend the celebrations. Khrushchev, in a speech, emphasizes the importance of signing a treaty banning all nuclear tests for all time and accuses the Western Powers, especially the U.S., of unwillingness to accept this treaty. Khrushchev claims that Communist nations do not want to build a communist world through war.



**Yugoslavia – June 29, 1963 (RYE)**

The reorganized Federal Assembly is convened. Edvard Kardelj becomes its chairman.

**July****Soviet Union / China / Soviet Bloc – July 1963 (KCA)**

An open split between the Soviet Union and China affects the entire international Communist movement. China rejects the proposal of the Soviet Union to hold the world communist conference in 1965. Despite this, the Soviet Union invites the Chinese delegation, together with 24 other communist parties, to prepare for the conference. China refuses the invitation. Several articles attacking the Soviet Union and Khrushchev are published in the Chinese press from September 6, 1963 to February 10, 1964. These articles are a reply to the Soviet party's open letter of July 14, 1963. In the summer and autumn of 1963, the publishing of polemics against the Chinese Party's policy continues in the Soviet Press. During September 1963, it is stated that tension exists on both sections of the border between the two countries. The ideological dispute between the Soviet Union and the CPC has extensive repercussions in the international Communist movement. The communist countries are divided as follows: China is supported by Albania, North Korea and North Vietnam; the Soviet Union is supported by Poland, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Mongolia and the major communist parties of the Western Bloc countries. Romania adopts a neutral attitude.

**Romania – July 1963 (RUR)**

The Soviet Union decides to end the demand for supranational planning in order to compromise with Romania and gain raw materials and foodstuff.

**COMECON / Romania – July 1963 (CEC)**

A meeting of First Secretaries of Communist and Workers' Parties and of Heads of Government of Member Countries is held in Moscow. This COMECON 'summit' attempts to resolve the Romanian issue. The *Basic Principles*, in light of problems over sovereignty and diverging national interests, are reinterpreted. The COMECON structure is reappraised.

**COMECON – July 1963 (CEC)**

The 18th COMECON session is held in Moscow. It implements the 'summit' decisions. The plan coordination for 1966-1970 is adopted. Changes in Standing Commissions are made. The draft Charter for IBEC is adopted.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – July 1963 (ACY)**

Serbian Orthodox Patriarch German goes to Moscow and attends the celebrations of Patriarch Alexei's 50th anniversary as bishop.

**Czechoslovakia / Greece / Hungary – July 1, 1963 (OSA)**

Eleven tourists visiting Greece from Hungary and Czechoslovakia are granted political asylum after they escape from their respective tourist groups. They are Mia Palecskó, Mihály Tóth with wife Erzsébet, János Kiss, László Kovács, László Bohr with wife Maria, Gusztáv Marfay, Eugén Csocsan, and Milen Mizler with wife Eva. Embassy officials of the Eastern bloc countries immediately call back the remaining members of the tourist group after learning of the incident.

**Hungary / Bulgaria / U.N. – July 1-3, 1963 (KCA/HC)**

The UN Secretary-General, U Thant, visits Hungary. The official visit is a response to an invitation by the Hungarian Government in December 1962. After leaving Budapest, U Thant visits Bulgaria from July 3-6.

**Bulgaria / U.S. – July 2, 1963 (KCA)**

Bulgaria agrees to pay the U.S. \$3,543,398 as compensation arising out of Second World War damage claims. The U.S. has negotiated similar agreements with Poland, Romania and Yugoslavia; claims against Czechoslovakia and Hungary remain unsettled.

**Soviet Union – July 2, 1963 (LBC)**

Khrushchev recommends an East-West non-aggression treaty and a simultaneous test ban treaty.

**Romania / Austria – July 2, 1963 (KCA)**

The Austrian and Romanian Foreign Ministers, Dr. Bruno Kreisky and Corneliu Mănescu, sign a financial treaty between Austria and Romania in Bucharest.

**Hungary / Italy – July 3-10, 1963 (HC)**

Giancarlo Pajetta, the Secretary of the Central Committee of the Italian Communist Party visits Hungary.

**Soviet Union / Nigeria – July 3, 1963 (KCA)**

As a result of negotiations on March 11, a trade agreement between Nigeria and the Soviet Union is signed in Moscow.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 3, 1963 (LBC)**

Kennedy rejects Khrushchev's proposal for the dual pact. The response was not addressed directly to Khrushchev so as not to ruin the chance for a test ban treaty. The non-aggression pact is not acceptable because it would recognize the GDR and the post war Sovietization of Eastern Europe.

**Romania – July 4, 1963 (RCW)**

Meeting of the Political Bureau of the CC of Romanian Worker's Party is held. The conversation focuses on whether or not to publish declarations made by the Chinese Communist Party. The Romanians are concerned how the people will react to tension between the two communist countries.

**Soviet Union / China – July 5–20, 1963 (CAC/PLC)**

Inconclusive Soviet-Chinese discussions in Moscow fail to repair the rift between the two parties and countries.

**Soviet Union / Middle East – July 9, 1963 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union sends a note to Iraq, Syria, Turkey and Persia, expressing discontent with the participation of Syrian forces in operations against the Kurds.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – July 10, 1963 (OSA)**

János Kádár and his delegation arrive in Moscow. The day before the delegation also made a stop in Kiev. In Moscow, they are received by Khrushchev and other state officials.

**Austria / Czechoslovakia / Hungary – July 11, 1963 (OSA)**

An unnamed writer recounts how Hungarian refugees fled to Austria the past winter. The harsh weather conditions leading to protective layers of snow and ice made it easier to climb the barbed wire fences and cross the minefield, but in some cases the winter storms led to the escapees' deaths. Lajos Khun is such an example; he successfully crossed the border but was in such a bad state due to the cold that he was transported to a hospital immediately. During the spring, mines started exploding spontaneously once the ground started to thaw. There was a potential of the mines being swept into Austrian villages due to the spring floods. Communist party member and head of a glove factory József Szeles managed to take his wife, daughter, son, and cousin to Austria. In possession of a valid exit visa he was let through the border after his truck full of gloves was processed by the guards. In Austrian territory his family members emerged from a double wall built into his truck. On June 29, a group of Czechoslovak guards entered 1 km deep into Austrian territory chasing a defecting soldier. This led to an official Austrian note of protest to the Czechoslovak government.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – July 12, 1963 (OSA)**

The sixth plenum was devoted to the results of the June 1963 Plenum. At the meeting, Solomintsev's report was discussed. They adopted a decree which defined the tasks of the party organization. And they rejected the attacks of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist party on their party.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – July 12, 1963 (KCA)**

The defection to the West of a senior Russian intelligence officer is announced in the British press. On July 15, the name of the agent is given in the press as Anatoly Dolnytsin, a member of the Soviet Embassy in London for three years.

**Belgium / Czechoslovakia / Hungary – July 14, 1963 (OSA)**

Two Hungarians hide in a refrigerator truck transporting meat between Czechoslovakia and the UK. They suffocate from carbon dioxide gas; their corpses are discovered in Zeebrugge.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / U.K. – July 15, 1963 (LBC)**

British-American-Soviet talks commence in Moscow on the test ban treaty.

**Mongolia – July 15, 1963 (CAC)**

Mongolia applies for admission to the Warsaw Pact.

**Soviet Union / Finland – July 23, 1963 (KCA)**

The agreement of September 1962 for the 50-year lease to Finland of the Soviet Section of the Saimaa Canal is ratified by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union.

**COMECON – July 24-26, 1963 (HC/PLC)**

The First Secretaries of the Communist and Workers' Parties of the COMECON countries hold an assembly in Moscow. It approves deadlines for the succession of economic plans. It also approves the establishment of a bank responsible for international trade. Romania vetoes COMECON integration at the Moscow summit.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – July 25, 1963 (CAC)**

The limited nuclear test-ban treaty is concluded between the United States, Soviet Union and United Kingdom.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / U.K. – July 25, 1963 (LBC)**

The U.S., Great Britain and the Soviet Union initial the limited test ban treaty in Moscow. According to the agreement nuclear tests are banned in outer space, in the atmosphere and under water. Underground tests are not banned since those cannot be shown without the control methods rejected by the USSR. – According to Kennedy the treaty reduces international tension, helps avoid the proliferation of nuclear arms and reduces the arms race. – In Khrushchev's view the treaty in itself does not avert the danger of war but is a good start toward the improvement of East-West relations and the termination of the cold war. – *July 29*. France fails to take part in the test ban treaty. – *August 5*. The three powers sign the treaty.

**Warsaw Pact – July 26, 1963 (CAC/HC/MMS)**

The sixth session of the Political Consultative Committee in Moscow supports the test-ban treaty, fails to consider Mongolian membership in the Warsaw Pact, and rallies the Warsaw Pact allies behind Moscow in its dispute with Beijing.

**U.S. – July 26, 1963 (KCA)**

A chronology of nuclear explosions since the detonation of the first atom bomb in New Mexico is published in *The New York Times*.

**Yugoslavia – July 26, 1963 (KCA)**

The city of Skopje, the capital of the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, is almost completely destroyed by a violent earthquake.

**France – July 29, 1963 (KCA)**

President de Gaulle gives an extensive press conference. In relation to the Sino-Soviet ideological differences, he claims that there is no unity in Communist ideology, but that it is personified by many people as exemplified by the eras of Lenin, Trotsky, Stalin and Beria. He also expresses satisfaction with the Moscow test-ban treaty signed by the U.S., the Soviet Union and Great Britain.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – July 30, 1963 (KCA)**

It is announced at Cambridge that Dr. Vladimir I. Veksler, director of the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research at Dubna near Moscow will share the sixth Atoms-for-Peace Award with Dr. Edwin M. McMillan.

**Hungary/Switzerland – July 30, 1963 (HC)**

Hungarian-Swiss diplomatic relations are up-graded to embassy level.

**Hungary – July 31, 1963 (OSA)**

Jóska K., György K., József V. and his bride Gizi Sz. break into Péter Béla's garage and steal his car. Their plan is to escape with it to Austria. However, they drive the car into a ditch, and are caught by police.

**Soviet Union / China – July 31, 1963 (KCA)**

The Chinese Government issues a violently-worded statement, which expresses discontent with the nuclear test-ban treaty adopted by the U.S., Great Britain and the Soviet Union. The statement is issued just a few days before the formal signing of the treaty on August 5, 1963. The Soviet Union replies on August 3, claiming that the Chinese policy runs counter to peaceful co-existence between states with different social systems.

## **August**

### **Soviet Union / New Zealand – August 1, 1963 (KCA)**

A trade agreement between New Zealand and the Soviet Union is signed in Wellington. It takes immediate effect.

### **Soviet Union / U.S. / U.K. – August 5, 1963 (CWC/PLC)**

The Soviet Union, Great Britain and the United States sign the partial nuclear test ban treaty which prohibits testing in the atmosphere, outer space and under water. 96 states join the treaty (China and France do not).

### **Finland – August 5, 1963 (SKH)**

A peace movement, Committee of 100 in Finland, is established in Helsinki. The Committee actions are primarily directed to oppose nuclear weapons and the organization is based on the models of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) and the more radical organization Committee of Hundred in Great Britain.

### **Soviet Union – August 7, 1963 (OSA)**

In Pyatigorsk, a trial will open in the so-called “case of the slaves of the ‘yellow devil’”. The accused A. Zhavoronkov, who calls himself a red partisan and a hero of the civil war, is in fact a millionaire and a money changer. In addition to 14 saving books, he also kept money wherever possible, including old galoshes. Valuables worth 112,000 rubles were seized. The second defendant, D. Svetlishchev, organized a factory for the processing of precious metals at his home.

### **Soviet Union / U.S. – August 9, 1963 (LBC)**

US secretary of state Rusk’s talks in Moscow with Khrushchev and Gromyko.

### **Hungary / Soviet Union – August 14, 1963 (HC)**

Construction of a new public bridge across the river Tisza between Záhony in the Hungarian county of Szabolcs-Szatmár and Chop in the Soviet Union begins.

### **Bulgaria / Poland / Canada – August 15, 1963 (KCA)**

It is announced in Ottawa, that the contract for the sale of wheat to Poland and Bulgaria has been negotiated. Moreover, on October 8, a three-year trade agreement between Canada and Bulgaria is announced.

### **Hungary – August 16, 1963 (OSA)**

Lajos Bedőcs, József Simon, György Kujbos, Mária Szakács and Mrs. Erzsébet Hazafi commit crimes such as robbery, prostitution, thievery to gather enough funds in order to defect. They are stopped by the police before they can cross the border.

### **Soviet Union / U.S. – August 16, 1963 (LBC)**

Final agreement is made between the U.S. and the Soviet Union about cooperation in weather, communication and magnetic satellite programs.

### **Hungary – August 20, 1963 (HC)**

With the incorporation of Aporliget into the national electric system, electrification of the country’s villages is completed.

**Soviet Union / Jordan – August 20, 1963 (KCA)**

An agreement for the establishment of diplomatic relations between Jordan and the Soviet Union at the embassy level is signed in Moscow.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – August 20, 1963 (KCA)**

Khrushchev arrives in Belgrade. The visit is officially described as a holiday, but he is accompanied by Communist Party officials, including Andropov who is responsible for relations between the Soviet Union and other Eastern European communist countries. – *August 22*. Khrushchev and Tito visit Skopje, which had been destroyed by an earthquake. – *August 25*. Three-days of talks between Khrushchev, Tito and other Yugoslav officials are held in Brioni. – *August 28*. They visit Montenegro and Titograd. – *August 30*. Tito and Khrushchev pay a joint visit to Ljubljana. – *September 1*. They visit Zagreb. Khrushchev, in his farewell speech on September 3, concludes, that a “frank and comradely” exchange of views and experiences is essential.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 21, 1963 (LBC)**

A nuclear cooperation agreement is signed between the U.S. and the Soviet Union for three years.

**Czechoslovakia – August 21, 1963 (KCA)**

Rudolf Slánský, the Czechoslovak Communist leader hanged in 1952 with ten other defendants (Vladimír Clementis, Rudolf Margolius, Josef Frank, Bedřich Geminder, Ludvík Frejka, Otto Šling, Bedřich Reicin, André Simone) is posthumously rehabilitated.

**Finland / Soviet Union – August 27, 1963 (KMP)**

The agreement on renting Saimaa canal to Finland from the Soviet Union for 50 years enters into force. Urho Kekkonen thinks that the agreement would be the first step to return Karelian area, which was ceded to the Soviet Union after the Second World War, back to Finland.

**Hungary – August 28, 1963 (OSA)**

Three young men with the names of István Barna, Lajos Salamon, Sándor Kondor are stopped in their attempt to escape to the West.

**Austria / Hungary / East Germany / West Germany – August 30, 1963 (OSA)**

East German citizen Karl Heinz escapes to West Germany through Hungary and Austria with his motorcycle. On August 18, Wilhelm Hoffman did the same.

**Soviet Bloc / Pakistan – August 30, 1963 (KCA)**

A barter trade agreement between Pakistan and the Soviet Union is signed. Other agreements are signed with Poland on September 12 and 28, with Hungary on October 1 and with Czechoslovakia on October 1.

**September****Hungary/Soviet Union – September 1963 (HC)**

The Hungarian department of the University of Ungvár in the Ukraine opens. Courses for teachers with Hungarian majors begins.

**Soviet Union / Canada – September 1963 (KCA)**

One of the largest ever wheat transactions, a sale by Canada to the Soviet Union, is announced. Sharp, the Canadian Minister of Trade and Commerce, states that mutual trade relations between the Soviet Union and Canada have reached an understanding which will facilitate the expansion of trade in both directions.

**U.N. – September 1963 (KCA)**

An Anglo-American resolution related to the crises on the borders of Israel and Syria, adopted by the majority of the Security Council of the United Nations, is vetoed by the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 3, 1963 (LBC)**

Soviet-American treaty of cooperation is signed to study cosmic radiation. – *September 20.* Kennedy proposes a joint Soviet–American manned mission to the Moon. Kennedy also referred to the Moscow test ban treaty, which gave the two superpowers “a pause in the cold war,” which can be used to “gain new confidence and experience in concrete collaboration for peace.” “If we can now be as bold and farsighted in the control of deadly weapons as we have been in their creation – then surely, this first small step can be the start of a long and fruitful journey.” Kennedy made the first such offer to Khrushchev in June 1961.

**Soviet Union / Afghanistan – September 4, 1963 (KCA)**

An agreement for Soviet technical assistance in the construction of an atomic installation in Afghanistan is signed in Moscow.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 5, 1963 (KCA)**

A joint Soviet–American program of scientific co-operation in cosmic ray research is announced. The research will be carried out in Antarctica.

**Soviet Union – September 5, 1963 (OSA)**

Radio Rostov reported, that the trial of four alleged currency speculators started in Rostov. According to the broadcast, over 11.5 kilograms of gold and almost 45 carats of diamonds totaling more than two million rubles at the old rate were confiscated from this group.

**Soviet Union – September 6, 1963 (OSA)**

Soviet authorities reported the indictment in Leningrad of one of the largest metals speculation rings uncovered in the campaign against economic crime.

**Warsaw Pact / East Germany – September 9-14, 1963 (HC)**

The United Armed forces of the Warsaw Pact perform military training exercises in the German Democratic Republic. Czechoslovakian, Polish, GDR and Soviet forces also participate.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – September 9-12, 1963 (HC)**

A government delegation led by János Kádár, First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party visits Yugoslavia.

**Turkey – September 9, 1963 (PLC)**

Turkey becomes an associate member of the EEC.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. / South America – September 18-October 16, 1963 (KCA/JVJ/RYN)**

President Tito visits the United States and Latin America. He stays in the United States between September 18-22 and meets U.S. President Kennedy. A joint statement claims that the visit has

brought a useful exchange of views to the international situation and to U.S.-Yugoslav relations. Tito then tours Brazil, Chile, Bolivia and Mexico. He is the first Communist head of state to visit Latin America.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – September 19, 1963 (KCA)**

The appeal for clemency by Greville Wynne, the British businessman sentenced to eight years' detention for espionage, is rejected by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 19, 1963 (LBC)**

In a speech given in the U.N. Soviet foreign minister Gromyko proposes a summit for universal and full disarmament. The Soviet Union is willing to accept for a limited number of ICBMs and ABMs to remain in the possession of the U.S. and the Soviet Union until the third disarmament phase. The Soviet Union is willing to negotiate on an international non-proliferation treaty and on banning the use of atomic arms in nuclear free zones and on banning nuclear weapons from outer space.

**Hungary – September 20, 1963 (HC)**

The government issues resolution 3004/1963 specifying government benefits for collective farms for 1964.

**Czechoslovakia – September 22, 1963 (KCA)**

An extensive governmental reorganization is announced. It involves the dismissal of Prime Minister Viliam Široký. Jozef Lenárt, the president of the Slovak National Council, is appointed to the premiership. Václav David remains Foreign Minister. The ministerial reorganization was decided upon at a meeting of the central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party on September 20. This process is seen abroad as a continuation of de-Stalinization. – *September 25.* Lenárt admits that there are numerous weaknesses in Czechoslovakia's economy.

**Hungary – September 24, 1963 (HC)**

The MALÉV Hungarian aviation corporation begins operations. Its first flight outside of Europe is to Cairo.

**Hungary – September 30-October 2, 1963 (HC)**

The heads of the music departments of the Socialist countries hold a conference in Budapest.

**October**

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – October 1–4, 1963 (HC/KCA)**

An agreement on the joint construction by Hungary and Czechoslovakia of two hydro-electric dams on the Danube is reached at a meeting between János Kádár and Antonín Novotný. An agreement is signed on the easing of travel restrictions between the two countries.

**East Germany – October, 1963 (HWD)**

Elections to the People's Chamber take place. The result of the open elections is the vote of 99,95% 'yes' for the SED. The number of SED representatives in the People's Chamber increases from 100 to 110.



**Soviet Union / U.S. / U.K. – October 3, 1963 (LBC)**

It is announced that the foreign ministers of the U.S., the U.K. and the USSR (Dean Rusk, Alec Douglas-Home and Gromyko) agreed in principle not to deploy nuclear arms in outer space.

**Czechoslovakia – October 3, 1963 (KCA)**

The Vatican announces that the Czechoslovak Government has released Josef Beran, the Archbishop of Prague, and four other prelates from confinement or imprisonment. The release is interpreted as a further indication of the improvement of relations between the Vatican and Eastern European Communist regimes.

**Romania / U.S. – October 4, 1963 (CAC)**

Romanian Foreign Minister Corneliu Mănescu secretly informs Secretary of State Dean Rusk that in the event of a nuclear confrontation between East and West Romania would remain neutral.

**Soviet Union / Algeria – October 4, 1963 (KCA)**

An economic and technical co-operation agreement between Algeria and the Soviet Union is signed in Moscow.

**Hungary / Africa – October 7-November 8, 1963 (HC)**

A Hungarian labor union delegation travels to Africa. Miklós Somogyi, Chair of the National Committee of Labor Unions negotiates with the labor unions of Ghana, Mali and Algeria.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – October 7-19, 1963 (HC)**

A Hungarian military delegation led by Minister of Defense, General-Colonel Lajos Czinege, travels to the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / Pakistan – October 7, 1963 (KCA)**

An air agreement between Pakistan and the Soviet Union is signed in Karachi.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – October 9, 1963 (CWC)**

It is announced that American organizations will sell \$250 million worth of wheat to the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – October 9, 1963 (LBC)**

Kennedy denies an agreement on the ban of nuclear arms from outer space. According to Kennedy neither the U.S. nor the Soviet Union wishes to deploy nuclear arms in outer space and since such a move could not be detected anyway, there is no point in signing an agreement about it. – President Kennedy permits the sale of 250 million dollars' worth of wheat and flour to the Soviet Union. If the agreement is made, this will be the biggest commercial transaction in the history of the two states. Payment would be made in cash or gold and could be used up in the Soviet Union or Eastern Europe. It would not be an agreement between the governments, the sellers and private banks would assume the risk. Thus, the President changed Washington's traditional policy not to sell state subsidized agricultural surplus to communist countries although an exception was made in 1955 for Poland and Yugoslavia. According to the commercial loan conditions to be extended to the Soviet Union, instead of a loan the Soviet Union will be subject to the possibility of delayed payment. According to the Johnson Act of 1939 only governments that have not renounced the payment of debts to the U.S. such as the Soviet Union, are entitled to loans. – Several congressional representatives – some of them of states that possess surplus wheat, (Everett Dirksen: Illinois, Charles Halleck: Indiana) and the

Republican leaders of the House and the Senate – protest because the Presidential decision violates congressional policy.

**Yugoslavia – October 10, 1963 (RYN)**

Belgrade announces that it will pay its assessed share of the costs for United Nation Operation in the Congo (ONUC) for the November 1, 1961 – June 30, 1963 period, but reiterates that ONUC is not carrying out the purposes for which it was originally established.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. / East Germany – October 10, 1963 (KCA)**

The nuclear test-ban treaty, signed on August 5, comes into force. The treaty is ratified on September 25 by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and signed the same day by its chairman, Brezhnev. East Germany signs the test-ban treaty in Moscow on August 8. The U.S. and Great Britain refuse to accept the accession of East Germany, as they do not recognize it as an entity possessing national sovereignty.

**U.S. – October 10, 1963 (LBC)**

The U.S. House of Representatives prohibits the use money from the budget approved by the House for NASA in the joint Moon mission of the U.S. and “a communist, communist-dominated or communist-controlled country”. The House reduced NASA’s budget for 1966 to 5.1 billion dollars.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – October 11, 1963 (KCA)**

It is announced in Washington, that the U.S. and the Soviet Union have agreed to exchange four persons charged with espionage.

**Soviet Union / Afghanistan – October 12-17, 1963 (KCA)**

Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, Brezhnev officially visits Afghanistan. Talks involving Brezhnev, King Mohammed Zahir Shah and the Afghan Prime Minister, Dr. Mohammed Yusuf, are held. – *October 17*. An agreement to provide technical assistance to Afghanistan is signed.

**Hungary / U.N. – October 15, 1963 (HC)**

The political committee of the United Nation elects Ambassador Károly Csatorday, Hungarian representative of the UN, as its Deputy Secretary.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 16-25, 1963 (HC)**

A Yugoslavian parliamentary delegation led by Zvonko Brkić, Deputy chairman of the Yugoslav Parliament visits Hungary.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 16-25, 1963 (LBC/PLC)**

Visit to the U.S. by Yugoslav President Tito. Tito negotiated with Kennedy and expressed his gratitude for the 2.5 billion dollars of U.S. aid extended to his country since 1945. (According to Kennedy’s May 14 resolution Yugoslavia is not part of the “international communist conspiracy” and therefore it is eligible for a 2-million-dollar military loan).

**Soviet Union – October 17, 1963 (KCA)**

The first section of the North Crimean Canal is opened at a ceremony attended by Khrushchev.

**UN – October 17, 1963 (LBC/HC)**

The UN unanimously passed a resolution aimed at preserving outer space from nuclear weapons.

**Soviet Union / Eastern Europe – October 22, 1963 (KCA)**

The agreement for the creation of an International Bank for Economic Co-operation is signed in Moscow. The institution is formed by eight COMECON member-countries: Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, and Romania. – *November 12*. Konstantin Nazarkin, vice-president of the Soviet Foreign Trade Bank, is nominated chairman. The Bank begins operations in 1964.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – October 22-24, 1963 (LBC)**

A full U.S. division is transported by air to Europe to prove: the U.S. army is capable of moving such a large contingent to Germany and then to equip them from stocks and get them combat ready in a couple of days. The exercise lasted 63 hours and 20 minutes, 15,278 troops used 196 planes, covered 5600 miles, picked up 300 tanks and 429 personal armed carriers. – *November 7*. The USSR introduces its antiballistic missiles at the military parade commemorating the October revolution.

**East Germany / West Germany – October 23, 1963 (OSA)**

A 25-year-old West-Berliner climbed over the Berlin Wall and entered East Germany after a quarrel with his spouse. He is sent back by the authorities.

**Yugoslavia / UN – October 23, 1963 (RYN)**

Yugoslav President Tito speaks before the UN General Assembly and states that „in view of the changed international circumstances, it may be said that the term nonalignment has in a way been superseded by the new and positive evolution of international relations.” According to Tito, beyond nonalignment lay „the polarization of the forces of peace, on the one hand, and of the forces of cold war on the other.”

**Soviet Union / U.S. – October 26, 1963 (LBC)**

Khrushchev announces: his country will not purchase American wheat unless the discriminatory measures concerning the use of the wheat are lifted. – *October 27*. Senator Hubert Humphrey recommends the revision of the American trade policy towards Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. He opines that the export of strategic goods should be made more stringent and that of the non-strategic ones should be relaxed. Humphrey justifies his argument with economic considerations. Earlier the Senate Foreign Relations Committee also announced the revision of U.S. trade policy in order to increase East-West trade. According to Senator William Fulbright Canada and other Western nations finance their Eastern exports through European banks. That is they use U.S. credit for the export of such goods that the U.S. is not allowed to sell to Eastern Europe. – 200 leading American businessmen ask for the revision of U.S. trade policy: they report that the Western countries sell 5 billion dollars' worth of goods to the East bloc annually, but because of the restrictions the American share is only 200 million dollars. – *October 28*. Hungary is permitted to buy 5.5 million dollars' worth of US maize. According to an earlier report by the Washington Post Hungary canceled its request for the purchase 200 thousand tons of American wheat because the Department of Commerce would allow delivery in U.S. vessels only. Hungary expressed its willingness to satisfy this criterion, but only at world market tariffs. This was misinterpreted in the U.S. to the effect that Hungary was unwilling to accept the delivery of the merchandise in U.S. ships. – The Soviet-American wheat negotiations end without result because U.S. ship owners would deliver the wheat to the

Soviet Union at the usual price only, which means that it would cost 50 million dollars to take 4 million tons of wheat to the USSR. – *November 8*. Hungary gets the license to purchase 100 thousand tons of wheat for 7.6 million dollars. – *November 14*. The Department of Commerce gives Hungary the license to purchase another 100 thousand tons of wheat at the price of 8 million dollars. (Till the end of October Hungary bought 6.6 million tons of maize from the U.S.).

#### **East Germany – October 30–November 1, 1963 (OSA)**

SED First Secretary Walter Ulbricht is absent for the Fourth SED CC Plenum. Significantly, this is the first time that Ulbricht misses a plenum of the party. Concluding remarks are given by Erich Honecker instead.

### **November**

#### **Yugoslavia – November 1963 (KCA)**

The membership of the new Yugoslav Federal Executive Council is as follows: President, Petar Stambolić; Vice-Presidents, Boris Krajer, Miloš Minić and Veljo Zeković; members elected from the Federal Assembly, Jakov Blazhević, Jozhe Brilej, Fadil Hodzh, Abdo Humoa, Radojka Katić, Milutin Moracha, Svetislav Stafanović and Borko Temelkovski.

#### **Soviet Union – November 1963 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union launches the first maneuverable spaceship *Polyot I*. In January 1964, two satellites, *Electron I* and *II*, are launched.

#### **Soviet Union – November 1963 (KCA)**

A 1,250-mile pipeline from Bokhora, in Uzbekistan, to the Urals is opened.

#### **Cyprus – November 1963 (PLC)**

Proposed amendments to Cyprus' constitution objected by the Turkish minority.

#### **Greece – November 3, 1963 (PLC)**

Among the economic problems and internal turmoil, Papandreou's Centre Union – with EDA support – wins the elections in Greece by a margin.

#### **Poland / Canada – November 5, 1963 (KCA)**

Canada and Poland sign a new three-year wheat agreement.

#### **Soviet Union — November 10, 1963 (OSA)**

Stanislav administrative division and city take the name of Ivano-Frankivsk.

#### **Yugoslavia – November 10, 1963 (KCA)**

Yugoslavia's first uranium mine is opened at the village of Kalna on Mount Trara Planina. The processing plant will supply Yugoslavia's first nuclear power station, which is planned for completion in 1970.

#### **Hungary / West Germany – November 10, 1963 (HC)**

Hungary and the Federal Republic of Germany sign a long-term trade agreement in Budapest. The two countries set up mutual trade representation.

**Hungary / Finland – November 11-20, 1963 (HC)**

A Finnish parliamentary delegation, led by parliamentary Chairman Kauno Kleemola, visits Hungary.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – November 12-23, 1963 (HC)**

A Georgian Communist Party delegation led by Chairman V. P. Mzavanadze visits Hungary.

**Hungary / Austria – November 12, 1963 (HC)**

The building of a new Collegium Hungaricum begins in Vienna.

The State Department announces that new travel restrictions are introduced for Czechoslovak, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Romanian and Polish diplomats, who are banned from 355 counties, 11% of the area of the continental U.S. The restrictions are introduced because of “national security” reasons. The limitation does not apply to tourists, journalist residing in the US and other visitors. – New list is published on the travel limitations of Russian diplomats. The measure came in reprisal to a similar move against U.S. diplomats in the Soviet Union. Russian diplomats are banned from 26% of the continental U.S.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – November 12, 1963 (OSA)**

It is reported, that Kazakhstan has exceeded expectations in its economic development. One of the largest oil reserves was discovered in Western Kazakhstan. It also had large reserves of coal. Kazakhstan was also the main producer of non-ferrous metals in the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 12, 1963 (KCA)**

Professor Frederick C. Barghoorn, the head of the Department of Soviet Studies at Yale University, is arrested on charges of espionage in Moscow. The Soviet authorities gave no indication of the circumstances in which he had been arrested. After an intervention by President Kennedy on November 14, he is released on November 16.

**Soviet Union / Somalia – November 12, 1963 (KCA)**

The Somali Foreign Minister, Abdulahhi Issa accepts military aid from the Soviet Union instead of the Western countries. He emphasizes that Somalia will keep friendly relations with Western countries and remain a non-aligned country.

**Soviet Union / Bulgaria – November 15, 1963 (OSA)**

A Bulgarian parliamentary delegation headed by Boris Velchev completed its tour of the Soviet Union and returned back to Bulgaria.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 16, 1963 (OSA)**

Márton Palásty, Lajos Bartus, and József Ónoz escape to Yugoslavia. Residents soon notice that the group does not belong there and alert the police. The three men are deported back to Hungary by the authorities. They are sentenced to prison.

**Hungary / Poland – November 18-22, 1963 (HC)**

A Polish government delegation led by Władysław Gomułka, the First Secretary of the Polish Communist Party, and Prime Minister Józef Cyrankiewicz, visits Hungary. Negotiations take place resulting in a scientific agreement and a deepening of the relationship of the fields of machinery, iron-metallurgy.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 18, 1963 (KCA)**

U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, in a speech reviewing NATO military strength, states that the Western countries enjoy superiority in conventional forces and in nuclear weapons over the Soviet bloc.

**Hungary / India / Indonesia – November 22-December 18, 1963 (HC)**

A Hungarian parliamentary delegation led by Mrs. István Vass, visits India and Indonesia. On November 24 Hungary and India sign a five-year trade agreement in Delhi.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 22, 1963 (HC/KCA/LBC/PLC)**

U.S. President John F. Kennedy is assassinated. His successor is Vice President Lyndon Baines Johnson. – *November 23*. Khrushchev expresses his condolences at the U.S. embassy in Moscow personally. In a letter to the new President, Lyndon B. Johnson he states that Kennedy's death is "a hard blow to all those who cherish the cause of peace and Soviet-American cooperation". Deep grief and sorrow are also expressed by Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Romania. – *November 30*. The Soviet Union hands over to the U.S. the files pertaining to Kennedy's assumed assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald. Oswald previously filed for Soviet citizenship and spent time in the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union – November 23, 1963 (KCA)**

Khrushchev explains the necessity of implementing de-Stalinization measures. The publishing of two works attacking Stalinism, Yevgeny Yevtushenko's *Stalin's Heirs* and Alexander Solzhenitsin's *One day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*, is permitted. This step is welcomed by writers and artists as a movement towards greater freedom of expression. Consequently, Khrushchev visits the exhibition of experimental art and declares that the works look as though "they had been smeared with a donkey's tail." This action initiates strong protests by artists leading to a special meeting on December 17, where Khrushchev is also present. – *January 17, 1964*. An exhibition of abstract paintings by the French artist Fernand Léger is opened with official support.

**Hungary/Soviet Union – November 25-December 2, 1963 (HC)**

A delegation led by István Szirmai, Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party visits the Soviet Union to study the ideology of the Soviet Communist Party.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 26, 1963 (LBC)**

The U.S. Senate votes against a bill, which would have impeded the Export-Import Bank from guaranteeing the Soviet purchase of 250 million dollars' worth of grain. The Senate voted right after Senator Michael Mansfield read Kennedy's letter in which the former President labeled the bill as something that is contrary to the national interest.

**Soviet Union / Czechoslovakia – November 27, 1963 (DCO/PLC)**

The agreement on friendship and mutual assistance between Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union is prolonged by Jozef Lenárt, the prime minister and Antonín Novotný in Moscow.

**Hungary / England – November 27, 1963 (HC)**

A Hungarian parliamentary delegation led by Erik Molnár visits England.

**Poland – December 28, 1963 (KCA)**

The Polish section of the “Friendship Oil Pipeline” is commissioned in Plock in the presence of Gomułka and representatives of Romania, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, East Germany and the Soviet Union.

**Yugoslavia / Romania – November 30, 1963 (KCA)**

President Tito and the Romanian chairman of the Council of State Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej sign an agreement for the joint construction by of a power and navigational scheme on the Danube. They agree to set up a joint committee to promote economic co-operation between Romania and Yugoslavia.

**December****Yugoslavia – December 1963 (RNF)**

Serbia and Montenegro announce the integration of their respective industries; cooperation in communications, foreign trade, and long-term joint planning; and the conclusion of an agreement to complete the Belgrade-Bar railway.

**Soviet Union – December 1963 (KCA)**

The *Vestnik Statistiki* states that the Soviet Union has a population of 225,000,000 as of July 1, 1963.

**Hungary / UK – December 2, 1963 (HC)**

Diplomatic relations between Hungary and England are raised to the ambassadorial level.

**Hungary / Denmark – December 2, 1963 (HC)**

Hungary and Denmark sign a trade agreement in Copenhagen.

**Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / U.K. – December 2, 1963 (HC/KCA)**

The Foreign Office of the United Kingdom announces that the British Legations in Sofia, Budapest and Bucharest should be raised to embassy status. This change is described officially as a “normalizing process” with no special political significance.

**Hungary – December 7, 1963 (KCA/HC)**

Cabinet changes occur in Budapest. András Benkei becomes the Minister of Interior, Jozsef Bíró becomes the Minister for Foreign Trade and György Csanádi becomes the Minister of Transport and Post.

**Soviet Union – December 9, 1963 (KCA)**

Khrushchev puts forward a proposal to raise agricultural production by increasing the use of chemical fertilizers. December 3, 1963, these proposals are unanimously approved by the committee of the Soviet Communist Party.

**Soviet Union – December 13, 1963 (KCA)**

The Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party decides to expand the Soviet chemical industry. On January 28, *Pravda* announces the creation of two new State Committees for the oil, chemical and petrochemical industry.

**Soviet Union – December 14, 1963 (LBC)**

Khrushchev announces that the Soviet Union wishes to reduce its military expenditure.

**Soviet Union – December 16, 1963 (KCA)**

Vasily Garbuzov presents the State Budget to the Supreme Soviet for the years 1964 and 1965. On December 19, the Supreme Soviet approves the State Budget and the State Plan. No estimate for defense spending is given in the budget for 1965.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – December 16, 1963 (LBC)**

In a speech President Lyndon B. Johnson reaffirms American devotion to NATO. According to Dean Rusk the unprecedented opportunity to negotiate with the Soviet Union must be exploited.

**Finland – December 17, 1963 (KVK)**

Karjalainen government falls officially due to disagreement about the law on agricultural income. It is also stated that the Soviet Union's negative stance towards the government base and the National Coalition Party's presence in the coalition would have partly caused its resignation.

**East Germany / West Germany – December 17, 1963 (KGD)**

The first agreement on transit passes (Passierscheinabkommen) is signed by representatives of the West Berlin Senate and the GDR; the GDR de facto recognizes the document.

**COMECON / Romania – December 17-21, 1963 (HC)**

The Tenth session of the executive committee of the COMECON takes place in Bucharest.

**Hungary / France – December 17, 1963 (HC)**

Ambassadorial diplomatic relations are established between Hungary and France.

**East Germany – December 17, 1963 (KCA)**

An agreement is signed that will provide for the issuing of one-day passes for Christmas or New Year's visits to East Berlin between December 20, 1963 and January 5, 1964.

**East Germany / West Germany – December 17, 1963 (OSA)**

The GDR's Deputy Premier Alexander Abusch and the Mayor of West Berlin, Willy Brandt, sign an agreement on Christmas passes for residents of West Berlin to visit relatives in East Berlin for the Holidays.

**Finland – December 18, 1963 (KVK)**

A new caretaker government is formed under Government Councillor Reino Ragnar Lehto.

**Soviet Union / Bulgaria – December 18, 1963 (KCA)**

About 500 African students protest in Red Square, Moscow, against the death of a Ghanaian student, Edmund Asare-Addo, who had been murdered. Vyacheslav Yelyutin, the Minister of Higher Education, assures them that Asare-Addo's death will be investigated. In February 1963, African students clash with Bulgarian police in Sofia. Groups of students, in protest of their treatment by the Bulgarian authorities, leave the country and move to Vienna.



**East Germany / West Germany – December 19, 1963 (OSA)**

A 13-year-old boy escapes from East Germany to West Germany. The reason for his escape was that he was separated from his parents living in West Germany. The boy was accompanied by his 15-year-old cousin.

**Cyprus – December 21, 1963 (PLC)**

Ethnic conflict in Cyprus escalates into armed conflict.

**Hungary – December 23, 1963 (HC)**

Decree no. 1963:32 issued by the Presidential Council establishes land registration. Decree no. 1963:34 specifies the preservation of the workers' physical state of health. Decrees no. 1963: 35 and 36 modifying the awarding of distinctions is publicized.

**Cyprus / NATO – December 25, 1963 (PLC)**

NATO approves landing of "guaranteeing powers" on Cyprus.

**Hungary – December 25, 1963 (HC)**

Decree no. 33/1963 regulating the certification of births and the registration of marriages is issued.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – December 26, 1963 (LBC)**

Secretary of Commerce Franklin Roosevelt Jr. announces that the Soviet Union received license to buy five million tons of grain.

**Poland – December 28, 1963 (CAC)**

In a speech, Gomułka proposes freezing nuclear armaments in Central Europe. The proposal becomes known as the Gomułka Plan when it is formally offered on February 29, 1964.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – December 30, 1963 (LBC)**

In an interview given to UPI news agency by the first secretary of the CPSU proposes that the U.S. and the USSR take efficient steps to make 1964 the decisive year in the improvement of the international situation. Khrushchev signals his acceptance of the Johnson administration's proposals for East-West talks.

**Soviet Union – December 31, 1963 (HC)**

A directive from the Soviet government is issued to government and state leaders: ratify international agreements that outlaw the forceful modification of international borders.

**Soviet Union – December 31, 1963 (CAC)**

In a message to world leaders, Khrushchev proposes an international agreement on nonuse of force in territorial and border disputes.

## 1964

### **Romania / Vietnam / U.S. – 1964 (RCN)**

Bucharest offers its services to mediate in the North Vietnam conflict, Corneliu Bogdan, Romania's ambassador to the United States, agrees to carry messages via Bucharest to Hanoi. A plan called "Packers" is active until the Tet offensive in early 1968, which ends all negotiations.

### **Romania / Sweden / Italy / Japan / U.S. – 1964 (RFP)**

Number of conventions are signed between Romania and Western states (Sweden, Italy, Japan, the United States) to raise diplomatic offices to the rank of embassies.

### **Romania – 1964-1967 (ABR)**

Romania refuses to participate in the Warsaw Pact.

## **January**

### **COMECON – January 1964 (KCA/CEC)**

The IBEC starts operations.

### **Yugoslavia – January 1, 1964 (RYE)**

The principal agency of federal control of savings and investment, the GIF, which handled between a third and a quarter of gross investment financing, is abolished along with corresponding republican and local investment funds. Their assets and liabilities are transferred to the banks which administered them.

### **COMECON – January 1, 1964 (HC)**

The International Bank of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance begins operations.

### **Soviet Union / U.S. – January 2, 1964 (LBC)**

In his New Year speech Khrushchev calls on the world for the sake of an agreement that would prohibit the military settlement of territorial disputes. Neither differences in social or political systems, nor the existence or absence of diplomatic relations can justify the violation of the territorial integrity by one state of the other. – The Soviet Union signs the first part of the wheat deal: it purchases one million tons of wheat at a price, 65 million dollars – subsidized by the U.S. government. This price counterbalances the high cost of shipment. – The Department of Commerce gives permission for three more wheat purchases. – *January 7.* Soviet-American talks start on a cultural exchange program.

### **East Germany – January 2, 1964 (KGD)**

New identity cards are issued bearing the rubric: "Citizen of the German Democratic Republic".

### **East Germany – January 2, 1964 (CAC)**

A GDR proposal for the denuclearization of both German states preempts the Gomulka Plan.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 5, 1964 (LBC)**

Senator Barry Goldwater's program for the presidential campaign: Khrushchev should make it possible for the East European states to choose their own political systems.

**U.S. – January 8, 1964 (LBC)**

President Lyndon B. Johnson's state of the union address: new steps must be made towards arms control and disarmament world trade must be extended. Johnson envisions the reduction of the military budget.

**Warsaw Pact – January 8–9, 1964 (CAC)**

Warsaw Pact consultations in Moscow about the Gomulka Plan are subsequently sidetracked by the Soviet Union.

**Poland / Soviet Union – January 10–14, 1964 (CAC)**

At a confrontational meeting with Khrushchev, Gomulka accuses Khrushchev of pursuing Soviet interests in Germany at Poland's expense and urges reconciliation with China.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – January 13, 1964 (HC)**

Hungarian–Soviet negotiations begin about the 1966-1970 five-year plan.

**Soviet Union – January 15, 1964 (OSA)**

Russia has introduced new regulations which could result in greater foreign currency receipts from foreign embassies and organizations.

**East Germany - January 17, 1964 (OSA)**

East Germany seeks to find distant allies to support its rigid position on the arts are illustrated by an article in the December 22nd, 1963 issue of the cultural weekly *Sonntag*. The article refers to contemporary discussions about the bases of coexistence and Marxist aesthetics to an earlier *Sonntag* article by Alfred Kurella in August, who has attacked the rehabilitation of Franz Kafka at the Prague "Literary Colloquium."

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 21, 1964 (LBC)**

The U.S. offers to the Soviet Union to start East-West talks on freezing the number and types of nuclear arms that would include all the nuclear vehicles. The proposal was made at the opening of the new session of the disarmament talks in Geneva. The Soviet side wants to negotiate on the reduction of Soviet and Western troops in Germany, on the increase of observation positions, on averting an attack from Germany, the denuclearization of German territory, the reduction of military expenditures and a NATO-Warsaw Pact non-aggression treaty. – The U.S. would negotiate on banning the use of force, the controlled freezing of the number of nuclear arms, stopping the production of fissionable materials and the liquidation of its production capacity, on avoiding war stemming from accident, false miscalculation or surprise.

**China / Soviet Union / Cuba — January 22, 1964 (OSA)**

Diplomatic sources reported, that Khrushchev tells the Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro and French Ambassador Maurice Dejean during a Kremlin reception that the Soviets do not object to the French diplomatic recognition of Communist China.

**China / Soviet Union — January 22, 1964 (OSA)**

The TASS news agency reports that a group of Chinese specialists arrive to a town close to Moscow in order to work in a research institute. Experiments in the field of nuclear physics with Soviet scientists were planned by the two sides.

**Soviet Union / Bulgaria – January 22, 1964 (OSA)**

A protocol was signed between the Soviet and Bulgarian Academies of Sciences in Sophia, for the extension of the previously existing agreement of scientific collaboration.

**Soviet Union / Cuba – January 23, 1963 (CWC)**

Fidel Castro visits the Soviet Union. At the end of the visit a joint communiqué is issued, in which the Soviet Union guarantees help to Cuba in case of American attack.

**Soviet Union / France – January 28, 1964 (LBC)**

A five-year Soviet–French commercial treaty is signed in Moscow. From January 1963 to October France bought 101 million dollars of goods from the Soviet Union and sold 50 million' worth. – *March 2*. A member of the CPSU Politburo, Nikolai Podgorny visits Paris. He expresses the USSR's "unswerving desire" to improve Soviet–French relations and praised de Gaulle's "realistic" stance on international relations.

**East Germany - January 29, 1964 (OSA)**

The East Germans protest the moderately pro-Kafka majority opinion at the literary colloquium which is difficult to reconcile with the spirit of Marxism.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – January 29, 1964 (OSA)**

The population of Kazakhstan has doubled in a quarter of a century.

**East Germany – January 30, 1964 (OSA)**

An article was published in a late November issue of the National Democratic Party of Germany's paper, detailing a report given at the Fourth meeting of the Central Executive Committee of the NDPD summarising some of the impressions after the October 20th, 1963 elections to the East German Parliament.

**Romania – January 30, 1964 (RCW)**

The memorandum issued by Radio Free Europe's (RFE's) New York headquarters to the Paris RFE bureau directing the Paris bureau to use its broadcasts to subtly encourage Romania to adopt foreign policies which would lead to greater independence from the USSR.

**Hungary / Sweden – January 31, 1964 (HC)**

Hungary establishes ambassadorial relations with Sweden.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – January 31-February 3, 1964 (MOL)**

Hungarian-Yugoslav discussions take place in Budapest between János Kádár and Deputy President Aleksandar Ranković.

## **February**

### **Romania / Soviet Union / China – February 1964 (SRR)**

Romanian mediator efforts in the Sino-Soviet conflict fail.

### **Hungary / Soviet Union – February 2-6, 1964 (HC)**

A Soviet delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister M.A. Leschenko, visits Hungary. The two countries sign a contract outlining Hungarian-Soviet economic co-operation.

### **Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – February 2, 1964 (MOL)**

An agreement on postal services between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia is signed in Moscow.

### **Yugoslavia / Austria – February 2, 1964 (MOL)**

Austrian Vice Chancellor Bruno Pittermann leaves Yugoslavia.

### **Yugoslavia / Romania – February 3, 1964 (MOL)**

As a reciprocal visit of the Romanian trade unionist delegation of the previous year, a Yugoslav trade unionist delegation, led by Svetozar Vukmanović, visits Romania.

### **Soviet Union / U.S. – February 4, 1964 (KCA)**

Yuri Ivanovich Nosenko, an official attached to the Soviet delegation at the Geneva Disarmament Conference, defects to the West and gains political asylum in the U.S.

### **Yugoslavia / Austria – February 5, 1964 (MOL)**

The Austrian Ministry of Education gives an aid of 1 million schilling to school buildings and educational equipment to Skopje where a serious earthquake nearly completely destroyed the city in July 1963.

### **East Germany - February 6, 1964 (OSA)**

The remaining part of Ulbricht's speech to the Fifth SED plenum consists of 2 parts – the first dealing with the development of the chemical industry in the GDR and the second with a summary of the achieved and planned implementation of the system of economic levers. The revaluation of assets in the centrally directed industries and in the field of construction have nearly been concluded. New prices for raw materials were planned to be introduced by April 1st as the first steps of the general industrial price reforms. All VVBs associations of State-owned enterprises have begun to apply the system of economic accounting. The premium funds will be directly related to profits rather than formed as a part of the wage fund.

### **Soviet Union / U.S. – February 6, 1964 (LBC)**

The U.S. calls on the Soviet Union to refrain from passing technical information relating to nuclear arms or their production to countries that do not have them. – *February 13*. The U.S. proposal on the reduction of the production of fissionable materials needed for nuclear weapons is repeated. The U.S. is ready to divert 60 thousand kilos of fissionable material for peaceful use. – *February 18*. The Soviet Union rejects the American proposal to freeze nuclear delivery vehicles since it would not terminate the danger of nuclear war in the early phase of disarmament. – *March 17*. The U.S. repeats its reasons for rejecting the Soviet Union's plan to annihilate the larger part of nuclear delivery vehicles in the first phase of disarmament: it would radically alter the East-West military balance; the proposal contains no

provision to check whether one or the other contracting party does not keep nuclear missiles deployed. It demands the elimination of foreign bases, including those that ensure the East-West balance.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – February 8, 1964 (MOL)**

On his way home from Warsaw, Yugoslav Secretary of Finance Kiro Gligorov arrives at Prague as guest of Czechoslovak minister of finance.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – February 10, 1964 (MOL)**

Colonel Paul Freemann, commander of the European land forces of the United States arrives in Belgrade to participate in the ceremony, during which the houses constructed by the American Army are given to the victims of the earthquake in Skopje.

**Soviet Union / China – February 10-15, 1964 (HC)**

At a session of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party proposals about the activities of the Chinese Communist Party and the unity of the international Communist movement are approved.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – February 11, 1964 (MOL)**

Yugoslav secretary of finance Kiro Gligorov meets Jozef Lenárt, Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia.

**Yugoslavia – February 11, 1964 (MOL)**

Bogdan Čolnik, member of the Federal Committee of the Socialist Alliance leaves for Chile to take part at the twentieth congress of the Chilean Socialist Party.

**Greece / Turkey – February 11, 1964 (PLC)**

A Greek-Turkish armed conflict takes place in Limassol after ethnic clashes.

**Yugoslavia – February 12, 1964 (MOL)**

An air traffic agreement between Yugoslavia and Denmark is signed in Copenhagen.

**Yugoslavia / East Germany – February 13, 1964 (MOL)**

The representatives of Yugoslavia and the German Democratic Republic sign an agreement on consular affairs in Berlin.

**Yugoslavia / Romania – February 13, 1964 (MOL)**

Chairman of the Romanian State Council Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej meets the members of the Yugoslav trade unionist delegation. The delegation returns to Yugoslavia the next day.

**East Germany – February 14, 1964 (OSA)**

The Politburo reports to the Fifth SED Central Committee Plenum (3rd to 7th February) which is published on the February 13th, containing the treatment of several vital subjects in the communist world: an attack on China regarding the most recent People's Daily article, an indictment of Czechoslovak cultural revisionists, and a blunt post-factum warning to all states of the socialists bloc concerning the inclusion of West Berlin in trade agreements with the German Federal Republic. Sindermann refers to a previous publication in the Chinese press concerning the Chinesification of dialectical materialism, which indicates that the Chinese Party leadership is departing from the teachings of Marx and Lenin. The GDR is one of those most disturbed by the open schism.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – February 15, 1964 (MOL)**

Talks begin in Moscow between the representatives of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia on concluding an agreement on scientific cooperation.

**Greece – February 16, 1964 (PLC)**

Parliamentary elections are held in Greece (81.7% turn-up). Georgios Papandreou's Centre Union wins with 57% of the votes. The United Democratic Left (EDA) places third with 11.8%.

**Bulgaria / Soviet Union – February 16-21, 1964 (KCA)**

A Bulgarian delegation led by Todor Zhivkov, the first Secretary of the Communist Party and Chairman of the Council of Ministers, visits the Soviet Union for discussions on economic and political questions.

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – February 17-19, 1964 (HC)**

Negotiations on Hungarian-Czechoslovakian economic and technical co-operation take place in Prague.

**Yugoslavia / Africa – February 18, 1964 (MOL)**

A Yugoslav party and cabinet delegation, led by Lazar Koliševski, leaves for an African tour. The delegation visits Mali, Ghana and Guinea.

**East Germany - February 19, 1964 (OSA)**

East Germany approves the Christmas-pass agreement for a free Berlin, but the proposal is rejected on February 15th by the West German and the West Berlin governments. However, the weeks since Christmas have demonstrated the pressures within West Berlin which make difficult indefinite rejection of East German overtures.

**Yugoslavia / India / Burma / Cambodia / Afghanistan – February 19-March 23, 1964 (MOL)**

Led by Joze Brilej, an economic delegation leaves for India, Burma and Cambodia and talks on the possibilities of further economic cooperation.

**Yugoslavia / West Germany – February 19-20, 1964 (MOL)**

Oscar Schlitter, ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany is in Belgrade to negotiate on the renewal of diplomatic discussions stopped in 1963. No major breakthrough is reached.

**Soviet Union / Denmark – February 19, 1964 (KCA)**

The Danish Prime Minister, Jens Otto Krag, arrives in Moscow on an official visit. Talks are held among Krag, Khrushchev, Gromyko and Nikolai Patolichev. – *February 27*. An agreement on the settlement of mutual financial, property and other claims connected with the annexation by the Soviet Union of the Baltic Republics and the western regions of the Ukraine and Byelorussia is signed. A new building contract is also signed. A six-year trade agreement, the first of its kind between Denmark and the Soviet Union, is signed on November 22, 1963, in Moscow.

**Hungary – February 20-22, 1964 (HC)**

An extended session of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party takes place in Budapest. It officially condemns the policy of the Chinese communist leadership.

**Yugoslavia / Guinea – February 20, 1964 (MOL)**

A delegation led by Minister of Economic Development Ismail Touré arrives Yugoslavia from Guinea. A protocol on economic cooperation is signed at the end of the discussions.

**Yugoslavia / Nigeria – February 22, 1964 (MOL)**

A Nigerian goodwill mission led by Minister of Agriculture Mamadru Majdah arrives in Yugoslavia to sign an agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the two countries.

**Soviet Union / Sri Lanka – February 22, 1964 (KCA)**

An air agreement between Ceylon and the Soviet Union is signed in Colombo.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 22, 1964 (LBC)**

The U.S. and the Soviet Union sign the fourth two-year cultural exchange program. The agreement envisions exchange programs in the field of industry, agriculture, performing arts and public health, but the number of students is reduced from 50 to 40 per country.

**Albania / Yugoslavia – February 24, 1964 (OSA)**

Since Albania concluded its Third Five-Year Plan the official statistical bureau of the country has failed to produce any data on its economic performance for the following period. Neither have any figures for the year 1965 been released. Yugoslav Daily publishes an article about Albanian's economic problems. The Albanian language daily "Rilindja" which is published in Prishtina, Yugoslavia, contains an editorial about the contemporary realities of the situation in the country. The article mentions that Albania continues to pursue its own outdated economic course.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – February 24, 1964 (MOL)**

An agreement on scientific cooperation is signed between the representatives of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia in Moscow.

**Soviet Union / COMECON – February 25-28, 1964 (HC)**

The Eleventh session of the Executive Committee of the COMECON takes place in Moscow. The extension of technical-scientific cooperation; the standardization of regulations; the water economy and plans for 1966-1970 are discussed.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – February 25, 1964 (LBC)**

Dean Rusk's speech on U.S. policy toward communism. Three objectives are identified: to stop the communists from extending their domain, by making it more and more costly, dangerous and futile for them to try; the signing of agreements that reduce the chance for destructive wars; the promotion of the evolution of the communist world towards national independence, peaceful cooperation and open societies. According to Rusk this can be achieved by the U.S. "*adjusting our policies to the changing behavior of the different communist states*". According to Rusk it is not enough to contain communism and to sign certain agreements to reduce the risk of war. U.S. policy toward communism changed because "some communist governments have become responsive in varying degrees...to the aspirations of their subjects...the communist bloc is no longer a single flock of sheep following blindly behind one leader".

**Poland – February 26, 1964 (LBC)**

Proposal by Polish party first secretary Gomułka for the freezing of nuclear arms on the



territory of the GDR, the FRG, Czechoslovakia and Poland. The Western part of Germany would not need to establish official links with the Eastern part to sign.

**Yugoslavia / India – February 28, 1964 (MOL)**

The Yugoslav delegation led by Joze Brilej finishes its discussions in India.

**Yugoslavia – February 29, 1964 (MOL)**

The Royal Shakespeare Theatre arrives in Belgrade and holds four performances in the National Theatre.

**Poland / Soviet Union – February 29, 1964 (CAC)**

The Gomulka Plan is submitted but the USSR opposes the verification measures proposed in the plan.

**Poland – February 29, 1964 (PSM)**

Wladyslaw Gomulka officially presents his plan about freezing the nuclear armament on the territory of Poland, Czechoslovakia and both part of Germany. Similarly, to the Rapacki Plan, the suggestion of Gomulka is rejected by the Western leaders.

**March**

**East Germany - March 2, 1964 (OSA)**

On the 2nd March 1964, coal imports by East Germany in 1962 totals 17,574,000 tonnes. The GDR has previously imported hard coal from Poland, the CSSR, the Soviet Union, and West Germany.

**Romania / China / North Korea – March 2-13, 1964 (RFP)**

A high-level Romanian delegation makes an official trip to China and North Korea, where they talk with the leaders of the two Communist parties.

**Hungary/Soviet Union – March 2-11, 1964 (HC)**

A Soviet delegation led by the Secretary of the Central Committee Yuri Andropov visits Hungary.

**Romania / Soviet Union / China – March 2-10, 1964 (PLC)**

Romanian leaders' mediating mission in Beijing and Moscow.

**Romania / China – March 3, 1964 (RFP)**

Western diplomats began to inquire into the agenda of the Romanian–Chinese summit.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – March 3, 1964 (MOL)**

Czechoslovak Minister of Machinery Jozef Pesl arrives in Belgrade and meets Industrial Secretary of State Filip Bajković.

**Cyprus / U.N. – March 4, 1964 (PLC)**

The U.N. Security Council decides to send forces to Cyprus in order to separate the fighting parties.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – March 5, 1964 (MOL)**

An agreement on establishing new border crossings is signed by the representatives of Bulgaria and Yugoslavia.

**Yugoslavia / Algeria – March 6, 1964 (RYN/MOL)**

Ahmed Ben Bella, during this visit to Yugoslavia, remarks that he goes there because the Yugoslavs „have taken the kind of road to socialism” which they „regard as the best of all, since it pays attention to democracy and harmonizes socialism and democracy.” Actually, it is Ben Bella's first visit in Europe. Official discussions between Yugoslavia and Algeria start on March 7.

**Greece – March 6, 1964 (PLC)**

The Greek king Paul dies. His heir is Constantine II (1964-1967 and 1973).

**Yugoslavia / Brazil – March 7, 1964 (MOL)**

A parliamentary delegation arrives in Belgrade from Brazil.

**Hungary / Bulgaria – March 9-14, 1964 (HC)**

A Bulgarian government delegation led by Todor Zhivkov, the Secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party visits Hungary.

**East Germany - March 10, 1964 (OSA)**

East Germany has joined the Eastern Bloc competition for Western tourist currency, followed by the Bulgarian and Romanian campaigns promoting their Black Sea resorts and the easing of restrictions on tourist by both Hungary and Czechoslovakia. On the March 6th, the travel agency of the Swedish Trade Unions announces that the GDR has agreed to facilitate tourism from Sweden.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 10, 1964 (KCA)**

A Soviet fighter in East Germany shoots down a U.S. military plane. The first incident of this kind happened on January 29. – *March 31*. The U.S. announces that all training flights are banned within a 70-mile wide zone in West Germany along the East German border.

**Yugoslavia / East Germany – March 10, 1964 (MOL)**

Opening of the East German Short Film Festival in Belgrade.

**East Germany – March 10, 1964 (OSA)**

Tourism restrictions are eased in the German Democratic Republic by extending transit visas from 24 to 72 hours, in hopes of attracting foreign tourists and currency.

**Finland / Estonia – March 11, 1964 (SPS)**

President Urho Kekkonen travels to Estonia for an official state visit. Kekkonen's welcoming addressing speech in Estonian language in Tartu University is interpreted as a proof of Finland's support for Estonian culture and identity.

**East Germany - March 12, 1964 (OSA)**

Professor Robert Havemann states that freedom is indivisible and demands unrestricted freedom of discussion and criticism and the complete eradication of dogmatism and Stalinism in the GDR. Under Hitler, he worked as an assistant at the Pharmacological Institute of Berlin University until 1943 when he was condemned to death for high treason because of

collaboration with a resistance group. In December 1956, the East Berlin philosophy professor Dr. Herrmann Scheeler accuses Havemann of heading a “mutiny against materialism.” On the 3rd March, Havemann succeeds in defending his position and wins the support of the faculty and student members of the SED groups. On the 5th March 1964, while Havemann is attacked in a theoretical debate, he does not receive any Party reprimand.

**Finland / U.N. – March 12, 1964 (CTC)**

Cabinet committee agrees to make the necessary preparations for the provision of troops for the U.N. peace-keeping operation in Cyprus. The agreement is confirmed by a telegram from Helsinki telling Ottawa that Finland is willing to participate.

**East Germany – March 13, 1964 (OSA)**

On the 10th March, West Berlin travel agencies are told by East German travel authorities of the extension for transit visas from 24 to 72 hours with the stipulation that the travelers spend their nights in specific East German towns en route. On March 11th, the West German press reports that road traffic is also included in the prospective relaxation. On March 12th, the East German news agency publishes a denial that West Germans and West Berliners have ever been included in the transit visa extension.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – March 13, 1964 (MOL)**

Talks on economic and technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia starts in Moscow.

**East Germany – March 13, 1964 (HWD/JWG)**

Professor Robert Havemann, a critic of the regime, is removed from Humboldt University and the SED.

**Yugoslavia / India – March 13, 1964 (MOL)**

An exhibition on Yugoslav drawings, photographs and books opens in India.

**Soviet Union — March 14, 1964 (OSA)**

Soviet's Premier Khrushchev's de-Stalinization efforts are well underway, especially after renaming of Stalingrad to Volgograd. The official periodical journal of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federated Socialist Republic announced 40 similar name changes during the previous month, in just two provinces.

**Yugoslavia / Norway – March 14, 1964 (MOL)**

It is announced that the Norwegian government is going to build a childcare's hospital in Skopje for the value of \$300 thousand.

**Hungary – March 14, 1964 (HC)**

Decree no. 1964:6 establishing standardization in the health care system comes into effect.

**Poland – March 14, 1964 (PLC)**

A Letter of protest against the state's cultural policies is signed by 34 Polish intellectuals. Prime Minister Józef Cyrankiewicz receives the “Letter of 34”. The authorities see the letter as “hostile”; no agreement is reached.

**Finland / U.N. – March 14, 1964 (CTC)**

Cabinet Committee makes an official announcement that Finland intends to participate in UNFICYP.

**Yugoslavia / Brazil – March 15, 1964 (MOL)**

A Yugoslav delegation of foreign trade leaves for Brazil.

**Yugoslavia / Norway – March 16, 1964 (MOL)**

Discussions on Yugoslav-Norwegian cultural cooperation are underway in Belgrade.

**Yugoslavia – March 16, 1964 (RYE)**

The Party Central Committee assembles for its 6th Plenum, the main purpose of which is to set the date and begin preparations for the 8th LCY Congress. The leadership has before them a document entitled *Basic Directives for the Pre-Congressional Activities*.

**Soviet Union / Yemen – March 16-24, 1964 (KCA)**

President Abdullah al-Sallal of Yemen visits the Soviet Union. – *March 21*. A treaty of friendship is signed. Sallal and Khrushchev also sign an agreement on economic and technical co-operation and an agreement on the construction by the Soviet Union of a hospital, a health centre and three schools in Yemen.

**Yugoslavia / Pakistan – March 17, 1964 (MOL)**

Pakistani Minister of Economics arrives in Belgrade for a 3-day visit to talk about the economic cooperation between the two countries.

**Yugoslavia / Brazil – March 17, 1964 (MOL)**

Talks on economic cooperation start in Rio de Janeiro between Yugoslavia and Brazil to facilitate the exchange of goods and raise the economic cooperation to a higher level.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia - March 18, 1964 (OSA)**

The January SED Congress serves as the platform for the Party's restating its faithfulness to socialist realism. The May 1963 "Literary Colloquium" held in Liblice near Prague represents another high point of cultural revisionism among European communists, the East German delegation finds itself in complete isolation as it maintained the Stalinist point of view expressed by Alfred Kurella - Chairman of the Cultural Commission of the CC Politburo. He claims that the form of expression used by Kafka is part of the dissolution of artistic means of expression which can be summarized by the concept of decadence.

**Yugoslavia / Algeria / Tunisia – March 18, 1964 (MOL)**

Led by Rato Dugonjić, Chairman of the Parliament of Bosnia-Herzegovina, a delegation leaves for Algeria and Tunisia. Another Yugoslav delegation leaves for Colombo to participate in the preparatory meeting of the non-aligned foreign ministers.

**Hungary – March 19-20, 1964 (HC)**

The Third Congress of the Patriotic People's Front is convened in Budapest. Gyula Kállai chairs the proceedings while Ferenc Erdei is General Secretary.

**Soviet Union / Indonesia – March 19, 1964 (OSA)**

The Soviet Union has been the major supplier of arms to Indonesia over the past two years and has supported Sukarno's stance against Malaysia.

**Yugoslavia – March 23, 1964 (MOL)**

After visiting India, Burma, Cambodia and Afghanistan, the Yugoslav economic delegation led by Joze Brilej returns to Belgrade.

**Switzerland / United Nations – March 23-June 5, 1964 (HC)**

A U.N. world trade and economic development place in Geneva. József Bíró Minister of Foreign Trade leads the Hungarian delegation.

**Yugoslavia / Norway – March 24, 1964 (MOL)**

It is announced that the Norwegian government is going to build a 100-bed hospital for TBC patients in Skopje.

**Yugoslavia / Brazil – March 25, 1964 (MOL)**

A Brazilian parliamentary delegation arrives in Yugoslavia to familiarize with the work of the federal parliament and examine the possibilities of bilateral economic cooperation.

**Yugoslavia / Congo – March 25, 1964 (MOL)**

The goodwill mission of the Republic of Congo arrives in Belgrade from Czechoslovakia, led by Foreign Minister David Ganao. The delegation meets Secretary of Foreign Trade Nikola Džušverović and discuss the possibilities of economic cooperation between the two countries.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 25, 1964 (LBC)**

Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee William Fulbright states his views on the foreign policy of the U.S.: a radical change came about in the links within the communist world and between the communist and the Western world. The cold war is not the same: the Soviet Union is no longer as aggressive as it used to be, both sides renounced complete victory; the U.S. has strategic superiority that the USSR tacitly accepts. According to Fulbright the U.S. must forget myths such as the monolithic nature of communism, that all communist states are inveterately evil, and the uncompromising foe of the free world, that trading with the communist states is like dealing with the devil, we either win the cold war or bury it straight away. – According to Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Fulbright's views do not reflect the administration's policies. – According to Senator Barry Goldwater, Fulbright's views lack all reality.

**Finland / U.N. – March 25, 1964 (UTE)**

Finnish Ambassador Sakari Tuomioja is appointed the first U.N. arbitrator in the Cyprus crisis.

**Poland / Yugoslavia / U.S. – March 26, 1964 (LBC/MOL/PLC)**

U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson extends the most favored nation treatment to Poland and Yugoslavia.

**Yugoslavia / Cuba – March 27, 1964 (MOL)**

As a present, Yugoslavia sends 250 Liter anthrax injections to Cuba for the victims of hurricane Flora.

**Yugoslavia / Algeria – March 28, 1964 (MOL)**

A delegation of party and cabinet members, led by Mihajko Todorović, leaves for Algeria. – April 3. The delegation returns to Yugoslavia on.

### **China / Soviet Union — March 29, 1964 (OSA)**

Pravda announces that the negotiations on the Soviet – Chinese relations continue as a delegation flew to Beijing just the previous day. This time, the announcement was practically buried amongst other miscellaneous news at the bottom of the 5th page not naming the members of the delegation unlike previous times. Moreover, the day before, the Soviet Union was accused by an official Chinese spokesman of deliberately sabotaging the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Council meeting. An African delegate who wished to remain anonymous expressed their discontent stating that they will decide how to fight imperialists for themselves.

### **Hungary – March 29, 1964 (OSA)**

The article reports on the amicable relationship between the state and the church in Hungary. Citing an interview with the Prime Minister, the article points out the state's efforts and intention to reconcile any upcoming differences between it and the church. The article points at groups wanting to disrupt this process and asks for the clergy to support the states undertaking.

### **Yugoslavia / Brazil – March 31, 1964 (MOL)**

President of the Federal Parliament Edvard Kardelj meets the members of the Brazilian parliamentary delegation.

### **Hungary – March 31–April 5, 1964 (HC)**

The Eighth congress of the International Alliance of Democratic Lawyers takes place in Budapest.

### **Hungary / Soviet Union / Poland – March 31-April 10, 1964 (HC/KCA)–»March 31.**

A Soviet government delegation led by Khrushchev, First Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party visits Budapest, Hungary. During this visit, he attacks Chinese ideology several times. – *April 3.* Khrushchev awards János Kádár, First Secretary of the HSWP the Lenin Order and the Golden Star of the Hero of the Soviet Union. In April, the Soviet Union appeals again for a World Communist Conference. Gomulka visits the Soviet Union on April 13-15 and states that Poland will welcome a conference.

## **April**

### **Romania – April 1964 (RFP)**

A meeting of the Politburo is held. The subject is Romanian detachment from the Soviet Bloc. It takes place on three levels: economic, political and technological. It includes the gradual elimination of the 'Kremlin people', those educated in Moscow.

### **Romania – April 1964 (SRR)**

Romania rejects the Russian domination of the Soviet Bloc. It seeks economic cooperation with China, but the Chinese are unable to offer viable economical alternatives. Romania leans more towards the West. Hoping to secure the acceptance of its views on the equality of all socialist states, Romania adopts a neutral position in the Sino-Soviet conflict.

**Romania / U.S. – April 1964 (RCN)**

U.S. president Lyndon B. Johnson notifies Bucharest that the U.S. is willing to start negotiations on a trade agreement.

**East Germany / West Germany – April, 1964 (HWD)**

East Berlin announces its willingness to distribute West German newspapers such as *Die Zeit* and *Die Süddeutsche Zeitung* in the GDR, if the SED organ *Neues Deutschland* is also distributed in the FRG.

**Yugoslavia / Liberia / Tunisia / Algeria – April 1-9, 1964 (MOL)**

A Yugoslav parliamentary delegation visits Liberia, Tunisia and Algeria.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria- April 6, 1964 (OSA)**

In an editorial article under the title "In the Common Interest," the Belgrade daily "*Borba*" from April 2nd lists a series of anti-Yugoslav articles and speeches in Bulgaria, mostly from 1963, i.e. from the year in which Yugoslav-Bulgarian friendship was most loudly hailed.

**Yugoslavia / Brazil – April 7-13, 1964 (MOL)**

A Brazilian parliamentary delegation visits Yugoslavia.

**Yugoslavia / Italy – April 8, 1964 (MOL)**

Talks begin between Yugoslavia and Italy on a new trade agreement and on an agreement controlling border traffic.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – April 9, 1964 (LBC)**

It is announced in Moscow that four U.S. military attachés and one British attaché may not leave Moscow for 90 days. – *April 10*. It is announced in Washington that until July 1 no Soviet attaché may leave Washington unless the Soviet restriction is revoked.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – April 10, 1964 (MOL)**

Two-day discussions between Yugoslav and American economists start in Boston for the widening of exchange of goods.

**Poland / Soviet Union – April 13-15, 1964 (KCA)**

A Polish governmental delegation visits Moscow. Gomułka, Józef Cyrankiewicz and Adam Rapacki represent the Polish side and Khrushchev, Brezhnev, Anastas Mikoyan, Gromyko, Alexei Kosygin and Nikolai Podgorny represent the Soviet side in talks that end with an extension of the 1945 Polish-Soviet Treaty of Friendship and Mutual Assistance for a further 20 years.

**Yugoslavia / Poland / Norway – April 14, 1964 (MOL)**

Talks on cooperation in nuclear physics start in Belgrade between Yugoslavia, Norway and Poland.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – April 14, 1964 (LBC)**

The Pentagon publishes an official estimate of military forces. Strategic Air Forces: U.S. 540 long range nuclear bombers; USSR 120 heavy bombers and 150 medium range bombers. ICBMs: U.S. 750; USSR 188. SLBMs: U.S. 192; USSR less.

**Yugoslavia / The Netherlands – April 15, 1964 (MOL)**

Talks on economic cooperation between the Netherlands and Yugoslavia start in Belgrade.

**Soviet Union / West Germany / U.S. – April 16, 1964 (KCA)**

The Soviet Foreign Ministry orders the West German news agency *Deutsche Presse-Agentur* to close its Moscow office. – *May 4*. The Soviet Union orders the American magazine *Time* to close its office in Moscow and orders the *Time* correspondent, Israel Shenker, to leave the country within a few days.

**Yugoslavia – April 16-17, 1964 (RYE)**

The Federal Assembly devotes two days to major discussions of the economic situation, during which the ground rules for the 1965 reforms are in effect established.

**Romania – April 16, 1964 (CAC/PLC/RFN) –» April 22.**

At the April 15-22 meeting of the Romanian Workers' Party's Central Committee, a special Romanian national Communist "declaration of independence" is accepted. – *April 27*. The document is made public.

**Hungary – April 17, 1964 (HC)**

On the occasion of the 70th birthday of Khrushchev, a Hungarian delegation arrives in Moscow. Its members are János Kádár, Prime Minister and First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party; Sándor Rónai, the Speaker of the Parliament and Károly Erdélyi, Deputy Foreign Minister.

**Hungary – April 18-19, 1964 (HC)**

The Second Congress of the Hungarian Red Cross takes place in Budapest.

**East Germany – April 19, 1964 (OSA)**

The Soviet Military Administration for Germany (SMAD) began the systematic Sovietization of political and economic life in the Eastern Zone in 1954. The major factor in the reparation scheme is the creation of the Soviet Trust Companies. The SAGs are a major influence on the East German economic structure. By the end of 1953, they had been returned to the East German administration by a process that amounted to selling them back to the GDR. The SMAG issues binding orders for wage ceilings on the basis of minimum tariff wages, punitive regulations for work discipline, and generalized application of tariff agreements.

**Hungary / Austria – April 19-24, 1964 (HC)**

A delegation of the Austrian Federal Chamber of Commerce and Industry, led by General Secretary Franz Kosinek visits in Budapest.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – April 20, 1964 (LBC/KCA)**

The U.S and the Soviet Union announce simultaneously that they are reducing the production of fissionable material. The following day Great Britain joins the undertaking. Khrushchev announces that the Soviet Union will immediately halt the construction of two large reactors for the production of plutonium.

**Yugoslavia – April 20-25, 1964 (RYE)**

The 5th Congress of the Trade Union Federation provides a timely forum for the mobilization of additional support.



**Yugoslavia / France – April 21, 1964 (MOL)**

The delegation of the French Socialist Party, led by Guy Mollet, arrives in Belgrade. – *April 24*. As chairman of the federal parliament Edvard Kardelj meets the delegation. – *April 29*. Tito also meets them. – *April 30*. The delegation leaves Belgrade.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – April 22, 1964 (KCA)**

Following an agreement between the British and Soviet Governments, Greville Wynne, who was sentenced to eight-year imprisonment in Moscow, and Gordon Lonsdale, who received a 25-year sentence in London, are exchanged at a Berlin checkpoint.

**Bulgaria / U.K. – April 22, 1964 (KCA)**

The BBC announces that Bulgaria continues to jam BBC broadcasting. Broadcasts to other socialist states are free from interference.

**Poland – April 22, 1964 (KCA)**

The Polish *Sejm* passes a Government Bill to extend the 20-year Period for Prosecution of War Criminals. The Bill declares that no obstacles may be placed on the future prosecution of guilty persons.

**East Germany – April 23, 1964 (OSA)**

Hermann Matern – a member of the Politburo of the SED – brings a new charge against the Chinese leaders on April 22nd making the accusation that it demanded from the GDR to break with the Soviet Union, in order to split West Germany from the Western alliance. Matern accused the Chinese of reviving the Beria clique's policies (one of the charges against Beria was, that he wanted to abandon the GDR). According to the East Germans this was an attempt to internationally popularize Maoist theory and that Mao intends to punish Ulbricht for the support of Khrushchev in the Sino-Soviet dispute.

**Soviet Union / Algeria – April 25, 1964 (KCA)**

The President of Algeria, Ben Bella, arrives in Moscow. It is announced that Bella has been awarded the Order of Lenin, the title of Hero of the Soviet Union and a Lenin Peace Prize. – *April 28-30*. He visits Uzbekistan. – *May 2*. Together with Khrushchev, he visits the Crimea. – *May 5*. A joint communiqué is issued. The Soviet Union will grant Algeria a long-term credit of 115,000,000 rubles. Bella then visits Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia.

**Yugoslavia / Algeria – April 25, 1964 (MOL)**

A group of 117 Algerian students leaves for Yugoslavia for a 6-8 week long specialization training.

**Yugoslavia – April 26, 1964 (MOL)**

The Executive Council of the Republic of Serbia passes a resolution restricting the number of university students in 10 faculties because of lack of enough lecture halls and lecturers.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – April 29, 1964 (MOL)**

Representatives of Yugoslavia and the United States sign three agreements in Belgrade, according to which Yugoslavia is entitled to buy certain goods from the United States in total value of \$64 million.

**Hungary / Italy – April 29, 1964 (HC)**

Hungary and Italy establish ambassadorial relations.

**Hungary / Afghanistan – April 30, 1964 (HC)**

Hungary and Afghanistan establish ambassadorial relations.

**May****East Germany – May, 1964 (HWD)**

A Youth Act (Jugendgesetz) of the GDR aims to strengthen the loyalty of citizens. In order to achieve the stability of the regime, the SED and the state focuses most of its attention on GDR youth.

**Hungary / Austria – May 3-13, 1964 (HC)**

A delegation of Labor Unions visits Hungary. Its General Secretary János Brutyó, leads a study of the Unions' work.

**China / Soviet Union — May 4, 1964 (OSA)**

The Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Chen Yi, told during a briefing with visiting British correspondents that the Chinese People's Republic will have repaid all its debt to the Soviet Union by 1965, and then to all other international lenders by 1967. He proceeded to add that all domestic government debt will be cleared the following year as well. Moreover, he states that China had clear intentions of pursuing the use of nuclear power. He acknowledged that at the moment, China was not as advanced as other countries in this field, but that they would not stop until they got there even if it takes 30 years.

**Romania – May 4, 1964 (RCW)**

Information not concerning the correspondence between the Paris and Munich office of Radio Free Europe on whether or not Romanian political and economic policies constituted a signal that Romania was asserting its independence from the USSR is issued by the Foreign Information Section of Securitate.

**East Germany - May 5, 1964 (OSA)**

Walter Ulbricht outlines East German agricultural planning for 1964-65 and reveals future visions of the GDR countryside for 1970-1980. The "Draft Resolution of the Eighth Farmers' Congress" had already noted the most serious problems facing East German agriculture. Ulbricht refers to a number of other socialist states, warning that the possibilities of his importing agricultural products have decreased for the time being. He remarks that the socialist countries need their grain output for the supply of their own populations and for the development of their animal products. The SED leader speaks about the necessity of increasing soil fertility and mentioned that in capitalist countries, soil fertility has been improved.

**Soviet Union / U.N. – May 5, 1964 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union expresses support for the Cambodian Chief of State, Prince Norodon Sihanouk, proposal from April 22. This proposal, sent to Gromyko and Richard Austen Butler, contains an appeal that the 22 countries that participated in the Geneva Conference should meet again as soon as possible to discuss the situation in Laos. France also supports the initiation of negotiations through an international conference in Geneva. – *May 21*. The Soviet Union announces its support for the French proposal. – *July 26*. The Soviet

Government proposes that a 14-Power Conference should be held in August and states that if this proposal is refused, the Soviet Union will reconsider its position as co-chairman.

**East Germany – May 5, 1964 (OSA)**

The East German *Volkskammer* approves a new “Youth Law” encouraging greater participation of under-25s in the East German economy and in the affairs of the state and Party. Although promising increased leniency of treatment toward the youth, the law aims to guide this age group into professions beneficial to the state’s economic policy. Centralized occupational guidance is to be arranged by the Planning Commission. The law also accounts for the creation of ‘special youth projects’ and establishes a right to higher education provisions/qualification.

**Hungary / East Germany – May 6-12, 1964 (HC)**

A government delegation from the GDR led by Walter Ulbricht, First Secretary of the East German Socialist Unity Party, visits Hungary.

**Soviet Union / China – May 7, 1964 (KCA)**

China sends a letter to the Soviet Union refusing all proposals for the Conference. – *July 30*. The Soviet party invites 25 other communist parties to form a preparatory committee for a world conference. The invitation is accepted by the majority of communist parties. The Sino-Soviet Conflict intensifies.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – May 7, 1964 (MOL)**

Czechoslovak Minister of Foreign Trade František Hamouz arrives in Yugoslavia to visit the opening of the Novi Sad Agricultural Fair. He also holds discussions with the Secretary of State for Foreign Trade and leaves on May 9.

**East Germany / Hungary - May 11, 1964 (OSA)**

The SED regime has expressed its concern about the younger generation. A new “Youth Law” has been passed by the people’s chamber, which is a lengthy plea to all young people to take more interest in State and Party affairs and to play a more active role in the economic development of East Germany. The SED Politburo publishes a youth communique that, similar to the Youth Law, woos the younger generation by calling them masters of socialist Germany and by recommending less dogmatic treatment by their elders. The State Planning Commission will determine the number of students in specific fields, farmers' and workers' children will be accepted in preference to institutions of higher learning, regardless of their particular gifts and talents.

**Yugoslavia / East Germany – May 11, 1964 (MOL)**

Led by Deputy Prime Minister Bruno Leuschner, an East German economic delegation arrives in Belgrade to the opening session of the economic and scientific mixed committee of the two countries.

**Yugoslavia / Africa – May 12, 1964 (MOL)**

A goodwill mission led by Avdo Humo visits Mauritania, Senegal, Nigeria, Cameroon, Congo, Central-African Republic and Ivory Coast.

**Yugoslavia / India – May 13, 1964 (MOL)**

30 geologists of Naftalpin, a company based in Zagreb, leaves for India to a one-year search for crude oil at the valley of the river Brahmaputra.

**Yugoslavia – May 13, 1964 (PLC)**

A law to broaden autonomy of the Vojvodina region is accepted.

**Yugoslavia – May 15-22, 1964 (MOL)**

Invited by Foreign Secretary Koča Popović, delegations from Tanganyika and Zanzibar are in Yugoslavia.

**Hungary / Iran – May 16, 1964 (HC)**

Hungary and Iran establish ambassadorial relations.

**China / Soviet Union — May 17, 1964 (OSA)**

A trade agreement has been signed between the Soviet Union and China which states that more Ilyushin-18 airplanes will be bought by China without stating the exam number. Moreover, this agreement also states that frozen and canned meat, wool, woolen and silk fabrics, knitwear, and chemicals will be supplied by China to the Soviet Union. And in addition to the airplanes, the latter will send tractors, trucks, tools, oil, and chemical products.

**Yugoslavia / Italy – May 17, 1964 (MOL)**

Renewal of the agreement on fishing between Yugoslavia and Italy until August 31, 1965 by an exchange of notes.

**East Germany / Hungary - May 18, 1964 (OSA)**

The failure of the high-level East German delegation under Walter Ulbricht's leadership to convince their Hungarian counterparts of the dangers of West German "Trojan horses" is reflected in the publication of an East German-Hungarian communique. The common communique no longer contains any warning to the Warsaw Pact states against West German maneuvers to encircle and isolate the GDR by signing the long-term trade agreements with the "West German currency area" (meaning the Federal Republic including West Berlin). Ulbricht's professed welcoming of the improvement of West German-East European economic relations is not only a strident contradiction to East German views expressed on this subject but is a definite withdrawal by the GDR leader from earlier statements that he has expressed upon arriving in Hungary and on the very day before the publication of the communique. Hungary pursues its economic and political course not only against Ulbricht's wishes but against those of the Soviet Union.

**Yugoslavia / Israel – May 19, 1964 (MOL)**

Yugoslav-Israeli barter talks finish in Jerusalem. An agreement is signed for the period from July 1964 to June 1965. Yugoslavia imports fertilizers, cotton, and fruits and exports heavy machinery, motor bicycles, and wooden products.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – May 20-June 11, 1964 (HC)**

Negotiations take place in Belgrade between Hungary and Yugoslavia.

**Yugoslavia / Mexico – May 20, 1964 (MOL)**

Talks start in Belgrade on the strengthening of economic cooperation between Yugoslavia and Mexico.

**Yugoslavia – May 20, 1964 (RYE)**

The Federal Assembly adopts a Resolution on Basic Guidelines for the Further Development

of the Economic System which faithfully repeats the same themes and those of the Trade Union Congress.

**East Germany – May 22, 1964 (OSA)**

The East German position on the Soviet-Chinese split is refined in the May issue of the monthly *Einheit* (meaning unity) in a 15-page long of article entitled “For the unity of the Communist World Movement on the Basis of Marxism-Leninism”. This was an attempt to demonstrate the negative aspects of the Chinese position and prove East Germany’s adherence to the position of the Soviet Union. The SED is the first pro-Soviet party to specify the timing of a projected international communist gathering. The fifth issue of *Einheit* went to print on April 27th, 1964, with suggestions for a 3 stage consultation, and preparations by 26 parties in June and July.

**Yugoslavia – May 22, 1964 (MOL)**

President of the government of Northern Rhodesia arrives for a two-day official visit to Yugoslavia and meets President Tito.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – May 22-27, 1964 (MOL)**

Václav David, Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia, visits Yugoslavia.

**China / Soviet Union – May 23, 1964 (OSA)**

Despite the decline in trade relations with the Soviet Union, which means broken contracts, loss of markets, and withdrawal of Soviet technical aid, the latest figures provide no evidence, that China is anywhere on the verge of economic collapse. China’s economic planners mainly focused on reviving agriculture and stimulating the growth of heavy industry leaving the growth of light industry lower on the priority list.

**Eastern Europe / U.S. – May 24, 1964 (LBC)**

President Lyndon B. Johnson outlines the U.S. policy towards Eastern Europe: “we work to carry on the vision of the Marshall Plan to strengthen the ability of every European people to select and shape its own society...to bring every European nation closer to its neighbors in the relationship of peace,...to build bridges across the gulf that divided us from Eastern Europe,...bridges of increased trade, of ideas, of visitors and of humanitarian aid.”

**East Germany – May 26, 1964 (OSA)**

A Yugoslav delegation tours in the GDR for 7 days issuing the customary communique at the conclusion of their trip. A few months after the May 1960 visit of the East German delegation to Yugoslavia, the SED theoretical monthly *Einheit* attacked conditions in Yugoslavia, to which the Yugoslav communist organ *Borba* replied with equal sharpness.

**Hungary / Yemen – May 26-31, 1964 (HC)**

Marshall Abdullah al-Salal, the president of the Arab Republic of Yemen makes an official visit to Hungary and signs a contract establishing friendly relations.

**East Germany – May 27, 1964 (OSA)**

Georg Dertinger was given clemency by the GDR’s Council of Ministers. Dertinger was born in Berlin in 1902 and in 1945 became one of the co-founders of the East German CDU. He cooperated with Otto Nuschke and was instrumental in adjusting his party’s line to the aims of the SED after the creation of the GDR in 1949. The East German secret police accused him of having worked for an imperialist intelligence organisation and of conducting subversive

activities. He was expelled from the CDU and lost all the functions he held. The trial by the East German Supreme Court did not take place till June 1954. Dertinger was condemned for alleged conspiracy against the GDR and its achievements. His secretary was condemned to death.

**Yugoslavia / Belgium – May 27, 1964 (MOL)**

Led by Edvard Kardelj, a parliamentary delegation leaves for an official visit to Belgium.

**Palestine – May 28, 1964 (PLC)**

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) is founded.

**Hungary / Japan – May 28, 1964 (HC)**

Hungary and Japan establish ambassadorial relations.

**Yugoslavia / China - May 29, 1964 (OSA)**

Yugoslav attack on Chinese ideological positions: the Chinese leaders are wrong in using quotations from Lenin's 1916 work "Imperialism" in order to prove that current "contradictions within the capitalist world are becoming larger." This is claimed by the Yugoslav theoretician Andro Gabelic in an article published in the May 24th issue of the Belgrade daily "*Borba*."

**Yugoslavia / Chad – May 30, 1964 (MOL)**

Talks start in Belgrade on the economic cooperation between Yugoslavia and Chad. – *June 1*. An agreement on establishing diplomatic relations are signed on.

**June**

**Soviet Union / Denmark / Norway / Sweden – June–July 1964 (KCA)**

Khrushchev pays a 19-day visit to Denmark, Sweden and Norway. On June 20, a joint Danish and Soviet communiqué is issued. Both sides express the importance of partial agreements to partial disarmament and satisfaction with a certain easing of tension in international relations. Mutual relations are defined as friendly and the trade between the two countries is highlighted. On June 26, a Swedish–Soviet communiqué and on July 1, a Norwegian–Soviet communiqué with similar content are issued.

**Albania / France / Yugoslavia - June 1, 1964 (OSA)**

Zeri i Popullit from the 25th April 1964 wrote an editorial on the occasion of the visit of a French Socialist Party delegation led by Guy Mollet to Yugoslavia. ZIP had alleged that it was no accident that the French delegation had traveled to Belgrade at a time when Khrushchev was openly advocating for cooperation with the "right-wing chiefs of perfidious social democracy." On May 24th, 1964 the principal newspaper of the large Albanian minority in Yugoslavia published a commentary entitled "Who is Speculating with the Blood of the Egyptians and Algerians," replied in an equally polemical manner to the *Zeri i Popullit* editorial.

**East Germany - June 1, 1964 (OSA)**

The East German delegation departs for a ten-day tour of the provinces, beginning with an inspection of the Ural city Sverdlovsk. The initial talks are followed by a state dinner given in

honor of the East German dignitaries during which both Khrushchev and Ulbricht make speeches. Khrushchev pays homage to the achievements of the East German workers, farmers, and engineers in the chemical industry, emphasizing the advantages of exchanging experiences. He notes with satisfaction that between the Soviet Union and the GDR, there is complete agreement on all questions of the communist workers' movement which will contribute to the consolidation of the unity of the powerful socialist community of nations.

**Romania / U.S. – June 1, 1964 (LBC/RCN)**

The U.S. and Romania sign a commercial and political agreement. An increase in trade and the raise of diplomatic missions from Legations to Embassies are agreed upon. According to the joint communiqué Romania would be allowed to purchase most articles in the US without individual licensing. Romania obtained American license for some industrial installations towards which the Romanian delegation showed particular interest. – *July 31*. A Franco-Romanian treaty of technological and scientific cooperation is signed in Paris.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 1, 1964 (KCA)**

A consular convention between the U.S and the Soviet Union is signed by Gromyko and the U.S. Ambassador, Foy G. Kohler. In addition to the consular convention, agreements for co-operation in the exchange of meteorological information; for scientific, technical and cultural co-operation; and for co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy are signed.

**Yugoslavia / Finland – June 1-8, 1964 (KCA/EAJ)**

Yugoslav President Tito visits Finland. In a joint communiqué, Finland expresses interest in participating in the second conference of non-aligned countries as an observer.

**China / Soviet Union – June 2, 1964 (OSA)**

Beijing has made the decision to buy Soviet planes instead of French ones after a careful consideration and meeting with both parties. The price of this was \$11 million for 30 aircraft. It was reported by TASS based on Soviet authorities' assumptions that the use of these planes will take place on the Beijing-Paris and Beijing-Havana airline routes.

**East Germany – June 4, 1964 (OSA)**

The GDR government announces the second step in reforming industrial prices to come into effect on the July 1st, 1964. This will affect solid fuels, energy, potassium, and metallurgic products, and certain transportation rates. The price reforms will be applied to products in the petroleum industry, chemical products of both organic and inorganic nature, industrial gases, plastics, synthetic fibers and rubber, tannic acid, cellulose, and chemical fertilizers. The products which will receive new industrial prices amount to a production volume of 7 billion marks, which together with the products previously affected by the reform, totals approximately 50% of East Germany's chemical output.

**Albania / Yugoslavia – June 5, 1964 (OSA)**

On May 31st, 1964, the Albanian people went to the polls to vote for the district, city, locality, village and the city borough People's Councils, in addition to electing new people's courts. Yugoslav daily disapproved of the elections in Albania. The May 31st issue of "*Rilindja*," the Yugoslav daily of the Kosovo and Metohia region attacks the „undemocratic” nature of the Albanian people's authority.

**Poland / Yugoslavia – June 8, 1964 (OSA)**

The reading suggestions published by a Polish revisionist philosopher in Yugoslavia are reported. According official Polish sources the ideas of Kolakowski were previously judged to be easily influenced by the Yugoslav propaganda and by the communist regime of Tito. It also suggests the possibility of great success of the author's book in communist Yugoslavia.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – June 8, 1964 (KCA)**

Tito visits Leningrad for private talks with First Secretary of the CPSU Khrushchev.

**Yugoslavia / Canada – June 8, 1964 (MOL)**

It is announced that the Yugoslav company Elektrosnf is going to build a water damp in British Columbia, Canada.

**Hungary / France – June 9-23, 1964 (HC)**

A five-member delegation of the French Communist Party led by Georges Marchais, the Secretary of the French Communist Party, visits Hungary.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – June 9, 1964 (MOL)**

President of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers Pencho Kubadinski arrives in Belgrade on the invitation of the Federal Executive Council.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 9, 1964 (LBC)**

The U.S. states its position at the disarmament talks in Geneva: it is willing to stop the production of fissionable material for military use and to destroy the reserve and outdated bombers. – The USSR rejects the proposal for the annihilation of B-47 and TU-16 bombers and proposes the liquidation of all bombers in the world. Moscow is willing to avert nuclear proliferation only in case the US drops its plan to set up a unified Western fleet armed with nuclear weapons.

**Yugoslavia – June 10-15, 1964 (MOL)**

A delegation of the Italian Socialist Party, led by General Secretary Francesco de Martino is in Yugoslavia. The delegation meets Lazar Koliševski and discusses the current international situation, the international workers' movement and talk on further cooperation between the organizations.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – June 10, 1964 (MOL)**

An agreement is signed in Belgrade between Yugoslavia and Great Britain. According to the agreement, Britain gives a million-pound loan for the reconstruction of Skopje after the devastating earthquake in 1963.

**Romania / COMECON – June 12, 1964 (KCA)**

Romania opposes certain COMECON policies and closer economic integration in the areas of Romania, Bulgaria and the Soviet Union around the Lower Danube.

**Yugoslavia / Lebanon – June 12, 1964 (MOL)**

Jugoinvest starts the construction of a water dam in Lebanon.

**Yugoslavia / Algeria – June 12, 1964 (MOL)**

A cultural agreement between Yugoslavia and Algeria is signed in Belgrade.



**Soviet Union / East Germany – June 12, 1964 (CWC/KGD/ PLC/CAC)**

The Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic sign a Treaty of Friendship, Mutual Assistance and Cooperation. USSR formally guarantees the GDR's defense. The United States refuse to recognize the GDR as an independent, sovereign nation.

**Finland – June 13, 1964 (JVH)**

Former Minister Johannes Virolainen becomes the new leader of the Agrarian League.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – June 16, 1964 (LBC)**

The U.S. rejects the Soviet proposal to liquidate the majority of the nuclear delivery vehicles in 18 months. The remainder would be used by both sides to retain their respective atomic umbrellas until full disarmament.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / U.S. - June 18, 1964 (OSA)**

It is announced, that important documents will be signed during Ulbricht's visit to the Soviet capital. The Soviet Ambassador has informed the US State Department about the forthcoming signing ceremony, having explained that the Soviet-East German agreements bear no ominous characteristics. This is the first time that the Soviets have notified the West of their plans before concluding an agreement with another communist country.

**Yugoslavia / France – June 19, 1964 (MOL)**

The representatives of Yugoslavia and France sign a five-year agreement on cultural cooperation is signed in Belgrade.

**Poland – June 20, 1964 (OSA)**

An RFE report provides information on the anti-Gomulka groups and their activities taking place in Poland. The report highlights the anti-Gomulka pamphlet, defined as the "Anti-thesis" and its most relevant authors. The importance of these new partisan anti-Gomulka groups is recognized.

**China / Soviet Union — June 21, 1964 (OSA)**

A "Pravda" newspaper commentator pointed out the hypocrisy in the phrase "Chinese People's Republic and the Soviet Union will always stand together" which Chinese leaders tended to use. The commentator said that any person within reason would question this especially since an anti-Soviet campaign began to spread in China. Moreover, the West was accused of planning to attack the Soviet Union in a Soviet military newspaper. There was a comment by "Red Star" saying that following these perceptions of threat, the Soviet Union is doing what is required to strengthen their armed forces.

**Yugoslavia – June 21, 1964 (MOL)**

An exhibition of approximately a thousand new American books opens in Banja Luka.

**Hungary – June 21, 1964 (HC)**

The Presidential Council issues decree no. 1964:12 allowing the monitoring of people in Hungary. It modifies law 1957: VII and extends the scope of monitors' activities.

**Yugoslavia / Romania – June 22, 1964 (KCA)**

Yugoslav President Tito visits the Romanian village of Piscia, where he meets Romanian head of state and first secretary Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej.

**East Germany – June 23, 1964 (OSA)**

A major aspect of the Soviet-East German “Friendship Pact” appears to be a move by Khrushchev to appease Ulbricht and frustrate his demands for a separate peace treaty. Ulbricht gives his first interview to a Munich social democrat who attends the sixth worker's drama festival in Gera.

**Yugoslavia / France – June 23, 1964 (MOL)**

An agreement between Yugoslavia and France on a 50 million franc loan on the import of industrial machinery is taking effect.

**Yugoslavia / Iraq – June 23, 1964 (MOL)**

Chief of Staff of the Yugoslav National Army Rade Humović meets the military delegation of Iraq.

**Yugoslavia / Poland – June 25-July 2, 1964 (KCA)**

Yugoslav President Tito arrives in Warsaw. During an official visit, he signs a long-term trade agreement with Gomułka. – *July 2*. A joint communiqué is issued.

**Yugoslavia – June 25, 1964 (MOL)**

J. H. Collier, chief of the IBRD mission arrives in Belgrade to discuss the Yugoslav pledge for loan for the construction of federal railways.

**Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – June 26, 1964 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union sends a protest Note to Britain, France and the U.S. concerning the decision to hold the presidential election of West Germany in West Berlin, as the Soviet Union states that it is not the part of Federal Republic. In the election, Heinrich Lübke is re-elected for a second term.

**Yugoslavia / West Germany – June 26, 1964 (KCA)**

Formal negotiations occur between West Germany and Yugoslavia.

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – June 29, 1964 (HC)**

Public bussing between Hungary and Czechoslovakia begins.

**Yugoslavia / Vatican – June 26 – July 7, 1964 (ACY)**

Discussions between the representatives of Yugoslavia and the Vatican are held in Rome.

**Bulgaria – June 28, 1964 (KCA)**

A total of twelve agreements on reparations, trade, communications and other matters are signed between Bulgaria and Greece. The agreements end a period of prolonged tension between the countries.

**Yugoslavia / Romania – June 29, 1964 (MOL)**

Yugoslav-Romanian talks start in Bucharest on abolishing the visa requirements between the two countries.

**East Germany / West Germany – June 30, 1964 (OSA)**

The East German author Christa Wolf goes to West Berlin at the invitation of a student group to read sections from her book and to participate in a discussion with the students. Miss Wolf answers the questions very thoroughly and with great patience. The *Tagesspiegel* states that

the discussion indicates clearly that two hostile ideologies are confronted here. It concludes that since the conversation turned around in circles after an hour and a half, the representative of the student self-administration who had organized the evening call an end to the discussion. The limits and possibilities of talking with prominent East Germans had been determined.

#### **Yugoslavia / Poland – June 30, 1964 (MOL)**

A new air traffic agreement is signed in Belgrade between Yugoslavia and Poland.

### **July**

#### **Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – July 1964 (KCA)**

Khrushchev criticizes the multilateral force plan, presented on July 2 at the Geneva disarmament conference, despite previous assurances from the U.S. and Great Britain that it will not change the balance of nuclear power. – *July 11*. The Soviet Union sends a formal Note to the U.S., Great Britain, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, and Turkey. A separate Note is sent to West Germany. The Soviet protests are rejected by Great Britain, the U.S. and West Germany.

#### **U.S. – July 1964 (LBC)**

The election platform of the Republican Party accuses the Democratic government of pursuing the policy of Munich of a quarter of a century before and of “turning its back on the captive peoples of Eastern Europe”. – From the election platform of the Democratic Party: American strategic superiority needs to be retained, “Republicans reaffirm their long-standing commitment to the course leading to the eventual liberation of the communist dominated nations of Eastern Europe, Asia and Latin America.”

#### **COMECON – July 1, 1964 (HC)**

The common railroad system of the COMECON begins operations.

#### **Hungary / Romania – July 1-3, 1964 (HC)**

A Romanian delegation led by Nicolae Ceaușescu, the Secretary of the Central Committee of Romanian Communist Party, visits Budapest.

#### **Hungary / Finland – July 5-16, 1964 (HC)**

A delegation of the National Board of Trade Unions led by General Secretary János Brutyó visits Finland.

#### **Hungary/Italy – July 6-13, 1964 (HC)**

A delegation of the Italian Socialist Party visits Hungary.

#### **East Germany - July 8, 1964 (OSA)**

In April 1959, the first Bitterfeld Conference proclaims as its guideline the motto: “Pick up your pen, chum”. The second Bitterfeld Conference – which is convened to evaluate the results in the cultural realm since 1959 and to determine the future tasks in developing a socialist national culture, makes no mention of the movement of writing workers which are heralded at the first Butterfield meeting as such a revolutionary concept.

**East Germany – July 9, 1964 (OSA)**

Neues Deutschland has reprinted an article from Beijing's People's Daily, despite the SED continuing to support the Soviet anti-Chinese campaign. The SED reprints the Chinese position regarding June 25th declaration by the Western Powers on the Soviet-East German friendship treaty. On July 9th, the Chinese condemnation of West German President Lubke's election in Berlin is reprinted.

**Yugoslavia – July 9, 1964 (RYE)**

The Federal Assembly passes a new Basic Law on the Financing of Socio-Political Communities, redefining the division of responsibility and resources for social services and interventions in the economy among the Federation, the republics and the communes. The communes are henceforth required to finance these services out of their own means, with the role of the Federation reduced to supplying grants-in-aid to republics.

**East Germany – July 11, 1964 (OSA)**

A musicologist of *Neues Deutschland* discusses the Beatles phenomenon which he describes as a direction of dance music. The Beatles are following the tradition of Elvis Presley and Bill Haley. He states that the group has found a style that attempts to break from the general pop. He maintains that his analysis is not a justification nor an overvaluation, nor does he wish to negate the effect of the group "on Western youthful audiences primarily."

**Soviet Union / COMECON – July 14-16, 1964 (HC)**

The Thirteenth session of the Executive Committee of the COMECON takes place in Moscow. Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland establish Intermetal to ensure co-operation within the heavy industry.

**East Germany / West Germany – July 15, 1964 (OSA)**

The GDR government organizes an international press conference where they reveal that the West German President Heinrich Lubke has been an informer of the Gestapo and has also been responsible for the mistreatment and murder of innumerable concentration camp inmates who were working for a construction firm under his command. The GDR's defamation campaigns of West German politicians can be considered normal.

**Soviet Union – July 15, 1964 (KCA)**

The appointment of Anastas Mikoyan as chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet is ratified. Mikoyan, an Armenian politician, succeeds Brezhnev and becomes the sixth titular Head of the Soviet Union since the Russian Revolution.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 16, 1964 (KCA)**

In Washington, the U.S. and the Soviet Union reach an informal agreement regarding limited scientific co-operation on the desalination of sea water.

**Yugoslavia / West Germany – July 16, 1964 (KCA)**

Trade agreements revising the trade agreement of 1952 between Yugoslavia and the Federal Republic of Germany are signed in Bonn.

**Hungary / Poland – July 20, 1964 (HC)**

Hungarian citizens are only allowed to travel to Poland with an inset issued for their IDs.

**East Germany - July 21, 1964 (OSA)**

From the May issue of *Neues Deutsch Literature*, the Berlin branch of the East German Writers' Associations is reviewing the discussions held by some of its members during visits to Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia, and the Soviet Union. A group of three visited Poland for a few days last November. While the 'Bitterfeldian Way' (Bitterfelder Weg; a program to create 'socialist culture' in the GDR) is necessary for home consumption, it should not be stressed abroad, even in socialist countries, because of its negative impact.

**Hungary / Japan – July 23-27, 1964 (HC)**

A delegation of Japanese Communist Party, led by the General Secretary Narita Tomimi, visits Hungary.

**Hungary / Austria – July 23-28, 1964 (HC)**

A delegation led by Jenő Fock, Deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, visits Austria.

**Hungary / England – July 24, 1964 (HC)**

UK Trade Minister Edward Du Cann meets Hungarian political and economic leaders in Budapest.

**East Germany - July 28, 1964 (OSA)**

Solzhenitsyn's prison-camp novel *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich* demonstrates Ulbricht's extreme sensitivity to reformist influences within the bloc. A two-page discussion of both the Polish book *Ashes and Diamonds* by Jerzy Andrzejewski, and its film adaptation by Andrzej Wajda appears in the cultural weekly *Sonntag*. East Germany publishes the book and concludes that it is a magnificent work in detail and as a whole.

**August****Bulgaria – August, 1964 (OSA) {RFE dated November 24, 1966}**

Article from Venelin Kotsev, newly-appointed Secretary of the Central Committee. He emphasizes the need for greater Party guidance in the creation of literature and the arts more broadly.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – August 1964 (LYE)**

Final agreements are signed between the Yugoslav government and representatives of both the pre-war bond-holders (completing the 1959 arrangements for final payment) and American stockholders in the Yugoslav enterprises nationalized after the war.

**East Germany – August 1, 1964 (JWG)**

A new banknote, the "Mark of the German Central Bank" is issued.

**U.S. / Vietnam – August 2, 1964 (PLC)**

An accident in the gulf of Tonkin marks the beginning of the U.S.'s Vietnam war.

**Vietnam / U.S. – August 4, 1964 (HC)**

The air force of the United States begins a four-year long bombardment of Vietnam.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – August 5, 1964 (KCA)**

On the first anniversary of the nuclear test-ban treaty, the U.S., the Soviet Union and Great Britain issue a joint statement on the first steps towards disarmament. The statement is issued simultaneously in London, Moscow and Washington.

**Poland – August 7, 1964 (KCA)**

Aleksander Zawadzki, head of state of Poland, dies after a long illness. Edward Ochab, Deputy chairman of the Council of State since 1961, is elected chairman.

**Cyprus / Turkey – August 8, 1964 (PLC)**

The Turkish invasion of Cyprus takes place.

**Cyprus / Greece – August 8-9, 1964 (PLC)**

The Greek attack on the Turkish minority in Cyprus takes place.

**Soviet Union / Turkey – August 9, 1964 (KCA)**

Khrushchev sends messages to the Turkish Prime Minister calling on Turkey to end military operations against a member of the United Nations, specifically Cyprus. Khrushchev replies to an appeal from Cyprus for military aid and promises that the Soviet Union will help Cyprus defend her freedom and independence.

**East Germany – August 10, 1964 (OSA)**

On August 8th, 1964, the British newspaper *The Guardian* reports that there is a great concentration of allied forces permanently stationed in the Federal Republic of Germany in readiness to meet the threat of some 16 to 18 Soviet divisions from the GDR.

**Greece – August 17, 1964 (PLC)**

Greece temporarily withdraws its forces from NATO.

**Soviet Union / Czechoslovakia – August 27-September 5, 1964 (KCA)**

Khrushchev visits Czechoslovakia and both countries reaffirm the complete correspondence of their Government's views.

**Soviet Union — August 28, 1964 (OSA)**

The Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation renamed the city of Stavropol into Togliatti, to honor the late Italian Communist party leader. The same name will be assigned to a young pioneers' summer camp and a sanatorium in Crimea, the Leningrad Institute of Engineering and economics, a tanker under construction, and an aviation technical School in Ufa, where Togliatti lived during World War 2. A memorial stamp was planned to be released, and an edition of Togliatti's prominent works will be published within the year.

**Soviet Union — August 28, 1964 (OSA)**

The opening of an agricultural exhibition in Budapest will be attended by representatives of nine Communist nations, including China, Bulgaria, Romania, Poland, the Soviet Union, Albania, North Korea, Yugoslavia, and East Germany.

**Soviet Union / India – August 28, 1964 (KCA)**

Yashwantrao Chavan, the Indian Defense Minister, arrives in Moscow for talks with Marshal Rodion Malinovsky, the Soviet Defense Minister. -- *September 11*. They conclude an

agreement on military aid. The Soviet Union will provide plant, machinery and technical assistance. India also signs similar agreements with the U.S. and Great Britain.

**East Germany – August 29, 1964 (PLC)**

The so-called Volga Germans are rehabilitated from collaboration charges.

**Soviet Union – August 30, 1964 (KCA)**

It is disclosed in *Pravda*, that a mobile atomic power station has been in operation for three years at Obninsk, the atomic research center near Moscow.

**Hungary / USA – August 31-September 6, 1964 (HC)**

Negotiations begin with the leaders of the American Eaton Syndicate. A preliminary agreement about American-Hungarian economic relations is approved.

**September**

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – September 1964 (LYE)**

The seventh annual American exhibit at the Zagreb Trade Fair features American agricultural equipment and leads to stepped-up sales activities by American manufacturers, such as John Deere, International Harvester, New Idea and others.

**East Germany – September 1, 1964 (KGD)**

It is decided that refugees who had left the GDR before the building of the Berlin wall and who want to return for visits will not be punished.

**Soviet Union / West Germany – September 3, 1964 (KCA)**

A message is transmitted informing Dr. Ludwig Erhard that Khrushchev is ready to visit West Germany. No date for the visit is announced, but it is understood that it will take place late in 1964 or in 1965.

**Yugoslavia / Romania – September 7, 1964 (KCA)**

Yugoslav President Tito meets Romanian chairman of the Council of State Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej to inaugurate the Iron Gate hydro-electric and navigation project.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – September 7, 1964 (LBC)**

An Anglo-Soviet agreement is signed on the construction of a 30-million-pound synthetic textile plant in Krasnodarsk. The Midland Bank grants a 67.5-million-dollar five year loan for the project.

**East Germany – September 7, 1964 (JWG)**

A non-military national service (Dienst ohne Waffe) is introduced for construction duties.

**Hungary / Poland – September 7-26, 1964 (HC)**

A Polish military delegation, led by Defense Minister Marian Spychalski, visits Hungary.

**Hungary / Norway – September 7-16, 1964 (HC)**

A Norwegian Workers' Party delegation visits Hungary.

**East Germany / West Germany – September 8, 1964 (KGD)**

Pensioners are allowed to visit the FRG and West Berlin for maximum four weeks a year.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary – September 11-16, 1964 (KCA)**

Yugoslav President Tito visits Hungary, where, in a speech upon his arrival, he expresses support for First Secretary of the CPSU Khrushchev in the Sino-Soviet conflict. In a joint statement, both countries agree on stronger economic co-operation.

**East Germany / U.S. – September 11, 1964 (KCA)**

The U.S. State Department announces that Professor Heinz Barwich, a senior East German nuclear physicist and Stalin Prize winner, has been granted political asylum in The United States. Barwich is one of many German scientists who chose to go to the Soviet Union after the Second World War, where he worked at the Sukhumi research center until 1955.

**Finland – September 12, 1964 (JVH/FGV)**

Lehto caretaker government resigns and Agrarian Johannes Virolainen forms a new conservative government that includes the Agrarian Party, the National Coalition, the Swedish People's Party of Finland (RKP) and the People's Party of Finland.

**Hungary / Sweden – September 12-16, 1964 (HC)**

A Swedish co-operative delegation led by C.A. Anderson, Chairman of the Swedish Co-operative Alliance, and Mayor of Stockholm, visits Hungary.

**Soviet Union – September 14, 1964 (CAC)**

During a demonstration of new armaments, Khrushchev expresses doubts about their utility since war between the superpowers has been ruled out because of the danger of nuclear arms.

**Hungary / Vatican – September 15, 1964 (KCA/HC)**

An agreement on a number of outstanding questions between Hungary and the Vatican is signed in Budapest. – *September 18*. The newly-nominated Hungarian bishops leave Budapest to attend the Second Vatican Council in Rome.

**Hungary / Vatican – September 15, 1964 (OSA)**

The Vatican and the Hungarian People's Republic held a confluence on matters related to state and church, both on legislative and practical issues. On the 15th of September the Foreign Ministry has undersigned a document and a record that secures the outcome of the negotiations. The two parties have expressed their desire to discuss other matters in the future. Both Hungarian and Vatican officials were present at the event of the signing.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union / COMECON – September 17, 1964 (KCA/PLC/HC)**

An agreement is concluded in Moscow under which Yugoslavia will take part in some agencies of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance on the basis of equality and mutual benefits in the field of foreign trade, financial relations and selected industrial areas.

**Hungary / Ethiopia – September 20, 1964 (HC)**

Haile Selassie, the Emperor of Ethiopia makes a three-day official visit to Budapest. Negotiations establish an ambassadorial relationship. Further co-operation with Ethiopia is considered.



**East Germany – September 21, 1964 (KCA/KGD)**

Otto Grotewohl, Prime Minister of East Germany, dies after a long illness. – *September 23.* – West Germany approves the terms of a permanent technical agreement to allow West Berliners to visit their relatives in East Berlin at certain times. The agreement is signed on September 24 by Chancellor Horst Korber of the West Berlin Senate and Erich Wendt the State Secretary in the East German Ministry of Culture. It states that West Berliners can visit their relatives during four periods of 14-16 days each year. – September 24. Willi Stoph is appointed as the new Prime Minister.

**Hungary / Bulgaria – September 21, 1964 (HC)**

Visa requirements between Hungary and Bulgaria are eliminated.

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – September 28-October 3, 1964 (HC)**

A Czechoslovakian government delegation led by Antonín Novotný, head of state and First Secretary of the Czechoslovakian Communist Party, visits Hungary.

**October****Hungary – October, 1964 (OSA)**

An article describing the context in which an agreement between the State of Hungary and the Vatican has been struck. The article states that the freedom of conscience prevails in Hungary and everyone who does not explicitly attack the state can live without interference. The amicable relations between church and state are due to the churches' conscious distancing from political issues. The article further details opinions concerning ideological differences and socialist interests.

**Poland – October 1964 (HPB)**

Karol Modzelewski and Jacek Kuroń announce the manifesto in which they criticize the political system in Poland and call for fighting with the authorities by strikes and demonstrations. They are both arrested and sentenced to prison (Modzelewski for 3,5 years and Kuroń for 3 years).

**Poland / Egypt – October 1964 (KCA)**

The Deputy Prime Minister of the United Arab Republic, Dr. Mahmoud Fawzi, visits Poland. Talks with Gomułka result in a scientific and technical co-operation agreement.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 1964 (LYE)**

The first official American government trade mission to Yugoslavia, led by an official of the Commerce Department and made up of private American businessmen, visit Yugoslavia on behalf of the American electronics, heavy equipment and other industries.

**Hungary – October 1, 1964 (HC)**

Hungarian embassies begin processing foreign tourists' and visitors' visa applications within 24 hours.

**Yugoslavia / Nonaligned movement – October 5-10, 1964 (RYN)**

The Second Conference of Nonaligned States is held in Cairo. The initiative has come from Yugoslav President Tito and President of the United Arab Republic Gamal Abdel Nasser,

especially the former. The increased number of nations, the uncertainty expressed in various quarters over the functions of nonalignment in a period of incipient détente, and the challenge raised by militant Chinese propositions are motivating factors.

**East Germany – October 5, 1964 (OSA)**

Walter Ulbricht, Chairman of the Council of State, declares an amnesty decree for the occasion of the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the GDR's founding (on October 7). It is said that the decree will benefit over ten thousand prisoners by December 20, 1964, who will be pardoned or have their sentences decreased. The amnesty includes political prisoners.

**East Germany – October 6, 1964 (KCA)**

At a ceremony for the 15th anniversary of the German Democratic Republic in East Berlin, Walter Ulbricht announces an amnesty for political and other prisoners. The amnesty takes effect before December 20.

**Soviet Union / Israel – October 7, 1964 (KCA)**

A property agreement is signed in Jerusalem between the Soviet Union and Israel.

**East Germany – October 7, 1964 (HWD)**

By the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the GDR an amnesty is granted, that is valid among others for political prisoners, as well.

**Germany / Hungary / Japan – October 10-23, 1964 (HC/JWG)**

The XVIII Summer Olympic Games take place in Tokyo. The GDR and the FRG are represented by an all-German team for the last time. Hungarian athletes win ten gold, seven silver and five bronze medals.

**Hungary / Poland – October 11-17, 1964 (HC)**

A Hungarian government delegation led by János Kádár First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, visits Poland.

**Soviet Union – October 12, 1964 (KCA/HC)**

The Soviet spaceship *Voskhod*, with three men on board, is launched from Baikonur. It is the world's first three-member space shuttle. It lands safely the following day. In addition to this achievement, the Soviet Union launches another 24 *Cosmos* earth satellites and a space vehicle, *Zond I*, during 1964.

**Soviet Union – October 14, 1964 (PLC/HC/CWC/LBC/KCA)**

Khrushchev is overthrown in a coup-like manner during the CPSU leadership's meeting. He is succeeded by Brezhnev as first secretary of the Communist party (1964-1982) and by Aleksei Kosygin as Prime Minister. The Western press announces that Khrushchev's removal from these posts was decided on October 13 at a meeting of the presidium of the central committee of the Soviet Communist Party. – *October 18*. President Lyndon B. Johnson's commentary: Khrushchev embarked on "dangerous adventures" in the field of foreign policy: the Cuban missile crisis and the Berlin blockade. But the former Soviet leader "learned from his mistakes": and "in the last two years his government had shown itself aware of the need for sanity in the nuclear age". This is shown by the test ban treaty and the hot-line pact and the fact that there are no weapons in outer space. – *October 19*. In a speech in Red Square, Brezhnev assures that Soviet foreign policy will remain unchanged. Other communist countries in Eastern Europe express surprise and emotion at Khrushchev's release from his

posts.— *October 30*. It is reported, that a document setting out 29 specific charges against Khrushchev was shown to foreign Communist delegations; the charges include mishandling foreign policy, personal failings and faults in domestic policy.

**Warsaw Pact – October 14, 1964 (CAC)**

The Warsaw Pact plan for the Czechoslovak army's offensive into Western Europe is approved.

**China / Soviet Union — October 16, 1964 (OSA)**

A message was sent to Brezhnev, Kosygin, and Mikoyan by Communist Chinese leaders led by Mao Zedong, greeting them on the day of Soviet elections. In the message, they expressed their wish for the "fraternal Soviet people" led by the Communist party in the Soviet Union to achieve new successes.

**China / U.N. – October 16, 1964 (PLC/HC)**

The PRC detonates its first atomic bomb. The U.N. Security Council thus becomes an exclusive club of nuclear states (though China is still represented by Taiwan).

**Hungary – October 19-24, 1964 (HC)**

The Solidarity World Organization holds a meeting in Budapest. A proposal is signed about the establishment of a political group to support the Vietnamese people.

**Soviet Union / Hungary / Albania – October 19-24, 1964 (OSA)**

The 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the WFTU (World Federations of Trade Unions) is held in Budapest. The Albanian delegate Qimo Kocani launches an attack at the Soviet delegates there.

**Hungary / France – October 20, 1964 (HC)**

The General Assembly of UNESCO holds its 13th session in Paris. Magda Jóború is commissioned to produce a two-year plan. Imre Szabó is appointed Secretary of the Legal Committee.

**East Germany / Warsaw Pact – October 20, 1964 (CAC)**

East German leader Walter Ulbricht takes the initiative in proposing a long delayed WP PCC meeting.

**China / Soviet Union — October 22, 1964 (OSA)**

It was said by an Italian news agency, Ansa, in a report from Moscow that Mikhail Suslov, who is a key member of the Soviet Presidium, might be travelling to Beijing to make peace with the Communist Chinese regime.

**Hungary / France – October 27-31, 1964 (HC)**

György Csanádi, Minister of the Traffic and Post, makes an official visit to France.

**Soviet Union – October 28, 1964 (KCA)**

An agreement providing for the regular exchange of weather information is announced. The agreement is signed in June 1964.

**Hungary / Austria – October 29-November 1, 1964 (HC)**

The Austrian Foreign Minister Bruno Kreisky, makes an official visit to Budapest. An agreement is signed about resolving the Austrian-Hungarian border dilemmas.

**Soviet Union / France – October 30, 1964 (KCA)**

A new Franco-Soviet trade agreement for the years 1965 -1969 is signed in Paris. It envisages an increase in commercial exchanges by about 70% compared with the preceding five years.

**Soviet Union / Turkey – October 30-November 5, 1964 (KCA)**

The Turkish Foreign Minister, Feridun Cemal Erkin, visits the Soviet Union. – *November 5*. After talks with Gromyko and Kosygin, a joint communiqué is issued, in which it is stated that it is possible to strengthen co-operation between the two countries based on the confidence that existed during the period of Ataturk and Lenin.

**November****USA – November 3, 1964 (HC)**

Former Vice-President and acting President Lyndon B. Johnson is elected as President of United States of America.

**China / Soviet Union — November 5, 1964 (OSA)**

Chinese Communist Party leader Zhou Enlai returns to Moscow after leaving in protest three years previously due to the policies that Nikita Khrushchev was implementing. The reason behind his return is believed to be largely due to the improvement and change of leadership. Zhou arrived as the head of the Chinese delegation and was welcomed by a brief handshake by Premier Kosygin, but Brezhnev or an honor guard were not present.

**Soviet Union – November 6-12, 1964 (HC)**

Celebrations marking the 47th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution in Moscow.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – November 9, 1964 (LBC/KCA)**

The U.S. and Yugoslavia sign an agreement on the exchange of scientists in the framework of the Fulbright program. This is the first such treaty with a communist state.

**Hungary – November 10, 1964 (HC)**

Decree no. 1964:27 confirms that the maximum punishment for war crimes will be extended beyond 20 years.

**Czechoslovakia – November 12, 1964 (PSČZ)**

Antonín Novotný is re-elected as president. He also remains First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party.

**China / Soviet Union — November 13, 1964 (OSA)**

After the last European delegation departed Moscow from negotiations with Soviet leaders, the Chinese Communist Premier Zhou Enlai as well as other Asian Communist officials remained in Moscow. There have been unconfirmed reports by Communist sources that Zhou and Brezhnev agreed to have the December 15th preparatory meeting for the Bolshevik Revolution postponed, and instead hold bilateral talks on their differences early next year. There was a divergence of views made by Communist sources since one of them denied it and others confirmed it. The six-day secret talks have been described by Soviet Communists to be as “frank and comradely”.

**Soviet Union – November 16, 1964 (KCA)**

A plenary session of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party decides to revert to the former system of party organization on a territorial basis. Changes in the party leadership are approved. Pyotr Shelest and Alexander Shelepin are elected full members of the presidium of the Central Committee.

**Hungary – November 17, 1964 (OSA)**

A long and detailed article on the particularities of Marxist ideological offensive and its tools in order to ensure the proper workings of socialist work, while expressing that it is paramount for it to happen. Issues such as ‘peaceful cohabitants’ the ‘international platform’s Marxist-Leninist ideology and its relations with the ruling parties (MSZMP) ideology’ are discussed.

**Hungary – November 21, 1964 (HC)**

The rebuilt Erzsébet Bridge in Budapest is inaugurated.

**Hungary / Ghana / Guinea / Mali – November 23-December 12, 1964 (HC)**

A Hungarian Parliamentary delegation led by Ferenc Erdei, visits Ghana, Guinea and Mali.

**Yugoslavia / France – November 24-27, 1964 (KCA)**

Yugoslav Foreign Secretary Koča Popović visits France. No communiqué is issued but it is known that the discussions deal mainly with the increase of trade exchanged between Yugoslavia and France.

**East Germany – November 25, 1964 (JWG)**

A minimum currency exchange is introduced for visitors to East Germany.

**Hungary – November 26-28, 1964 (HC)**

A congress for the organization of international health care takes place at the Hungarian Scientific Academy.

**Soviet Union – November 30, 1964 (KCA)**

The Soviet space craft *Zond II* is launched in the direction of Mars with stable communication.

**December****Hungary / USA – December 4, 1964 (HC)**

Foreign Minister János Péter meets US Foreign Secretary Dean Rusk in New York.

**Yugoslavia – December 7-13, 1964 (RYE)**

The 8th Congress of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia meets in Belgrade. The Congress is to place the seal of approval of the Party's formally supreme authority on the most far-reaching and significant changes in the system since 1953. The Congress also marks effective if still qualified ascendancy of the liberal coalition.

**Poland / Romania -- December 10, 1964 (CAC)**

A meeting of Warsaw Pact deputy foreign ministers is held in Warsaw to prepare for a PCC

meeting. Romania urges that Albania be invited. Because of a wide range of disagreements, the meeting ends without a joint communiqué.

**Yugoslavia – December 11, 1964 (KCA)**

The World Bank announces a loan to the Yugoslav Investment Bank for the modernization and improvement of the railway system.

**Hungary / Bulgaria – December 14-16, 1964 (HC)**

The establishment of common corporations is agreed during Hungarian-Bulgarian negotiations in Budapest.

**Hungary / Austria – December 16, 1964 (HC)**

Hungary and Austria establish ambassadorial relations.

**Hungary –December 21, 1964 (HC)**

The 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Provisional National Government is celebrated in Debrecen.

**Czechoslovakia / Albania – December 30, 1964 (OSA)**

Czechoslovakia and Albania sign a trade and payments agreement for 1965.

**Hungary –December 30, 1964 (HC)**

The National Board of Labor Unions calls for a socialist competition celebrating the anniversary of the country's liberation.

**China / Soviet Union — December 31, 1964 (OSA)**

It was said by the Communist Chinese Premier, Zhou Enlai, that China wanted reconciliation with the Soviet Union. However, no real reparations were observed since the removal of Khrushchev. Moreover, as stated in the report, no improvement in Sino-Soviet relations were observed.

**East Germany / West Germany – December 31, 1964 (KGD)**

Walter Ulbricht demands negotiations with the government of the FRG.

## 1965

### **Yugoslavia – Early 1965, (RYN)**

Vladimir Popović, then chairman of the Foreign Affairs committee of the Federal Assembly, heads a delegation that tours Tanzania, Zambia, Uganda, Kenya, and Sudan.

### **Finland – 1965 (LJF)**

The Communist Party (SKP), the primary component of Finnish People's Democratic League (SKDL), split into an orthodox, hardline, Stalinist minority and a moderate wing.

### **Hungary / USA – 1965 (OSA)**

A special investigation by the United States Senate's Judiciary Committee entitled 'The Church and State under Communism: A Special Study of the Subcommittee to Investigate Administration of the International Security Act and Other Internal Security Laws to the Committee on the Judiciary' is published. It contains a detailed description of developments in Hungary between the state and church through analyzing edicts, decrees and resolutions issued throughout the years.

### **Romania – 1965 (RUR)**

Party congress issues report with charges that Pătrășcanu, one of the most important PCR members during the interwar period and early popular front governments, had been unfairly accused of being a spy. The group that made charges included Gheorghiu-Dej and Drăghici. Drăghici is removed from all party bodies, and it is recommended to remove him from the Council of Ministers.

### **Romania – 1965 (SRR)**

Cultural relations with all Western nations are intensified. On the contrary, inter-bloc cultural ties are weakened.

### **Romania – 1965 (ABR)**

Economic agreement is signed between West Germany and Romania.

### **Romania – 1965 (SRR)**

Romanians veered to the right, the Chinese to the left. Mao's Cultural Revolution further alienated China from Romania.

### **Romania – 1965 (RFN)**

Romania's incipient foreign policy autonomy begins to deepen. Romania plays the key role in the formation of a bloc of small and medium-sized Western and Eastern European states.

### **Romania – 1965 (RFN)**

Romania takes initiative in the formation of the Group of Nine, expended to the Group of Ten, with the addition of the Netherlands in 1968.

### **Romania – 1965-1966 (SRR)**

Romania exploits their independence and friendship with China for soundings of Beijing's and Hanoi's inclinations for a compromise solution with the Soviet Union.

### **Romania – 1965-1967 (RUR)**

Ceaușescu initiates changes to the party's statutes to increase the power of party officials over state institutions and over his rival.

## **January**

### **East Germany / Egypt – late January, 1965 (OSA)**

Following an official invitation from Nasser, SED leader Walter Ulbricht confirms a trip to Egypt to take place in late February. This is to be Ulbricht's first trip outside of the Eastern Bloc (except for Yugoslavia) in official capacity. This is an extremely relevant step in the GDR's foreign policy drive for international recognition. Given that the FRG has a higher level of diplomatic representation in Cairo (at ambassadorial level) than the GDR (a Consul general and a trade mission), this trip was hoped to generate further tensions with regard to the Hallstein doctrine.

### **Bulgaria – January 1, 1965 (OSA)**

Commitment to tolerance and avoiding fragmentation within the arts, whilst remaining committed to the tenets of socialism in culture.

### **Soviet Union – January 1, 1965 (LBC)**

In his New Year speech Soviet Prime Minister Kosygin declares that his government will pursue the active policy of peace and reducing international tensions.

### **Hungary – January 3, 1965 (HC)**

The Intermetall office of the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance opens in Budapest.

### **Romania / U.S. – January 4, 1965 (ABR/LBC/KCA)**

The Romanian government signs a preliminary contract with Firestone Rubber Company for the construction of a 40-million-dollar synthetic rubber plant in Romania. An agreement is also made on the construction of a 10-million-dollar chemical factory. The Export-Import Bank guarantees a five-year commercial loan for the projects based on the 1964 Romanian-U.S. treaty. This agreement is seen in the United States as an important breakthrough in relations with Eastern Europe.

### **Soviet Union / U.S. – January 4, 1965 (LBC)**

President Johnson gives his State of the Union address: "With the Soviet Union we seek peaceful understanding that can lessen the danger of freedom...If we are to live in peace we must come to know each other better. I am sure the American people would welcome a chance to listen to the Soviet leaders on our television – as I would like the Soviet people to hear our leaders. I hope the new Soviet leaders can visit America so that they can learn about this country at first hand". "In Eastern Europe restless nations are slowly beginning to assert their identity. Our government is exploring...ways to increase peaceful trade with these countries and the Soviet Union."

### **Soviet Union – January 5, 1965 (KCA/PLC)**

It is announced that the Soviet Union has formally withdrawn the charge of collaboration with the Nazis against the Volga German community. These Volga Germans regain their citizenship (taken in 1941), but are not allowed to resettle.



The only remaining group not rehabilitated from alleged collaboration with the Nazis is the Crimean Tartars.

**Yugoslavia – January 5-23, 1965 (ACY)**

Discussions between the representatives of Yugoslavia and the Vatican continue in Belgrade.

**Poland – January 6, 1965 (KCA)**

Poland and Czechoslovakia agree to collaborate with the Central Office in Ludwigsburg for the Prosecution of National Socialist Crimes by revealing previously unknown materials.

**Soviet Union – January 6, 1965 (KCA)**

A five-year Anglo-Soviet agreement on co-operation in agricultural research is signed by Peart and by Soldatov. It provides for the exchange of scientific information and for exchange visits between scientists.

**Bulgaria - January 7, 1965 (OSA)**

Reflections on the literary progress of the previous year, and details on the path to making “socialist realism” an integral aspect of Bulgarian literature in 1965.

**East Germany – January 7, 1965 (KCA)**

It is announced that 3,155 East Germans fled to the Federal Republic in 1964 bringing the total number of persons who fled over the Berlin Wall since it was erected to 21,200.

**Albania / France – January 11, 1965 (KCA)**

It is announced that diplomatic missions in Paris and Tirana have been raised from legation to embassy level.

**Hungary / France – January 11-13, 1965 (KCA)**

The Hungarian Foreign Minister, János Péter, visits France. The talks deal mainly with trade, cultural, scientific and technical cooperation. International topics primarily concern the United Nations, East-West relations, disarmament and the German issue.

**Soviet Union / Great Britain – January 11, 1965 (KCA)**

The British Foreign Office announces that the Soviet Prime Minister, Kosygin, has accepted an invitation to visit Great Britain in the spring of 1965.

**France – January 12, 1965 (KCA)**

The French Prime Minister, Georges Pompidou, in answering a question about the significance of new French contacts with the Eastern European countries says that “the development of commercial and cultural relations with these countries does not signify a change in the general policy line of France”.

**Soviet Union / Nepal – January 12, 1965 (KCA)**

A cigarette factory at Janakpur is opened; it is the first project in Nepal built with Soviet aid. Two other projects (a sugar factory at Brijung and a hydro-electric station 20 miles from Katmandu) are said to be almost complete.

**Czechoslovakia / Belgium – January 12, 1965 (OSA)**

A Czechoslovak trade delegation travels to Belgium to negotiate the expansion of trade between the two countries.

**Poland – January 13, 1965 (OSA)**

Dziennik Polski reports that the rising cost of living and shortages of numerous food items caused a wave of strikes in Polish factories. Factory management has granted workers local price supplements which may serve as a precedent for other enterprises. It is said that strikes took place in eight plants over the previous three months, including in the towns of Skarżany Kamien, Łódź, in the Siersza mine in Krakow Voivodeship as well as the largest factory of eternite plates in the country near Radom. In two cases the militia intervened, including in the protest at the Siersza mine which lasted between two to five days. In all eight cases the strikers demanded wage increases in line with the cost of living and an end to shortages which were particularly prevalent in smaller provincial towns.

**Czechoslovakia / Chile – January 16, 1965 (OSA)**

Chile and Czechoslovakia agree to resume diplomatic and consular relations.

**Bulgaria - January 17, 1965 (OSA)**

*‘Rabotnichesko Delo’* article blames the poor behavior of young Bulgarians on teachers and parents, but also public Communist organizations.

**Poland / Romania – January 18, 1965 (RCW)**

The talks between Romanian Workers’ Party leadership and Polish United Workers’ Party leadership are held in Warsaw. The negotiations focus on several issues: The Multinational Nuclear Forces, Warsaw Pact relations with Albania, and the People's Republic of China. Gomulka and Gheorghiu-Dej also discuss the idea of convening a conference of Communist and Worker’s parties.

**Czechoslovakia / Poland – January 18, 1965 (OSA)**

Poland and Czechoslovakia sign an economic cooperation and trade agreement for the period 1966 to 1970 in Prague.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan –January 19, 1965 (OSA)**

In three regions of the Kazakhstan USSR, sessions of industrial and agricultural regional committees were held. Three secretaries were chosen for the industrial regional committee and one for the rural one.

**Soviet Union – January 19-20, 1965 (KCA)**

A communiqué condemning proposals for a NATO multilateral force is issued. The main reason is the Soviet Union’s objection to the proliferation of nuclear power, in particular the granting of access to such weapons to West Germany.

**Warsaw Pact – January 19-20, 1965 (CAC/HC/MMS)**

The WP PCC holds its session in Warsaw. It discusses the new situation created by plans toward the creation of a NATO nuclear force. NATO’s plan for a Multilateral Force (MLF) and a draft of the nonproliferation treaty provoke disagreements, especially with Romania. The PCC excludes Albania from further participation, Poland proposes a European security conference, and Hungary urges creation of a committee to discuss common foreign policy, but it does not succeed.

**Bulgaria – January 22, 1965 (OSA)**

Popular music is becoming more widespread among the Bulgarian youth. There is debate surrounding whether to describe this as a progression or regression of musical taste.

**Warsaw Pact / NATO / U.S. – January 22, 1965 (LBC)**

The joint communiqué of the Warsaw Pact countries: if NATO sets up its joint nuclear force, the Warsaw Pact will be obliged to respond. The U.S. is trying to secure for itself political hegemony in Western Europe, while the FRG would gain access to the atomic arms in return for supporting U.S. policy.

**Bulgaria - January 24, 1965 (OSA)**

Schoolchildren in Bulgaria are widely considered to be lacking discipline, despite commitments to take action on the issue from the Ministry of Education.

**Poland / India – January 25, 1965 (KCA)**

A 12-year credit is granted by Poland to India; it will be repaid in rupees.

**Czechoslovakia – January 27, 1965 (HC)**

The Central Committee of the Czechoslovakian Communist Party approves a proposal about the reforms of the economic leadership system.

**Czechoslovakia – January 27–29, 1965 (OSA)**

The Party Central Committee adopts the principles of the New Economic Model (NEM).

**Soviet Union — January 28, 1965 (OSA)**

In order to better regulate the process of name-changing, the Presidium of RSFSR Supreme Soviet on January 28, 1965, issues a series of guidelines, according to which the responsible Soviet authorities must be notified prior to the act of renaming. The USSR Council of Ministers is the only government body in charge of the system of naming institutions, organizations, and geographical locations that fall under the auspice of the State. The new decree aims to eliminate the confusion from frequent name-changing and to avoid the duplication of names. It also upholds the previous decree of 1957, which forbade the use of names of public figures that were still alive. In the new edition of the administrative-territorial divisions, more than 800 name changes were listed in the year since the previous publication.

**East Germany - January 29, 1965 (OSA)**

Walter Ulbricht confirms a planned visit with Nasser. The difficulty of the East Germans is that West Germany has full diplomatic relations with the UAR, while full diplomatic recognition of the GDR would entail a rupture of diplomatic relations between Cairo and Bonn. The reason seems to be Ulbricht's goal of breaking through the front of non-recognition by the non-allied nations.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – January 29, 1965 (HC)**

Leonid Brezhnev, the First Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party and N. V. Podgorny, member of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet take a three-day visit to Budapest.

**COMECON – January 29, 1965 (CEC)**

The 19th COMECON session is held in Prague. The main topics of the meeting are specializations in radio-electronics, engineering, timber, textile machinery, coordination of

research and 1966-1970 plan coordination. The agreement on Yugoslav participation in the activities of some COMECON organs is ratified.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 30, 1965 (CWC)**

It is announced that the Soviet Union and the United States agree on a cultural exchange program for the year 1965.

**February**

**Yugoslavia – February, 1965 (RNF)**

The federal Assembly passes a bill creating the Federal Fund for the Accelerated Development of the Underdeveloped Republics and Kosovo (FARDUK), to be operated by a thirteen-member board of directors (one per republics and seven appointed by the federal parliament). The fund is to be financed by a 1.85 percent tax on the social product, to be paid by all federal units. It is decided to treat only entire federal units as underdeveloped for FARDUK purposes. Bosnia, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Kosovo are declared eligible for assistance under the new program.

**Albania – February 2, 1965 (KCA)**

The Albanian Government publishes a Note to Poland complaining about being deprived of its rights as a member of the Warsaw Treaty Organization. It states that the Soviet Union unilaterally stopped the delivery of arms and equipment to Albania and seized submarines and ships belonging to Albania.

**East Germany - February 3, 1965 (OSA)**

Bruno Leuschner has an interview as a reaction to the 19th COMECON session, concentrating on the aspects of international coordination of plans and the requirements of the technical revolution in the world. The GDR wishes to alleviate some of the past misgivings arising from the trade partners' fear of receiving obsolete products.

**East Germany – February 3, 1965 (HC)**

People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic calls the parliaments of the world: they shall prevent the planned abolition of the persecution of Nazi war criminals.

**Soviet Union – February 4, 1965 (KCA)**

Professor Trofim D. Lysenko is dismissed from his post as the Director of the Institute of Genetics of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. His theories are considered to be "detrimental to the progress of Soviet biological and genetic research".

**Soviet Union – February 4, 1965 (KCA)**

It is announced that Australia has sold 28,000,000 bushels of wheat to the Soviet Union for cash.

**Soviet Union / Vietnam – February 7, 1965 (CWC)**

Soviet Premier Kosygin visits North Vietnam. He expresses the Soviet support and promises the aid to cope with American attacks.

**Bulgaria - February 9, 1965 (OSA)**

Details of a talk given at the Higher Institute of Economics (Varna) by Professor Vassil Rankov, pertaining to the new economic planning and management system.

**Czechoslovakia / North Vietnam – February 10, 1965 (OSA)**

In his meeting with the North Vietnamese ambassador to Prague, Foreign Minister Vaclav David condemns the US' aggressiveness against North Vietnam by calling the US' actions "a gross violation of the Geneva agreements as well as of basic norms of international law."

**East Germany – February 10, 1965 (OSA)**

Death of prominent East German economic planner Bruno Leuschner from a heart attack.

**Hungary / West Germany – February 10, 1965 (HC)**

The Parliament approves declaration that war crimes will not lapse. The West German government elongates the deadline of lapse to January 1st, 1970.

**Poland / Vietnam - February 11, 1965 (OSA)**

Protests are taking place around the country's workplaces and institutions to demonstrate against the armed intervention of the United States in Vietnam. The crew repairing rolling stock on railways in Poznań passed a resolution on this day demanding an end to US provocation in the form of air raids on the territory of Vietnam in a violation of its borders and sovereignty. Similar protest were organized in the largest factories of Łódź and its surrounding areas.

**Bulgaria - February 12, 1965 (OSA)**

Discussion of the effects of economic reforms on the Ernst Thaelman enterprise, the largest cotton plant in Bulgaria.

**Hungary – February 12, 1965 (HC)**

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the liberation of Budapest, a monument of the Volunteer Regiment of Buda is initiated.

**Poland / East Germany - February 16, 1965 (OSA)**

A fight broke out at the Polish-German worker rally in Zgorzelec, leading to the intervention of the militia, the arrest of a handful of Poles and the communist party delegation from East Germany leaving as the demonstration rally descended into chaos. The rally was originally organized to protest the announcement in Bonn regarding the end of the statute of limitations regarding Nazi war crimes. The party secretaries from the Polish and East German sides accused the Bonn announcement of attempting to whitewash Nazi crimes and hide their perpetrators. Whistles could be heard during the speech of the NRD delegation and the Polish delegation pointed to the favoritism of Nazis in the NRD as they are not brought to court and are allowed into the highest echelons of the party and government.

**Soviet Union – February 17, 1965 (KCA)**

Vladimir Matskevich is appointed Minister of Agriculture.

**Poland / Soviet Union - February 18, 1965 (OSA)**

"The Russians have robbed us again!" and "Away with Soviet exploitation!" were among the slogans shouted by workers of the Gdańsk shipyard during a protest rally. The voivodeship party secretary, disturbed by these developments, called in the former Prime Minister Jędrzychowski to help alleviate tensions among both the shipyard workers and project bureau

engineers. Three rallies took place at the shipyard during January to protest the abolition of bonuses in certain departments, the lowering of wages as a result of the elimination of overtime, and the simultaneous rise in prices. Furthermore, 450 workers were fired in efforts to improve work organization and were to be relocated to Szczecin. The workers opposed the relocation and demanded unemployment benefits amounting to 80% of their earnings to date. 300 engineers, technicians, and specialists were also fired from project bureaus in the voivodeship. Jędrychowski met with delegations of workers and engineers.

#### **East Germany / Czechoslovakia - February 22, 1965 (OSA)**

East Germany is ahead in economic reforms compared to the Soviet Bloc in the application of a new economic system. Czechoslovakia decides to follow the conceptual model that has been adopted to marry planning with the market mechanism to a greater extent than Yugoslavia. The Czechoslovaks are beginning to experiment with the limited and free price system in a few sectors. The East Germans have decided to continue central price control for protecting their social interest, but the true reason is their fear of the loss of Party control in economic decision-making. The East German modifies industrial raw material and semi-finished product prices closer to costs as determined under the new accounting system.

#### **East Germany / Egypt – February 24, 1965 (KGD/HWD)**

Walter Ulbricht visits Egypt - his first state visit to a non-socialist country. This is considered the first success of the East German foreign policy.

#### **Bulgaria – February 25, 1965 (KCA)**

Chile resumes diplomatic relations with Bulgaria following similar action taken in relations with the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary.

#### **Bulgaria - February 26, 1965 (OSA)**

'*Vanshna Targoviya*' editorial focusing on the expansion of reforms surrounding new planning and management which is currently expanding across the economy.

#### **Bulgaria – February 27, 1965 (KCA)**

Elections for an enlarged National Assembly (the total number of seats having been increased by 95 to 416) are held. The Fatherland Front (which includes the Communist Party, the Agrarian Union, the trade unions and other public organizations) nominates all the candidates. These candidates, according to an official announcement from February 28, gain 99.85% of all votes. On the same day (February 27) district and municipal elections are held.

### **March**

#### **Yugoslavia – March, 1965 (RYE)**

The Federal and Economic Chambers of the Federal Assembly passes a new Law on Banks and Credit Transactions which constitutes an essential first step towards the creation of a radically different investment system. The Law seeks to de-étise banks by making them responsible to all their institutional depositors rather than the State alone. It also contains provisions to induce enterprises to deposit. Both are cardinal importance to the revised Yugoslav concept of market socialism and represent the first serious attempt by a socialist state to find a viable alternative to either traditional capitalist or traditional socialist methods of capital accumulation and mobilization.

**East Germany – late March, 1965 (OSA)**

The Ministry of Health issues a confidential memorandum, sent to most East German doctors, announcing legislative changes allowing a liberalization of abortion. The conditions under which the interruption of a pregnancy is permitted are considerably expanded from those of the September 1950 “Law for the Protection of Mother and Child”. The reason for the lack of publicity for such important changes in 1965 may well be the GDR’s demographic problem.

**Soviet Union / Communist parties – March 1-5, 1965 (KCA/HC)**

The 18th meeting of 19 Communist Parties is held in Moscow (parties from the following countries participate: Argentina, Australia, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, Great Britain, India, Italy, the Soviet Union, Syria, Brazil, Western Germany, Cuba, Eastern Germany, Hungary, Poland and Mongolia). They condemn the aggressive war against Vietnam in a declaration. The participants also express their willingness to make any effort to consolidate the unity of the Communist world. In spite of political and tactical differences all the parties believe they should be united against imperialism and support the people’s struggle for liberation in any case.

**U.S. / Eastern Europe – March 1, 1965 (LBC)**

The executive committee of the AFL-CIO condemned the business circles of the U.S. for striving to build economic links with the USSR. The president of AFL-CIO denied that the US has anything to be gained from direct business relations with the USSR. Some government congressional leaders, business groups (e.g. Chamber of Commerce), educators, economists and bankers as well as significant agricultural organizations support the expansion of commerce with the East bloc. The President of the Senate Agricultural Committee, Warren G. Magnusson recommends the establishment of an organization that would advise the President on trade issues with Eastern Europe.

**Soviet Union – March 3, 1965 (KCA)**

It is announced that a number of State Committees of the USSR are reorganized into All-Union Ministries; the following are formed during this reorganization: Ministries of the Aircraft Industry, of the Defense Industry, the Radio Industry, the Shipbuilding Industry, the Electronics Industry and Medium Machine Building.

**U.S. / Eastern Europe – March 4, 1965 (LBC)**

Republican leaders of the Senate propose at a press conference that the U.S. should not sign any economic or commercial treaty with communist states while they continue their subversion at any point of the globe. They recommend the stance of ‘no concession-no agreement,’ which means that the communists would have to grant concessions in return for treaties.

**Romania – March 7, 1965 (KCA)**

Elections to the Grand National Assembly and to local government bodies are held. In the elections, officially 99.85% of the electorate voted in favor of the official candidate.

**Czechoslovakia /UAR – March 7, 1965 (OSA)**

Czechoslovak premier Josef Lenart and foreign minister Vaclav David visit UAR.

**Bulgaria – March 9, 1965 (OSA)**

Preliminary results from the economic reforms introduced at the Tundzha brick factory are positive. Output and productivity are reported to have increased since the reforms have been introduced.

**Bulgaria – March 9, 1965 (OSA)**

Discussion of the successes in economic reform in the rural economy of Pazardzhik. An estimated 8.6% growth is recorded compared to last year.

**Poland / Vietnam / United States - March 9, 1965 (OSA)**

Students staged a short-lived demonstration in front of the United States embassy in Warsaw to protest the events in Vietnam. U.S. embassy sources reported that five or six students walked up to the embassy holding a banner reading “Hands Off Vietnam”. There was no commotion or damage to the building, though the students were immediately driven away by Polish police.

**East Germany - March 10, 1965 (OSA)**

More than fifty economists from the socialist camp and the West gather to discuss the basic problems of the new economic system on the 800th anniversary of the Leipzig Fair in Saxony. The participants are listed. The East German reporter concludes that the East German new economic system is viewed with great interest on the international scene.

**Bulgaria - March 11, 1965 (OSA)**

Zhivkov gives a speech on changes occurring in the economic and cultural fronts.

**East Germany - March 11, 1965 (OSA)**

The organ of the East German writers’ association *Neue Deutsche Literatur* features a similar self-critical article by a group of literary functionaries, from Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union note the failure of East German literature to compete with West German literature in the fraternal countries and the awareness among Polish writers of the short-comings of East German contemporary creations.

**Hungary – March 11-13, 1965 (HC)**

The Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party discusses the experiences of the education reform.

**East Germany - March 12, 1965 (OSA)**

The SED publishes the communique from March 10th as the first official reaction to the recent consultative meeting of communist and workers’ parties’ representatives in Moscow, mentioning that the struggle for strengthening unity will demand great and prolonged effort. Pravda speaks of the parties, joint discussion of current problems, and other forms of party contact and exchange of opinions. The East German innovation is considered a reflection of the increasingly national characteristics coming to the fore in many parties. Pravda mentions the Warsaw Pact meeting and Kosygin’s trip in addition to the cessation of Soviet polemics.

**Soviet Union – March 16, 1965 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union announces that it intends to adhere to the 1883 Paris Convention on the protection of patents and trademarks.

**Bulgaria - March 17, 1965 (OSA)**

A teacher writes a letter to the editor of *Otechestven Front* regarding the relationship between young people becoming involved in religious activity, and the deterioration of youth ideological understanding of socialism.



**Bulgaria - March 18, 1965 (OSA)**

The “National Conference of Young Men of Letters” opens later this month, and will be attended by over 100 young writers in Bulgaria.

**Poland – March 18, 1965 (PLC)**

Polish Jacek Kuroń and Karol Modzelewski’s “Open Letter” is published. The authors are arrested and sentenced four months earlier.

**Soviet Union – March 18, 1965 (KCA)**

A Soviet cosmonaut, Alexei Leonov, becomes the first man to leave a spaceship (the *Voskhod II*, launched from Kazakhstan on March 18) and float freely in the vacuum of outer space.

**East Germany - March 19, 1965 (OSA)**

The implementation of East Germany’s new economic system has produced a side effect of the lack of professionally qualified trained cadres, which leads to the adoption of a resolution by the Central Committee Secretariat on the reasons and methods for training a young generation of cadre functionaries. The SED is oscillating whether to emphasize the importance of ideology and economic viability. A lead editorial in *Neues Deutschland* (March 16th) which deals with Party elections, states that the victory over imperialism will be won in the realm of material production. East Germany embarks on revamping its economic system to improve material production. Implementation of a new economic system requires qualified young functionaries.

**Hungary – March 19-20, 1965 (HC)**

Socialist foremen hold their assembly in Budapest.

**Poland – March 19, 1964 (KCA)**

A letter signed by 34 Polish writers and scientists protesting against press censorship and paper restrictions is presented to Prime Minister Cyrankiewicz. Publication of this letter leads to a conflict between the Polish United Workers’ Party and the Polish Writers’ Union. In May 1964 the Government promises that more paper will be allocated and permits the publication of a new literary magazine.

**Romania – March 19, 1965 (KCA/PLC/ABR)**

President of the Council of State (titular President of Romania) and First Secretary of the Romanian Workers’ Party Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej suddenly dies in Bucharest.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / West Germany / Great Britain – March 20, 1965 (KGD)**

The Soviet Foreign Minister, Andrei Gromyko visits Great Britain. He declares that the reunification of Germany is no longer possible, because the two German states have become too dissimilar.

**Romania – March 22, 1965 (HC/PLC/RUR)**

The central committee of the Romanian Workers’ Party elects Nicolae Ceaușescu as First Secretary of the party and the National Assembly elects Chivu Stoica as chairman of the Council of State.

**Soviet Union — March 22, 1965 (OSA)**

To honor and preserve the memory of the Romanian Communist leader G. Gheorghiu-Dej and the international workers' movement, the Soviet Government orders the renaming of the Rostov technical institute of railway transport to “Gheorghiu-Dej” in the city Liski. A street in Moscow

and a ship under construction, that have not been specified yet, will be given the same name as well. Mourning flags will be raised on the day of Dej's funeral. The city of Liski has a relatively smaller population when compared to the cities that took the names of Togliatti and Thorez.

**Soviet Union — March 22, 1965 (OSA)**

The Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium passes a decree convening the fifth session of the Kazakh Supreme Soviet scheduled on April 5th, 1965.

**Soviet Union — March 22, 1965 (OSA)**

The USSR has ordered 30 million tons of liquid fuel, surpassing the limit stated by the seven-year plan (1959-1965). The amount of oil production has nearly doubled, when compared to 1958, while projections indicate the rise to 1 ½ times, in the next five years. Large amounts of oil production will come from Tataria, Western Kazakhstan, and Western Siberia.

**Soviet Union / France – March 22, 1965 (KCA)**

France and the Soviet Union sign an agreement providing for cooperation in the development of color television based on the French SECAM (sequential and memory) system. This causes surprise and concern in a number of countries, especially in the United States, which already uses its own system NTSC (National Television System Committee).

**Soviet Union / Iraq – March 22, 1965 (KCA)**

It is announced in Baghdad that the Soviet Union will help Iraq finance a dam and power station to be constructed on the Euphrates.

**Hungary / Cuba – March 23, 1965 (HC)**

Raul Castro Ruz, the Cuban Deputy Prime Minister takes a three-day visit in Hungary.

**Soviet Union – March 24, 1965 (KCA)**

Leonid Brezhnev announces a number of measures aimed at strengthening agricultural organization and raising agricultural production. The plan provides for the reduction of state purchases of cereals, meat and poultry and for an increase of capital investment in agriculture. Purchasing prices will be raised without any increase in existing retail prices. The debts owed by economically weak collective farms will be written off and the prices of food and manufactured goods in rural areas will be reduced.

**Romania / Cuba – March 25, 1965 (RCW)**

Raul Castro and Todor Zhivkov meet in Sofia. Zhivkov lays out his perspective on the place of Bulgaria within the Communist Camp. He also talks about the Balkans and the rift between Bulgaria and Romania. Both leaders discuss the Chinese accusations of Soviet Revisionism. Raul Castro talks about the strength of the communist movements in Latin America and the prospects for successful social revolutions in Venezuela, Chile, Costa Rica, Uruguay, and Brazil.

**Soviet Union – March 26, 1965 (KCA)**

The following governmental and party changes are announced: Kirill Mazurov has been appointed First Vice-Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Vladimir Novikov has been appointed Vice-Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Dmitri Ustinov is the new secretary of the CPSU central committee and Leonid Ilyichev is now the Deputy Foreign Minister.

**Yugoslavia – March 26, 1965 (KCA)**

Mihajlo Mihajlov, an assistant professor at the University of Zadar (Croatia), is charged with insulting a foreign State and publishing material which has been officially banned (an article, “Moscow Summer,” in which he wrote about death camps and criticized the slowness of the process of de-Stalinization). In spite of defending himself by stating that publishing historical facts cannot be seen as insulting to other countries, he pleads guilty on April 30 and is sentenced to five months’ imprisonment; however, his appeal of this sentence is accepted.

**Czechoslovakia / Cuba – March 29, 1965 (OSA)**

A Czechoslovak Army delegation leaves for Cuba to observe the work of the Cuban Army.

**April****East Germany – April, 1965 (HWD)**

The Ministry of Justice introduces a proposal for a new “Family Law Code” (Familiengesetzbuch), which is approved by the People’s Chamber in December. The Law Code comes into force in April 1966. Its regulations strengthen the support and defense of families by the state and emphasize the provision of equal rights for women.

**Bulgaria - April 1, 1965 (OSA)**

Reports presented at the annual meeting of the Union of Writers are written with the express approval of Zhivkov.

**Hungary – April 1-6, 1965 (HC)**

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the liberation of Hungary, national celebrations are held. (Bulgarian, Czechoslovakian, Yugoslavian, Romanian and Soviet party and governmental delegations attend the celebrations.)

**Hungary – April 2, 1965 (HC)**

The statue of V.I. Lenin is initiated on the Dózsa György road in Budapest.

**Hungary – April 3, 1965 (HC)**

The parliament passes the historical significance of the liberation into law (1965: II law).

**Soviet Union / Pakistan – April 3-9, 1965 (KCA)**

The President of Pakistan, Ayub Khan, and the Foreign Minister, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, visit Moscow. Agreements on trade, economic cooperation and cultural exchanges are signed. The trade agreement provides for an increase in trade between the two countries. The second agreement determines that the Soviet Union will grant Pakistan a loan for the purchase of machinery. Under the third agreement exchanges of students, scientists, sportsmen, translated books and TV programs are agreed upon. Both sides also agree on the importance of preventing proliferation of nuclear weapons and establishing nuclear-free zones all over the world. They condemn all forms of imperialism and colonialism and express support for granting independence to all the colonial countries. Both sides express satisfaction with the present trend of Soviet-Pakistani relations.

**Bulgaria / Yemen – April 4-9, 1965 (KCA)**

President Sallal of Yemen visits Bulgaria. A treaty of friendship is signed as well as trade and cultural agreements.

**East Germany – April 4, 1965 (OSA)**

The *Neues Deutschland* announces that Karl Maron will be heading the recently formed SED-affiliated research “Institute for Public Opinion”.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – April 6, 1965 (OSA)**

Demotion of Khrushchev’s nominee. The changes were held by the secretary in the central Asian republic of Kazakhstan. The new second secretary was V. Titov. This post traditionally was held by non-Kazakh representatives. Soviet leaders strongly believed that Russian or Ukrainian leaders in republics with non-Russian majority were really successful and powerful.

**Hungary / Austria – April 7, 1965 (HC)**

Foreign Minister János Péter takes a four-day official visit in Austria.

**Poland / Soviet Union – April 8, 1965 (KCA/HDP)**

A renewed 20-year Polish-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance is signed in Warsaw. It is ratified in Poland on April 14 and in the Soviet Union on April 21. It provides for cooperation on the basis of equal rights, respect for sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of the other contracting party. Areas of cooperation will include economics, science and technology as well as culture, arts and education. Both countries should continue their efforts to ensure international peace and security, the achievement of general disarmament and the final liquidation of colonialism. The agreement also provides for mutual military assistance in case of any armed attack and consultations about any international problems concerning both countries.

**Czechoslovakia / China – April 8, 1965 (OSA)**

A trade and payments agreement is signed by Czechoslovakia and China for 1965.

**Czechoslovakia / Sierra Leone – April 10, 1965 (OSA)**

Czechoslovakia and Sierra Leone sign a trade agreement for the first time. According to the treaty, Czechoslovakia exports machinery and consumer goods while Sierra Leone export seeds, cocoa, coffee and industrial diamonds.

**Soviet Union / France – April 10, 1965 (LBC)**

The new Soviet ambassador in Paris is Valerian Zorin, who spent 22 years as Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. De Gaulle reassures Zorin that he will do everything to develop economic, scientific, cultural and political relations between France and the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union – April 12, 1965 (KCA)**

The official Soviet news agency TASS announces that the regularity of remote radio signals indicates that they are controlled “by intelligent beings of a highly developed civilization”. Western astronomers remain skeptical.

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – April 13, 1965 (HC)**

Czechoslovakian Foreign Minister Vaclav David arrives to Budapest for a three-day official visit.

**Czechoslovakia / East Germany / FRG – April 13, 1965 (OSA)**

Minister of Justice Alois Neuman meets GDR Minister of Justice Hilde Benjamin to discuss the Nazi war crimes with reference to West Germany.

**Bulgaria – April 14, 1965 (PLC/CAC/KCA)**

It is announced that “certain persons who violated the laws of the country” were arrested after the discovery of a plot against the Bulgarian regime. According to reports, the conspirators planned to seize power in the middle of April but the plot was discovered by Soviet intelligence agents in March. The conspirators were described as “pro-Chinese” and “national Communists” who wanted Bulgaria to adopt a more independent attitude towards the Soviet Union. The conspirators pleaded guilty and were sentenced to imprisonment for three to fifteen years.

**Bulgaria - April 15, 1965 (OSA)**

“Decree Number 23 for Increased Production of Consumer Goods and for the Improvement of Personal Services to the Population” is issued in response to the poor quality of goods produced in Bulgaria.

**Bulgaria - April 15, 1965 (OSA)**

Press survey detailing a report from the fifth plenum of the Komsomol which focuses on the failings of the communist ideological teachings in schools; and the difficulties facing young poets in their craft compared to older poets.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – April 15, 1965 (LBC)**

The State Department announces that it will support the Congressional resolution condemning anti-Semitism in the USSR. Earlier the State Department did not support it in fear of making things worse.

**Yugoslavia / Algeria – April 15, 1965 (KCA)**

President Tito of Yugoslavia visits Algiers. Both countries criticize U.S. policy in Vietnam and Chinese opposition to the United Nations and state their support for the concept of peaceful co-existence. They also express their support for the Arab people of Palestine and non-alignment and call for the normalization the United Nations’ activities.

**Czechoslovakia / Mongolia – April 16, 1965 (OSA)**

An agreement for cultural cooperation between Czechoslovakia and Mongolia was signed in Prague.

**Yugoslavia / U.K. – April 18-21, 1965 (KCA)**

The British Foreign Secretary, Michael Stewart, visits Belgrade to talk with the Yugoslav Foreign Secretary Koča Popović. Talks deal mainly with the Vietnam crisis; both sides express their support for the international conference to be held on Cambodia. In a joint communiqué it is announced that the Anglo-Yugoslav consular convention has been signed and the abolition of visa fees on a reciprocal basis is agreed upon.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – April 20-28, 1965 (HC)**

Led by Gyula Kállai deputy chairman of Council of Ministers, a Hungarian parliamentary delegation visits Yugoslavia.

**Poland – April 20, 1965 (OSA)**

A meeting of Party and non-Party economists took place in Warsaw discussing the “dissatisfaction of the working class” in industrial workplaces. One of the attendees determined that reform of the economic system, which the need for is felt across the country, will be forced onto the Party by the working class. *Dziennik Polski* reports that in the current climate only the working class, and especially young workers, can successfully exert pressure on the Party and the regime. The intelligentsia, strictly tied to the bureaucracy, is more ‘dependent’ and has more to lose as it is held in the palm of the Party with good jobs, pensions, passports and the possibility of going abroad. Young workers, however, often condescended to and held in contempt by the bureaucratic apparatus of factories, is acting with increasing confidence and criticizing the regime, calling for an independent role in politics and the economy.

**Czechoslovakia / U.K. – April 22-23, 1965 (KCA)**

British Foreign Secretary Michael Stewart visits Prague in order to speak with Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Václav David. Their talks concern mainly the Vietnam crisis and the 1938 Munich Agreement – both sides agree that the treaty was unjust.

**Hungary / Italy – April 22-May 6, 1965 (HC)**

Led by István Szirmai, a delegation of the Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party visits Italy.

**Soviet Union – April 23, 1965 (KCA)**

The first Soviet communications satellite *Molniya I* is successfully put into orbit and inaugurates television exchanges between Vladivostok and Moscow.

**Yugoslavia – April 23, 1965 (KCA)**

The Federal Chamber of the Yugoslav Federal Assembly appoints Marko Nikezić as Foreign Secretary. A reorganization of the Federal Executive Council is carried out – new appointments include: Hakija Pozderac (Trade and Industry), Milijan Neoricić (Transport and Communication), Milan Misković (Internal Affairs), Milorad Zorić (Justice), Dragutin Kosovac (Health and Social Welfare) and Gustav Vlahov (Information).

**Yugoslavia / COMECON – April 24, 1965 (KCA)**

Yugoslavia’s participation in COMECON comes into effect after the ratification of the documents concerning the agreement from September 1964.

**Hungary – April 25, 1965 (HC)**

The *Népszabadság* (daily paper) publishes the declaration of Rezső Nyers, the Secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party about the transformation of the economic leadership system.

**Soviet Union — April 25, 1965 (OSA)**

The soviet press makes several mentions of the heroic Battle of Stalingrad. These references prompted speculation for the reinstatement of the previous name, after the recent renaming of the city to Volgograd, in November of 1961, as part of Khrushchev de-Stalinization policies. The emblematic Battle is closely associated with the toponym “Stalingrad” and retains universal recognition.

**Soviet Union / France – 25-30 April, 1965 (KCA)**

Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko visits Paris. The main points of the talks are summarized in a joint communiqué: regarding South-East Asia, both sides think that the solution to the

problem is to respect the independence and sovereignty of the countries; regarding European security, they express hope that the problem of Germany can be solved with respect to all interests; and regarding disarmament, the importance of the problem is emphasized by both sides. In conclusion, both parties found the exchange of views to be of great importance and interest. These exchanges will be pursued in the future to further develop bilateral relations. The meeting causes some concern and anxiety in Germany; these worries are lessened at a meeting of representatives of both countries in Bonn on May 24.

#### **Yugoslavia / United Arab Republic – April 26-30, 1965 (KCA)**

President Tito of Yugoslavia visits the United Arab Republic. A communiqué issued at the end of his visit calls for the ending of the U.S. air raids on North Vietnam; expresses the opinion that there is no alternative to the United Nations; condemns the policy of “Imperialist Powers” in relation to Palestine, Yemen and South Arabia; and confirms both countries’ support for the struggle against colonialism.

#### **East Germany - April 28, 1965 (OSA)**

Walter Ulbricht’s state visit to the UAR, the results of the Leipzig Spring Fair, and the attendance of a large Soviet delegation, headed by Kosygin at the May 8th celebrations in East Berlin are reported. Ulbricht shows some originality in interpreting the history of the East German Party. The SED leader recognizes the co-responsibility of the Soviets for the access routes to Berlin, since West Berlin is located on the territory of the GDR, East Germany is responsible for transit through the country. The speaker announces that the East German government will request from West Germany the payment of damages inflicted on the GDR between 1950 and 1961 amounting to 120 billion marks.

#### **Bulgaria – April 29, 1965 (OSA)**

An article addresses the urgent question of bourgeois philosophy and how Marxist-Leninist doctrine should respond. Two separate opinions are presented.

### **May**

#### **East Germany / West Germany – May 5, 1965 (KGD)**

The State Council, the Council of Ministers and the National Front proclaim that a reunification of Germany can only be achieved through socialism.

#### **Bulgaria - May 6, 1965 (OSA)**

Discussion of state commitments to improve the standard of education in Bulgaria, and focus on preparing students for adult life and labor.

#### **Soviet Union / Eastern Europe / U.S. – May 6, 1965 (LBC)**

A presidential committee report issued by the White House urges the relaxation of trade restrictions on East-West trade. The aim is to put the U.S. in a hard bargaining position for political gains, since according to the report the financial gain would be “negligible”. The committee recommends the maintenance of strategic controls and all the restrictions applying to Cuba and the communist states of the Far East. The committee’s recommendations: the President should be entitled to relax or tighten the restrictions applying to non-strategic items in trade between the U.S. and the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe; the Department of Defense should state whether the export items increase the communists’ military potential; payments

should be made in hard currency; the U.S. should insist on the settlement of private claims and the payment of the USSR's 800 million dollar lend lease debt and to the protection of patents.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – May 8, 1965 (HC)**

The People's National Army and the Soviet Army hold a military parade in Berlin.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – May 9, 1965 (HC)**

The Pravda publishes the declaration of János Kádár, the First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the victory over fascism.

**Warsaw Pact – May 10-18, 1965 (HC)**

Military leaders of Warsaw Pact member countries hold a meeting in Soviet Union. Military exercises, weapon exhibition and exchange of ideas are on schedule.

**Yugoslavia / Norway – May 10-14, 1965 (KCA)**

President Tito of Yugoslavia visits Norway. A joint communiqué includes an expression of support for the United Nations and for the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons, as well as concern for the deterioration of the international situation in certain areas, mainly in Vietnam.

**Czechoslovakia / India – May 11, 1965 (KCA)**

Czechoslovakia grants a loan to India. It will be repaid in Rupees which will be used by Czechoslovakia to purchase Indian exports.

**East Germany – May 12, 1965 (OSA)**

A speech made at the 9th SED Central Committee Plenum focuses on agriculture. Gerhard Grüneberg – candidate Politburo member – delivers the address scheduled on the agenda summing up the results of the preceding local farmers' conferences. Grüneberg reports that in 1964 state farms as a whole worked profitably. The speaker defends the agricultural policy of the Party which has continued to press for further socialization of the collectives. All members must be aware of the political and ideological tasks and exact controls must be organized to further economic, organizational and scientific technical steps for increasing agricultural production.

**Poland – May 12, 1965 (OSA)**

The report provides information about an article written by a Czechoslovak economist for the Polish paper "Warsaw Daily." The article concerns the economic progress since liberation, the economic difficulties and the plan of production for future development.

**Soviet Union / India – May 12-19, 1965 (KCA)**

The Prime Minister of India, Shastri, and the Minister of External Affairs, Sardar Swaran Singh, visit the Soviet Union. A joint communiqué issued on May 19 calls for an immediate end to U.S. air raids on North Vietnam and a settlement of the Vietnamese question based on the Geneva Agreements. It is also announced that the Soviet Union and India will double their trade during the next five years.

**Soviet Union – May 12, 1965 (KCA)**



The Soviet space capsule *Luna V* hits the moon. It is not officially stated if it is considered to be a successful mission or not. Another Soviet automatic station *Luna VI* is launched on a lunar trajectory on June 8 but it misses the moon.

**West Germany / Israel – May 13, 1965 (PLC)**

West Germany and Israel establish diplomatic relations.

**Soviet Bloc – May 14, 1965 (MMS)**

Meeting of military representatives and diplomats in Moscow.

**Poland – May 16, 1965 (KCA)**

Wladyslaw Tykocinsky, head of the Polish military mission in West Berlin (a diplomat with a rank of Minister and a military rank of major-general), asks the American authorities for political asylum in the United States and is flown to West Germany.

**Soviet Union / Turkey – May 17-22, 1965 (KCA)**

The Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko visits Turkey. Both countries agree on their support for the United Nations and full disarmament. Mutual relations will be based on respect for independence, territorial integrity, equality, and non-intervention in each other's internal affairs. In a joint communiqué, in addition to the views mentioned above, the two countries agree to support the right of people to live without any colonial oppression, call for respect to the existence of two countries in Cyprus and express satisfaction with the progress of Soviet-Turkish trade.

**Soviet Union / Finland – May 20, 1965 (KCA)**

Finland and the Soviet Union sign an agreement on the limits of their respective territorial waters and the continental shelf in the Gulf of Finland. The newly established boundaries (based on the median line principle created at the Geneva Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone of 1958) are open to Finnish fisheries. The signing of additional protocol permits Finnish fishermen to fish within a considerable area of their territorial waters east of Suursaari.

**East Germany - May 20, 1965 (OSA)**

East Germany has discovered the merits of the social sciences, sociology and opinion polls. The investigations and surveys concentrate on job attitudes and management psychology, qualifications and high mobility of the workers within the framework of the general topics of industrial sociology and psychology. Research institutes have been created at universities and technical institutions, affiliated to the SED Central Committee, are placed under the leadership of Karl Maron.

**East Germany - May 21, 1965 (OSA)**

In November 1963, Acting Prime Minister Willi Stoph maintained that the establishment of West German trade missions in socialist countries is intended for aims which have nothing in common with trade. The issue of *Neues Deutschland* published on May 18th argues that Krupp's representative Beitz has interfered in Tunisia and has defended the interests of Bonn's foreign policy. The article by the Secretary of State and Deputy Foreign Minister Otto Winzer, titled "Power Relations and Bonn's circumvention maneuvers" describes the same issue. Winzer argues that Bonn no longer uses "frontal attacks" against the GDR. *Neues Deutschland* accuses West German Secretary of State Rolf Lahr of misusing Rumanian hospitality" during his visit to Bucharest on the occasion of the current technical fair where the federal republic is

an exhibitor, it also includes an article by Peter Lorf maintains that “inspired by some American advisers.”

#### **Bulgaria / Soviet Union – May 26-June 2, 1965 (KCA)**

A Soviet Communist Party delegation visits Bulgaria. It is emphasized that the process of uniting Communist parties is long but no party can solve its problems in isolation, adopting the attitude of “national egoism”. Todor Zhivkov, on behalf of Bulgarian Communist Party, declares unity “for life and death” with the Soviet Union.

#### **Soviet Union / China – May 26, 1965 (KCA)**

China and the Soviet Union sign a cultural agreement that provides for the exchange of writers, artists, journalists, students and lecturers.

#### **Romania – May 27, 1965 (RCW)**

A report about maneuvers under the command of Romanian Minister of the Armed Forces, Army General Leontin Sălăjan is issued. Maneuvers are held in the period May 20-May 27. The report informs about several problems during maneuvers and highlights the importance of mountain operations.

#### **Yugoslavia – May 29-June 8, 1965 (ACY)**

Further discussions between the representatives of Yugoslavia and the Vatican take place in Belgrade.

#### **Poland – May 30, 1965 (KCA)**

General elections are held in Poland with a single list of candidates presented by the National Unity Front. As a result of the elections, the distribution of seats in the new *Sejm* is as follows: Polish United Workers’ Party - 255, United Peasant Party – 117, Democratic Party – 89, Independents – 49. The new *Sejm* is opened on June 24 and Czesław Wycech is re-elected as its Marshal; Edward Ochab is re-elected as chairman of the Council of State, and Cyrankiewicz is appointed as chairman of the Council of Ministers. Together with the general elections, elections to provincial, district, town and village councils are held.

### **June**

#### **Finland / Estonia – Summer 1965 (SPS)**

Ship line is opened between Tallinn and Helsinki, which despite of all the restrictions is a gateway to West for Estonians. It ships people but also more or less clandestine trade such as stockings, Bibles, jeans, disk records and suspicious letters.

#### **East Germany / Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – June, 1965 (OSA)**

Yugoslavia’s Josip Broz Tito visits Czechoslovakia, East Germany and the Soviet Union in an attempt to increase trade with the COMECON countries.

#### **East Germany – June, 1965 (OSA)**

Over two years after the Communist ‘rehabilitation’ of Franz Kafka’s literary legacy at the Liblice Conference in May 1963, the author’s work was at long last published in its original German in the GDR, a country that until recently had resisted such a step.

#### **East Germany - June 1, 1965 (OSA)**

The role and importance of economists and economic scientists under monopolistic state capitalism are discussed. Dr. Karl-Heinz Schwank states that bourgeois political economists are playing a considerable role in the postwar monopolistic state system. The author believes the enumerated factors to be influencing socialist economies as well. The increasing influence of socialism in the world is responsible for the developments in the capitalist system. Cooperation of economists in economic subcommittees which meet in regular session, special subcommittees appointed by the state to investigate specific situations.

#### **Romania – June 2, 1965 (KCA)**

The central committee of the Romanian Workers' Party decides that the party will be known from then on as the Romanian Communist Party. It is stated that the work of building Socialism in Romania is complete and that the country will now move to the building of a Communist society.

#### **Yugoslavia – June 2, 1965 (KCA)**

The reorganization of the Yugoslav League of Communist is announced under which a secretariat was set up to "conduct party affairs" and Koča Popović, formerly the Foreign Secretary, was appointed head of a new commission for international socio-economic and political relations.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia – June 2, 1965 (OSA)**

Tito and Novotny start official talks regarding bilateral relations of the two countries in Prague.

#### **Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – June 2-8, 1965 (KCA)**

President Tito of Yugoslavia visits Czechoslovakia. An agreement on economic cooperation, which says that Czechoslovakia will supply Yugoslavia with non-ferrous metals and semi-finished products, is signed. Both Presidents condemn American policy in Vietnam and the interference in internal affairs in Congo, view the situation in the Middle East as a serious threat to international security and peace and call for full disarmament. They condemn the revival of militarist activities in the Federal Republic of Germany as a threat to European security.

#### **U.S. – June 3-7, 1965 (HC)**

J. A. McDivitt and N. H. White take a 98 hours long space flight around the Earth with the two-member space shuttle called Gemini. During the flight White enters space for 20 minutes.

#### **Czechoslovakia / U.K. – June 6, 1965 (OSA)**

British Secretary for Education arrives in Prague to study the Czechoslovak education system and to discuss cultural interactions of two countries.

#### **Soviet Union – June 7-10, 1965 (HC)**

The representatives of labor unions of socialist countries hold a convention in Moscow. The subjects are the objectives of labor unions in the planning of the economy and the questions about the increase in the financial interest of the economy.

#### **Yugoslavia – June 7, 1965 (KCA)**

128 miners lose their lives in a methane gas explosion at the Bosnian coal mine of Kakanj. The disaster is the worst of its kind in Yugoslavia since 1934.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia – June 8, 1965 (OSA)**

Tito signs a joint communique that refers to “significant progress in political, economic, scientific and cultural cooperation” between the two countries.

#### **East Germany – June 8, 1965 (OSA)**

Tito’s visits in June 1965 to Czechoslovakia, East Germany and the Soviet Union are viewed in Belgrade as meaning a big step forward in Yugoslavia’s trade with the Comecon countries. Dr. Frangesh claims that East European markets have become the most important markets for Yugoslavia’s exports. Yugoslavia is not capable of paying for imports in foreign currency, which is the chief reason for Yugoslavia’s decrease in trade with Western Europe. On April 25th, an agreement between Yugoslavia and Comecon came into effect.

#### **China / Albania – June 9, 1965 (PLC)**

New Sino-Albanian commercial agreement signed in Beijing, which renders the Albanian economy completely dependent on China.

#### **East Germany - June 9, 1965 (OSA)**

Politburo experts argue that cooperation contracts are an important ingredient in the new economic system in agriculture. Muckenberger responds that true cooperative relations determine contractually the sectors in which the collectives will support each other. Any merger shall take place only with the consent of the farmers themselves. A cooperation council is formed composed of two representatives of each LPG, and this council decides on all questions affecting the 10 LPGs. The SED considers itself as the avant-garde in ideological and even practical matters.

#### **East Germany - June 10, 1965 (OSA)**

A letter to the editor of an East Berlin weekly gives ideological support to a Chinese anti-revisionist concept. The writer expresses surprise at Walter Ulbricht’s statement that the GDR is about to embark upon the transition from the dictatorship of the proletariat to a people’s state. People’s democracies becoming states for all people has been one of the main points of contention between China and the more revisionist regimes.

#### **East Germany - June 11, 1965 (OSA)**

The East German regime has permitted the publication of Franz Kafka’s works. Kafka’s works are expected to be in great demand in East Germany.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – June 13–18, 1965 (OSA)**

A high-level Czechoslovak delegation visits Moscow to participate at the fourth session of the Czechoslovak-Soviet Inter-Governmental Commission for Economic and Scientific Development.

#### **Hungary – June 13, 1965 (HC)**

The 7-9/1965 governmental order about the increase of government benefits of low pensions, childcare benefits and that of army pensioners is approved.

#### **Poland / United States / Vietnam - June 13, 1965 (OSA)**

On the 25-year anniversary of the first deportation of Nazi prisoners to the Auschwitz concentration camp a ceremony took place in Tarnów, southeast Poland, attended by surviving prisoners of this transport. The secretary general of the international Auschwitz committee Mieczysław Kieta, the former prisoner Eugeniusz Niedojadło were among those who spoke. Another former prisoner, Jazef Falczyk, sent an open letter to U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson

in which former prisoners of Auschwitz expressed their protest against U.S. aggression in Vietnam.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – June 13, 1965 (OSA)**

The 3rd shift in Kazakhstan's leadership since Khrushchev became premier.

**Hungary / Finland – June 17-25, 1965 (HC)**

A delegation of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party led by Sándor Gáspár, the General Secretary of the Party Committee of Budapest, visits Finland.

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – June 18, 1965 (HC)**

The flood of the Danube deluges the majority of Csallóköz (a region with a mostly Hungarian population in Czechoslovakia). 50 thousand people become homeless; the reconstruction will take two years.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – June 18, 1965 (OSA)**

The plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan, which discussed the plan for the further development of agriculture in the republic, has ended. Personnel changes were made in the secretariat, the reason was not announced.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – June 18, 1965 (KCA)**

President Tito of Yugoslavia visits Moscow. The communiqué issued at the end of his visit condemns U.S. intervention in Vietnam, recognizes the existence of two German states and opposes arming German states with nuclear weapons. A joint Soviet-Yugoslav committee is set up. The economic and technical cooperation agreed upon includes an increase in trade and the Soviet Union is responsible for supplying Yugoslavia with three complete generator-units for the realization of the Iron Gate hydro-electric and navigation project.

**Czechoslovakia / Denmark – June 18, 1965 (OSA)**

Czechoslovakia and Denmark sign a long-term trade agreement in Prague.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – June 19, 1965 (OSA)**

Czechoslovak Ambassador Oldrich Pavlovsky meets Brezhnev.

**Bulgaria – June 22, 1965 (OSA)**

Press survey detailing the creation of new committees to accompany the newest economic reforms and the importance of not falling behind foreign trends.

**Hungary – June 23-30, 1965 (HC)**

“International Solidarity for Vietnam Week” takes place in Budapest.

**Hungary / Vietnam – June 23-28, 1965 (HC)**

A governmental delegation of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam led by Le Thanh Nghi, Deputy Prime Minister, visits Hungary. They approve cooperation about the support to Vietnam and about the extension of the two countries' economic assistance.

**Soviet Union / Chad – June 23, 1965 (KCA)**

The Government of Chad establishes diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union by opening a Soviet embassy in Fort-Lamy.

**Soviet Union – June 23, 1965 (KCA)**

The TASS Agency announces the details of a plan for a great power-generating center in Central Asia designed to supply electricity to industrial areas of European Russia. Work on it will start in 1966. In addition to European Russia, the power center is also intended to supply the industries of the Ural region.

#### **East Germany – June 24, 1965 (KCA)**

It is announced in East Berlin that Otto Winzer has been appointed Foreign Minister. He represents the Socialist Unity (Communist) Party.

#### **Hungary / Soviet Union – June 24-29, 1965 (HC)**

János Kádár the First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, accompanied by Antal Apró and Béla Biszku, members of the political committee of the party, take a three-day official visit in the Soviet Union. All three are awarded the memorial medal established for the 20th anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War.

#### **Poland – June 24, 1965 (OSA)**

A wave of indignation sweeps through Poland in reaction to the sentencing of Stanisław Wawrzecki to the death penalty in relation to the 'meat affair' in which he was accused of accepting bribes from butcher shop managers in total of around 3.5 million zlotys. Dziennik Polski reports that students of the Warsaw University protested during lectures of the law department, condemning the verdict as "ridiculing justice" and demanded the abolition of the death penalty and the court's sentence. At a rally at the Wrocław University an appeal to the regime was made too, demanding the abolition of the death penalty. Similar appeals were made at a lively session of the Warsaw branch of the Literary Union. Cardinal Wyszyński also protested against this act of the judiciary in a sermon made after the verdict: "the highest value, life, has been taken from a man in a situation which can be defined as a painfully comic. It is nonsense that a man should pay with his life for his weakness in material matters. What is the value of life in Poland? Is it one ton of meat, or maybe only half a ton?"

#### **Hungary – June 25, 1965 (HC/KCA)**

The Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party holds its session. It suggests the discharge of János Kádár from his position of Prime Minister and proposes Gyula Kállai as his successor; it further suggests the retirement of Ferenc Münnich and the discharge of János Pap from his Deputy Prime Minister position. It discharges Dezső Nemes from his secretary position and appoints him as the chairman Party Historical Institution; it elects Zoltán Komócsin as his successor who is discharged from the leadership of the Népszabadság (daily paper) publishers; it discharges János Gosztonyi from his central committee head of department position and appoints him as a chairman of the Népszabadság publishers; it discharges Sándor Gáspár from his First Secretary of the Party Committee of Budapest, and suggests that Károly Németh should be elected as a first secretary of the Budapest Party Committee.

#### **CMEA / Soviet Union – June 25-29, 1965 (HC)**

The 18th session of the executive committee of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance takes place in Leningrad. The first year's results of the International Bank of the CMEA are scheduled to be discussed.

#### **East Germany - June 26, 1965 (OSA)**

The SED Central Committee meets for its tenth plenary session which began on June 23rd. Hermann Axen enumerates the foreign political successes during the period of the last SED Central Committee session. He reviews the international situation and links U.S. imperialism

with West German revanchism and makes some remarks about the international communist movement. East Germany's agreement with the Soviet plea for rallying the communist movement is coupled with the doubts that any differences might be eliminated. Axen goes on to accuse Bonn of bribing the socialist camp by suggesting financial rewards in return for support.

**Hungary / England – June 30, 1965 (HC)**

Foreign Minister János Péter, takes a three-day official visit in England.

**Poland – June 30, 1965 (KCA)**

The Internal Security Corps (the militarized security force) is placed under the control of the Ministry of Defense, making it part of the army. Control of the Border Guards is also transferred from the Ministry of Internal Affairs to the Ministry of Defense.

**July**

**Romania – July, 1965 (SRR)**

Defense against Russian pressure becomes even more pronounced. The April 1964 formula is revised in the direction of greater independence at both the State and Party levels. Romania demands a liquidation of the Warsaw Pact.

**Soviet Union / Czechoslovakia – July, 1965 (OSA)**

The 29<sup>th</sup> session of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) was held in Prague.

**Bulgaria - July 1, 1965 (OSA)**

Results from a large-scale survey of agricultural experts gather the overall challenges that are faced in the sector.

**Hungary – July 1, 1965 (HC)**

The Kállai-government takes office.

**East Germany – July 2, 1965 (OSA)**

East Germany has introduced a number of far-reaching changes in a broad area of the economy and in the implementation of the national economic plan. In 1962, the output of the food industry declined, and the same happened in light industry in 1963. The purpose of the economic reform is to replace obsolete bureaucratic practices of planning and controls by non-bureaucratic methods. The nationalized enterprises have been amalgamated in the Associations of State Enterprises in which much of the authority was vested, which were controlled by the industrial departments of the state planning commission and the national economic council.

**Soviet Union – July 3, 1965 (LBC)**

Brezhnev emphasizes that the Soviet Union's nuclear force is larger than the West thinks. According to Brezhnev the USSR has made important steps to create anti-ballistic missile installations.

**Bulgaria – July 4, 1965 (OSA)**

An article was published, which questioned how much 'free time' Bulgarian workers get since they have to attend so many engagements for the Party, trade union, brigade etc. Workers are reportedly becoming disconnected from their families because they see them so rarely.

#### **East Germany - July 5, 1965 (OSA)**

Walter Ulbricht endorses further decentralization measures in agriculture; emphasizing the importance of contractual cooperative relations between LPGs, and expresses his approval of the partial abandonment of administrative prices in agriculture. Ulbricht implies support for the establishment in agriculture with flexible prices which will be regulated by market relations. The expansion of economic reforms to agricultural prices and the decentralization of administration in the same sector is one of the more liberal economic reforms of the GDR which coincides with the general atmosphere of Eastern European developments.

#### **Bulgaria – July 7, 1965 (OSA)**

At a meeting of various leaders of the clothing and textile industries, methods of improving the quality of clothing produced in Bulgaria is discussed.

#### **Czechoslovakia – July 8, 1965 (OSA)**

Party Presidium candidate Martin Vaculik evaluated the first 6 months of the economic reforms. While he stresses the "surprisingly good achievements of the NEM in some places, he also warns regarding the raise in the prices of engineering goods.

#### **Czechoslovakia – July 9, 1965 (OSA)**

Antonin Novotny speaks to workers of the local footwear factory in Gottwaldov. He stresses his belief in the next Five-Year Plan to improve the current pace of the economy.

#### **Soviet Union / Norway - July 9, 1965 (KCA)**

Norway approves two agreements concerning the building and operating of a telemetry station in Spitsbergen for the tracking of artificial space satellites, in spite of formal Soviet protests. Russia claimed that the telemetry station could be easily incorporated into the military system of NATO and used for military purposes, especially for satellite reconnaissance over northern Russia. Norway rejected these arguments claiming that the station will be used only for peaceful purposes.

#### **Soviet Union / Soviet Bloc – July 9, 1965 (OSA)**

A confidential message from Richard V. Burks to Ernest Schneider about personal reports on policy discussions related to the "unprecedented drop of Soviet prestige in Eastern Europe".

#### **Czechoslovakia / Ghana – July 10, 1965 (OSA)**

A trade union delegation from Ghana visits Prague to observe the mass production methods of Czechoslovak agriculture.

#### **Czechoslovakia / UAR – July 10, 1965 (OSA)**

Czechoslovakia and the UAR signs a trade treaty for the next 5 years.

#### **Czechoslovakia / France – July 12–15, 1965 (OSA)**

French parliamentary representatives visit Czechoslovakia.

#### **East Germany - July 13, 1965 (OSA)**



The East German election campaign is in full swing. State Council member Klaus Sorgenicht explains that the electoral districts will be decreased in size and more candidates may be placed on the list in the electoral districts than representatives are to be elected in them. 21,000 people will be elected to local governments, district, county and city councils for the next legislative period of 4 years.

**North Vietnam / Soviet Union / Poland / Bulgaria / Hungary / East Germany – July 12-December 21, 1965 (KCA)**

Economic aid agreements are signed between the Soviet Union and North Vietnam. North Vietnam signs similar agreements with Poland on June 12, with Bulgaria on June 21, with Hungary on December 28, and with East Germany on December 30.

**Hungary / Finland – July 13-21(HC)**

Led by Mrs. István Vass, the chairwoman of the Parliament, a parliamentary delegation visits Finland.

**Poland / Italy – July 14, 1965 (KCA)**

An Italian-Polish agreement on economic, industrial and technical cooperation is signed in Warsaw. Cooperation will occur primarily in the engineering, building, agriculture and transport fields; the agreement also provides for the joint production of finished goods and sub-assemblies and the exchange of results of scientific research and training.

**Czechoslovakia / East Germany – July 15, 1965 (OSA)**

East German Minister of Justice visits Prague upon invitation of Alois Neuman.

**Czechoslovakia / Canada – July 15 – August 7, 1965 (OSA)**

A Canadian parliamentary delegation visits Czechoslovakia upon invitation of the CzSR National Assembly presidium.

**Greece – July 15, 1965 (PLC)**

During a political crisis, the Greek King forces Papandreou and his government to resign (*Apostasia* or Royal Coup).

**Poland / Vietnam - July 18, 1965 (OSA)**

A youth rally takes place on the 20-year anniversary of the return of Mazury and Warmii to Poland in Wilkasy in the Olsztyń voivodeship which houses numerous sailing camps of youth and sports organizations. Those gathered issued a resolution condemning U.S. aggression in Vietnam. The rally was attended by vice prime-minister Zanon Nowak who was later a guest at a sailing and water tourism center in Giżycko.

**Hungary / Chile – July 19, 1965 (HC)**

Luis Corvalán, the General Secretary of the Communist Party of Chile and Pablo Neruda take a five-day visit in Hungary.

**Romania – July 19-22, 1965 (KCA/PLC/RUR)**

The ninth congress of the Romanian Communist Party creates a Five-Year Plan for 1966-1970, a 10-Year Power Plan for 1966-75 and approves a new draft Constitution. The Five-Year Plan provides for an increase in total industrial production and foreign trade. The 10-Year Power Plan includes the development of electrical and nuclear power. The new draft Constitution includes: the definition of Romania as a Socialist Republic; the removal of any reference to the

Soviet Union; and a guarantee of freedom of speech, the Press, and assembly as well as of basic personal freedoms. There are two important features in the new Constitution: the emphasis put on the independence of the country and the increased provision for civil liberties. In the official report issued on the congress, Nicolae Ceaușescu emphasizes Romania's determination to maintain her political and economic independence and to proceed with her industrialization policy. He also declares that art and literature will be free from party interference. As to international affairs, he calls for unity and states that if differences between parties cannot be avoided they should not prevent Communist states from cooperating. At the congress, new party statutes are approved which provide, among other things, for the enlargement of the Central Committee, the changing of the nomenclature (instead of the First Secretary there will be a General Secretary) and the introduction of a rule that party members may not hold more than one key position in the party and the State. Also the Party's name is changed into Romanian Communist Party.

**Bulgaria - July 20, 1965 (OSA)**

Public disappointment in the lack of availability of luxury and fashionable goods on the Bulgarian market, contrary to promises made by the state.

**Soviet Union – July 20, 1965 (KCA)**

The photographing of the far side of the moon is completed when the Soviet automatic space station *Zond III* transmits to Earth pictures of the previously hidden part of the moon.

**East Germany / Romania – July 21, 1965 (OSA)**

Ulbricht – the SED leader – expresses his misgivings to the party congress. His statements are a futile attempt to put a thorn in Romania's expansion of trade with West Germany. He repeatedly pleads for the recognition of 2 German states by signing of a peace treaty, and for the treatment of West Berlin as an independent political unit.

**Bulgaria / USA – July 22, 1965 (OSA)**

Discussion of the potential for an unprovoked attack from the U.S. on the socialist world, in addition to their military plans.

**Czechoslovakia / Cuba – July 22, 1965 (OSA)**

Representatives of the Czechoslovak National Front leave for Cuba to attend the celebrations of the Cuban national holiday.

**Czechoslovakia / India – July 22, 1965 (OSA)**

The Indian Minister of Supply and Technical Development visits Prague for discussions with Czechoslovak economists.

**East Germany - July 23, 1965 (OSA)**

The GDR announces commercial production of contraception pills, which is the first country in the communist bloc and the fifth country in the world to market such a product. Chlormadinon was planned to be produced by the state-owned enterprise of Jenapharm and would be available on doctor's prescription. East Germany is the only country of Eastern Europe which has not legalized abortion, as the "Law for the protection of mother and child" of September 1950 was still standing. Most doctors of the GDR received a confidential memorandum from the East German Ministry of Health, called 'Instructions for the application of Paragraph 11 of the law for the protection of mother and child of 27 September 1950.'

**Yugoslavia – July 23-24, 1965 (PLC/KCA)**

The Yugoslav Federal Assembly approves economic reforms aimed at increasing market freedom and decentralization in the economy. Reforms include: devaluing the dinar, introducing the “new dinar” (equivalent to 100 existing dinars), reducing the rate of taxation, ending a general price freeze from 1965, introducing decentralization of investment decisions, and partially abolishing agricultural subsidies.

#### **Soviet Union – July 24, 1965 (KCA)**

After pleading guilty to charges of anti-Soviet subversive activities, a British college lecturer in Russian, Gerald Brooke, is sentenced to one year in prison and four years in a labor camp by a Moscow court. His activities specifically involved acting on behalf of a Russian émigré organization known as N.T.S. (People's Labor Union).

#### **Soviet Union / U.S. / U.K. – July 25, 1965 (LBC)**

At the opening of the Geneva disarmament talks Johnson's declaration is read according to which the U.S. aims are to sign a nuclear non-proliferation treaty, to reach a general test ban treaty and the participation of more nations at the disarmament talks. The Soviet condition for disarmament agreements is that the U.S. and England will not share nuclear arms with other countries. Great Britain presents a draft non-proliferation treaty, which would make it possible for the USSR to renounce the treaty in case West Germany obtains nuclear arms.

#### **Romania – July 26, 1965 (RCW)**

Discussions are held with Chinese Communist Party delegation to the 9th Congress of Romanian Communist Party. Negotiations focus on disagreements between the Chinese and Soviets regarding the Vietnam War, general support to the North Vietnamese, and general relations among the Warsaw Pact countries.

#### **Bulgaria – July 27, 1965 (KCA)**

The following government changes are officially announced in Bulgaria: the Security Services are brought under the authority of a new Committee for State Security, of which Solakov is appointed the head; while Dinko Stefanov is appointed head of the Committee for State and Party Control.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Japan – July 28, 1965 (OSA)**

A trade union delegation travels to Japan to attend the Japanese trade union congress.

#### **Yugoslavia / India – July 28-31, 1965 (KCA)**

The Prime Minister of India, Lal Bahadur Shastri, visits Yugoslavia. Both countries call for an international meeting concerning the issue of Vietnam. They emphasize an increase in trade and express their desire for further economic cooperation. When it comes to international affairs, they reaffirm their support for the policy of non-alignment, oppose colonialism and support the United Nations and the idea of disarmament. They also point out that inequalities between countries are a threat to international stability; therefore, they call for the elimination of any form of discrimination.

#### **Hungary / Guinea – July 30-August 2, 1965 (HC)**

Led by Sekou Toure, a Guinean governmental and party delegation visits Hungary.

### **August**

**Tanzania / Czechoslovakia / Poland / Soviet Union – August 1964**

Kawawa, the Second Vice-President of the United Republic of Tanzania, visits the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and Poland. Agreements on technical aid are signed.

**Yugoslavia – August 1, 1965 (PLC)**

Slovenian-Croatian border agreement grants Slovenia access to the sea at the Bay of Koper.

**Yugoslavia – August 1, 1965 (RYE)**

Property in the housing sector is revalued and as a result the rents are raised sharply.

**East Germany - August 2, 1965 (OSA)**

A statement and 2 pages of readers' letters criticizing films shown in the GDR which puts a stop to the liveliest discussions. East German films are not only produced by a single state-owned company but are distributed by a centralized agency. The authority for the purchase of foreign and DEFA-films has been transferred from the Ministry of Culture to the progress distribution representatives. Not a single DEFA-production is able to compete with West German or foreign films on either the viewer numbers or on aesthetic aspects.

**Soviet Union / Afghanistan – August 6, 1965 (KCA)**

A protocol extending the Afghan-Soviet Treaty of Neutrality and Non-Aggression for ten years is signed in Moscow. Also in August, a motor road linking the Soviet frontier town of Kushka with Kandahar via Herat is opened.

**Albania – August 9, 1965 (KCA)**

Albania officially withdraws from both the International Labor Office and the International Labor Organization reasoning that the activity of the organization is no longer in agreement with the rules of social justice.

**Poland – August 9, 1965 (OSA)**

Polish police evicted nuns from a small convent in the town of Glogowek in the greater Silesian region. After the state decided to take it over as a school, United Press International reports. The nuns were forced to move to a house belonging to the parish church. The Church had rejected the state's claim that they owned the property on the grounds that the building was constructed after the war and was no property abandoned by Germans deported from the area after World War II. About 10 or 15 nuns were evicted and the police sealed the building.

**East Germany – August 10, 1965 (OSA)**

In an article entitled "Realities must be our guidelines", Professor Dr. Gunter Soder foresees East German doctrines on economic policy. The SED leader says at the Ninth SED plenum that no one in the world is in possession of valid truths, and the collective wisdom of a large number of qualified and experienced Marxists-Leninists.

**Soviet Union / Canada / Argentina – August 11, 1965 (KCA)**

A contract for the purchase on a cash basis of 4,600,000 tons of Canadian wheat and 400,000 tons of wheat flour is signed in Canada. On the same day, it is announced in Buenos Aires that the Soviet Union has purchased 1,100,000 tons of wheat from Argentina.

**Hungary – August 20, 1965 (HC)**

Nation-wide celebration takes place in Hungary on the occasion of the day of constitution.

**Romania – August 21, 1965 (RUR)**

A new constitution is approved. A new Political Executive Committee, a larger version of the Politburo, and a smaller Presidium, a decision-making body selected from the Political Executive Committee are created. According to the new constitution, the Romanian People's Republic takes the name Socialist Republic of Romania.

**Hungary / Italy – August 24, 1965 (HC)**

Luigi Longo, the General Secretary of the Italian Communist Party makes a weeklong visit to Hungary.

**Soviet Union / Egypt – August 27–September 1, 1965 (KCA)**

President Nasser of Egypt visits the Soviet Union. Both countries express support for peaceful coexistence and international cooperation and underline the importance of non-aligned countries in easing international tensions. They share opinions on Vietnam and against colonialism; both countries support the people of Palestine and Oman, the efforts of the Organization of African Unity and the general idea of disarmament. Both Egypt and the Soviet Union condemn the racist policy of South Africa. When it comes to bilateral Soviet-Egyptian Relations both countries are satisfied with the development of these relations and with the fulfillment of commitments (such as Soviet participation in the construction of the Aswan High Dam). At the same time, they both express hope for the further development of trade and military aid.

**Austria – August 29–September 4, 1965 (HC)**

The 12th international historian congress takes place in Vienna with 50 Hungarian participants.

**September****Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – September, 1965 (ACY)**

A Serbian orthodox delegation, headed by Bishop Jovan of Šand and Bishop Andrej of Banja Luka, visits Moscow to continue the strengthening of relations between the two churches.

**Yugoslavia / Egypt – September 1-4, 1965 (KCA)**

President Nasser visits Marshal Tito in Belgrade. The final communiqué emphasizes the seriousness of the situation in Vietnam, expresses support for the United Nations, rejects all forms of colonialism and underlines the attachment of the U.A.R. and Yugoslavia “to the principles and proposals of the non-aligned conferences in Belgrade and Cairo”.

**France / NATO / Romania / Poland – September 9, 1965 (LBC)**

In a speech the French President implies that his country will quit NATO at the latest in 1970. “So long as the solidarity of the Western peoples appears to us necessary for the eventual defense of Europe, our countries will remain the ally of our Allies, but upon the expiration of the commitments formally taken – that is, in 1969 by the latest – the subordination known as ‘integration’ which is provided for by NATO and which hands our fate over to foreign authority shall cease, as far as we are concerned.”

**Soviet Union – September 29, 1965 (OSA)**

Brezhnev makes a speech at the Plenum of the CPSU and talks of a desire to improve Soviet relations with the East European Communist countries and to strengthen the “fraternal alliance of Socialist countries”.

**Poland / France – September 10-16, 1965 (LBC)**

Polish Prime Minister Cyrankiewicz visits Paris. The Premier has three discussions with De Gaulle. In a joint communiqué they call for the normalization of East-West relations so as to create “the atmosphere of entente”. Cyrankiewicz expresses gratitude for the French position on the Oder-Neisse line.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – September 11, 1965 (HC)**

While spending his vacations in Yugoslavia, János Kádár holds discussion with President J.B.Tito on the island of Brioni.

**Soviet Union / Romania – September 11, 1965 (PLC)**

During his visit to Moscow, Ceaușescu officially accepts the Soviet-Romanian border, thus wavering all claims for Bessarabia.

**Poland / Romania / U.S. – September 13, 1965 (LBC)**

The White House announces that President Johnson is sending a seven-member commercial delegation to Poland and Romania to find out how American sales to the civilian industries of these states can be raised.

**Hungary / Vietnam – September 14-25, 1965(HC)**

The delegation of the South-Vietnamese National Liberation Front visits Hungary. They agree that the SNLF will open an office in Budapest and the Hungarian solidarity committee will give medical instruments and other equipment to South Vietnam.

**East Germany – September 17-28, 1965 (JWG)**

The SED leadership visits Moscow; a decision is made about the establishment of a “Governmental Parity Commission for Economic and Technical-Scientific Co-operation”.

**Poland / U.K. – September 17-21, 1965 (LBC/KCA)**

British Foreign Secretary Stewart visits Poland. According to Stewart the question of the Polish-German border can be settled within the framework of a general German settlement. Polish foreign minister Rapacki and Stewart agree that it would be useful to hold a conference on European security. In a joint communiqué they affirm their countries' interest in peaceful solutions to international problems and underline the importance of solving conflicts both in Vietnam and between India and Pakistan. They also stress the importance of disarmament and the need to strengthen the authority of the United Nations. Both ministers would welcome an increase in trade as well as scientific, technological and cultural cooperation between Poland and Great Britain.

**Hungary – September 20-23, 1965 (HC)**

The convention of the World Alliance of the Scientific Workers takes place in Budapest. The subject is science in developing countries and cooperation with them.

**Hungary / Mongolia – September 27-October 3, 1965 (HC)**

Led by János Kádár, the First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, Hungarian Party and governmental delegation visits the People's Republic of Mongolia. A friendship and cooperative contract is signed.

**Hungary / France – September 27-October 8, 1965 (HC)**

A delegation of the French Communist Party, led by Roland Leroy, visits Hungary.

**Soviet Union – September 27-29, 1965 (KCA)**

In a plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party it is decided that the regional economic councils (introduced in 1957) will be abolished and the Ministries for particular branches of industry will be restored. The resolution voted on in this meeting recommends greater freedom for individual enterprises, fuller use of bonus schemes and increased use of the profit motive. The Bill adopted by the Supreme Soviet introduces the decided changes in industrial organization. Another change introduced by the Soviet Union concerns consumer goods factories – starting April 1 textile, leather and other factories will convert to a system of production based on demand; in the future expansion of this experiment to different industries will be considered. On October 17 it is announced that in the future a large part of the national investment will be financed by long-term bank loans (not interest-free grants out of the Government Budget) in order to force industrial planners to make sure their projects are necessary and economical.

**East Germany /Romania / Czechoslovakia - September 29, 1965 (OSA)**

East German coverage about a 10 day tour of Walter Ulbricht and his delegation from September 17th to 28th. They begin with the Romanian delegation headed by Party chief Ceausescu and Prime Minister Maurer and continues with the Czechoslovak group under the leadership of Novotny. Ulbricht will have been qualified for discussion of almost any subject. *Neues Deutschland* features Ulbricht's speech made during the Kremlin's friendship rally and the final communique is signed at the conclusion of the visit.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – September 30-October 8, 1965 (HC)**

Led by Colonel Lajos Czinege, the Hungarian Defense Minister, a military delegation visits Yugoslavia.

**October**

**Yugoslavia – Early October 1965 (RYE)**

The Federal and Economic Chambers of the Federal Assembly debate the first effects of the economic reform. Demands are being made for reflationary measures to stop the decline in growth rates and to relieve enterprises beset by illiquidity.

**Yugoslavia / Syria – October 1965 (RYE)**

A parliamentary delegation visits Syria and discusses the prospects for increased investments by Yugoslav enterprises.

**Finland / Tunisia – October 3—10, 1965 (FMT)**

President Urho Kaleva Kekkonen travels to Tunisia for a state visit. During the visit he for everyone's astonishment climbs to a palm tree.

**Soviet Union – October 4, 1965 (KCA)**

The Russian lunar space capsule *Luna VII* is launched and crashes into the moon four days later on October 8. It fails to make a “soft” landing on the moon. Neither the Soviet Union nor the United States have ever achieved a “soft” landing on the moon.

**Czechoslovakia / US / Vietnam – October 5, 1965 (OSA)**

The 48<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the October Revolution is celebrated in Czechoslovakia. In his speech regarding the celebrations Hendrych mentioned the “unity and conformity of views” between the Soviets and Czechoslovaks besides criticizing the US presence in Vietnam.

**Hungary – October 5, 1965 (OSA)**

The article underlines the need of discussing the ideological directives of the party and the state in order to ensure the proper workings of factories. It references a discussion held in a factory in Szombathely. In case of religion opinions differ, but the disarmament of groups that are against socialist ideology is important. Stricter disciplinary measures, the need of educating the youth and bridging differences between workers coming from differing backgrounds is also important.

**Soviet Union / Persia – October 5, 1965 (KCA)**

A draft agreement is signed in Teheran, under which the Soviet Union will construct an agricultural machinery factory, a natural gas pipeline from southern Persia to the Soviet Union and a steel mill near Isfahan. It will also train Persian technicians for the steel works. These projects will be financed by the Soviet Union; repayments are expected to be made in petroleum gas and agricultural or other products. At the meeting of representatives of both countries on June 21- July 3, the representatives stress their willingness to develop bilateral, good neighborly relations; analysis of these relations up to the present leads to the conclusion that they are developing in a favorable direction. During the meeting, on June 25, an agreement on the construction of a barrage on the River Araxes on the Soviet-Persian border is signed.

**Bulgaria – October 6, 1965 (OSA)**

Questions on the ideological education of young people are discussed by the Komsomol and the Propaganda and Agitation Department of the BCP.

**Czechoslovakia / USA – October 6, 1965 (OSA)**

Foreign Minister Vaclav David addresses the current international issues and Czechoslovak-US relations during his visit to New York. David stresses the negative impact of the Vietnam War on US-Czechoslovak relations.

**Czechoslovakia – October 7, 1965 (OSA)**

The CPCz Central Committee ideological commission and the commission for youth meet to talk about the issues of youth and decide to increase the youth’s role in the society and improve the education level of the youth.

**Hungary / Vietnam / North Korea – October 7-27, 1965 (HC)**

Led by Jenő Fock, member of the Political Committee of the Party, the delegation of the Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party visits the Korean People’s Democratic Republic and the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

**East Germany / West Germany – October 8, 1965 (KCA)**



The International Olympic Committee (IOC) decides that West and East Germany will be represented by two separate teams in the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City and the Winter Olympics in Grenoble. Contrary to the 1959 agreement on the formation of one German team, West Germany will represent Germany; the East German team represents East Germany,

**Poland – October 8-22, 1965 (HC)**

The 6th World Congress of Labor Unions takes place in Warsaw. It phrases a declaration: “International unity of workers is a crucial requirement of our age”.

**Bulgaria / USA – October 9, 1965 (OSA)**

An article deals with the undesired influences of American films on Bulgarians.

**Czechoslovakia – October 9-10, 1965 (OSA)**

A two-day national conference of the Czechoslovak People’s Party is held. Vaclav replaced former secretary-general Josef Gemrot.

**East Germany – October 10, 1965 (OSA)**

East German elections for local and communal representatives take place. These are the first elections with the new, more liberal electoral procedure recently approved by the State Council. As a result, there are more candidates (250,000) than there are posts to be filled (approx. 200,000), and the size of electoral districts has been decreased. Although some choice is given by the increased number of candidates, a ‘list’ system for all candidates passing the 50% threshold allows for more selection by the party in name of the National Front. The pre-balloting meetings of the voters’ commissions and voters’ representatives avoid taking full advantage of the new freedom granted by law. The new election regulations give no answer to the exact way of marking the ballot.

**Bulgaria / USSR – October 13, 1965 (OSA)**

Bulgarian-Soviet treaty is signed. The USSR will provide support to assist in the development of the Bulgarian economy.

**Soviet Union / Bulgaria – October 13, 1965 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union and Bulgaria sign a long-term agreement (1966–1970) in addition to the protocol on trade of 1966. The long-term agreement fixes the volume of trade 70% above the trade volume for the years 1961–1965. A prior economic cooperation agreement provides for the construction of two large factories for trucks and motor cars in Bulgaria.

**Hungary / France – October 15, 1965 (HC)**

Hungary and France sign cultural agreement for five years in Budapest.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – October 15-17, 1965 (OSA)**

Brezhnev meets with Novotny. The meeting is perceived as a “relatively new form of mutual contacts.”

**Finland – October 17, 1965 (SFF)**

The Agrarian League changes its name to Centre Party.

**Hungary – October 18, 1965 (KCA)**

László Szabó, a Second Secretary at the Hungarian Legation in London, applies for political asylum in the United States. He is admitted to that country and is waiting for a final decision despite protests from Hungary.

#### **Eastern Europe / U.S. / NATO – October 19, 1965 (KCA/LBC)**

State Department press secretary Robert J. McCloskey affirms that CoCom decided to allow the sale of nuclear reactors to Eastern Europe if the reactors are used for peaceful purposes. The procedure by which an Eastern European country can purchase a nuclear reactor to produce electricity from a CoCom country is agreed upon among countries of NATO. The general embargo on sales of reactors to Eastern European countries will still apply; the sale of reactors to produce electricity will be possible under very severe restrictions and after close analysis of the particular case of the inquiring country.

#### **East Germany – October 21, 1965 (OSA)**

A RFE analysis points out that East Germany has assumed the posture of the prescient Party leadership, in contrast to other countries such as the Soviet Union, and has avoided making mistakes thanks to the wisdom of its collective leadership. Ulbricht pays homage to the late Togliatti and to his views on the problems of the international workers' movement. He indicates that he had anticipated Togliatti's thoughts by referring to his own speech made on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the first international. Ulbricht uses the technique of emphasising the adverse effects in the GDR of the slow development of agriculture in other socialist countries as a means of diverting attention from domestic agricultural inadequacies. Meanwhile, the Soviet Union has covered virtually all of the East German grain deficit.

#### **Yugoslavia – October 21, 1965 (RYE)**

In an authoritatively unsigned front-page editorial entitled *Through the Back Door, Komunist* somberly describes attempts to evade or distort the reform's intentions.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – October 21-23, 1965 (OSA)**

Celebrations for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Seventh Comintern Congress are held in Prague. Delegations from 40 communist parties, including the CPSU attend to Congress. The representative of the Czechoslovak Party, Vladimir Koucky, praised the anti-imperialist struggle of the communist movement.

#### **Hungary / Soviet Union – October 22-27, 1965 (HC)**

Hungarian-Soviet economic and technical cooperative session takes place in Budapest.

#### **Soviet Union / Italy – October 22, 1965 (KCA)**

An agreement on mutual cooperation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy is signed by Italy and the Soviet Union. Valid for three years (prolonged for three years more if there are no objections), it covers the study of atomic physics and radio chemistry, the working of nuclear reactors and power stations, protection against radiation, and other issues.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Yemen – October 25, 1965 (OSA)**

The foreign minister of Yemen meets Vaclav David.

#### **East Germany – October 27, 1965 (OSA)**

East Germany has become a foreign trade broker of agricultural exports from third countries to the Common market, serving as a loophole in the EEC trade wall which was created to reduce the flow of agricultural products from East European and Western countries. East German

exports help to fill the gap because of the inability of Holland and Belgium to supply a quantity of pork production to meet West Germany's needs, thus forcing the Federal Republic to seek other sources of supply.

**East Germany – October 28, 1965 (OSA)**

East Germany explains its stand on the Afro-Asian Conference, scheduled to open in Algiers on 5th November.

**Hungary / Switzerland – October 28–November 4, 1965 (HC)**

The delegation of the Swiss Workers Party, led by General Secretary Edgar Woog, visits Hungary.

**Soviet Union – October 28, 1965 (KCA)**

It is reported that the *Zond II* has picked up very powerful radio waves from an unknown source.

**Soviet Union / France – October 28, 1965 (KCA/LBC)**

The French Foreign Minister Maurice Couve de Murville visits the Soviet Union. Couve de Murville negotiates with Gromyko, Kosygin and party First Secretary Brezhnev. Kosygin invites President de Gaulle to Moscow so as to strengthen France's position as an independent nuclear state. The communiqué issued on November 2 summarizes the most important issues. Both parties emphasize the need for continuing normalization between Eastern and Western countries and express concern about the situation in Vietnam. Both stress the importance of disarmament – the French Minister states that his country has always been in favor of genuine and controlled disarmament. The importance of the United Nations is also underlined, as well as the development of Franco-Soviet relations. Although not mentioned in the communiqué, according to *Le Monde*, the German problem and the question of a NATO multilateral nuclear force played a significant role in the Franco-Soviet talks.

**Czechoslovakia – October 28, 1965 (OSA)**

Antonin Novotny speaks on the day of Nationalization.

**Czechoslovakia – October 29–31, 1965 (OSA)**

Bratislava and Prague simultaneously celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> birthday of Ludovit Stur who was the most important figure in putting the Slovak nation back on the map of Europe.

**Czechoslovakia – October 29–31, 1965 (OSA)**

The third congress of the Czechoslovak Association for the Dissemination of Political and Scientific knowledge is held in Prague.

**Bulgaria – October 30, 1965 (OSA)**

Poor collective farm management is creating excess waste and reflects the negative attitude of farmers towards collective farming. Private farms are significantly better maintained.

**November**

**Yugoslavia – November 1965 – February 1966 (RYE)**

The Party's Executive Committee holds a series of meetings to discuss failure to implement the reforms and the national question.

**Bulgaria – November 2, 1965 (OSA)**

For true collective leadership to be successful, open discussions are necessary. Party committees and organizations are hoping to implement this to widen applications.

**East Germany – November 2, 1965 (KCA)**

A German-English translator, Arthur Wilbraham, is sentenced by a Potsdam court to four years' imprisonment for trying to help East Germans flee to the West. He expresses no intention of appealing the sentence.

**Bulgaria – November 3, 1965 (OSA)**

Annual report and election conferences article detailing the topics which should be of importance and how meetings should be held.

**East Germany – November 3, 1965 (OSA)**

Walter Ulbricht may attend the Moscow celebrations of the October Revolution. The main speaker is only a Candidate member of the Politburo, while in previous years the celebrations staged in East Berlin featured a full member. The East Berlin celebrations are scheduled for the evening of November 5th.

**Poland – November 3, 1965 (OSA)**

A group of Warsaw university students face expulsion for spreading ideas "harmful to the interests of the press" after a university disciplinary commission met to deal with "intolerable behavior" of at least eight students, UPI and Reuter report. These students were allegedly concerned in spreading ideas promoted by former university research workers Karol Modzelewski and Jacek Kuroń. Karol Modzelewski is the son of late Polish foreign minister Zygmunt Modzelewski and was sentenced to three and a half years imprisonment in July for spreading "false and harmful information about Poland, harmful to the interests of the state." Jacek Kuroń received a three-year sentence. No details of the "ideas" or contents of the pamphlets distributed by the convicted pair were divulged but Modzelewski was expelled from the Polish Communist Party before his trial. The Commission's verdict regarding the eight students was released on November 11.

**China / Soviet Union — November 5, 1965 (OSA)**

Because of the 48th anniversary of the October socialist revolution, a group from the Soviet-Chinese friendship association arrives in Beijing in order to attend celebrations.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – November 5, 1965 (HC)**

The Supreme Council of the Soviet Union awards 21 Hungarian veterans of the Russian civil war. Ferenc Münnich is awarded by the Lenin-Order.

**East Germany / West Germany – November 7–December 7, 1965 (OSA)**

A communication sent on November 7 by the West Berlin Senate to the GDR about reopening negotiations for a new Christmas pass for West Berliners to visit family in East Berlin has gone unanswered. A month later, on December 7, the East German news agency ADN blames West Germany for the failure of negotiations for the holiday pass – namely, its refusal to recognize

the GDR's statehood, which the latter has posed as a precondition for the pass. Citizens of West Berlin may thus be unable to visit their relatives on the Eastern side of the wall.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – November 9-December 3, 1965 (LBC)**

British Foreign Secretary Stewart declares he does not accept the Soviet precondition for the non-proliferation treaty by which the NATO should give up its plan for a unified nuclear force. He emphasized that Germany would not be given the right to use atomic weapons.

**Czechoslovakia – November 10–12, 1965 (OSA)**

The Czechoslovak National Assembly held a three-day meeting to present and discuss the drafts of governmental bills on the organization of central management bodies.

**East Germany - November 10, 1965 (OSA)**

Every country in East Europe is experimenting with aspects of their system of economic management at the beginning of a general reform during 1966. Declining economic growth rates are apparent in many countries after the communist economies' resources. In the GDR and Czechoslovakia, technological lags and the choice to amplify growing sectors play a lesser role than in less-developed countries. Czechoslovakia and East Germany are the two most industrialised economies in Eastern Europe, both experiencing the most serious drop in growth rates in 1963. The labour shortage being experienced by the GDR has been much more severe than in any other Bloc country.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan / Ukraine –November 11, 1965 (OSA)**

Short reports about the plenums in the regional party committees of Kazakhstan and Ukraine, at which new secretaries of the regional committees were elected. Changes were made in the Oryol regional committee; the new secretary was T. Sokolov. G. Chiryaev became the first secretary of the Yakut regional committee. A. Vatchenko, who was previously the secretary of the Cherkasy regional committee, was appointed to Dnepropetrovsk. Instead of the previous secretary in Cherkasy, A. Andreev became the new secretary. I. Morozova became the first secretary of Komi.

**Poland - November 11, 1965 (OSA)**

Warsaw University has suspended three students for demonstrating in support of jailed lecturers Jacek Kuroń and Karol Modzelewski. The students are to be suspended for one year whilst three others were reprimanded and disciplinary charges against two others were dropped. The disciplinary commission of the university held three sessions this month with its verdict charging the students with "improper behavior", though details of the commission's hearing were not made public.

**Soviet Union / Vietnam – November 14, 1965 (KCA)**

The details of secret Soviet moves aimed at establishing peace and starting negotiations in Vietnam are revealed. At the beginning of 1965 the Soviet Union tried to gain Chinese and North Vietnamese support for negotiations with the United States. It offered to send troops to North Vietnam as a guarantee against American attack.

**Czechoslovakia / Italy – November 14, 1965 (OSA)**

The secretary-general of the Italian Communist Party arrives in the CzSR to address the issues of the international workers' movement.

**Poland / Germany – November 18, 1965 (HDP)**

The Polish Episcopate publishes a conciliatory letter entitled Letter of the Polish bishops to the bishops of Germany. The publication of the letter causes a serious conflict between the Roman Catholic Church and the Polish state.

#### **Eastern Europe / Western countries – November 18, 1965 (LBC)**

The London Institute of Strategic Studies publishes its annual report on the East–West balance.

Weapon	USA	USSR
ICBMs	854	270
SLBMs	544	120
IRBMs	-	750
Long range heavy bombers	625	200
Medium range bombers	930	1250
Aircraft carriers	38 (incl. all Western)	- (incl. all Eastern)
Atomic submarines	62 (incl. all Western)	40 (incl. all Eastern)
Conventional submarines	186 (incl. all Western)	416 (incl. all Eastern)

#### **Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – November 19, 1965 (OSA)**

The 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Soviet-Czechoslovak Uranium Treaty is celebrated at the Prague Castle with the attendance of the leading party and government officials as well as representatives of the Czechoslovak uranium industry and the Soviet Ambassador to Prague.

#### **Czechoslovakia – November 19, 1965 (OSA)**

Milan Klusak replaces Jiri Hayek at the United Nations.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Hungary – November 20, 1965 (OSA)**

Hungary and Czechoslovakia sign a trade agreement for the next five years that increases the trade volume up to 44 percent between the two states.

#### **Poland / Venezuela - November 20, 1965 (OSA)**

On this day of solidarity with Venezuelan students on the 8th anniversary of student demonstrations at the Central University in Caracas, a student rally takes place in honor of those fighting against the Venezuelan dictatorship. Foreign students at Polish universities came to the rally as well as representatives of the Polish academic youth from Warsaw universities. The general secretary of the Committee of Solidarity with Asian, African, and Latin American Nations, Lucjan Wolniewicz, was also in attendance.

#### **Soviet Union / U.K. – November 20-December 3, 1965 (KCA)**

The British Foreign Secretary, Michael Stewart, and the Minister of State for disarmament, Lord Chalfont, pay a visit to Moscow during which an Anglo-Russian consular convention is signed. According to the final communiqué both countries place great importance on solving the problem of disarmament. With respect to Germany and European security, both countries declare that they will continue their efforts to solve the problems and achieve normalization between Eastern and Western European countries. Both sides express concern about Vietnam and emphasize the importance of the United Nations. In addition to signing the consular convention they express hope that there will be further developments in trade and cooperation.

#### **Hungary / Czechoslovakia – November 21, 1965 (HC)**

Hungary and Czechoslovakia sign a barter agreement.

#### **Poland / Sudan - November 21, 1965 (OSA)**

Sudanese students from all universities across Warsaw joined with the Polish colleagues in a rally to protest the visit of the Sudanese delegation.

#### **United Nations – November 22, 1965 (KCA)**

The United Nations Development Program is created. In the Governing Council, among the 19 seats devoted to developing countries also seats for Yugoslavia are agreed upon. Out of the 17 seats delegated to more-developed countries three will be filled by Eastern European countries.

#### **Soviet Union / Warsaw Pact – November 23, 1965 (KCA)**

It is announced in Moscow that General Mikhail Kazakov is now the Chief of Staff of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Treaty countries.

#### **Hungary – November 24, 1965 (HC)**

In the former headquarters of the Communist Party of Hungary, a memorial museum opens.

#### **Poland – November 24, 1965 (OSA)**

A serious dispute between workers and managers at a steel mill escalates in Częstochowa. At the Bierut Steelworks, a rebellion of prisoners carrying out hard labor at the steelworks takes place. Normally the prisoners received compensation for their work at the rate of half the working-class wage as they paid a certain sum for their living and housing costs at the camp. In September of this year efforts to increase savings at the works led to the decision to eliminate cash earning and limit earnings solely to the cost of living and housing. The over 450 prisoners working at the plant initially decreased the rate at which they worked in protest. When this failed to change the situation the workers began a “sabotage” in October by standing next to their machines, doing nothing and smoking cigarettes. Interventions by the factory security failed to return the prisoners to work and at the beginning of November a fight broke out between the prisoners and security guards, resulting in several people being seriously injured. The militia and UB officers were called into the steelworks whilst workers returning from the steelworks would be locked in unheated barracks and their food rations were decreased. In response the prisoners set fire to two barracks and beat a couple of security guards unconscious. The militia had to use tear gas and an investigation committee of the party arrived from Warsaw. *Dziennik Polski* reports that according to most recent information the prisoners are to receive somewhat decreased cash earnings.

#### **Poland - November 24, 1965 (OSA)**

Strikes take place at a sulphur plant in Tarnobrzeg where workers have complained about the scandalous working conditions at certain machines for some time, reports *Dziennik Polski*. The majority of machines come from the Soviet Union, ceaselessly breaking down and causing problems to workers. Over two months two workers died as a result of injuries whilst a few found themselves in hospital. Trade unions refused to intervene, explaining that ‘Soviet machines’ were the only ones which could be obtained as a result of a lack of foreign currency to import machines from the West. The safety measures demanded by workers have been ‘planned’, said a representative of the unions but were awaiting approval from Warsaw. The issue continued for six weeks until workers began striking in the four departments most affected by injuries. The strike lasted for eight days until management decided to halt work in these departments until the malfunctions were fixed and adequate safety measures were introduced.

#### **Poland - November 24, 1965 (OSA)**

The longest of Poland’s strikes to date, takes place in a battery factory in Starogard Gdański and lasts for two weeks, reports *Dziennik Polski*. The strike was caused by increases in

production norms over the last year which caused a real decrease of some 10% in workers' earnings. The workers attempted to make up for these losses by working overtime and began to earn even slightly over what they were taking home previously. As a result, the factory's management conducted a 'counter-offensive' and further increased norms leading to a 25% cut in real earnings. The strike ended after a commission from Warsaw arrived and listened to the workers' complaints, considered the situation, and 'removed the injustice'. The strike was new in that the rebellious workers chose their own strike committees and refused cooperation with the trade unions. The party commission from Warsaw had to formally recognize the workers' strike committee and conduct talks with them as representatives of the workforce.

**Warsaw Pact – November 24-24, 1965 (MMS)**

Meeting of the Commanders-in-Chief and Deputy Ministers of Defense in Warsaw.

**Bulgaria / France – November 26-29, 1965 (KCA)**

The Bulgarian Foreign Minister, Ivan Bashev, visits France. The talks deal mainly with the development of trade and economic and cultural cooperation.

**Bulgaria - November 26, 1965 (OSA)**

Report from the Ministry of Education regarding a schoolteacher who is caught in an inappropriate relationship with a female student and is forced to marry her to resolve the situation. This is not the only case of such relationships occurring within schools. The degradation of authority in schools is blamed.

**Poland / United States / Vietnam - November 27, 1965 (OSA)**

The Poland-wide Committee of Youth Cooperation publishes a statement in which it 'wishes to again express our complete brotherly solidarity with the heroic youth of and the Vietnamese nation in its fight against U.S. aggression and its glorious ideals of a united and independent nation'. The statement goes on to express its 'solidarity and support for all people of good will around the world, as well as all those progressive forces of U.S. society and its youth which see the huge danger to world peace associated with the U.S. imperialism in Vietnam'.

**Bulgaria – November 30, 1965 (OSA)**

Details of tourist smuggling goods into Bulgaria, to later be sold on the black market.

**Bulgaria – November 30, 1965 (OSA)**

Description of efforts to transform Marxist-Leninism from an ideology of the Party to an ideology of the people through the Bulgarian education system.

**Hungary / Lebanon – November 30, 1965 (HC)**

Hungary and Lebanon establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level.

**December**

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – December, 1965 (DCO)**

Bohumír Lomský, the Minister of Defence of Czechoslovakia concludes the secret agreement with the Soviet Union on the construction of storage area for nuclear weapons in the territory of Czechoslovakia.



**East Germany – December, 1965 (OSA)**

The Plenum of the SED Central Committee declares a stricter and more dogmatic approach to cultural policy. In the following months in 1966 several functionaries of the cultural sector (including Minister of Culture Hans Bentzien) are removed from their posts and replaced.

**Hungary / Italy – December 1, 1965 (HC)**

Hungary and Italy sign a long-lasting economic and barter agreement in Budapest.

**Hungary / Poland – December 3, 1965 (HC)**

Hungary and Poland sign a barter agreement in Warsaw, which will mean a more than 70% extension of trade.

**East Germany – December 3, 1965 (KGD/KCA)**

Erich Apel, Chairman of the State Planning Commission and an economic reformer commits suicide after internal party intrigues. The official statement attributes his suicide to a nervous breakdown. Gerhard Schürer is his successor.

**Czechoslovakia – December 3, 1965 (OSA)**

Antonin Novotny visits Pelhrimov to speak with young farmers during the “Party Talks to the Youth” campaign.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / Africa – December 3, 1965 (CWC)**

Both the Soviet Union and the United States support the U.N. resolution recognizing Africa as a nuclear-free zone.

**Bulgaria / China – December 5, 1965 (OSA)**

Fresh attacks are launched against China by the BCP.

**East Germany / West Germany / North Vietnam – December 5, 1965 (OSA)**

An RFE report claims that the GDR post office has sent notices to inhabitants of West Berlin that their parcels, for the most part holiday gifts to relatives, have been redirected to North Vietnam. The reason given for the diverting of packages is that the GDR’s strict and ever-changing postal regulations had been violated. This news was circulated in the West Berlin press and denied by the GDR. This would not, however, be the first-time that gifts sent from West to East Germany are redirected; thank you letters from Cuba to West Germans attest that gifts to East German relatives had been sent to the Caribbean country following the Cuban Missile Crisis.

**Bulgaria – December 6, 1965 (OSA)**

Development of foreign policy beyond simply being considered a Balkan nation. Expanding diplomatic relations both with and beyond the Eastern Bloc is a great success of Bulgarian foreign policy. Bulgaria has also played a crucial role in changing the political atmosphere in the Balkans.

**East Germany – December 7, 1965 (OSA)**

The suicide of East Germany’s top economic planner Erich Apel has given rise to speculations that he took his life for political reasons.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – December 9, 1965 (OSA)**

Changes in the leadership of the regional committees in the Communist Party of Kazakhstan. Changes took place in such regional committees as Tselinograd, North Kazakhstan, and Almaty. Demidenko, Mochalin, and Klinkov became the new secretaries. From October 27 to November 28, 1965, the largest number of replacements in the leadership of regional committees was carried out in Kazakhstan.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – December 8, 1965 (LBC)**

The USSR reassures the American leadership that it is not planning to deploy nuclear arms in outer space.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – December 9, 1965 (LBC)**

Gromyko announces that the U.S. must drop its plans to share nuclear arms with NATO, if it wants progress in the East-West non-proliferation treaty.

**Soviet Union – December 9, 1965 (KCA)**

Nikolai Podgorniy is elected Soviet head of state after Anastas Mikoyan was relieved by the Supreme Soviet of his duties as chairman at his own request. During the same session the Supreme Soviet approved changes in the USSR Council of Ministers.

**Yugoslavia / EFTA – December 10, 1965 (KCA)**

The first official level meeting between Yugoslavia and the EFTA member-countries is held after EFTA accepts a request from the Yugoslav Government for exploratory talks motivated by a desire to improve trade relations between Yugoslavia and the EFTA countries.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – December 11-14, 1965 (HC)**

János Kádár, the First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, and Béla Biszku, the Secretary of the Central Committee, take a friendly visit in Soviet Union.

**Czechoslovakia – December 13, 1965 (OSA)**

Border Guards and Internal Guards are decided to be subordinated to the Defense Ministry starting next year.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany – December 14, 1965 (OSA)**

Czechoslovak deputy Foreign Minister Otto Klicka talks about Czechoslovak-West-German relations. He stresses that despite the current strained relations between the two countries due to a “revanchists” government program of West Germany, it is highly possible for the two states to build a “common language” for economic and cultural plans.

**Poland – December 14, 1965 (KCA)**

The following changes in the Polish Council of State and the Polish Government are announced: Mieczysław Klimaszewski is appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council of State, Julian Tokarski becomes a member of the Council of State, Mieczysław Lesz becomes Minister without portfolio, Edward Sznajder is appointed Minister of Home Trade and Henryk Jabłoński becomes Minister of Higher Education.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan –December 14, 1965 (OSA)**

The requirements for organization and discipline in production and in Party life have grown. The future of the timely execution of tasks directly depends on the initiative and activity of the workers. The party organization of Kazakhstan pays a lot of attention to the education of personnel for the performance of public duty through the prism of personal responsibility for

the future of the state. This is due to the fact that some previous performers of leading roles in party life did not cope with their direct duties. The communists carried out intensified work to eliminate shortcomings in the personnel system. For every mistake, they were not going to dismiss immediately, but they treated this person with a warning. The main responsibility for the education of the organization was assigned to the party organizations. A new state performance control body was introduced. The decisions of the October plenum and everyone after it entailed consequences in connection with which a high bar was set for subsequent leaders in the organization, discipline, and dedication in work.

**Hungary / South Vietnam – December 15, 1965 (HC)**

Dinh Ba Thi, the chairman of the Budapest office of the South Vietnamese Liberation Front gives his letter of commission to the chairman of the Patriotic People's Front.

**Hungary / East Germany – December 15, 1965 (HC)**

Hungary and the German Democratic Republic sign a long-lasting trade agreement for the years 1966-1970. (It targets 43% increase in trade.)

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – December 15, 1964 (CAC)**

Soviet and Czechoslovak officials agree to allow the future stationing of Soviet nuclear-armed missiles at three Czechoslovak sites.

**Czechoslovakia – December 16–17, 1965 (OSA)**

The CzCP Central Committee meets to discuss the new economic model and approves a draft economic program that addresses the implementation of advanced technology and structural changes in economy.

**East Germany – December 17, 1965 (OSA)**

Five pages of *Neues Deutschland* feature the Politburo report to the Eleventh plenary session of the SED CC. Honecker describes the long-term Soviet-East German trade agreement and stresses the unique and close nature of this unshakable friendship. The Soviet Union has agreed to deliver 1.2 million tons of grain to East Germany in 1966 because of a bad harvest. From the figures given on raw materials to be imported to East Germany from the Soviet Union in 1966-1970, the Soviet Union continues to be the major supplier for the GDR. Honecker encourages East German state functionaries, economic experts and scientists to acquaint themselves with Soviet achievements and technology.

**East Germany / West Germany – December 18, 1965–January 2, 1966 (KCA)**

Over 823,900 West Berliners, benefiting from the limited passport agreement, visit East Berlin.

**Czechoslovakia – December 18–19, 1965 (OSA)**

The National Assembly plenum of Czechoslovakia passes a draft bill on the 1966 economic plan and a bill regarding reforms in social security of collective farmers. The Assembly also adopted an agreement regarding Czechoslovak-Polish dual citizenship.

**Poland / Vietnam / United States – December 19, 1965 (OSA)**

The people of Poland express their solidarity with the fight of the Vietnamese people and strictly condemn the imperial aggression of the US towards Vietnam in meetings in workplaces

and institutions around the country, report *Trybunał Ludu*. The Polish Committee of Solidarity with Asian and African Nations – on the occasion of the 5th anniversary of the formation of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam – expresses its solidarity and support for the righteous fight of the Vietnamese nation as well as for its demands made in a declaration on March 22, 1965. *Trybunał Ludu* also reports that around 1,500 workers of a switchgear factory in Międzył, Warsaw passed a resolution and workers at a railway rolling stock factory in Poznań also expressed their support for the people of Vietnam fighting U.S. imperial aggression.

#### **East Germany – December 20, 1965 (OSA)**

Although the GDR has been in the forefront of implementing the new economic reform, it has become apparent that even forward-looking measures are needed. In the first of a series of articles, the East German economists Dr. Manfred Bottcher calls for flexible factory prices, a reduction of the number of indicative plan indices, a consistent application of economic levers, a revamping of the role of profits, and for a further study of the operations of a socialist political economy.

#### **Poland / Vietnam – December 20, 1965 (OSA)**

A meeting of solidarity takes place in Warsaw on the fifth anniversary of the founding of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam. The citizens of the capital protested against the brutal U.S. aggression in Vietnam and against the bestial murder of unarmed civilians, children, women, and the elderly. Among those present at the presidium was the chairman of the Committee of Solidarity with Asian and African Nations Eugeniusz Szyr, the secretary of the central party committee Władysław Wicha, as well as the ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

#### **Czechoslovakia / East Germany – December 21, 1965 (OSA)**

Czechoslovakia and East Germany sign a trade treaty for the next 5 years. With this treaty the amount of the mutual goods exchange increased 35 percent more than in the 1961-1965 period.

#### **East Germany – December 22, 1965 (KCA)**

Numerous changes in the government are announced, among these Kurt Wunsche is appointed Deputy Prime Minister.

#### **Hungary – December 22, 1965 (HC)**

János Kádár, the First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party delivers his speech on the convention of the Workers Guard Battalion of Csepel. He speaks about questions of interior and exterior politics.

#### **Romania – December 22, 1965 (KCA)**

The Romanian National Assembly approves new rules. The first rule introduces an obligation for the head of state to report regularly to the Parliament, which will vote on these reports. The second rule introduces direct Ministerial responsibility to the Parliament. On the same day Roman Moldavan is elected as Deputy Prime Minister.

#### **Yugoslavia – December 24, 1965, (RYN)**

In a discussion with members of the Federal Economic Chamber, President Tito, noting the paucity of integrated managerial overviews, criticizes the indifference of firms' cooperation on projects in developing countries to anything but their own particular responsibility.

**Bulgaria – December 28, 1965 (OSA)**

Bulgaria is to become a member of the UN Security Council, marking a significant step forwards in international diplomacy.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – December 31, 1965 (KCA)**

A three-year agreement on scientific exchanges, including a research and teaching exchange of scientists, is signed between the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and the Council of Academies of Yugoslavia. It is the first agreement of its kind signed between the United States and an Eastern European Communist country.

## 1966

### **Czechoslovakia – 1966 (DCO)**

Leaders of the Communist Party manage to keep from spacing of two Soviet divisions in the territory of Czechoslovakia.

### **Romania – 1966-1967 (RUR)**

Ceaușescu engages in populist activities to bolster the standing of the party and his own standing as General Secretary.

### **Romania – 1966-1967 (RUR)**

Apostol, Drăghici, Stoica become less visible both in press reports and in public, by the end of 1967, Ceaușescu establishes himself as first among equals.

### **Yugoslavia – 1966 (PLC)**

Riots in Kosovo throughout the year.

## **January**

### **Bulgaria / Macedonia / Yugoslavia – January 1966 (PLC)**

At the end of the month, Yugoslav-Bulgarian tensions erupt about Macedonia.

### **Hungary – January 1, 1966 (HC)**

HUNGARO-CAMION, International Traffic Service is formed.

### **Eastern Europe – January 7, 1966 (CAC)**

Brezhnev proposes to Eastern European leaders consultations about reorganizing the Warsaw Pact.

### **Hungary / Romania – January 10, 1966 (HC)**

I.G. Maurer, the chairman of the council of ministers takes a three-day official visits in Budapest.

### **Eastern Europe / U.S. – January 12, 1966 (LBC)**

In his State of the Union address President Johnson envisions the growth of the U.S.'s trade with Eastern Europe.

### **China / Soviet Union — January 13, 1966**

Alexander Shelepin stays overnight in Peking after returning from a week-long visit to North Vietnam the purpose of which remains a mystery. His arrival was met with coldness, but not improperness.

### **Poland – January 13, 1966 (HDP)**

Ceremonies opening the millennium of Polish Christianity begin in Rome without Primate Stanisław Wyszyński, who was not allowed to travel abroad by the communist authorities.

**Soviet Union – January 15, 1966 (KAC)**

Mongolia and the Soviet Union sign a 20-year Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance. The main aims of the treaty are: to develop economic, political and scientific cooperation; to consult each other on international matters; and to keep fighting for peace. If there are no objections, the treaty will be automatically prolonged for the subsequent ten years.

**Hungary / Italy – January 16-20, 1966 (HC)**

Led by Francesco de Martino, the delegation of the Italian Socialist Party visits Hungary.

**Hungary / Poland – January 18, 1966 (HC)**

W. Gomułka, the first secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party, Prime Minister J. Cyrankiewicz and Z. Kliszko the secretary of the party's central committee arrives to Hungary for a three day visit.

**Soviet Union / Romania – January 20, 1966 (OSA)**

V.S. Salkin, Counsellor of the Soviet Embassy was received by Ceausescu in Bucharest, for "friendly talks."

**Hungary / Soviet Union – January 21-22, 1966 (HC)**

The 4th congress of the Hungarian-Soviet Fraternal Association takes place in Budapest. (Chairman Ernő Mihályfi; Secretary István Kristóf.)

**Bulgaria - January 22, 1966 (OSA)**

The dangers of snobs in society is growing, and they represent the bourgeois culture which is such a threat to the youth of Bulgaria. Investigations into the culture of Bulgarian youth show a lack of regard for traditional music, dance and art; whilst American films have a much greater influence on young people.

**Bulgaria - January 22, 1966 (OSA)**

The Secretary of the Bulgarian Union of Writers notes that unnatural behaviors are increasingly present in the Bulgarian youth. All bourgeois elements must be fought in order to combat the 'alarming' behavior among young people.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – January 24, 1966 (OSA)**

At the plenum, D. Kunaev's report was discussed. The competition in quality preparation for spring has begun. Attention was focused on the weak economy of some farms. Party organizations were given the task of increasing the production of grain, milk, meat, and wool.

**Soviet Union – January 26, 1966 (KCA)**

Mikhail Smirnovsky is appointed Soviet Ambassador in London.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 27, 1966 (LBC)**

The U.S. President sends a message to the Geneva disarmament conference. He urges a non-proliferation treaty, the international observation of the peaceful use of atomic energy, banning underground nuclear tests to avoid the proliferation of nuclear arms, the reduction of nuclear arms stocks, the controlled cessation of the production of fissionable material and its transformation for peaceful use, the reduction of nuclear delivery vehicles and the reduction of conventional arms. – The Soviet premier urges the banning of the use of nuclear arms against non-nuclear powers and the urgent declaration of Central Europe and other regions as a nuclear free zone.

**Soviet Union – January 31, 1966 (OSA)**

De-Stalinization had gone too far. Pravda described the phrase “the period of the cult of personality” as erroneous and non-Marxist. Soviet historians had gone too far in condemning the whole period of Stalin’s rule in effect a whole Soviet generation rather than just condemning man itself. The generation of de-Stalinization disrespected the generation that lived under Stalin and rejected its ideas. In short, historians criticized not only the cult of Stalin but also the period in which the Soviet Union advanced from a backward state to modern industrial power.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – January 31, 1966 (OSA)**

The plenum at which the organizational issues of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan was considered ended. Kolomiets was dismissed from the post of secretary and member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan. A. Kolebaev was appointed in his place.

**February****Hungary / Cyprus / Ethiopia / India / Kuwait / UAE / Tanzania – February 1-March 1, 1966 (HC)**

Gyula Kállai, the chairman of the council of ministers takes a round trip in Africa and Asia. He visits the United Arab Emirates, Ethiopia, Cyprus and India.

**Soviet Union – February 2-8, 1966 (HC)**

An international economic convention takes place in Moscow. (Subject: The comparison of the socialist countries’ economic development.)

**Soviet Union – February 3, 1966 (KCA/HC)**

The Soviet Union achieves the first-ever “soft landing” on the moon with the spaceship *Luna IX*. (February 6: The station displays pictures about the surface of the planet.)

**Yugoslavia – February 3, 1966, (RYE)**

*Komunist* refers to Serbia as a center of anti-reform resistance.

**Warsaw Pact – February 4-9, 1966 (RCW)**

The meeting of the Chiefs of General Staff of the armies of the member-countries of the Warsaw Treaty Organization takes place in Moscow. The purpose of the meeting is to draw up proposals of principle regarding the Unified Armed Forces, and the organization of the leading organs of the Supreme Command.

**East Germany / West Germany – February 7, 1966 (OSA)**

The East German Socialist Unity Party (SED) sends an open letter to the West German SPD party suggesting open talks about the German question and visits of the respective parties in the other’s country as part of a wider project of approximating the two Germanies. It is rumoured that the SED did not expect the SPD to reply. An answer was received on March 18, which agreed to the suggestion, but requested that it be extended to other East and West German parliamentary parties and that other matters (freedom of East to West movement, the Berlin Wall, militarism, living conditions, etc.) be discussed as well. Surprisingly, the SPD letter was widely distributed in the March 26 edition of *Neues Deutschland*, despite its criticisms of SED



policy. Months later the SED withdraws from the speaker exchange, following a law passed on June 23 in West Germany, which gives 'safe conduct' to East German citizens so that they are not prosecuted criminally while in the FRG if it is considered to be in the interest of the latter country to give them a waiver. The law was passed specifically for the speaker exchange to be possible, but East German propagandist Norden interpreted it as claiming jurisdiction over the GDR's citizens.

#### **Soviet Union – February 10, 1966 (KCA)**

The trial of two Soviet writers, Andrei Sinyavsky and Yuli Daniel, begins. They are charged with smuggling literary works out of the country for publication abroad. Foreign journalists are refused admission to the court, even though, officially, the trial is public. On **February 14**, Sinyavsky is sentenced to seven years and Daniel to five years in a labor camp. After protests, the sentences are suspended on **May 3**.

#### **Warsaw Pact – February 10–12, 1966 (CAC)**

A meeting of Warsaw Pact deputy foreign ministers in Berlin discusses strengthening the PCC and creating additional institutions, but ends without an agreement, mainly because of Romanian obstruction.

#### **East Germany – February 11, 1966 (NNT)**

The first attempt to establish relations between the SED and the SPD fail.

#### **East Germany / Czechoslovakia – February 11, 1966 (OSA)**

The sixth SED Congress serves as the platform for the Party's restating its faithfulness to socialist realism in January 1963. Politburo reporter Horst Sindermann attacks the cultural spring from Prague at the Fifth SED CC Plenum. The goal of the meeting is restricting all aspects of cultural endeavors through indictments, as well as with administrative measures. At the Plenum, Ulbricht speaks on cultural affairs, leaving the task of chastising the culprits to the Politburo reporters. Despite the ominous speeches at the December Plenum, one cannot talk of a complete re-Stalinization of the cultural sphere in the GDR.

#### **Greece/ Soviet Union — February 12, 1966 (OSA)**

Greek Foreign Minister Evangelos Averoff-Tossizz announced that Greece's trade with the Soviet Union has increased by 500% during the last years.

#### **China / Soviet Union — February 14, 1966 (OSA)**

The newspaper Pravda notes the 16th anniversary of the friendship between the Soviet Union and China but renews the accusations against Beijing saying that they were responsible for drawing a wedge between the two countries.

#### **China / Soviet Union — February 15, 1966 (OSA)**

Izvestia reports that for the first time in a decade since the victory of the People's Republic of China in the revolution, they are in need in of financial assistance. The Soviet Union granted China long term loans.

#### **Soviet Union – February 14, 1966 (KCA)**

The Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party is reported to have recently sent a letter to the other Communist parties of Eastern Europe concerning its relations with the Chinese Communist Party and criticizing the CCP's policy. The letter has caused further tension in the relations between China and the Soviet Union.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – February 15, 1966 (HC)**

Visa requirements between Hungary and Yugoslavia are abolished.

**East Germany – February 16, 1966 (OSA)**

The SED main daily reports the verdict passed against the two Soviet writers Sinyavsky and Daniel in Moscow on February 14th, titled “Sentenced because of Anti-Soviet Activity”, reproducing an ADN dispatch under a Moscow dateline informing its readers of the seven and five year labor camp sentences. Ulbricht intends that the harsh sentences for the Soviet writers to serve as a warning to his own recalcitrant artists.

**Hungary / Iceland / Sweden – February 16-March 4, 1966 (HC)**

Led by Mihály Korom party secretary, delegation of the Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party travels to Sweden and Iceland.

**Romania – February 16, 1966 (RCW)**

Minutes of the meeting of the Permanent presidium of Romanian communist party, which was held in Bucharest in the period **February 10-February 16, 1958**, are issued. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Eastern Germany, Winzer is present and talks about the current tension in international situation and appeals for stronger unity on the part of Socialist countries. A statute and a membership of Consultative Political Committee is discussed.

**Hungary / U.S. – February 19, 1966 (KCA)**

An undefined number of persons are arrested on charges of conspiracy against the State. The conspirators are said to have established an opposition group aimed at taking power and changing the Hungarian system possibly with Western aid. Among the alleged conspirators there are numerous people who served prison terms after the 1956 uprising and were released under the 1963 amnesty.

**Soviet Union – February 19, 1966 (KCA)**

The draft report of the five-year economic plan for 1966-1970 is approved by the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party. In comparison with previous plans, the biggest change is the emphasis placed on increasing the production of consumer goods and not heavy industry. The plan aims to increase national income by 38-41% and to raise real income per capita by 30%. To achieve this, it is necessary to increase industrial and agricultural output and to improve management of the economy. The main sections of the plan are: heavy industry, light and food industry, agriculture, transport and communications, living standards and social services, distribution of industry, economic relations with foreign countries, and capital investment. The report summarizes the Seven-Year Plan from the years 1959-1965. It states that the country’s basic production assets increased by 90% and national income by 53%; there was also an increase in the minimum basic wage of factory and office workers.

**Hungary / Poland – February 20, 1966 (OSA)**

An article describing some details about the relationship between the Hungarian and the Polish catholic churches. Noting that no Hungarian clergy officials were invited for the celebrations commemorating the thousandth anniversary of the Polish church, it describes two opposing stances concerning church rhetoric in Poland. While archbishop Kominek has a reconciliatory approach, cardinal Wyszyński still retains the view of the Polish church being serving as a bulwark against socialism.

**Soviet Union – February 21, 1966 (KCA)**

Valeriy Tarsis, a Soviet novelist who published his works abroad, is deprived of Soviet citizenship for “actions unworthy of a Soviet citizen”.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – February 21-24, 1966 (KCA)**

British Prime Minister Wilson visits Moscow. The Anglo-Soviet communiqué issued after this visit underlines that both sides are eager to make any effort necessary to ease international tension and to develop bilateral relations between Great Britain and the Soviet Union. The talks also concern the need to limit nuclear weapons and normalize the situation in Europe. Vietnam is also a subject of the negotiations and consultations but no definite conclusions are reached.

**France / NATO – February 21, 1966 (LBC)**

De Gaulle announces that until **April 14, 1969** France will draw under its own control all foreign (NATO) bases on its own territory. According to de Gaulle as a result of the evolution of the East European states the Western world is no longer under such danger as it was when the U.S. protectorate was established in Europe under the aegis of NATO. Since the Soviet Union is able to deal a nuclear blow at the U.S., it is doubtful whether the U.S. would use its nuclear arms. Because of Washington's obligations regional conflicts could spread to Europe and thus to France unless the NATO bases on French territory under U.S. command are expropriated.

**Poland / Romania / France / NATO – February 21, 1966 (LBC)**

The French President De Gaulle states: “...our contacts and our exchanges are multiplying with the countries of the East, each of them, of course, being treated only in consideration of its national personality. In this respect, we attach great importance to the new trend of our relations with Russia. We are pleased with the results achieved on the occasion of President Maurer's visit with respect to French-Romanian relations...we are going to receive Premier Jozef Cyrankiewicz, hoping that his presence will serve the practical rapprochement of the French and Polish peoples.”

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia – February 24, 1966 (OSA)**

The GDR and the CSSR will enjoy harmonious relations. East Germany's rigid posture becomes evident during and after the Kafka discussion at the May 1963 “Literary Colloquium” represents cultural revisionism among European communists. The East German spokesman - Alfred Kurella - claims that the literary and artistic form of expression used by Kafka can be summarized as decadence. French, Polish, Czechoslovak and Austrian comrades argue that Kafka gives literary expression to the Marxist concept of alienation.

**Soviet Union – February 24, 1966 (OSA)**

Decades after Khrushchev opposed the "cult of personality," the communist world changed beyond recognition. However, institutional changes were hardly noticeable in Moscow. In October 1964, the Presidium decided not to allow one person to occupy two top posts, but such a decree was not published and there was a risk that Brezhnev or Kosygin could at one point return everything to dictatorship. The rapid rise in living standards over the past decade, associated with the spread of communism through economic competitiveness, has undermined the fabric of Soviet society and will lead to the bourgeoisification of all faiths of the population. There has also been a contradiction between a policy of open discussion in science, art, and even sociology, and at the same time completely against political debate. People have stopped believing in the infallibility of one party and are asking questions about a multi-party system.

Empiricism and pragmatism are on the rise. The secret speech destroyed the power and control on which the Soviet leadership of the world movement was based.

**Soviet Union – February 25, 1966 (KCA)**

The alliance treaty between the Soviet Union and Mongolia (signed on **January 15, 1966**) is ratified by both countries.

**Yugoslavia – February 25, 1966 (RYE)**

An expanded 3rd Plenum of the Central Committee of the LCY is convened in Belgrade because the reformers, with President Tito's backing, demand with increasingly strident voices a return to party disciplines and to rigid observance of the principle of democratic centralism, according to which a decision once adopted must be loyally and actively supported by all party members.

**Albania / Poland – February 28, 1966 (KCA)**

The Albanian Ambassador in Warsaw is declared *persona non grata* because of his anti-state activities and his violation of the law by circulating anti-state publications. Albania rejects all the accusations and demands the recall of the Polish Ambassador in Tirana.

**East Germany / U.N. – February 28, 1966 (KCA)**

The German Democratic Republic applies for membership in the United Nations. The application is strongly supported by the Soviet Union. Great Britain, France and the United States agree in a joint communiqué on **March 3** that the German Federal Government is “the only authority resulting from free elections” and the “only Government entitled to speak on behalf of the German people in international affairs.”

**March**

**Hungary – March, 1966 (OSA)**

A sociological article titled ‘Are our youth religious?’ The author describes his findings he had gathered throughout his research on the ideological characteristics of youth in Hungary, coming from a wide array of backgrounds. The article details these findings on the youth coming from all parts of the social strata and serves and invites for discussion people working with the youth such as teachers and officials from KISZ (the communist youth association).

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – March 1966 (OSA)**

XII Congress of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan. At this congress, Kunaev announced impressive figures for the development of Kazakhstan. The "powerful force of Lenin's national policy" was also praised. Many delegates noted the development of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan. Also, many discussed the education of the communists on responsibility for the execution of affairs of national importance. In Kazakhstan, the number of shop-floor party organizations and party groups has also increased. We noted the successful work of the Arkaldinsky state farm, Semipalatinsk region. Losses in expenses that exceeded the norm were also announced. A number of organizations were cited as an example that do not cope with their duties. They announced the obligation to improve the teaching of economic disciplines at universities. In Kazakhstan, they began to actively engage in new buildings. And anxiously discussed the lack of construction organizations. About 40 people spoke at the congress, critical remarks were taken into consideration.

**Bulgaria - March 1, 1966 (OSA)**

Several statements highlighting the importance of Bulgarian foreign policy and maintaining good relations with other socialist states, particularly the other Balkan countries.

**Soviet Union – March 1, 1966 (KCA)**

The Soviet space station *Venus III* hits Venus; this is the first landing of a man-made object on another planet.

**Soviet Union / Ghana – March 3, 1966 (OSA)**

There is a report on Communist influence raising in Ghana under Nkrumah's leadership.

**East Germany / West Germany – March 7, 1966 (KCA)**

The West Berlin Senate and the East German authorities sign an agreement which regulates visits from West Berlin to relatives in East Berlin. The agreement will be valid until **June 30, 1966**.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia – March 9, 1966 (OSA)**

East Berlin hosts 2,397 delegates representing 986,622 farmers at the Ninth farmers' congress for 2 days (February 26th and 27th, 1966). The convocation is preceded by the publication of a "Draft Resolution" by the local farmers' congresses. Cooperative contracts are to be concluded between several LPGs for the construction of barns and the acquisition of machinery. Cooperative councils are to be formed between all cooperating LPGs. The role of the BHGs will include not only trade, but also the common construction of fertilizer storage, roads, major projects, and equipment repairs. The VEAB is to provide major repair services and create parts supply depots at the Kreis-level. Contracts are to be signed between the collectives and those VVBs and enterprises which produce machinery, chemicals, parts and other goods of direct use in agriculture.

**France / NATO – March 9, 1966 (LBC/PLC)**

The French government officially announces its intention to withdraw all its forces from the integrated military command of NATO. At the same time it announces that all NATO installations in France will be placed under French control, or withdrawn from France. – De Gaulle informed the NATO allies of the decision earlier (on **March 7** and **March 8**).

**Hungary / Romania – March 10, 1966 (HC)**

János Kádár, the First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and Gyula Kállai, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers takes a three-day visit in Bucharest.

**Bulgaria – March 11, 1966 (KCA)**

Todor Zhivkov is reelected as Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Georgi Trajkov is reelected by the new Bulgarian National Assembly as Chairman of its Presidium (Head of State). On the same day, Todor Zhivkov's new Cabinet is approved, and some nomenclature changes are introduced, such as renaming the Committee for Party and State Control as the Committee for State Control.

**Yugoslavia – March 11, 1966 (RYE)**

The Plenum of the Central Committee of the LCY amends and adopts a resolution which reiterate in more specific language than usual the commitment of all Communists to unreserved and active support of policies adopted at the 8th Congress and the 1965 reforms.

**Bulgaria – March 12, 1966 (KCA)**

Todor Zhivkov's Government program is approved by the National Assembly. The main points are: industrialization; development of the country's production capacity; supporting science, technique and art; and economic cooperation with other Socialist countries. "Brotherly friendships and cooperation" with other Socialist countries, especially the Soviet Union, is defined as a priority in the foreign policy of the new government. At the same time a "new system of planning and managing the national economy" is being introduced in Bulgaria. It focuses on reducing the economy's "excessive centralism," and freedom of individual enterprises is said to have crucial importance. This system will be applied to the whole economy in 1967 after finishing its experimental stage in 1966.

**Hungary / Italy – March 14-18, 1966 (HC)**

The delegation of the Italian General Workers Alliance visits Budapest.

**Hungary / Romania – March 15, 1966 (HC)**

According to the census held on this day the number of Hungarian speakers in Romania is 1 653 873, self-proclaimed Hungarians are 1 619 592.

**Soviet Union / Ghana – March 17, 1966 (KCA)**

Official recognition of General Akrkrah's regime in Ghana by the Soviet Union is announced.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 19, 1966 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union and the United States sign an agreement on scientific, technical, educational, cultural exchange in the years 1966-67.

**Finland – March 20, 1966 (SFF/LKS)**

The Left wins parliamentary elections in Finland. The Social Democrats reach their highest post-war peak with 55 seats. The Finnish People's Democratic League also returns to government.

**Bulgaria - March 20, 1966 (OSA)**

Due to the replacement of Chinese machinery with Soviet-made machinery at a cotton mill in Sofia, the production process is being severely hindered. Meanwhile, Soviet machines have been delivered without the necessary accompanying supplies to assemble them. Mismanagement is blamed.

**Bulgaria - March 20, 1966 (OSA)**

Multiple collective farms are given permission to establish 'collateral enterprises' to allow farmers to earn a supplementary wage during the off-season. However, farmers are using the system dishonestly to increase their own personal wealth.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia - March 22, 1966 (OSA)**

The Leipzig Fair closed on March 15th. More than 10,500 exhibitors representing 70 countries were present on the 352,000 square meters of the Fair grounds. 690,000 visitors from 90 countries, of whom 90,500 are non-East Germans, attended in addition. The Leipzig Fair has become one of the main centers of East-West contacts. East German spokesmen boast of the tremendous increase in trade with the West and developing states. East Germany's foreign trade with the Soviet Union and other countries with planned economies accounts for about 70% of its total trade.

**Bulgaria / France – March 23, 1966 (KCA)**

France and Bulgaria sign a four-year trade agreement which provides for a fixed annual exchange, general economic cooperation, mutual aid in the industrial field and sales collaboration. On **September 16** it is announced that the French State-owned motor company Renault and the Bulgarian State organization Bulet have signed an agreement for the building of an assembly plant in Bulgaria. On **October 3** it is announced that Bulgarian Techno import and two French firms have signed an agreement to build a tire plant. On **May 26** it is announced that French firm L'Oreal and the Bulgarian Farmachim State enterprise have signed an agreement on the establishment of a plant to manufacture beauty products from the French company's range. On **August 4, 1965** a civil aviation agreement is signed.

**East Germany / Ghana – March 24, 1966 (KCA)**

Ghana breaks off relations with the German Democratic Republic.

**Yugoslavia – March 24, 1966 (RYE)**

Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito lectures Belgrade television's general audience about the need to reform the party's organization and mentality for a more democratic age, to facilitate implementation of the 1965 reforms, and as a barrier to nationalism. Tito repeats the sequence of his speech in front of Belgrade party activists on **May 18** and in Sarajevo in **May 29**.

**Finland – March 25, 1966 (LKS)**

The Social Democrat party leadership backs current President Urho Kaleva Kekkonen's reelection in the 1968 elections and suggests that Kekkonen should be the common candidate to the whole governmental coalition.

**Soviet Bloc / FRG – March 25, 1966 (KCA)**

The German Federal Government presents proposals for world peace, general disarmament and the easing of international tension. It is rejected by the Soviet Union on the grounds that the German policy is "subordinated to one purpose – to obtain the status of a nuclear power." Similarly, the Polish government rejects the proposals of Germany, mainly because it calls for a change to the Oder-Neisse frontier that according to Poland and the Soviet Union is final. In its reply, the Czechoslovak Government states that Germany "again made quite openly territorial demands against peace-loving European States." Consequently, the West German proposals are rejected by the Soviet Union, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – March 28, 1966 (OSA)**

Kunaev's report to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan was analogous to other reports of the leaders of other republics, where the "wise" leadership of the Central Committee of the CPSU was praised. The report pointed out that thanks to the "wise" leadership, the Soviet Union was able to take second place in terms of production in the world, and in some industries even took first place. Kazakhstan held the third place among the republics. But regardless of this, a lot succumbed to criticism. In this industry, the mechanization and automation of mining is taking place very slowly. The light and food industries are still poorly developed. In the field of agriculture, attention was focused on the insufficient use of irrigated land, especially for crops. There is also a low growth in the number of livestock. The well-being of the population is still at an insufficient level. Medical institutions are being created very slowly. The field of science and culture is still without strong specialists. The fight against careless attitudes to work and the state is going on at the highest level.

### **Soviet Union – March 29-April 8, 1966 (KCA)**

The 23rd Congress of the Soviet Communist Party approves the new Five-Year Plan and elects a new Central Committee. It also decides to revive the former titles of Political Committee (instead of the Presidium) and General Secretary (instead of First Secretary). The Chinese Communist Party refuses to participate in the congress, condemning the “revisionism” of the Soviet politicians. On **March 29**, Leonid Brezhnev presents the Central Committee’s Report in which he expresses support for an international Communist conference and condemns U.S. policy in Vietnam. According to Brezhnev’s speech because of the U.S. policy in Vietnam Soviet-American relations have deteriorated. Soviet-American relations may improve only if the U.S. gives up its aggressive policy in Vietnam – Relations with France went through “considerable improvement,” continue to develop and are important elements of the strengthening of European security. When it comes to internal affairs, the priorities will be raising living conditions and increasing the supply of consumer goods. He also recommends some changes to party organization, such as abolishing the limits on the amount of time politicians can hold office. Foreign Minister Gromyko also delivers a speech during the congress – emphasizing European security and the threat of granting Germany access to nuclear weapons. On **April 5**, Prime Minister Kosygin presents a report on the draft Five-Year Plan for 1966-1970 in which he challenges some of the calculations as “economically unjustifiable” and underlines the importance of other Communist countries to Soviet foreign trade. On **April 6** the congress elects a special commission to work on possible amendments to the draft plan. During the congress, many representatives of foreign Communist parties give speeches, mainly criticizing the Chinese party or appealing for the international unity of Communism. On **April 7**, the Congress elects the new Central Committee and at the closing session the Central Committee’s report, the draft Five-Year Plan and a resolution condemning U.S. policy in Vietnam are approved.

### **Soviet Union – March 31, 1966 (KCA)**

The Soviet spacecraft *Luna X* is launched and three days later it becomes the moon’s first artificial satellite after going into orbit around the moon. On **March 16**, 1966 two “space dogs” are recovered in good condition. On **October 14, 1965** and on **April 25, 1966** two more Molniya communication satellites are placed into orbit for radio and television broadcasts between Moscow and Vladivostok.

## **April**

### **Yugoslavia – April 1966 (KCA)**

Yugoslavia’s application for full membership in the GATT is approved, following seven years of special arrangements for associate membership.

### **Hungary / Yugoslavia – April 1, 1966 (HC)**

Hungary and Yugoslavia sign a long-lasting barter agreement for the years 1966-1970 (It targets 60% increase in trade).

### **China / Soviet Union – April 2, 1966 (OSA)**

Moscow News issue the letter that was sent to Tsien Hsin-Chung by the Chairman of the Soviet Red Cross, professor Miterev. In his letter, he expresses deep sympathy for the Chinese people in regard to the latest tragedy of the earthquake. Moreover, he states that the Soviet Union has sent medicine to China and wishes them a fast recovery.



**East Germany – April 2, 1966 (OSA)**

The Hamburg weekly Die Zeit publishes a letter by the President of the Academy of Sciences on March 18th, describing Havemann's willing cooperation with enemies of the state. The meeting of the Academy took place on March 24th. The article never mentions that Havemann is expelled, but his dismissal as a member of the Academy is recommended. Havemann does not make any apologies nor does he recant in any way. One of the main reproaches expressed by the GDR authorities against Havemann is his support of efforts against the state by a hostile power. The Party has to use the most underhanded methods to overrule the academic body violating the statutes of the Academy to achieve its aim.

**China / Soviet Union – April 7, 1966 (OSA)**

TASS reports that a Soviet trade delegation arrives in Beijing led by the representative of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the USSR.

**Soviet Union – April 7, 1966 (OSA)**

According to the representatives of the Motion Picture Export Association at this time the distribution of Western films in the USSR is not as strict as before, but the unpublicized arrangements are made from case to case.

**Bulgaria - April 8, 1966 (OSA)**

Introducing 'partiinost' into Bulgarian education is essential to addressing the current issues with the education system.

**Bulgaria - April 11, 1966 (OSA)**

Attempts to impart communist doctrine upon Bulgarian youth are failing in the education sector. Students arrive at university with a poor ideological understanding.

**CMEA / Yugoslavia – April 12-25, 1966 (HC)**

Negotiations take place between the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and Yugoslavia.

**Soviet Union – April 14, 1966 (OSA)**

Two women who speculated on the gold were sent to prison. The newspaper did not indicate their prisoner sentences. Most of the gold which they had was bought and sold up the ladder for profits.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – April 16-24, 1966 (HC)**

Led by Marshall R.J. Malinovsky, Soviet military delegation visits Hungary.

**Poland – April 16-17, 1966 (HDP)**

State-sponsored millennium celebrations take place in Gniezno and in Poznań. Between May and June Church celebrations of the millennium take place in Częstochowa and Warsaw. Pope Paul VI does not receive the permission to enter Poland during the celebrations.

**Hungary / Austria April 18, 1966 (HC)**

Followed by few days visit Franz Muri, the chairman of the central committee of the Austrian Communist Party leaves Hungary.

**Poland – 18 April, 1966 (OSA)**

Celebrations for the 1000th anniversary of the Polish state and church were held. The event held in Poznan came to its climax when Wladyslaw Gomulka and Cardinal Stefan Wyszynski staged imposing shows of strength in the same town at the same time. The Cardinal shared his opposing views on the regime's rhetoric stating: "The freedom of the Church means freedom of the nation". Gomulka attacked Wyszynski and spoke of the reasons behind denying the entry of catholic pilgrims into the state, stating it would have been against the Polish *raison d'état* to do so. Other attacks on the church were made.

**Yugoslavia / Vatican – April 18-25, 1966 (ACY)**

Discussions between the representatives of Yugoslavia and the Vatican are concluded in Belgrade.

**China / Soviet Union – April 20, 1966 (OSA)**

The official Chinese press agency reports that a protocol for the exchange of good was signed today in Peking between the Soviet Union and China for the year of 1966.

**East Germany – April 20, 1966 (OSA)**

The Twelfth Plenum of the SED Central Committee will convene at the end of April to discuss the new "Open Answer" of the SPD to the SED. The exchange between the East German communist and the West German social democratic parties is being presented to the highest forum of the SED. The open SED letter is dated the 7th February to which the SPD replied on the 18th March. The second SED letter extends invitations for SPD speakers at Karl Marx Stadt and suggests a return visit by SED representatives to an SPD in Essen. The impact of the publication of the SPD documents in the GDR is greater than the influence of SED propaganda in West Germany.

**Soviet Union / Italy – April 21-28, 1966 (KCA)**

The Soviet Foreign Minister, Gromyko, visits Italy, as the first Soviet Foreign Minister to do so since World War II. On **April 23, 1966** a Soviet-Italian agreement on economic, scientific and technical cooperation is signed. Apart from cooperation in industry, agriculture, transport, communication and construction, the agreement sets up a joint commission that is required to meet at least once a year. At the end of the talks, both politicians issue a joint communiqué in which they support the idea of disarmament, express concern over the situation in Vietnam and declare their willingness to make any effort to normalize relations between Eastern and Western countries. Apart from the economic agreement, financial and cultural agreements are also signed by Italy and the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / Syria – April 22, 1965 (KCA)**

Syria and the Soviet Union sign an economic agreement which provides for Russian aid to Syria for the purpose of building a dam and a hydro-electric station on the Euphrates River. It will consist both of a loan and of technical assistance.

**Romania / France – April 25-28, 1966 (KCA)**

The French Foreign Minister, Couve de Murville, visits Romania. No communiqué is issued but it is known that both sides want to continue developing bilateral relations and have noticed how similar their opinions are, especially those concerning European security. Following the trade agreement of **February 8**, a scientific and technical cooperation agreement on agriculture, food industries and water conservation is signed on **October 4, 1965**. On **September 23**, a

protocol for trade agreement is signed, under which a considerable increase in Romanian exports to France is the main goal.

**Albania / Soviet Union / China – April 26-May 11, 1966 (KCA)**

Albanian Prime Minister Mehmet Shehu visits China. A joint communiqué stresses the need to fight modern revisionism, the center of which is the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / Vatican – April 27, 1966 (KCA)**

The Soviet Foreign Minister, Gromyko, visits the Vatican as the first Soviet Foreign Minister to do so since the Russian Revolution. No statement is issued after talks between Gromyko and the Pope.

**Yugoslavia – April 28, 1966 (RYE)**

Tito summons the Party Executive Committee to a meeting, hastily convened between presidential visits to Romania and the United Arab Republic, at which it is decided that the business of the forthcoming, 4th Plenum of the Central Committee would be cadre policy (Ranković's preserve) instead of the previously announced discussion of the resurgent national problem.

**East Germany – April 29, 1966 (OSA)**

Erich Honecker's speech on the first point of the agenda of the Twelfth Plenum of the CPSU. It indicates the regime's wish to testify to the correctness of the new Soviet leadership's policies. Honecker reiterates the close relationship between the SED and the CPSU to underline that the East German party has full support of their Soviet big brother. Honecker refrains from mentioning Khrushchev by name.

**May**

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – May 1966 (LYE)**

The American Embassy opens an informational exhibit and business office at the Novi Sad Agricultural Fair and is admonished by President Tito. American manufacturers return to Novi Sad in the subsequent years, and in **May 1969** the Department of Commerce sponsors an American pavilion featuring equipment for the agricultural and food processing industries.

**Hungary / India – May 4, 1966 (HC)**

Y. Sharma and N.U. Krshnan, the secretaries of the Indian Communist Party take a five-day visit in Hungary.

**Romania / France – May 7, 1966 (LBC)**

According to Nicolae Ceaușescu the liquidation of military blocs would lead to the relaxation of tension. The General Secretary of the Romanian Communist party opines that the national sovereignty of the socialist states must be strengthened. On relations with the West Ceaușescu made special mention of the Romanian–French relationship, which are “based on the old traditions of friendship and cooperation”. – **May 10.-13.** CPSU general secretary Brezhnev visits Bucharest. – **May 17.** According to the report of the New York Times Romania urges the revision of the nuclear policy of the Warsaw Pact so that the member states should have a larger influence on the use of the nuclear arms deployed on their own territory.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – May 7, 1966 (KCA)**

U.S. President Johnson announces that the United States will support a treaty designed to “prevent any nation from claiming sovereignty over the moon or any other celestial body, and to ensure that the exploration of the moon and other celestial bodies will be for peaceful purposes only.” On **May 30** the Soviet Union makes a similar announcement and seeks a similar treaty.

**Romania / Vietnam – May 8-12, 1965 (KCA)**

A Romanian delegation visits Hanoi. A joint communiqué expresses full support for the liberation and reunification of Vietnam.

**Soviet Union / U.A.R. – May 10-18, 1966 (KCA)**

The Soviet Prime Minister, Kosygin, visits the United Arab Republic. In his speech at Cairo University, the Soviet Prime Minister attacks American policy in Vietnam and in his speech to the United Arab Republic, he expresses Soviet support for President Nasser’s policies in South Arabia, Yemen and Oman. At the end of the visit both politicians issue a joint communiqué, in which they express concern over “the worsened international situation” and Vietnam; condemn the racist policy of South Africa and Rhodesia; support Palestinian Arabs; oppose the proliferation of nuclear power; and call for the restoration of Chinese rights in the United Nations.

**Soviet Union / Romania / China – May 11, 1966 (OSA)**

Visiting Bucharest, Brezhnev pointed out to Ceausescu that there is not much room for maneuver between the Soviet Union and China, and there might be cautions for Romania.

**East Germany – May 13, 1966 (OSA)**

East German media refutes Western press reports that conclude that the regime is now more sensitive to opinion expressed in the West. Neues Deutschland denies that Walter Ulbricht is forced by political pressure to go on vacation and recuperative leave. Ulbricht’s departure had been briefly announced in Neues Deutschland on May 4th, stating that while every citizen has a right to normal vacations. Politburo member Erich Honecker makes reference to the Springer press of West Germany and reiterates speculations on Ulbricht’s disagreements within the Party leadership.

**Soviet Union / Romania / China / US – May 14, 1966 (OSA)**

For the U.S., it seems that there is nothing dramatic forthcoming in Romanian-Soviet relations but rather the Soviets are more concerned about Chinese influence in the country and in the area in general.

**Bulgaria - May 15, 1966 (OSA)**

Bulgarian actors, painters, and other cultural figures attended the ‘First National Creative Meeting.’ The path forward for Bulgarian arts is discussed, highlighting the need for consolidating the ideas of communism.

**Bulgaria - May 16, 1966 (OSA)**

The need for ‘partiinnost’ is reiterated by the President of the Union of Bulgarian Writers.

**Soviet Union / Romania / US – May 16, 1966 (OSA)**

According to a RFE report from New York Romanian-Soviet relations are slightly changing, therefore now the U.S. is more and more inclined to the belief that the differences between the USSR and Romania are growing.

**Soviet Union / West-Germany – May 17, 1966 (OSA)**

Shelepin made a speech on May 13th which attacked alleged West-German revisionism. He said that “Nothing will come of these claims”, and this speech was made in the aftermath of the Ceausescu speech in Bucharest.

**Soviet Union / Romania / China – May 17, 1966 (OSA)**

The latest U.S. assessment is that Sino-Soviet concerns remain the primary point of contention between the Soviets and Romania. Speculations on the exact differences between China and USSR are related to the Vietnam War. The earlier idea that the conflict between the Soviets and Romania was not that serious, has been refuted.

**East Germany – May 18, 1966 (OSA)**

A conference takes place on “The Party and the Arts” sponsored by the Party school “Karl Marx” in East Berlin. It is attended by numerous prominent leaders. Professor Lange claims that after 20 years of development in the two German states, it is hard to speak about German culture. Marianne Lange states that East German artists must find new ways in the arts and their higher development. There are two German literatures which have very little in common at this time.

**Soviet Union / Soviet Bloc / Kenya – May 20, 1966 (OSA)**

The Government of Kenya accused some Soviet bloc countries of using their media to influence internal politics in Kenya. From the Soviet Bloc countries it is confirmed that the bulk of their output is on the colonial matters of the African continent. The prime social targets are African diplomats, irrespective of the current diplomatic status of their countries with the Soviet Bloc.

**Hungary – May 25-27, 1966 (HC)**

The session of the central committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party takes place in Budapest. (Subject: The guidelines of the economic reform and the third five years plan.)

**Finland – May 27, 1966, (LJF)**

Social Democrat Rafael Paasio forms a leftist coalition government with the Center Party and Finnish People’s Democratic League (SKDL).

**Soviet Union – May 27–28, 1966 (CAC)**

A conference of Warsaw Pact defense ministers in Moscow approves a draft Statute of Unified Command, with Romanian reservations; it is to be forwarded to the PCC and the national governments for approval but makes little progress toward creation of new military institutions.

**Hungary – May 30-31, 1966 (HC)**

The session of the executive board of UNESCO takes place in Budapest. (Topic: The protection of monuments and tourism.)

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – May 30, 1966 (HC)**

János Kádár, the first secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party and Sándor Gáspár the chairman of national board and the labor unions take a four-day visit in Yugoslavia.

**Czechoslovakia – May 31-June 4, 1966 (KCA)**

Communist Party Congress: President Novotný calls for a purge of teachers who are not promulgating the Socialist agenda. The Congress also establishes the Five Year Plan for 1966-70 which will concentrate on industrial and agricultural progress.

**June****Bulgaria - June, 1966 (OSA) [RFE report dated July 26, 1966]**

The First Deputy Minister of Agriculture discusses the importance of collective farm management in resolving issues which arrive on the farm.

**Bulgaria - June, 1966 (OSA) [RFE report dated August 25, 1966]**

Article criticizing the lack of current expertise in the journalism field, calling for inter-newspaper debates and editors.

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – June, 1966 (OSA)**

An article titled 'The Decline of the Churches' discussing the decline of the church in Hungary and Czechoslovakia. Subsections include: 'The decline in Hungary'; 'Path and ritual'; 'Czechoslovakia's Catholics'; 'Where are the atheists?'.

**Hungary – June 1, 1966 (HC)**

The governmental order number 16/1966 about the extension of childcare benefits is publicized. (More than 100 000 labor union members receive childcare benefits and other healthcare services.)

**Hungary / West Germany – June 4, 1966 (HC)**

The press announces the response of the government to the proposal of the West German government about the stabilization of the two countries' relations.

**East Germany – June 5, 1966 (KCA)**

It is announced in Bonn that under the **March 7** passport agreement a total of 510,433 West Berliners visited relatives in East Berlin during the Easter period of **April 7-20** and 467,885 did the same during the Whitsun period of **May 23 - June 5**.

**Soviet Union / Kazakhstan – June 6, 1966 (OSA)**

Expansion of irrigated lands is planned in Kazakhstan. This improvement will help the state farms to improve the fulfillment of the five-year plan. An analysis of the use of ground was carried out. The plenum expressed confidence that party and ideological-educational work would ensure the successful fulfillment of the outlined plans.

**Warsaw Pact – June 6-17, 1966 (CAC)**

A conference of Warsaw Pact foreign ministers reaches no consensus on measures for organizational improvement of the alliance.

**COCOM / U.S. – June 8, 1966 (LBC)**

With the exception of Iceland, the COCOM states reject the U.S. proposal to limit the sale of computers to communist states.

**Yugoslavia – June 9, 1966 (RYE)**

The wiretapping of President Tito's residence is apparently discovered. It is, incidentally, the last day that Minister of Interior Aleksandar Ranković's official activities are mentioned in the press. A technical commission is promptly appointed to investigate and uncover the extent of wiretapping among top party officials.

**Poland / Soviet Union – June 11, 1966 (KCA)**

Poland and the Soviet Union sign a five-year agreement on scientific and technical cooperation for the years 1966-1970. Some of the subjects of the agreement include foundry practice, the extracting and processing of coal, electric power, electronics, and chemistry.

**Soviet Union – June 12, 1966 (KCA)**

General elections for the two Houses of the Union Parliament (the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities, which together constitute the Supreme Soviet) are held. The candidates include leading members of the party and Government (among them Brezhnev, Kosygin, and Podgorny) together with workers, collective farmers, engineers, technicians, artists, scientists, and members of the armed forces. With a turnout of 99.94%, 99.73% of votes are cast for the candidates in the elections to the Soviet of the Union.

**East Germany / West Germany / Poland / Czechoslovakia – June 13, 1966 (OSA)**

The SPD Party Congress in Dortmund elicits a great deal of public interest and numerous reactions from both East and West. The purpose of the SED in proposing and supporting the planned SED-SPD dialogue sheds light on the East German reaction to the Dortmund Congress. The SED wishes to further the concept of the National Front. *Pravda* has published an article on the results of the Dortmund Congress which diverges from the official SED position as it points out the existence of some positive aspects as well as some changes in the attitude of the German opposition party. Poland chooses to take a more positive point of view. *Rude Pravo* mentions the crucial question existing between the Federal Republic and the CSSR and objects to its not having been registered in the final resolution.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – June 13-18, 1966 (HC)**

Led by Pál Ilku Cultural Minister, cultural delegation visits to Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / Finland – June 13-18, 1966 (KCA)**

The Soviet Prime Minister, Kosygin, visits Finland. A joint communiqué is issued at the end of this visit in which both sides convey satisfaction with Finnish-Soviet relations, express concern regarding Vietnam and European security and stress the importance of disarmament and support for the United Nations. Both sides also view the recent Soviet-Finnish agreement on the limits of territorial waters and the continental shelf as a sign of "growing good-neighborly relations between the two countries".

**Romania / China – June 16-24, 1966 (KCA)**

The Chinese Prime Minister, Chou En-lai, visits Romania. He criticizes the Soviet Union and expresses support for Romania's struggle to build Socialism in an independent way. No joint communiqué is issued during this visit as no important compromises are reached.

**Yugoslavia – June 16, 1966 (RYE)**

The Party Executive Committee is summoned to discuss the preliminary report of the technical commission on wiretapping. The Committee meets again on **June 22** to hear the preliminary report, decides that it contains enough damaging information to justify political action against Ranković, Svetislav Stefanović and UDB and calls the meeting of the Central Committee held at Brioni on **July 1**.

**Warsaw Pact – June 17, 1966 (MMS)**

Meeting of the Foreign Ministers in Moscow.

**East Germany – June 20, 1966 (OSA)**

Kadar has come down in support of Ulbricht's hard line vis-a-vis the Federal Republic. Ulbricht has warned his Hungarian friends during the friendship demonstration in Budapest against West German subversive maneuvers. East German Prime Minister Stoph is effusive in his praise for the Soviet Union which is not mentioned by his Hungarian colleague Kállai.

**East Germany / Romania / Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union - June 20, 1966 (OSA)**

*Die Welt* (6/15/66) reports from Berlin that the USSR plans to remove 5 divisions from the Eastern Zone and to strengthen the missile units stationed to offset the reduction in numbers. Bucharest feels that the stationing costs of Soviet troops in East Germany, Poland and Hungary are high and should be reduced. In November 1965, there were twenty Soviet divisions in East Germany. One quarter of the SPG is the same proportion as the NATO forces may be losing in West Germany. Russian troops are stationed in Hungary, Poland, and East Germany under bilateral agreements, not under the provisions of the Warsaw Pact.

**Hungary / Austria – June 20, 1966 (HC)**

Led by the chairman of the central committee Franz Muri, the delegation of the Austrian Communist Party takes four-day visit in Budapest.

**Soviet Union / France – June 20-July 1, 1966 (LBC/KCA)**

De Gaulle's tour of the USSR. The French head of state is granted a welcome the like of which had never been granted to a Western statesman before. He is the first since Napoleon to live in the Kremlin, the first to speak from the balcony of the Moscow Town Hall, the first to visit Novosibirsk and the first to see the launching of a space rocket. – De Gaulle meets Brezhnev, Kosygin and Podgorny. He urges the Soviet Union to accept the Eastern European states' independent negotiations with the West, but rejects the recognition of the GDR. The French President declares that the Cold War "must end". A joint communiqué is issued after the visit. Both sides agree that European problems must be solved primarily within the confines of Europe. – France and the USSR agree to establish a direct communication link between the Kremlin and the Elysee palace and to set up a permanent joint commission on trade, economic, scientific, and technical cooperation. Both countries stress the importance of European security, exchange views about the German question and express hope that bilateral Franco-Soviet relations will develop in spite of the fact that no agreement has been reached concerning disarmament. Cultural and scientific cooperation will be developed, and regular Franco-Soviet consultations will take place, in which a direct "hot line" between Moscow and Paris will help. France and the Soviet Union sign a space research agreement which provides for the launch of a French earth satellite by the Soviet Union and cooperation in the fields of weather and communications satellites.



**Hungary – June 23, 1966 (KCA)**

The Five-Year Plan for 1966-1970 is issued.

**Albania / China – June 24-28, 1966 (KCA)**

The Chinese Prime Minister, Chou En-lai, visits Albania. Throughout the visit, the leaders of both countries attack the Soviet Union in numerous speeches. A joint communiqué confirms the opposition of the Chinese and Albanian parties to “modern revisionism, with the leading group of the Soviet Communist Party as its centre.”

**Yugoslavia / Vatican – June 25, 1966 (ACY/KCA)**

The Protocol of Discussions between the Representatives of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Representatives of the Holy See is signed in Rome. It guarantees, among other things, the free performance of religious functions and religious rites and admits, within the framework of the law, the jurisdiction of the Holy See over the Catholic Church in spiritual, religious and ecclesiastical matters, while the Vatican accepts that the clergy will not abuse their functions for political ends. The protocol provides for a mutual exchange of envoys, an apostolic delegate and a representative of the Yugoslav government. The Vatican and Yugoslavia sign an agreement on the resumption of diplomatic relations after 14 years. The agreement is the first of its kind between the Vatican and any Communist country. The principles of separation of Church and State as well as freedom of conscience still apply in Yugoslavia.

**East Germany / West Germany – June 29, 1966 (OSA)**

Politburo member and main propagandist Professor Alfred Norden during an “international press conference”, terms a recent FRG legislation “a violation of international law” which will have to be abolished before any East German leader can set foot on West German soil. The law Norden objects to is one passed by the West German Lower House on the 23rd June for making the speaker's exchange possible. Some of the SED speakers coming to the Federal Republic can be prosecuted for criminal activities. The speakers’ exchange project has been cancelled by the SED because of the Federal Republic. The SED is accused of cowardly governance; individual SPD leaders, especially Herbert Wehner, are attacked in many articles. SED is backing out of the projected dialogue.

**Soviet Union / Vietnam – June 30, 1966 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union issues a statement condemning the bombing of Hanoi and Haiphong and reiterating its support for North Vietnam. On **July 31**, it is revealed that Soviet colonels were training frontier guards from North Vietnam. In August Pham van Dong and General Vo Nguyen Giap, the North Vietnamese Defense Minister, secretly visit Moscow; no details of this visit are revealed.

**July****COMECON – July, 1966 (CEC)**

A meeting of Leaders of Communist and Workers’ Parties and Heads of Government of Member Countries is held in Budapest. This ‘summit’ attempts to resolve the divisions of interests within COMECON.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia – July 1, 1966 (OSA)**

The SED's primary aim is to move the German stalemate in a favorable direction for the GDR by prying liberal or left-wing elements away from the leadership of the SPD and the Bonn government. The SPD has pursued a reactionary line involving collaboration with the ruling coalition internally and US/NATO imperialism internationally. The Soviet spokesman suggests that it might be moving towards a solution to the German problem.

**Yugoslavia – July 1-3, 1966 (RYE/JVJ/KCA)**

The 4th Plenum of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia meets at Brioni. The central committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia expels Vice-President Alexander Ranković from the central committee and the President of the Committee for Internal Affairs, Svetislav Stefanović, from the Party as they have been found responsible for abuses in the workings of the security police. A special commission will be set up to investigate past cases of abuse.

**Hungary / France – July 4, 1966 (HC)**

Waldeck Rochet, the general secretary of the French Communist Party and his family take a ten-day friendly visit in Hungary.

**Warsaw Pact – July 4-6, 1966 (KCA/CAC/MMS/HC)**

The session of the Warsaw Pact PCC takes place in Bucharest. It approves a declaration about the stabilization of European security; condemns the American intervention in Vietnam. It includes a contentious discussion over a proposed declaration on Vietnam, but its main result is to issue the "Bucharest Declaration" calling for a conference on European security. The reorganization of the Warsaw Pact is postponed. Romania opposes Soviet proposals for the strengthening of the organization and any attempts by the Soviet Communist Party to impose its opinions and actions on Communist parties in different countries. The Romanian Government sends a note to other members of the alliance claiming that Soviet troops and bases in Eastern Europe are no longer needed.

**Yugoslavia – July 5, 1966 (KCA)**

The Federal Assembly approves the Five-Year Plan for 1966-1970, which focuses on stabilizing and modernizing the economy, raising the standard of living, raising the foreign-exchange reserves and speeding-up the development of under-developed regions of the country.

**U.S. / Vietnam – July 6, 1966 (HC)**

The leadership of the National Peace Convention condemns the extension of the American aggression in Vietnam. The Catholic clerical peace movement condemns the aggression in Vietnam. in a declaration.

**Bulgaria / USSR – July 7, 1966 (OSA)**

Statements from various members of the Bulgarian Writers' Union regarding the relationship between Bulgarian and Soviet writers, publishing Bulgarian works in the USSR, and new collaborations between the Bulgarian and Soviet Writers' Unions.

**Bulgaria / Greece – July 9, 1966 (OSA)**

Accomplishments of the renewed relationship between Bulgaria and Greece.

**Soviet Union / Canada – July 11, 1966 (KCA)**

A civil aviation agreement is signed between Canada and the Soviet Union. It provides a regular air service between Montreal and Moscow. The agreement is the first of its kind between North America and the Soviet Union.

**Romania – July 12, 1966 (RCW)**

Minutes of the conversation on the Meeting of Politburo of the Romanian Communist Party are issued. Agenda of the meeting is: Informing the Politburo about the consultative meeting of the Executive Political Committee of the Warsaw Treaty and the consultative of the COMECON member nations.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – July 13-21, 1966 (HC)**

Foreign Minister János Péter takes an official visit in Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union – July 14, 1966 (OSA)**

Perhaps the development of industrial production between the West and the East. The market of the Soviet Union can influence. East shipping at a fast pace. This is due to the fact that China, like the Soviet Union, does not want to be under the threat of capitalist countries. Despite the rapid development of its industrial center, the Soviet Union must engage in the export of fruits and agricultural products in order to acquire hard currency. Most likely, the Soviet Union will not be able to conclude a five-year plan. But it is not yet a fact that agricultural production cannot increase. Serious changes have been made in an agricultural inspection. Purchase prices have been raised. Collective farm taxes were reduced. The prices for Soviet grain exceed the prices on the world market. Purchase prices for livestock are elevated all over the world. With good planning and the use of modern technology, consumption can be reduced, and productivity increased. Eastern countries consume less than other countries.

**Soviet Union – July 16-18, 1966 (KCA/LBC)**

Prime Minister Harold Wilson of Great Britain visits Moscow to see a commercial exhibition, where he negotiated with Prime Minister Kosygin. No communiqué is issued, but it is known that the talks have dealt mainly or exclusively with Vietnam. The Soviet official spokesman says that the British and Soviet positions on Vietnam remain very different. No compromise is reached during this visit.

**Soviet Union / Great Britain – July 16-19, 1966 (LBC)**

British Prime Minister Harold Wilson visits Moscow. Wilson arrived to Moscow to see a commercial exhibition, where he negotiated with premier Kosygin.

**Bulgaria / USSR - July 19, 1966 (OSA)**

An agreement for social and scientific collaboration between Bulgaria and the USSR is signed.

**Soviet Union / Japan – July 24-30, 1966 (KCA)**

In the first visit of its kind, Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko, visits Japan. A consular convention is signed. In January of this year (16-22), during a visit of the Japanese Foreign Minister to Moscow, an agreement on air service between Moscow and Tokyo and a five-year trade agreement were signed.

**Bulgaria / North Vietnam - July 25, 1966 (OSA)**

A 'Pogled' article detailing the aid from Bulgaria to North Vietnam. Food and medical supplies are regularly donated to North Vietnam, and many Bulgarians have volunteered to fight despite North Vietnam making no requests for it.

**Bulgaria – July 25, 1966 (OSA)**

Approaches from the Silistra District Committee to eradicate apathy to domestic politics are detailed. It will be replaced with renewed patriotism, loyalty to the Party, the USSR, the Soviet Army and the Bulgarian Army.

**Czechoslovakia / France – July 25-28, 1966 (LBC)**

French Foreign Minister Couve de Murville visits Prague. He meets President Novotný, Foreign Minister David and Prime Minister Lenárt.

**Yugoslavia – July 26, 1966 (KCA)**

Yugoslavia signs the protocol of accession as a full contracting party to the GATT. Its membership will come into effect on **August 25, 1966**.

**Hungary / U.S. – July 27, 1966 (HC)**

János Kádár responds to the questions of Henry Shapiro, to the American correspondent of the UPI. (He speaks about the foreign policy of Hungary and the significance of the Hungarian economic reform.)

**U.S. – July 27, 1966 (LBC)**

The Senate majority leader Mike Mansfield calls for the reduction of U.S. forces in Europe. In his Senate speech Mansfield declared that the changed conditions in Europe and the large cost of the Vietnam War make the reduction necessary. (According to a survey 44 out of 77 Senators would welcome the reduction of U.S. forces in Europe).

**Hungary / France – July 28-30, 1966 (LBC/HC)**

French Foreign Minister Couve de Murville has talks with Hungarian Party First Secretary János Kádár, Prime Minister Gyula Kállai and foreign minister János Péter. Three agreements are signed on cultural, scientific and technological exchange programs and consular relations.

**Bulgaria - July 29, 1966 (OSA)**

A professor from the Faculty of Philosophy and History at the University of Sofia writes about the requirement of 'freedom of thought' in order to progress and develop in science.

**Hungary – July 31-August 5, 1966 (HC)**

The Esperanto World Congress holds its session 51st session in Budapest.

**August****Hungary / India – August 4, 1966 (HC)**

Kumaraswami Kamaraj, the chairman of the Indian Congress Party and Ramaswami Venkataraman Industrial Minister of Madras province arrive in Hungary for the invitation of the National Board of the Patriotic People's Front.

**Hungary – August 7, 1966 (OSA)**

An article details the author's experiences while visiting a small village's religious community in Tolna county. It writes that the first non-religious funeral was held in the village without any disturbances and with the acceptance of the locals. Non-religious marriages are made as well, but the village is still one of the most religious ones in the county. It describes an overall declining religiosity within the community with the youth becoming less and less religious.

**Hungary / Denmark – August 9, 1966 (HC)**

Per Haekkerup, the Danish Foreign Minister takes a five-day official visit in Budapest.

**Yugoslavia / Middle East – August 10-17, 1966 (KCA)**

President Tito of Yugoslavia visits the United Arab Republic, Syria and Iraq. Representatives of all three countries support Palestinians and are ready to make any effort necessary for peace and progress. They agree that the Middle East conflict must be solved.

**Soviet Union – August 11, 1966 (OSA)**

Banks and business concerns in Western Europe were operating smuggling and currency speculation against the Soviet Union. The article threw a shadow over so-called "foreign currency stores". The tourists could buy Soviet production with foreign currency for as little as half of the price. Some foreigners tried to smuggle thousands of rubbles out of the country. *Izvestia* strongly warned Soviet citizens to beware of becoming involved with foreign smugglers.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – August 15-22, 1966 (HC)**

István Szirmai, member of the political committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party visits the Soviet Union. (It discussed cultural and scientific agreement.)

**Soviet Union – August 15, 1966 (PLC)**

Soviet *Luna-1* spacecraft reaches the Moon.

**Soviet Union – August 16, 1966 (OSA)**

The black market came under strong attack in "*Izvestia*". The Soviet Union opened a network of "foreign currency shops" where Western money was accepted but currencies of their countries are forbidden. Only The Central Bank can buy and sell rubles at the price of 1.11\$ per ruble. On the black-market the price was 30 cents or less.

**Soviet Union / Italy – August 15, 1966 (KCA)**

The Italian company Fiat signs an agreement in Moscow to construct a large motor factory in the Soviet town of Togliatti.

**Hungary – August 19–20, 1966 (HC)**

Rallies take place nationwide on the occasion of the day of constitution.

**Hungary / Syria – August 20–27, 1966 (HC)**

Hungary and Syria hold trade negotiations in Damascus. (They sign multiple agreements.)

**Soviet Union / Zambia – August 23–26, 1966 (KCA)**

A delegation from Zambia visits Moscow. The official communiqué states that the Soviet Union will cooperate with Zambia and other African countries in helping the people of Rhodesia achieve national independence.

**Soviet Union – August 24, 1966 (KCA)**

The Soviet spacecraft *Luna XI* is launched. Five days later, it is announced that it has gone into orbit around the moon and is relaying pictures to earth. It becomes the moon's third artificial satellite.

**Hungary – August 24-27, 1966 (HC)**

International Hungarian linguistic congress takes place in Debrecen. (More than 50 professionals from 14 countries participate.)

**Romania – August 28, 1966 (KCA)**

The Romanian Minister of Defense, Leontin Sălăjan, dies and is succeeded by Ion Ioniță. A few other changes to the government are announced at the same time.

**China / Soviet Union — August 30, 1966 (OSA)**

*Izvestia*, a Soviet Government newspaper notes how the demonstrations in Beijing are given great attention by world press and refers to them as “hooligan actions”. The Soviet Union demanded immediate action to be taken to protect Soviet diplomats inside.

**China / Soviet Union — August 30, 1966 (OSA)**

Thousands of people parade the streets protesting Soviet Communism which was given the name of “revisionism” by China. The embassy of the Soviet Union was being guarded by at least two hundred guards and the protests were quite peaceful and well organized not resulting in any incidents. Important individuals such as foreign diplomats and officials were able to navigate the crowd freely, and not one person came closer than 100 yards to the embassy at any point.

**September****Romania / France – September 6, 1966 (KCA)**

The Renault motor company (owned by the French state) and the Romanian State foreign trade organization, Industrial Import, sign an agreement on the construction of Romania's first automobile plant at Pitesti. Production will commence at the beginning of 1969.

**Hungary / Iran – September 7, 1966 (HC)**

Mohamed Raza Pahlevi, the Iranian shah takes a weeklong official visit in Hungary. (They sign a cultural agreement.)

**Hungary / Vietnam – September 9, 1966 (HC)**

Led by Le Thanh Nghi, Vietnamese economic governmental delegation takes a five-day visit in Hungary. (They sign an agreement about the non-refundable support to Vietnam, about the long-lasting interests-free credit and education of Vietnam's professionals.)

**Hungary / Spain – September 13, 1966 (HC)**

Led by Dolores Ibarruri, the delegation of the Spanish Communist Party takes 10 days visit to Hungary.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 18, 1966 (KCA)**

It is announced that the United States and the Soviet Union, in accordance with an agreement on the exchange of data from weather satellites, are sending each other 6-8 photographs daily taken by such satellites.

**Soviet Union – September 19, 1966 (KCA)**

Nikolai Shchelokov is appointed Minister for the Preservation of Public Order in the USSR Council of Ministers. An All-Union Ministry for the Preservation of Public Order was created on **July 26** with the aim of fighting crime and hooliganism.

**Yugoslavia – September 19-October 4, 1966 (KCA/RYE)**

The Yugoslav League of Communists revises its roles and department duties. A new Presidential post is created and the roles of General Secretary and Party Secretariat are abolished. The Executive committee ratifies all changes on **September 19, 1966** and the Central Committee on **October 4, 1966**. Tito is elected President. There is an ongoing investigation into the Security Police (UDB) whose activities have been reportedly irregular and illegal. A commission is set up in Yugoslavia July 1966 to restructure the UDB. At the request of the Montenegrin, Macedonian and Bosnian Central Committees, it is agreed to deprive Ranković of party membership.

**Soviet Union / Maldives Islands – September 20, 1966 (KCA)**

An agreement to establish diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the Maldives Islands is announced.

**Finland – September 20, 1966 (SYA)**

Finnish Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Max Jakobson, becomes the head of the Special Political Committee of the U.N. General Assembly.

**Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Soviet Union – September 20, 1966 (PLC)**

First of regular Warsaw Pact military exercises “*Vltava*” begins with the participation of Czechoslovak, Hungarian, East German and Soviet armed forces.

**Hungary / U.K. – September 21-October 1, 1966 (HC)**

Led by Sid Foster, the delegation of the British Communist Party takes a ten-day visit in Hungary.

**Hungary / Canada – September 22-25, 1966 (HC)**

Robert S. Vimters, the Trade Minister of Canada holds negotiations in Budapest.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – September 26-26, 1966 (HC)**

L.I. Brezhnev, the general secretary of the central committee of the Soviet Communist Party and G. V. Andropov, the secretary of the central committee hold a friendly visit in Hungary.

**October****East Germany – October 3, 1966 (OSA)**

Ulbricht embarks on his week-long visit to Yugoslavia. The tensions between Yugoslavia and the Federal Republic have increased and the level of their relations at present are at an all-time

low. The visit is a success for Ulbricht. Tito gives the GDR support in its perennial quest for international recognition among the African and Asian developing nations. Tito also provides support for East Germany's ambitions for admission to the UN as well as for bolstering up the 2-German-states theory and the separate status of West Berlin by attacks on the Federal Republic.

**Hungary / Austria – October 3, 1966 (HC)**

Nine-member Austrian governmental delegation travels to Hungary for a week-long visit.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – October 4-5, 1966 (HC)**

Labor union representatives of CMEA countries and Yugoslavia held an assembly in Moscow.

**East Germany / West Germany – October 6, 1966 (KCA)**

Representatives of the West Berlin Senate and the East German authorities sign a protocol which provides for the reopening of the office handling family visits by West Berliners to East Berlin in cases of special hardship. On **October 10** the passes office is opened.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – October 6-15, 1966 (HC)**

Led by Sándor Gáspár, general secretary of the Board of Labor Unions, a Hungarian parliamentary delegation travels to the Soviet Union.

**Soviet Union / US – October 6, 1966 (KCA)**

Llewellyn E. Thompson is appointed U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union.

**Eastern Europe / U.S. – October 7, 1966 (LBC/KCA)**

The U.S. President's speech on U.S. policy towards Eastern Europe. He urges better relations and announces concrete steps to increase trade, travel and cultural relations between the communist states and the U.S. For Europe to regain its unity the USSR must come to an agreement with the East European countries. This will happen only when East and West successfully build firmer foundations of mutual confidence. It is not the aim of the U.S. to overthrow governments, but it wants to assist the Europeans in the unification of their continent. – Johnson recommends mutual troop reductions in Europe. His government's new steps for the improvement of East-West relations: Johnson pledges to lift the export ban on several hundred items. He signs a resolution that entitles the Export-Import Bank to guarantee commercial loans to four more East European countries, Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia. – The Secretary of State will examine whether it is possible to reduce the burdens of Polish debt by spending the Polish currency reserve in the U.S. **December 29, 1966**. – Johnson announces that the U.S. is negotiating a civilian air agreement with the USSR, which will facilitate tourism in both directions. **November 4, 1966**. – According to the President the Administration is pushing Congress for a fast congressional approval of on the Soviet-American consular agreement and for the congress to discuss a commercial treaty, which allow the extension of the most favored nation status to the communist states. – **October 15**. According to CPSU general secretary Brezhnev the Vietnam War is the major obstacle to East-West rapprochement.

**Bulgaria - October 8, 1966 (OSA)**

RFE report on the increase in prevalence of Western goods and culture in Bulgaria. The author presents this as part of a larger liberalization trend in the state.



**Bulgaria - October 10, 1966 (OSA)**

A Komsomol editorial argues in favor of the creation of a true Bulgarian history, including the achievements of the bourgeoisie in the pre-communist period.

**Soviet Union – October 10, 1966 (OSA)**

Although the U.S. is trying to achieve détente with the Soviets, they keep bringing up Vietnam “as excuse” for not being cooperative. The USSR are cutting off visible contacts with the U.S. but permitting secondary steps to go forward.

**Bulgaria / France – October 10-15, 1966 (KCA)**

The Bulgarian Prime Minister and First Secretary of the Communist Party Todor Zhivkov visits France. A joint communiqué issued on **October 15** defines the establishment of détente in East-West relations as the priority of both countries, expresses concern over the situation in Vietnam and underlines the satisfaction of both sides with the development of bilateral Franco-Bulgarian relations.

**Soviet Union / France – October 11, 1966 (KCA)**

In a joint communiqué, the Soviet Union and France announce that they will study problems connected to the launching of a French artificial satellite with a Soviet rocket. It is also announced that a Franco-Soviet agreement has been signed that provides for: joint research in the field of high-energy nuclear physics, Franco-Soviet working groups for studies in space communications and meteorology, joint experiments in space communication, and attempts at spreading Soviet-French color television to other countries. Under the agreement of **June 30**, a Franco-Soviet commission is established.

**Eastern Europe / Soviet Union / U.S. – October 12, 1966 (LBC)**

The Department of Commerce announces that 400 non-strategic articles were taken off the positive list for Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. The decision does not involve the GDR and the communist countries of the Far East.

**Hungary – October 13, 1966 (HC)**

The central committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party holds its session. (Schedule: the parliamentary election system, and the principles of the new voting law)

**Hungary – October 13-15, 1966 (HC)**

An international convention takes place at the Hungarian Scientific Academy to discuss the WW2 history of Central European countries.

**Romania / Congo – October 15, 1966 (KCA)**

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo decides to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level with Romania – the fourth Communist country it has established ambassadorial level relations with, after Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

**Soviet Union / Warsaw Pact – October 17–22, 1966 (HC/CAC)**

Party and state leaders of the Socialist countries hold an international meeting in Moscow. Brezhnev agrees to press the campaign against the Vietnam War and convene a conference of European communist parties on issues of security.

**East Germany – October 19, 1966 (OSA)**

East Germany has taken many measures to limit the access of supplies and people to West Berlin, impeding or defeating West German policy, and promoting East Germany's long-thwarted wish for international recognition. The GDR is putting pressure on the Federal Republic to upgrade East Germany's status. The "veterinary-hygienic border crossing decree" is the first step. Another East German policy is to demand by Pankow's postal ministry to the West Berlin Senate for 100 million marks in payment of arrears on postal and telecommunication links through the GDR. The number of West German and West Berlin citizens whose travel by train or car through East Germany could be affected was very large. Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko has his first harmonious meeting with President Johnson, and Willy Brandt made a visit to East Berlin for talks with Soviet Ambassador Abrasimov, the Deputy SPD-Chairman Herbert Wehner proposed an economic integration of East and West Germany.

**Yugoslavia / India / U.A.R. – October 21-24, 1966 (KCA)**

A summit conference consisting of representatives from India (Prime Minister Indira Gandhi), Yugoslavia (President Tito) and the United Arab Republic (President Nasser) is held in New Delhi. A joint communiqué issued on **October 24** expresses concern over the situation in Vietnam, stresses the policy of non-alignment pursued by all three countries and condemns colonialism and racialism. The representatives of the three countries support Palestinians, underline the importance of disarmament, emphasize the crucial role of the United Nations and express satisfaction with the development of friendly relations between their countries.

**Hungary / USA – October 22-24, 1966 (HC)**

American leading businessmen and CEOs convene in Budapest.

**Bulgaria - October 24, 1966 (OSA)**

Press survey detailing the following: the position of young writers in Bulgaria and the criticism they face from their advisors; and an interview with prominent writer Vesselin Andreev about "revolutionary poetry".

**Bulgaria / China - October 27, 1966 (OSA)**

Report from the meeting of the Union of Bulgarian Writers. It attacks the 'desecration of cultural heritage' occurring in China, and calls for the long-missing introduction of proper literary values into Bulgarian literature.

**November****Albania / Soviet Union – November 1-6, 1966 (KCA)**

At the Fifth Congress of the Albanian Labor Party, First Secretary Enver Hoxha issues a scathing attack on the Soviet Communist Party regarding Revisionism. He calls for a distinction and separation of Revisionist and Marxist-Leninist Communist parties. Hoxha instigates a major cabinet reshuffle and condemns bureaucracy.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – November 4, 1966 (KCA/LBC)**

A Soviet American air agreement is signed in Washington on the establishment of a direct link between Moscow and New York.

**Poland / Canada – November 5–9, 1966 (KCA)**

The Canadian Secretary for External Affairs, Paul Martin, visits Warsaw. In a joint communiqué, both sides express deep concern over the situation in Vietnam, stress the importance of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and the need to strengthen the United Nations, and express satisfaction with the growth of trade and cultural and scientific exchanges.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria - November 7, 1966 (OSA)**

Predrag Ajtic, Yugoslav ambassador to Sofia from June 1962 to May 1963, who was expelled both from the diplomatic service and the Party more than three years ago, is rehabilitated at the Seventh Plenum of the Serbian CC and elected a member. The Yugoslav CC weekly, "*Komunist*," reveals for the first time that Ajtic was purged in 1963 because of his anti-Rankovic attitude. At that time, Rankovic's people in Sofia invented the story that Ajtic was attacking Tito and his (pro-Soviet) foreign policy.

**East Germany - November 9, 1966 (OSA)**

The 11th SED Central Committee Plenum of December 1965 stops attempts by East German artists and announces a plan for a meeting of the country's writer's league. The SED's demand for a greater engagement from the writers and artists on behalf of the socialist state has been accepted by the majority of people who contribute to the discussion. The pre-Conference contributions do not contest the foundation of the Party directives, but object to the sledgehammer methods used by the SED and argue for the acceptance of criticism. Minister of Culture Klaus Gysi defines the East German writer's task as the need to defeat the claim of sole literary representation by the Federal Republic.

**Soviet Union / France – November 9, 1966 (KCA)**

France and the Soviet Union sign an agreement on the establishment of a direct teleprinter link between Paris and Moscow.

**Soviet Union / Canada – November 9–13, 1966 (KCA)**

The Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs, Paul Martin, visits the Soviet Union. The communiqué issued at the end of the visit deals mainly with the topics of Vietnam, disarmament, European peace and stability, and strengthening the United Nations.

**Hungary – November 11, 1966 (HC/KCA)**

The parliament approves the 1966:III law (the new electoral law). It allows electorate to vote for more than one candidate. (After the first elections following this change, Gyulla Kállai is elected Speaker of the Parliament and Jenő Fock is elected Prime Minister on April 14, 1967.)

**Bulgaria – November 14-19, 1966 (KCA)**

The Ninth Communist Party Congress is held in Sofia. Party Secretary Todor Zhivkov outlines the details of the Five Year Plan that includes the development of the energy industry, increasing the national income, further industrialisation. Zhivkov also proposes an International Conference of Communist and Workers' parties and some changes to the constitution. Brezhnev is in attendance.

**Warsaw Pact – November 14-17, 1966 (HC/MMS)**

Military representatives of Warsaw Pact countries convene in Budapest.

**U.K. – November 16, 1966 (HC)**

Chaired by Lord Russel, an international court is formed to investigate the possible war crimes committed by the United States in Vietnam.

**Yugoslavia – November 18, 1966 (ACY)**

The Serbian and the Macedonian Orthodox Synods meet in Belgrade and the Macedonians, in an angry mood, demand full independence (autocephaly).

**Soviet Union / U.K. – November 23-24, 1966 (KCA)**

The British Foreign Secretary, George Brown, visits Moscow. No communiqué is issued following this visit but it is known that the topics under discussion include bilateral British-Soviet relations, the Vietnam conflict, European security, and nuclear non-proliferation.

**Eastern Europe / U.S. – November 24-25, 1966 (LBC)**

The OECD recommends the expansion of East-West trade. Assistant Secretary of State Rostow proposes for the West to jointly improve economic links with Eastern Europe. Rostow advocates the establishment of a several hundred-million-dollar fund to support private investments directed at the development of agriculture.

**Yugoslavia – November 25, 1966 (PLC/JVJ)**

Law on the reorganization of the Yugoslav Security Service, revoking all special rights from the secret police.

**Bulgaria - November 26, 1966 (OSA)**

Notable economic directives from the 9th Party Congress in Bulgaria are recorded.

**Bulgaria - November 26, 1966 (OSA)**

Report from 'The Economist' detailing remarks from Zhivkov's speech at the 9th Party Congress. According to Zhivkov, Bulgaria is one of Europe's fastest growing economies; but the author notes their economy is still dominated by small-scale industry and its agricultural sector is incredibly backwards.

**Bulgaria / U.S. – November 28, 1966 (KCA)**

The U.S. Legation in Bulgaria is raised to Embassy level with immediate effect.

**Hungary / U.S. – November 28, 1966 (KCA/HC)**

Diplomatic relations between Hungary and the United States are raised to the ambassadorial level.

**Hungary – November 28-December 3, 1966 (HC)**

The 9th Congress of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party takes place in Budapest. (The first secretary of the central committee: János Kádár, his secretaries: Béla Biszku, Lajos Cseterki, Zoltán Komócsin, Rezső Nyers, Árpád Pullai. Members of the political committee: János Kádár, Antal Apró, Béla Biszku, Lajos Fehér, Jenő Fock, Sándor Gáspár, Gyula Kállai, Zoltán Komócsin, Dezső Nemes, Rezső Nyers, István Szirmai.)

## **December**

### **Yugoslavia – December 1966 (RYE)**

A presidential decree, approved by the Federal Assembly, pardons Ranković and seventeen of his closest collaborators.

### **Yugoslavia – December 1966 (RYE)**

The Slovene Government resigns after a bill to raise social insurance taxes are defeated by a 44 to 11 vote in the Chamber of Social Welfare and Health of the Republican Assembly. Although the crisis is resolved by compromise, it causes a considerable stir at home and abroad. Never before has a Communist Government in a one-party state chosen to interpret a parliamentary defeat as a vote of no confidence and felt obliged to resign.

### **COMECON – December 1966 (CEC)**

The 20th COMECON session is held in Sofia. Preliminary discussions of plan coordination for 1971-1975 are held. Problems connected with joint investment in non-ferrous metals are discussed, along with coordination of research and discussion of convertibility.

### **Soviet Union – December 1966 (KCA)**

Professor Mikhail Prokofiev is appointed Minister for Education.

### **Hungary – December 1, 1966 (OSA)**

The relationship between the state and the church, citation from the speech given by Gyula Kállai on the IX. Plenum of the HSWP Congress. It states that the construction of the socialism is supported by religious people as well as they find the goals of the socialist state mutual to theirs. The Vatican has also de jure recognized the People's Republic of Hungary. The situation of the time is discussed in further detail with topics like antagonistic groups and socialist democracy.

### **Soviet Union / France – December 1-8, 1966 (KCA/LBC)**

Kosygin and Gromyko pay a diplomatic visit to France. On **December 1**, Kosygin gives a speech in which he calls for a reevaluation of certain European frontiers set after WWII. He also warns of the dangerous rise of Nazism in areas of Germany, and stresses the 'inviolability' of the Oder-Neisse border and that West Germany should not be granted nuclear capabilities. On **December 3-4**, Kosygin points out that if France withdraws from NATO and NATO breaks down, the Warsaw Pact would also disband. Kosygin makes a television appearance on **December 8**. He stresses the importance of good relations between France and the U.S.S.R, the transitory nature of the post-war boundaries, the issue of Vietnam as being inseparable from Cold War dialogue and his hopeful attitude towards remaining on good terms with De Gaulle's France.

On **December 9**, Kosygin and President De Gaulle issue a communique which expresses plans for nuclear disarmament, hope for rapprochement with European states and cooperation between the two countries. A Paris-Moscow hotline is to be opened.

### **East Germany - December 2, 1966 (OSA)**

The Warsaw correspondent of *Neues Deutschland* Werner Kolmar decides on a common line concerning their policy towards the possible establishment of diplomatic relations between West Germany and the People's Democracies. He states that if Warsaw stipulates conditions, no West German coalition government can hope to survive if it trades the recognition of the

GDR for permission to send ambassadors to Eastern Europe, while *Neues Deutschland* claims that no German coalition can survive if it ignores the existence of the GDR and fights against the post-war status quo.

**East Germany - December 2, 1966 (OSA)**

A privately-owned cafe on the outskirts of East Berlin opened in 1964 and has become popular because of its ideal location and service. One day it is closed because a party member has revoked the license of the owner. The cafe was reopened one year after it had been closed and still under private management.

**Yugoslavia – December 3, 1966 (ACY)** The Macedonian Orthodox Church sends the Serbian Sabor a formal demand for autocephaly, repeating its threat to act unilaterally if it is not granted.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – December 6, 1965 – January 6, 1966 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union and Great Britain exchange a series of Notes on the situation in Vietnam. While the Soviet proposal concerns the withdrawal of U.S. troops in Vietnam in order to put an end to the conflict, the British answer also underlines the need to withdraw Soviet troops from North Vietnam.

**Hungary – December 7, 1966 (HC)**

Mihály Korom takes the leadership of the Justice Ministry; István Szurdi takes the Ministry of Interior Trade.

**Yugoslavia – December 7, 1966 (KCA)**

The International Monetary Fund announces that it has approved arrangements with Yugoslavia to authorize loans up to the equivalent of \$45,000,000 to help to liberalize import and foreign exchange procedures.

**East Germany - December 8, 1966 (OSA)**

The next session of the East German pseudo-parliament has been convened for the 9th December to debate the economic draft plan and budget for 1967 as presented by the State Council. Various subcommittees of the Volkskammer meet to prepare for the plenary session. The agricultural sub-committee plans an increase of plant production of 5.5% amounting to 36.5 quintals of feed units per hectare and of animal production of 4.2% amounting to 24.6 quintals of feed units per hectare. More than half of agricultural investments will be devoted to soil amelioration and it is planned among other measures to irrigate 73500 hectares and drain 49000 hectares. The SED-District paper *Schweriner Volkszeitung* has begun to mention youthful rowdies by name and with addresses to expose them to public wrath.

**Romania / U.S. – December 9, 1966 (LBC)**

The U.S. sells 100 grams of enriched uranium to Romania for research. This is the first time the U.S. sells uranium to a communist state.

**Hungary / Czechoslovakia – December 10-11, 1966 (HC)**

Cultural Alliance of the Hungarian Workers of Czechoslovakia held its second congress in Bratislava. (Chairman: Gyula Lőrincz, general secretary: Dezső Szabó)

**Hungary – December 11, 1966 (OSA)**

The relationship between the state and the church is the topic of the article reporting on the IX. Plenum of the HSWP Congress. Citations from speeches given by János Kádár, Gyula Kállai are included besides parts of certain clauses from the resolutions made at the plenum.

**Hungary / France – December 12-14, 1966 (HC)**

Hungarian-French law fair at the Hungarian Scientific Academy.

**Soviet Union / China – December 12-13, 1966 (KCA)**

Mao Zedong's name is used for the first time in a verbal attack on Chinese policy by the Soviet Communist Party. Claims are made that the Chinese government seeks to create conflict between the Soviet Union and the United States.

**Yugoslavia / India / U.A.R. – December 12-14, 1966 (KCA)**

A joint communiqué is issued granting each other tariff preferences. It is also to be granted to other developing nations.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany – December 13, 1966 (KCA)**

In his first policy statement upon election as Chancellor of West Germany, Dr. Kiesinger acknowledges the invalidity of the Munich Agreement which ceded land from Czechoslovakia to Germany in 1938. He also states it as his duty and his nation's obligation to care for the Sudeten Germans who are in Czechoslovakia.

**Poland / West Germany – December 13, 1966 (KCA)**

In his first policy statement upon election as Chancellor of West Germany, Dr. Kiesinger expresses understanding for Poland's wish for secure frontiers. He also states, however, that this will not happen until a united Germany agrees upon it.

**Hungary – December 14-17, 1966 (HC)**

World Congress of Labor Unions takes place in Budapest, about the formations and the development of international relations.

**East Germany - December 15, 1966 (OSA)**

East Germany fears being isolated through a more flexible West German foreign policy. Ulbricht expresses his apprehension about the possible future lack of Eastern European solidarity with the GDR, as the great international responsibility of the GDR, a strengthening of the unity of all communist parties. East Germany is showing an unyielding attitude in all matters concerning East-West German contacts. In mid-November at the Bulgarian Party Congress, delegate Hermann Matern deviated from the support of an international conference desired by the Soviets, and stated that the SED felt the time had come to take some practical steps.

**Bulgaria – December 17, 1966 (OSA)**

The Bulgarian National Assembly passes the bill for the Fifth Five Year Plan, as well as the budget for 1967. By 1970, agricultural output is set to grow by 30%, and industrial output to grow by 70%.

**East Germany – December 19, 1966 (OSA)**

Ulbricht calls for more flexible industrial prices at the 11th SED Plenum. A conference on the market system focuses on the second phase of the new economic system. Finance Minister

Willy Rumpf deals with the forthcoming 3rd stage in price reforms and their effects. Mittag deals with the industrial price reform being implemented on 1 January 1967. The official gazette publishes an order establishing new constant plan prices in 1967 which are to be effective from the January 1st, 1968. The multiple-price system has become a part of the East German economic model. The new industrial price reform phase inaugurates the beginning of a period of the increased economic significance of prices. Ambree and Mann summarize the reasons for a flexible price system as part of the system of economic levers. The GDR has arrived at recognizing the importance of this need for increased flexibility on the basis of the application of several segments of the new economic model.

**Soviet Union / Turkey – December 20-27, 1966 (KCA)**

Kosygin visits Turkey, and issues a communique with Turkish Prime Minister Demirel. The communiqué expressed their desires for peaceful coexistence, their 'deep alarm' over the situation in Vietnam, their desires to bring nuclear capabilities under international control and the mutual advantage each nation could bring to the other.

**Bulgaria – December 23, 1966 (OSA)**

Bulgarian periodicals will publish propaganda materials warning the population of the threat of Western spies coming over the summer tourist period.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – December 23–28, 1966 (HC)**

Hungarian–Soviet negotiations about the peaceful usage of nuclear energy take place in Budapest. The agreement is reached that an 800 mW nuclear reactor will be built in Hungary.

**Hungary – December 24, 1966 (HC)**

Decree number 1966:30 about the pension system of the cooperative farms' members is approved.

**Soviet Union – December 24, 1966 KCA)**

*Luna-13* lands on the moon.

**Bulgaria / USA / UK / France / Switzerland / Japan - December 26, 1966 (OSA)**

A training center has been established in Sofia to further educate up to 1,500 specialists and managers over a six-month period. The center has ties with bodies in the US, UK, France, Switzerland and Japan. Funding will also be provided to allow Bulgarians to further their expertise abroad.

**Poland / U.S. – December 29, 1966 (LBC)**

U.S. proposal to Poland to reduce debt. Washington allows Poland to pay part of the debt accumulated until 1967 in Zlotys (Polish currency); the U.S. will use it for "mutually beneficial" projects in Poland.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – December 30, 1966 (LBC)**

The U.S. announces the suspension of food sales to Belgrade because according to a Congressional Resolution the U.S. will not export to countries that sell goods to Cuba and North Vietnam. Yugoslavia wanted to purchase 30 million dollars' worth of wheat on credit.

**Soviet Union – December 31, 1966 (HC)**

Message of the Soviet government: all countries should refuse to resolve territorial problems with force.



**Yugoslavia – December 31, 1966 (KCA/RYE)**

Milovan Djilas, former Vice President of Yugoslavia, is freed from jail after slightly more than half of the sentence imposed on him in 1962.

## 1967

### **Romania – 1967 (SRR)**

Romania's position as neutral force is re-established and becomes a potential leader of third force in the international communist movement. This concept first emerged in 1963 but is shelved in the beginning of Vietnamese War, when the unity of the camp against imperialist aggression has to be proclaimed.

### **Romania, 1967 (RUR)**

Ceaușescu replaced regional leaders in order to provide him a base of party support. There is a 50% turnover in regional party secretaries.

### **Romania / UN – 1967-1968 (SRR)**

The UN General Assembly's president for 1967-1968 is the Romanian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Corneliu Mănescu.

### **Romania, 1966-1967 (RUR)**

Ceaușescu engages in populist activities to bolster the standing of the party and his own standing as general secretary.

### **Romania, 1966-1967 (RUR)**

Apostol, Drăghici, Stoica become less visible both in press reports and in public, by the end of 1967, Ceaușescu establishes himself as first among equals.

### **Yugoslavia – 1967 (PLC)**

130 Croatian intellectuals (including M. Krleža) demand the separation of the Serbian and Croatian languages, and the recognition of the latter as an official language of education.

## **January**

### **Czechoslovakia – January 1, 1967**

Major economic reforms come into effect, which are considered to be a radical change in the system of economic planning.

### **Romania – January 1967 (ABR)**

Ceaușescu intensifies his emphasis on the control of the party over Romanian life.

### **Poland – January 1, 1967 (HDP)**

Polish press agency *Interpress* is established to inform international public opinion about Poland.

### **Soviet Union / Soviet Bloc / Canada – January 3, 1967 (OSA)**

There is a report on Expo 67 world's fair in Montreal, where the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and other Soviet bloc countries will be present and able to display products, and also official personalities and artists from those countries are expected to be present.

**Romania – January 4, 1967 (RCW)**

Romania sets itself the task of constructing an electric power plant based on atomic energy by 1975 in the framework of its 10-year electrification plan.

**Romania / Spain – January 5, 1967 (KCA)**

Romania and Spain establish consular and commercial relations.

**Soviet Union – January 6, 1967 (OSA)**

In a Salisbury interview Pham Van Dong said that Vietnamese people (meaning Communist friendly Vietcong and North Vietnamese forces) would inevitably defeat U.S. “aggression”. This statement at the time was questionable, many affected sources could not see how they could do so. He also added that they would be able to demonstrate to their friends (in Eastern Europe, too) their ability to stand up to the U.S. material force.

**East Germany - January 10, 1967 (OSA)**

Ulbricht's year-end is a speech concerning the relations between East and West Germany. The 10-point program is formulated as preconditions for the formation of a German confederation that incorporates all requests expressed by the GDR, including those for signed agreements to recognize East Germany as any other European state. After the SED's last-minute withdrawal from the planned SED/SPD speakers' exchange, East Germany postulates that conditions in West Germany are not adequate at the present time.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 10, 1967 (KCA)**

In U.S. President Johnson's State of Union Address, he declares his hopes for the end of the Cold War, and recounts positive actions the U.S. has taken towards accomplishing this goal. He also states unequivocally that the arms race must not continue at the pace it has been, and that the Soviet Union must also cooperate.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – January 11, 1967 (OSA)**

According to a RFE report, during his visit to the GDR, acting Soviet Minister of Defense during Marshal Malinovsky's illness, Marshal Grechko, briefs East German authorities of the Soviet Union's intent to withdraw several units of its army from the Central European states' territory.

**East Germany – January 12, 1967 (HWD)**

The new Penal Code (Strafgesetzbuch) is passed.

**Hungary / Finland / U.K. – January 16, 1967(HC)**

György Csanádi, Minister of Traffic and Post takes a six-day visit in London. Led by Olavi J.Laine the delegation of the Finnish Communist Party takes a ten-day long official visit in Hungary.

**Soviet Union – January 17, 1967 (OSA)**

According to a RFE report several examples suggest that wider changes are underway in the international workers' movement, especially challenging the claims of proletarian internationalism. The impact of the Sino-Soviet split and the consequent erosion of Soviet authority were mentioned.

**Hungary / West Germany – January 23-25, 1967(HC)**

Rolf Lahr, the under-secretary of the West German foreign ministry negotiates about the establishment of the diplomatic relations between Hungary and FDR.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 23, 1967 (KCA/LBC)**

U.S. Secretary of Defense McNamara gives a statement to the Senate Armed Services Committee and the Sub-Committee on defense spending. McNamara concentrates on the efficacy of ABMs against the Soviet nuclear threat. He concludes that “*all we would accomplish would be to greatly both their defense expenditures and ours without any gain in real security to either side.*”

McNamara points to increased Soviet spending on strategic bombers and assumed ABM defense around Soviet cities. He concludes that the U.S. “should be prepared to overwhelm it.” He also refers to U.S. ability to handle a first strike against its offensive forces. McNamara concludes here that even if the Soviets carried out a first strike attack on its strategic offense weapons, the U.S. would still be able to retaliate with destructive force. At this point, it is unclear whether the Soviets want a moratorium on ABM defense systems. Kosygin and President Johnson plan to talk this through in the future.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 23-25, 1967 (LBC)**

Johnson and Kosygin meet in Glassboro. The Middle East, the Vietnam War, the nuclear non-proliferation treaty and Soviet-American relations are discussed.

**Soviet Union / Italy – January 24-30, 1967 (KCA)**

Podgorny visits Italy, talking with both Pope Paul VI. and Italian President Saragat. A joint communique is issued, in which both parties stress the need to maintain peaceful coexistence, with a possible European conference to uphold the principles of coexistence and security in Europe. Podgorny and Saragat also discuss Italo-Soviet cooperation regarding energy, manufacturing and shipping.

**East Germany – January 25, 1967 (OSA)**

The contemporary position of the German Communists on the Hitler–Stalin non-aggression pact of 1939 is revealed. Back in 1940, an article, published in a communist periodical, Walter Ulbricht wrote that England’s ruling class was waging war against the working population. The German government had stated its willingness to have peaceful relations with the Soviet Union while the belligerent English–French bloc wanted a war against the socialist Soviet Union. Germany will be able not only to satisfy its commercial needs, but it will also demonstrate that the reason for the privation of the working population is not a lack of Lebensraum. Not only the communists but also many social-democratic and national-socialist workers consider it their duty not to tolerate a rupture of the Pact under any circumstances – wrote Ulbricht.

**Soviet Union / China – January 25, 1967 (KCA)**

Recalled Chinese students reportedly brawl in Red Square in Moscow. Widely varying accounts are offered on the particulars of the incident.

**Soviet Union / China – January 26, 1967 (KCA)**

Following the Red Square incident, there are violent protests outside the Soviet Embassy in Beijing.

**Czechoslovakia / China – January 26, 1967 (KCA)**

Two diplomats from the Czechoslovak Embassy were attacked by Chinese Red Guards in Beijing.

**Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – January 27, 1967 (CWC/PLC/HC)**

The Soviet Union, the United States, Great Britain and 57 other countries sign a treaty in Moscow which governs the exploration and peaceful use of outer space.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 27, 1967 (LBC)**

In a letter Johnson proposes U.S.-Soviet talks to avert a new arms race in the field of offensive and defensive weapons.

**Hungary / China – January 27, 1967 (KCA):**

The Hungarian Ambassador to China's car is assaulted in Beijing.

**Soviet Union – January 28, 1967 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union addresses the rise of Neo-Nazism in a document dispatched to Britain, France, the U.S. and Western Germany.

**Yugoslavia / China – January 29, 1967 (KCA)**

An effigy of Tito is burned outside the Yugoslav Embassy in Beijing, China.

**Bulgaria – January 30, 1967 (OSA)**

An article from the Union of Bulgarian Writers' 'Pogled' publication, outlines the daily struggles of the citizens of Sofia. Queues for basic necessities are commonplace, and inertia has set in across society.

**Albania / Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – January 30, 1967 (OSA)**

A high Yugoslav Foreign Ministry official states in the Federal Assembly that some practical problems between Yugoslavia and Albania have been settled or are in the process of being settled. He pleads for the expansion of economic relations between the two countries and says that this would have a positive impact on the Balkans as a whole. Meanwhile, the Yugoslavs are dissatisfied with the Bulgarian attitude toward Macedonia. Several recent articles in the most important Bulgarian newspapers are quoted as evidence that Sofia is not willing to recognize the existence of the Macedonian nation, state, or language.

**Romania / West Germany – January 31, 1967 (CAC/SRR/ABR/RFN)**

Romania – as first non-Soviet country from the Soviet bloc to do so – initiates diplomatic relations with Western Germany without Moscow's consent and over the protests of East Germany. (Romania refuses to join the Soviet Bloc in condemning Israel. Subsequently, the scope of Israeli -Romanian economic and cultural relations is expanded in order to secure markets and capital for the country. Small deviance in its U.N voting behavior from the Soviet Union occurs.)

## February

### **Yugoslavia / Mali – February 1967 (RYN)**

Edvard Kardelj, then president of the federal assembly, visits Mali to discuss that country's internal situation with members of the ruling party, the Union Soudanaise, and to consider the possibilities of closer ties between them and leaders of the LCY and Socialist Alliance.

### **Soviet Union / China – February 1, 1967 (OSA)**

“China watchers” see the beginnings of a struggle between an ideologically committed top leadership group and a pragmatic-oriented group below the top. The struggle intensifies rapidly since 1965: there are military issues, conflicts between the professional army leaders and the political ideologues who would maintain Mao’s doctrines. There is also significant change in the fear of escalation of the Vietnam War, which worry seems to be over by 1966. Furthermore, there is a change in the judgement and underestimation of Mao’s role, as well as opinions regarding the differences on economic issues and development policies.

### **Hungary / Yugoslavia – February 2, 1967 (HC)**

The President of Yugoslavia J.B. Tito takes a three-day visit in Hungary.

### **East Germany / Romania – February 3, 1967 (KCA)**

In response to Romania’s decision to establish diplomatic relations with West Germany, *Neues Deutschland*, the official outlet of the East German Socialist Unity Party, heavily criticizes Romania and Romanian Foreign Minister Mănescu. As a result, their relationship with East Germany breaks down. However, no sign of hostility is detected after a Warsaw Pact conference held in early February.

### **Soviet Union / U.K. – February 6-13, 1967 (KCA/LBC)**

Kosygin visits Britain accompanied by family members and other Soviet leaders. On **February 7**, Kosygin gives a speech to British Industry leaders. He puts forward the idea of joint trade planning. Kosygin also commented on technology gap between Europe and the U.S., which he stated as only perceived, and that the combined natural resources and technological prowess of Europe and the Soviet Union exceeds that of the U.S. On **February 8**, Kosygin delivers a speech at the Guildhall in London. Again, he talks of the dangers of Nazism in Germany as well as the problem of Vietnam and transitory European borders. On **February 9**, Kosygin stresses the importance of good Anglo-Soviet relations and the issue of West German nuclear capacity. On **February 13**, British Prime Minister Wilson and Kosygin sign a joint communique, and both agree that it would be useful to convene an all-European conference to preserve security and to promote European cooperation. They agree also on the necessity of general and full disarmament including an efficient international supervision of disarmament and ban of nuclear weapons. They urge a nuclear non-proliferation treaty and the extension of the test ban treaty to underground explosions. They agree that conditions are suitable for the expansion of trade and the desirability of working out long-term economic agreements. They decide on the establishment of an Anglo-Soviet Consultative Committee for the development of cultural, scientific and technological cooperation. A communicational link is established between the Kremlin and Downing Street 10. The two governments agree on the final settlement of mutual post-1939 financial and property claims and announce that neither government supports further claims. – 252 British MP’s sign a letter to Kosygin in which they express their concern over the fate of Soviet Jews.

**Soviet Union / India – February 7, 1967 (KCA)**

Due to increase in trade between the Soviet Union and India, an amendment has been made to the Indo-Soviet shipping agreement made in 1956.

**Finland – February 8, 1967 (LJF)**

The Social Democrats officially decide to back the Center Party presidential candidate Urho Kaleva Kekkonen's re-election in the coming elections.

**Warsaw Pact / East Germany / West Germany – February 8–10, 1967 (CAC/HC/MMS/KGD)**

A foreign ministers extraordinary conference in Warsaw, convened in response to Romania's unexpected diplomatic recognition of West Germany agrees to introduce the so-called Ulbricht-doctrine: relations with West Germany may not be normalized without the recognition of East Germany as a sovereign state. They also agree to step up a campaign for the international recognition of East Germany and for a European security conference to isolate West Germany and promote divisions within NATO.

**East Germany – February 10, 1967 (OSA)**

The New York Times carries a report of Soviet plans to withdraw several army divisions from East Germany, attributed to reliable German and Eastern European sources. Wladyslaw Gomulka appears to have hinted at such a plan in his speech at Katowice, saying that West Germany is calling on the US, Britain, and France to keep as many troops as possible in West Germany while the Soviet Union is to withdraw forces from Eastern Europe. Gomulka's speech attacks Bonn's alleged plans for isolating the GDR and detaching it from the states of the Warsaw Pact.

**East Germany / Albania / Romania – February 10, 1967 (OSA)**

The Albanian reaction to the East European countries' move towards the establishment of diplomatic relations with West Germany is expressed. The Albanians have two objectives: expressing displeasure against the narrow national interests of the Romanians in the field of foreign affairs and exploiting the squeaky position in which the GDR had found itself as a result of the rapprochement between West Germany and the East European nations. The GDR is offended by the Socialist Republic of Romania which has established diplomatic relations with the German Federal Republic.

**Bulgaria – February 13, 1967 (OSA)**

Press survey including the following: enthusiasm for the reorganization of cultural development to better educate and integrate the ideals of the Communist Party into cultural life; followed by an article on modern music composition in Bulgaria.

**East Germany – February 13, 1967 (OSA)**

Two reports from West Berlin in the New York Times and U.P.I. state that intelligence sources have identified the planned withdrawal of several Soviet Army divisions from East Germany. U.P.I. believe that 50,000 men or 3 divisions as a minimum will be affected and the reduction is already taking place. Marshal Grechko is believed to have told Ulbricht and other East German leaders of the plan. Ulbricht voices Pankow's fear of a Soviet troop withdrawal weakening the GDR's position in relation to the West. Gomulka was opposed to any withdrawal plan.

**Romania / China – February 14, 1967 (RFP)**

A trade agreement (Treaty of Tlateloco) is signed between Romania and China.

**Soviet Union / China – February 15, 1967 (OSA)**

According to Max Lerner, there is an opportunity to the Soviets to assert a renewed level of influence over other communist regimes, especially in Eastern Europe and this thinking might be influential in Moscow. China might help them out with showing the world that the Soviets are not less militant than the Chinese.

**Soviet Union / China – February 16, 1967 (KCA)**

*Pravda* officially expresses Soviet criticism of Mao's policies and the Cultural Revolution. In retaliation, on **May 6, 1967**, the *Pravda* correspondent in Beijing is expelled for writing defamatory articles about the Cultural Revolution. (22048A).

**Bulgaria - February 17, 1967 (OSA)**

A Belgrade journalist, Bogdanovic, claims that Bulgaria's economic growth has slowed during the current Five-Year Plan, and that the Communist leaders are exaggerating the successes of the state's economy.

**East Germany / West Germany – February 20, 1967 (KGD)**

A law on GDR citizenship is passed; the isolation policy of East Germany against West Germany intensifies.

**Poland / U.K. – February 21-27, 1967 (LBC)**

Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs Adam Rapacki visits London where he negotiates with Wilson and Foreign Secretary Brown. Among other things they discuss the Rapacki plan, the denuclearization of Central Europe. – **February 23**. The two countries sign a consular agreement, the first one that Poland signs with a Western state since World War II.

**Hungary – February 22, 1967 (HC)**

Electoral rally takes place in Sportcsarnok (Sports Hall). János Kádár and Ferenc Erdei deliver speeches.

**East Germany/West Germany/Hungary/Poland – February 23, 1967 (OSA)**

János Kádár states that Hungary is ready to establish diplomatic relations with West Germany. Previous to that, the Hungarian delegation stated that Hungary wished to establish a relationship with Bonn. This statement provoked strong reaction from the East German and Poles delegations. Both delegations stated that they would sign a special treaty of mutual assistance against the "West German menace" if Budapest and Bonn manage to exchange ambassadors.

**Czechoslovakia – February 25-27, 1967 (HC)**

The session of the leadership of Peace World Committee takes place in Prague. (They discuss the situation in Vietnam and the European Security.)

**Hungary / Soviet Union – February 25-31, 1967 (HC)**

János Kádár, the First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party visits the Soviet Union.



**Bulgaria - February 26, 1967 (OSA)**

An article highlighting the inability to fight for true “socialist literature” without Bulgarian writers investing in the tenets of “socialist realism” and integrating it into the core of their work.

**March****Czechoslovakia / Poland – March 1, 1967 (KCA)**

Representatives from both countries sign the Polish-Czechoslovak Treaty, in which they both declare the Munich Agreement of 1938 as invalid. Representatives sign an agreement to assist the other in the case of Western aggression and cooperate on mutually concerning matters.

**East Germany / Romania - March 7, 1967 (OSA)**

Mihail Suder, Romanian Minister of Forest Economy departed for East Germany for an exchange of experience.

**Soviet Union – March 7, 1967 (KCA)**

Soviet plan for borehole drilling is released. There are to be five sites for the project.

**Hungary / Poland – March 8, 1967 (HC)**

Wladyslaw Gomulka, the First Secretary of the Polish Communist Party and Prime Minister Józef Cyrankiewicz take an unofficial friendly visit to Hungary.

**Bulgaria - March 9, 1967 (OSA)**

For several years, a team from the Academy of Sciences have been creating a nine-volume “Marxist History of Bulgaria.” The team will be expanded to help complete the project.

**Hungary / Belgium – March 10, 1967(HC)**

Led by Albert de Coninck, a delegation of the Belgian Communist Party takes an eleven-day visit in Hungary.

**Soviet Union / Cuba – March 13, 1967 (KCA)**

In a dispute between Cuba and the Soviet Union, Castro criticizes the increasingly capitalistic tendencies of the Soviet Union and goes on to criticize the Venezuelan pro-Soviet guerilla movement.

**Poland / Africa – March 14, 1967 (OSA)**

The Chairman of the Polish–African Friendship Society Eugeniusz Szyr meets with a 14-person group of African diplomats and Carnegie Foundation scholars. The meeting was also attended by members of the Polish Committee of Solidarity with Asian and African Nations and representatives of the Polish Institute for International Affairs. Szyr introduced the guests to the workings of the Committee of Solidarity and highlighted the importance of deepening and developing cooperation with African nations but points to the lack of independence as the largest obstacle to this.

**East Germany – March 15, 1967 (OSA)**

West German overturns the East European states, and East German propagandistic attempts to represent the Federal Republic as the heir of National Socialist thoughts and violence had also been intensified.

**East Germany / Poland – March 15, 1967 (KCA/KGS)**

East German leader Ulbricht and Polish leader Gomułka sign the Polish-East German Treaty. The treaty includes a pact of mutual assistance in the case of aggression from any other state/s. The treaty also acknowledges the Oder-Neisse border as the border between Poland and East Germany.

**Poland / U.S. – March 15, 1967 (KCA)**

Textile trade agreement between Poland and the United States will see an increase in Polish cotton exports to the U.S.

**Yugoslavia – March 15, 1967 (PLC)**

Yugoslavia enables foreign investments.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia – March 16, 1967 (OSA)**

The 1964 Soviet-GDR “Treaty of Friendship, Mutual Assistance and Cooperation” fills a gap in the treaty relations between East Germany and the other East European countries. Pacts of mutual assistance have been concluded between the USSR and all European allies, except for the GDR, as a political reassurance for Ulbricht, which do not go beyond the stipulations of the Soviet East German agreement of 1964. The Treaty pledges assistance against any armed aggression and made a conventional reassertion of Allied responsibilities. Neither the treaty nor Gomułka attacks the West German government in overcoming militarism and neo-Nazism. In the Soviet-East German treaty of 1964, the present Polish–East German pact lends support to the communist “three-German-states” theory by specifying that West Berlin was considered as an independent political unit.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – March 16, 1967 (KCA)**

The U.S.-Soviet Consular Treaty is ratified.

**Yugoslavia – March 16, 1967 (KCA)**

The Croatian Writers' Association signs a declaration opposing the state enforcement of Serbian as the national language. In response, some are threatened with deportation.

**Czechoslovakia / East Germany – March 17, 1967 (KCA)**

Ulbricht and Czechoslovak leaders sign Czechoslovak-East German Treaty. The treaty includes a pact of mutual assistance in the case of aggression from any other (Western) states. Both parties declare the Munich Agreement of 1938 as invalid.

**Yugoslavia – March 17, 1967 (RYE)**

Zagreb's leading literary weekly publishes a *Declaration on the Name and Position of the Croatian Literary Language* which has been signed in the name of 19 Croatian literary groups, including Matica Hrvatska, by 130 prominent Croatian intellectuals. Eighty of the signatories are Communists and one is Miroslav Krleža, Croatia's most famous living writer, Tito's personal friend and a member of the Croatian Central Committee. The declaration denounces the Novi Sad agreement of 1954, which proclaimed Serbo-Croatian or Croato-Serbian to be one language with two scripts (*Latin* and *Cyrillic*) and two variants (*ijekavski* and *ekavski*). It calls for complete official and constitutional recognition of two separate languages, an end to alleged discrimination against the Croatian variant and its exclusive use in Croatian schools, press and official documents.

**Yugoslavia /Soviet Bloc – March 19, 1967 (HC/RYE/CAC)**

The Yugoslavs decline to attend the Karlovy Vary Conference of European Communist Parties (April 24-26) but they send a member of the Party Executive Committee and former diplomat, Nijaz Dizdarević, to explain their reasons and to restate the Yugoslav view that multilateral party discussions might be acceptable in certain or other contexts.

**Hungary – March 19, 1967 (HC)**

Parliamentary and local elections take place in Hungary. (99,8% of the eligible of the people, and 99,7% voted for the representatives of the Patriotic People's Front. They elected 349 representatives and 84 508 local council members.)

**Hungary – March 21, 1967 (HC)**

On the occasion of the 48th anniversary on the proclamation Tanácsköztársaság (Hungarian Soviet Republic in 1919) statues of Béla Kun, Tibor Szamuely and Jenő Lander are initiated.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia – March 24, 1967 (OSA)**

Top-level East German Central Committee representatives under Walter Ulbricht arrive in Moscow on the 21st March. Tanjug reports that the Czechoslovak leader Novotny is also due to arrive in Moscow during the first days of April. Ulbricht has signed treaties of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance with Poland in Warsaw (March 15th) and with Czechoslovakia in Prague (March 17th). Both bilateral treaties within the so-called northern triangle do not go beyond the guarantees of the Warsaw Pact Treaty in their stipulation.

**Hungary / Romania – March 24, 1967 (HC)**

Led by general secretary N. Ceaușescu, the delegation of the Romanian Communist Party takes three- day long visit in Hungary.

**Hungary – March 26, 1967 (OSA)**

An op-ed on the grades given for proper behavior at school and their implications on children down-grade for being church-goers. Psychological and social implications are both discussed, stating that in case of the latter the children may feel unjustly discriminated, not going against the description of a 'good citizen' given by the state. In psychological aspects this discrimination can lead to cynicism and antagonism.

**Yugoslavia – March 26, 1967 (RYN)**

Talking in Priština in Kosovo, Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito defends the grant of more than 650 million dollars in credits to African and Asian countries on the ground that 'sooner or later, this assistance will be returned to us, and indeed this assistance will prove profitable for us.' Tito emphasizes that this is one way in which Yugoslavia has built its prestige in the world, especially among the newly liberated nations of Africa and Asia.

**East Germany / Hungary – March 29, 1967 (HC)**

Otto Winzer the Foreign Minister of the German Democratic Republic visits Budapest.

**Bulgaria – March 31, 1967 (OSA)**

Report from 'Radio Sofia' surrounding the poor land expropriation in Bulgaria, seen in housing, construction and agriculture.

**Soviet Union – March 31, 1967 (KCA)**

Defence Minister Marshal Malinovsky dies at age 68. He is to be replaced by Marshal Grechko.

## **April**

### **East Germany – April 1967 (HWD)**

The Seventh Party Congress of the SED takes place. The congress focusses on economic issues, mainly the further development of the NÖSPL (Neues Ökonomisches System der Planung und Leitung) and economic development to 1970.

### **Yugoslavia – April 1967 (RYE)**

Elections are held for half the members of the federal, republican, provincial and communal assemblies. The voters are on party instructions offered a choice of candidates for more seats than ever before. The hitherto informal role of the Socialist Alliance as principal organizer of the nomination and election procedures are made a formal responsibility. Party members and organs are given strict instructions to influence the choice of candidates only through the Alliance, in accordance with the new rules for party behavior, and not to impose their own lists as they has always done.

### **Soviet Union / Egypt – April 1, 1967 (KCA)**

Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko meets with Egyptian leaders including President Nasser, Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad and Vice Premier for Foreign Affairs Dr. Mahmoud Fawzi. Both parties release a statement expressing their joint fight against imperialism, particularly Vietnam, and nuclear growth.

### **Bulgaria / Poland – April 3-6, 1967 (KCA)**

Polish leaders Gomulka and Cyrankiewicz, and Bulgarian leader Todor Zhivkov sign a Mutual Assistance Treaty. The treaty includes agreements to strengthen the cohesion of Socialist states, to help defend their borders and mutual interests.

### **Romania / Canada – April 4, 1967 (KCA)**

Canada and Romania announce the establishment of diplomatic relations.

### **East Germany / Czechoslovakia - April 6, 1967 (OSA)**

The iron triangle (East Germany, Poland and Czechoslovakia) has been reinforced by a series of bilateral treaties among the three partners. Winzer arrives in Budapest on March 29th for preparatory talks for the future signing of a pact between Hungary and the GDR and to discuss a visit to Budapest by SED chief Walter Ulbricht. The declaration made by foreign minister Winzer upon his return to East Berlin also makes no mention of an invitation being extended to Ulbricht. He speaks only of Hungary's desire for a policy of peaceful coexistence.

### **Hungary / Sweden – April 6, 1967 (HC)**

Torston Wilson Foreign Minister of Sweden takes one weeklong visit to Hungary.

### **Bulgaria - April 13, 1967 (OSA)**

A statement from writer Daskalov, criticizing a new generation of lazier writers in Bulgaria. He criticizes the influence of Western writers such as Steinbeck and Sallinger, as opposed to Gogol and Sholokhov.

**Hungary – April 14, 1967 (HC)**

The opening session of the Parliament takes place. The members of the government and the parliament are elected. The new Prime Minister is Jenő Fock, the new chairman of the Presidential Council is Pál Losonczy.

**Romania / Israel – April 16, 1967 (KCA)**

Israeli Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir and Romanian Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade Vasile Răuță sign an agreement on economic and technical cooperation and long-term trade between Romania and Israel. Agreement is made on co-operation; economic, technical and long term trade.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – April 17, 1967 (HC)**

Colonel Lajos Czinege, Defense Minister takes a three-day long official visit in Soviet Union.

**Hungary / Israel – April 17, 1967 (HC)**

General Secretary of the Israeli Communist Party Samuel Mikunis, takes a five-day visit in Hungary.

**Romania – April 17, 1967 (RCW)**

Summary of the meeting of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party is issued. Agenda is as follows: A letter addressed to the European Communist and Workers parties regarding the conference on issues concerning European security in Karlovy Vary and the lowering of retail prices on some commonly purchased goods.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia - April 18, 1967 (OSA)**

The East German Party's activity report is the first document emanated from the Seventh SED Party Congress, presented in draft form, according to the brief communique published in Neues Deutschland on April 16th. The report deals with the GDR's policy towards the German Federal Republic. There is no change of the GDR's hard line towards West Germany, but the suggestion at Sixth Congress to conclude an agreement of reason and good will on the basis of a realistic appraisal of the existence of two German states, claims that the current Kissinger/Strauss government continues the danger policies of Adenauer and Erhard.

**Hungary – April 18, 1967 (HC)**

After several months of trial the Court of Budapest gives out its verdict about the case of the former arrow-cross members of Zugló (Three of the accused receive death penalty; others receive 8-15 years of imprisonment.)

**Yugoslavia – April 18-19, 1967 (RYE/JVJ/KCA)**

The outgoing Federal Assembly passes a first set of six amendments to the 1963 Constitution. The amendments represent the first impact on the structure of the Federation of the changed balance of political forces created by the fall of Ranković and subsequent party reforms. Four of them affect federal-republican relations, always to the advantage of the latter, while the fifth abolishes the office of the Vice-President of the Federation which was created for Aleksandar Ranković in 1963. The first amendment significantly broadens the competences of the Chamber of Nationalities.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia - April 19, 1967 (OSA)**

Leonid Brezhnev's speech to the SED Congress in East Berlin fits into the context of present Soviet Policy. The CPSU General Secretary is firm on the subject of West Germany and its new

foreign policy accents, especially on the theme of West German impact on the bloc that Brezhnev's language becomes worthy of attention. Brezhnev pledges that the socialist countries will never make a deal with Bonn at the expense of their unity or of individual countries. He pays special tribute to the iron triangle of friendship treaties signed by Pankow, Warsaw, and Prague. Brezhnev complains that aid to Vietnam will be much more effective if China cooperates in unity of action. He indicates that Soviet interest in a conference remains strong but the content remains open.

#### **Yugoslavia – April 19, 1967 (KCA)**

Six amendments are made to the Constitution of 1963. These amendments increase the powers of the Council of Nationalities and abolished the offices of Vice-President of the Republic and Deputy Supreme Commander.

#### **Bulgaria - April 20, 1967 (OSA)**

Details of a meeting between several prominent Bulgarian writers to discuss the current situation of Bulgarian literature. They express a desire to promote their literary triumphs, and be more willing to document their short-comings.

#### **East Germany / Czechoslovakia - April 20, 1967 (OSA)**

The speeches made at the Seventh SED Congress by the representatives of Poland and Czechoslovakia, Vladyslaw Gomulka and Jiri Hendrych are featured in protocol order on pages 3 and 5. Both the Polish and the Czechoslovak delegates speak on the third day of the Congress after Ulbricht delivered his harangue. Gomulka emphasizes that German and Polish communists died side by side in Nazi extermination camps. Hendrych states that recognizing the post-war borders is important and that the Bonn government should admit that the Munich agreement is null and void. Hendrych refers to the international conference that all efforts must be made for a world-wide consultation of communist and workers parties.

#### **Hungary – April 20-22, 1967 (HC)**

First national congress of the collective farms takes place in Budapest.

#### **Hungary – April 21, 1967 (HC)**

Hungarian Pedagogical Society is formed.

#### **Soviet Union / U.S. – April 21, 1967 (KCA)**

Svetlana Stalin, daughter of the deceased Joseph Stalin, arrives in the U.S. from Switzerland where she has been seeking asylum in the United States. Former U.S Ambassador to the Soviet Union George Kennan is instrumental Svetlana Stalin's arrival.

#### **Greece – April 21, 1967 (PLC)**

Military coup under colonel Georgios Papadopoulos to prevent the expected **April 28** election victory of Centre Union (supported by the Left). A military dictatorship is introduced in Greece. King Constantine II recognizes the military regime.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Eastern Bloc – April 24-26, 1967 (KCA/MMS)**

The Karlovy Vary Conference of European Communist Parties takes place but without Romanian and Yugoslav representation. Amongst the proposals, the delegates declare the inviolability of European borders, the sovereignty of the GDR and the Federal Republic of Germany. In addition, there is also criticism of military interference, from the war in Vietnam

to dissidents in Greece. Participants call for the dissolution of NATO and ejection of the United States from participation in the security of Europe

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia – April 24, 1967 (OSA)**

Neues Deutschland continues to reproduce the addresses of fraternal ruling parties on the 21st April and 22nd April. The SED organizing committee give precedence to the North Vietnamese delegate, showing their admiration of Vietnamese people against U.S. imperialism. The North Korean speaker does not refer to China in the Vietnamese context but indicts U.S. imperialists, Japanese militarists and West German revanchists for wishing to expand into Asian territory. The Vietnamese speaker takes a hard-line against West Germany, attacking the new West German government for ignoring the existence of the GDR and the Kissinger clique for using new techniques to achieve old aims. The Hungarian and the Bulgarian speak in similar terms of an International Conference, supported by the majority of parties. The Rumanian is the most outspoken and contrary to East German thoughts.

**Soviet Union – April 24, 1967 (KCA)**

*Soyuz*, the Soviet spacecraft crashed killing Colonel Komarov, the only person on board.

**East Germany - April 26, 1967 (OSA)**

The Karlovy Vary Statement issues a statement that includes the call for the general recognition of East Germany. This statement is the result of the Conference of European Communist Parties on European Security.

**Yugoslavia – April 27, 1967 (RYE)**

The party-wide discussion of the draft Theses for the Reorganization of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia produced by the Todorović Commission after the 5th Plenum finally takes place.

**Hungary – April 30, 1967 (OSA)**

An op-ed expressing differing views from an article describing the possibly negative effects of down-grading children's behavior at school. It describes the planned nurturing of the youth to ideologically fit into the role the state describes as wanted. Only those children that meet the requirements can have the 'exemplary' grade for their behavior. It denies the statement that schools want to ban children from church.

**May**

**Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Poland – May 2, 1967 (KCA)**

The People's Chamber ratifies the Friendship Treaties with Czechoslovakia and Poland.

**Hungary / Austria – May 2, 1967 (HC)**

Josef Klaus, the Chancellor of Austria takes a four-day long official visit in Hungary.

**Hungary – May 3-6, 1967 (HC)**

XXI Congress of labor unions. (Chairman: Béla Blaha, General secretary: Sándor Gáspár)

**Bulgaria - May 5, 1967 (OSA)**

A Radio Sofia commentator discusses the need for more trained chemists for new enterprises in Bulgaria. According to the plan for the Burgas chemical plant, 1,000 specialists are needed each year. However, there are only 100 graduates from the Burgas Chemical Technical Institute, the majority of whom will be drafted into the military.

**Poland / Turkey – May 7, 1967 (OSA)**

The Polish Minister for Foreign Affairs, A. Rapacki, visits Turkey. *Tribunal Ludu* (May 13th) reports the opinion of the Director of the Turkish International Affairs Institute, Prof. Esmer, who argues that of all those foreign dignitaries visiting Turkey recently, Rapacki garnered the most sympathy and with his visit has given Polish-Turkish relations a practical character. The joint communication coming at the end of the visit highlights the two countries' shared opinion in counteracting the spread of nuclear weapons.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – May 8, 1967 (HC)**

Foreign Minister János Péter takes a four-day long official visit in Yugoslavia.

**NATO – May 9, 1967 (LBC)**

NATO's Defense Ministers accept the doctrine of flexible response. From now on it is possible to reply to challenges with means varying from political pressure to a nuclear strike. According to the Doctrine of Flexible Response an enemy attack is repelled on the same level, which is conventional attack with conventional means, tactical nuclear attack with tactical nuclear arms, and so forth. A higher level is used only when the same level fails. Flexible response makes deterrence more credible.

**East Germany / West Germany – May 10, 1967 (KGD)**

A governmental exchange of correspondence begins between the GDR and the FRG. Willi Stoph, prime minister of the GDR demands "due negotiations". Kurt Georg Kiesinger, Chancellor of the FRG declares his willingness to "normalize relations". The correspondence ends in September without success.

**East Germany / Romania – May 11, 1967 (OSA)**

Harry Ott attacks Romania for the independent stance it takes by placing allegiance to the communist movement above national interests. The Conference supports the opinion only through close integration of the communist movement.

**Hungary / Austria – May 12, 1967 (HC)**

Franz Muhri, the Chairman of the Austrian Communist Party takes a five-day visit in Hungary.

**Soviet Union / Italy – May 12–16, 1967 (KCA)**

Gromyko and Italian Foreign Minister Fanfani meet in Moscow to sign the Italo-Soviet cultural convention. Gromyko and Fanfani release a joint communique regarding the situation in Vietnam, the need for a reduction in nuclear arms and a mutual tourism agreement.

**Bulgaria / Soviet Union – May 13, 1967 (KCA)**

Soviet-Bulgarian Treaty of Friendship for 20 Years is signed by Soviet leader Brezhnev and Bulgarian Party First Secretary Zhivkov to maintain close relationship in the face of continual nuclear growth and imperialism. Both expressed that the bombing of Vietnam should end, and in accordance with the Warsaw Pact, agreed on the inviolability of European borders and the aversion to militarism.



**Finland – May 15, 1967 (LJF)**

Finnish People's Democratic League (SKDL) decides to back the Center Party presidential candidate U. K. Kekkonen's re-election in the becoming elections.

**East Germany / Hungary – May 17–18, 1967 (KCA)**

Representatives from Hungary and East Germany sign a Friendship Treaty, pledging mutual assistance, including military aid if necessary, and acknowledging the immutability of the Warsaw Pact borders.

**Hungary – May 17, 1967 (KCA)**

János Radványi, head of the Hungarian Diplomatic Mission in Washington, defects and seeks permanent residency in the U.S.

**East Germany / Hungary – May 18, 1967 (HC)**

Led by Walter Ulbricht the First Secretary of the German Socialist Unity Party and Prime Minister Willi Stoph, the party and the government delegation of the German Democratic Republic takes a two-day long official visit in Hungary. (May 19: they sign a Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation, and Mutual Assistance)

**East Germany - May 18, 1967 (OSA)**

Dr. Herbert Plaschke states that the government of the Hungarian People's Republic has suggested to conclude a treaty of friendship and mutual assistance with the GDR. The bilateral East German-Hungarian treaty materializing on Hungarian initiative will only cause annoyance.

**Bulgaria - May 19, 1967 (OSA)**

Report focusing on Israel's state of military preparedness on the Syrian border. Accused of being a "stooge of US imperialism" Israel is angered by Palestinian refugees being accepted by Syria, to which Syria argue that they cannot prevent Palestinians from seeking asylum in their state.

**Soviet Union – May 19, 1967 (KCA)**

Semichastny becomes Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister, and Andropov takes over his former role as Chairman of State Security Committee. There is speculation over whether this reshuffle is a demotion for Semichastny.

**Romania / West Germany – May 22, 1967 (RCW)**

An article in the West German newspaper *Handelsblatt* discussing trends of Romanian-West German trade is published. Romania's balance of trade deficit continues to grow, forcing the Romanians to drastically cut imports at a later point.

**Romania / West Germany – May 23, 1967 (KCA)**

Erich Stratling is named West German Ambassador to Romania. Constantin Oancea is named Romanian Ambassador to Germany.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – May 23-26, 1967 (KCA)**

British Foreign Minister George Brown visits Moscow. He entreats the Soviet Union to push for a greater U.N. activity in the Middle East, but fails to garner an enthusiastic response from the Soviet Foreign Minister.

**East Germany – May 24, 1967 (OSA)**

Neues Deutschland provides an event propaganda described the arrival of Walter Ulbricht, Willi Stoph and their state and Party visit to Hungary, reports that the East German First Secretary and his wife had arrived for their vacation on the island of Brioni on Monday morning in acceptance of an invitation issued by President Tito during Ulbricht's visit to Yugoslavia last fall.

**Yugoslavia – May 24, 1967 (ACY)**

At an extraordinary session of the Serbian Orthodox Sabor, the request of the Macedonian Church for full independence is refused on the grounds first that its organization and personnel are not sufficient to qualify it for autocephaly and secondly that the Macedonian Church behaved uncanonically when Dositej, its metropolitan, broke his oath to preserve canonical unity with the Serbian Orthodox Church taken at his installation as metropolitan in 1958.

**Poland / Soviet Union – May 29, 1967 (OSA)**

According to Ross Terrill, the Gomulka regime adopted a foreign policy which is acceptable for most Poles. The Soviet Alliance is now greeted with favor by the majority of the Polish public, so the tie with the USSR is strengthened by economic and technological interrelations. In contrast, the relations with the U.S. are clouded by the Oder-Neisse problem and Vietnam.

**Bulgaria - May 29, 1967 (OSA)**

Article pertains to the commitment of the Party to improve atheist teaching. With religion still influencing communities in parts of Bulgaria, there are clear shortcomings in the atheist education in the past decade.

**June****Romania / China – June, 1967 (SRR)**

China rejects Romanian efforts to agree to a compromise formula for re-establishing peace in Vietnam on terms acceptable to Hanoi and Washington during a state visit to China. Romanians strengthen their bilateral relations with fellow neutrals in the Far East, most notably with North Vietnam and North Korea and in similar intensification of bilateral contacts with neutral non-ruling communist parties.

**Middle East – June 5–10, 1967 (HC/CAC)**

The "six-day war" takes place in Middle East. (Israeli aggression against Egypt, Syria and Jordan. The Israeli troops invade the Gaza Strip, the Sinai Peninsula, the West Bank and Golan Heights.)

**Romania – June 5-10, 1967 (ABR/RFN)**

Six-Day War breaks out. Romania deviates from the Soviet Union and expresses a not so harsh attitude towards the Israeli's. Romania is the only Warsaw Pact state which did not break off diplomatic relations with Israel.

**Yugoslavia – June 5-10, 1967 (RYN)**

During the third Arab– Israeli war, Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito throws his full support behind Egyptian President Nasser and unequivocally condemns the „Israeli aggression,” lays the „full responsibility for the outbreak of the war” on Israel, and calls on the United Nations

and all other governments to „take urgent steps to stop aggression and to ensure peace in the Near East.”

**East Germany – June 7, 1967 (OSA)**

A Neues Deutschland article describes an international exhibition of painting in East Berlin, the “Intergrafik” by author Heinz Lüdecke, and raised some criticism about Polish artists. The SED has clamored for more socialist plays by East German authors, Neues Deutschland writes that the bills of theatres feature too few plays written by authors of the GDR. Theatre attendance has decreased over the past years, so has the income of the theatres.

**Bulgaria - June 8, 1967 (OSA)**

The Chairman of the Committee for Labor and Wages argues that more skilled workers must be trained in order to increase the efficiency of the Bulgarian economy.

**Bulgaria - June 8, 1967 (OSA)**

Bulgarian press has criticized low economic productivity recently. Loss of working hours and not using machinery to their fullest capacity are two shortcomings cited.

**Soviet Bloc / Israel – June 9-10, 1967 (PLC/MMS/RYN/KCA/VSB/HC)**

In Moscow seven socialist states including Yugoslavia condemn Israel in a common declaration and terminate diplomatic relations (Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union on June 10, Hungary and Poland on June 12, Yugoslavia on June 13). They discuss ways of helping the Arabs Romania does not sign the declaration and maintains diplomatic relations, albeit at a reduced level.

**Yugoslavia / US – June 10-12, 1967 (LYE)**

A joint Yugoslav-American seminar is held in Belgrade, during which foreign businessmen are invited to comment on legal provisions then being drafted in the federal parliament. Some Yugoslav participants in the seminar are also members of the parliamentary drafting committee and keep the committee apprised of the seminar's deliberations.

**East Germany / Romania – June 12, 1967 (OSA)**

East Germany has expressed its displeasure at the Romanian deviation with the crisis in the Middle East. The paper prints details on the Romanian declaration regarding the situation in the Middle East.

**Soviet Union / Algeria – June 12, 1967(KCA)**

Algerian Prime Minister Colonel Houari Boumedienne visits Moscow where he meets with Brezhnev, Kosygin and Podgorny. They discuss issues in the Middle East.

**Soviet Union / Egypt – June 13, 1967 (OSA)**

Richardson Rowson returned from Washington where he gathered some information about the Middle East with the help of experts who were specialized in the Middle East and the Soviet Union. His report makes it more understandable the Soviet strategy, especially about the confrontation with the US. It emphasizes how the Soviets tried to keep the West off-balance, especially regarding the Nasser regime who failed his strategy.

**Soviet Union – June 16, 1967 (OSA)**

According to a U.S. source, the next UN General Assembly might end up with a “Soviet-style” resolution on the withdrawal of troops by Israel. It is not believed that the Soviets could get the

necessary votes for a resolution simply condemning Israeli aggression, but it is believed that there are potentially sufficient African and Asian votes which would add to the Soviet Bloc votes. There are speculations on how the current situation in especially the Middle East and Africa would help the Soviets' position.

#### **China – June 17, 1967 (HC)**

According to the report the New-China press China detonated its first hydrogen bomb.

#### **U.N. / Soviet Union – June 19, 1967 (KCA)**

At the emergency session of the General Assembly on the Middle East War, Kosygin begins the talks with scathing criticism of the U.S and the war in Vietnam. He then goes on to attack Israel and its acts of aggression in the Middle East. He compares Israeli actions in the Gaza Strip and Sinai Peninsula with Hitler's actions in the Second World War. Eban, Israeli Foreign Minister is incensed at these comparisons. Kosygin and Gromyko leave the Emergency Session.

#### **Soviet Union / Israel – June 21, 1967 (CWC)**

The Central Committee of the Communist party in the Soviet Union condemns Israel for the outbreak of war in the Middle East. (165)

#### **East Germany / West Germany - June 22, 1967 (OSA)**

The exchange is initiated by the East Germans, then the West German side responds positively to the challenge. East German authorities waver under the impact of the West German response. The GDR refuses to live up to the challenge. Stoph's letter of May 10th is answered on June 13th by Chancellor Kiesinger. The SED daily publishes a note announcing that Kiesinger's letter will not be published. Anti-West German propaganda becomes strident once more, accusing the Federal Republic of revanchism. Stoph uses harsh words against the claim of sole representation and insists on obtaining an agreement for the establishment of normal statehood relations.

#### **Poland / Middle East - June 22, 1967 (OSA)**

The Vice President of the Council of Ministers Piotr Jaroszewicz meets with the ambassador of the United Arab Republic in Poland, Saad A. Afre, and informs him of the decision of the Polish regime to offer help to victims of Israeli aggression in the UAR. At the same time the Polish ambassador in Damascus and in Lebanon received orders to inform the Syrian and Jordanian regimes of these intentions. As part of this aid Poland is to deliver flour, oil, sugar, various food products, medicine, clothing, blankets, farm equipment and other items.

#### **Bulgaria / East Germany - June 23, 1967 (OSA)**

Patriarch Kiril sends a letter to the Christian-Democratic Union in East Germany regarding the Bulgarian Church's views on the importance of the October Revolution. The text of the letter is included.

#### **Hungary – June 23, 1967 (HC)**

The session of the central committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party takes place in Budapest. (Subject: Situation in the Middle East, and the preparation for the economic reforms.)

#### **Soviet Union / U.S. – June 23, 1967 (KCA)**

At the Glassboro Summit, Kosygin meets President Johnson twice over the course of the summit. While agreements are reached on the need for nuclear arms control, there is no agreement issued on Vietnam or the Middle East.

**Czechoslovakia – June 27-29, 1967 (PSC/KCA/PLC)**

The fourth Congress of the Czechoslovak Writers' Union in Prague criticizes the cultural policy of the Communist Party in Czechoslovakia, especially restrictions on the creative freedom of writers. Members denounce certain aspects of the government's domestic and foreign policy. In response, the government expels several members of *Literární Noviny*, the journal of the Writers' Union, and gives the Ministry of Culture and Information control of the journal.

**Soviet Union – June 27, 1967 (KCA)**

Viktor Grishin replaces Nikolai Yegorychev as First Secretary of the Party Committee of Moscow.

**Soviet Union – June 27-29, 1967 (KCA)**

Kosygin visits Cuban leader Dr. Fidel Castro in Havana for private talks.

**Bulgaria / Yugoslavia / Turkey - June 28, 1967 (OSA)**

Two members of the Central Department of Tourism are accompanied by a journalist from 'Zemedelsko Zname' on a trip from the Bulgaria-Yugoslavia border to the Bulgaria-Turkey border. They document their experiences and observations along their journey.

**Poland – June 28, 1967 (PLC)**

Under the umbrella of an anti-Jewish campaign in Poland, 382 people are "uncovered".

**July****Yugoslavia – July, 1967 (LYE)**

A set of amendments to several existing laws passed provides for investment under contractual arrangements between foreign investors and existing Yugoslav enterprises. The contract defines the scope of their joint endeavor under a joint management board and stipulates their respective responsibilities and shares of investment and profit (with the foreign investor limited to a maximum of 49 percent). Contracts have to be approved by the federal Secretariat for the Economy, and certain areas, such as banking, insurance and internal commerce are excluded from foreign investment.

**Hungary – July 1, 1967 (HC)**

Institution of the Economic Research is formed.

**Soviet Union – July 1, 1967 (KCA)**

Kosygin visits French leader General De Gaulle in Paris for talks.

**Yugoslavia – July 1, 1967 (RYE)**

The specific proposals of the Todorović Commission for further provisional organizational changes within the League of Communists of Yugoslavia are accepted by the Central Committee's 7th Plenum; its political and philosophical sections are non-committally termed a good basis for further discussions. This discussion in turn continued until the delayed 9th Congress meet in Yugoslavia April 1969.

**EEC – July 1, 1967 (PLC)**

Merger Treaty combining the institutions of the ECSC and Euratom into that of the European Economic Community (EEC).

**East Germany – July 2, 1967 (KCA)**

Elections are held. For the first time, citizens can vote for individual candidates.

**East Germany – July 5, 1967 (KCA)**

Herbert Fechner is announced Mayor (*Oberbürgermeister*) of East Berlin after Friedrich Ebert resigns.

**Poland / Middle East - July 5, 1967 (OSA)**

A meeting of Polish Ocean Lines managers takes place in Gdynia with the family members of crews aboard the “Djakart” and “B. Bierut” ships. The Israeli attack on Arab states took these units by surprise in the Suez Canal along with 12 other ships under other flags.

**Hungary – July 11, 1967 (HC)**

The governmental order number 1020/1967 about the price increase of the agricultural product is publicized. (The new prices come into effect in 1968.)

**Soviet Bloc – July 11-12, 1967 (HC/CAC)**

Party and government leaders, including Tito but not Ceaușescu, of the socialist countries negotiate in Budapest. (About the situation in the Middle East.) Romania alone fails to sever diplomatic relations with Israel.

**Soviet Union – July 11, 1967 (KCA)**

Shelepin, former Deputy Prime Minister, is appointed Chairman of the Central Trade Union Council.

**Bulgaria / Mongolia – July 17-23, 1967 (KCA)**

Representatives from Mongolia and Bulgaria sign a Treaty of Friendship, Mutual Aid and Cooperation. They also jointly condemn U.S. imperialism in Vietnam and Israeli aggression in the Middle East.

**Yugoslavia – July 17-19, 1967 (ACY)**

The Assembly of the Macedonian Church and People meets at Ohrid. It proclaims an autocephalous Macedonian Orthodox Church and reaffirms the restoration of the archbishopric of Ohrid which was first proclaimed in 1958. Two new dioceses are established.

**Romania – July 24, 1967 (RFP)**

Ceaușescu presents new approach to the National Assembly. He appeals for independence from Moscow, insists on national Communism as contrasted with proletarian internationalism. Ceaușescu does not bring new ideas, Gheorghiu-Dej had already claimed the same approach.

**Poland / South Korea - July 27, 1967 (OSA)**

The Polish Committee of Solidarity with Asian and African Nations issues a statement on the occasion of the two-month fight (June 25-July 27) of “progressive” powers of the world for the retreat of American troops from South Korea, as well as the 14th anniversary of the signing of the armistice in Korea. The statement speaks of solidarity with the Korean people and their fight

for the peaceful union of their country whilst categorically condemning the occupation of South Korea by American imperialism, which goes against the 1953 Korean armistice.

**East Germany – July 28, 1967 (OSA)**

The Central Committee of the SED met on July 6th and 7th to discuss the formation of the GDR's new government organs: the State Council and the Council of Ministers. Ulbricht criticized his previous government. There are some changes in the State Council: the number of Deputy Chairmen is reduced from 7 to 6; the number of state council members remains the same, 16. The change in the Council of Ministers is its reduction in size from 49 members to 39, the Presidium of the Council has been expanded from 10 to 15 members.

**Hungary – July 28, 1967 (HC)**

János Kádár the first secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party visits the Ganz-MÁVAG (industrial facility). (In the general meeting gives information about the guidance economy.)

**Poland / Middle East - July 28, 1967 (OSA)**

Medical dressing materials are sent from Toruń factories to the United Arab Republic (Egypt), Syria, and Jordan to the value of over 2 million zł. These materials come from production exceeding this month's plans.

**Hungary / Japan – July 29, 1967 (HC)**

Japanese Foreign Minister Miki Takeo takes three-day visit in Hungary.

**August**

**East Germany / Cambodia – early August, 1967 (OSA)**

Following the GDR's recognition of Cambodia's borders in July, Prince Sihanouk officially recognizes diplomatic rights and immunity of East German representatives in the Southeast Asian nation, by raising the GDR's consulate in Pnom Penh to the level of "diplomatic representation". This puts the East German delegation on equal footing with the West German diplomatic mission. The East German success is short-lived, however, as on November 14, 1967, likely due to West German financial aid, Cambodia establishes full diplomatic relations with the FRG and consequently raises their representation to the level of an embassy.

**Romania – August 1967 (PLC)**

For the first time since 1964, Romanian troops participate in a Warsaw Pact military exercise.

**Yugoslavia – August 1967 (RYN)**

Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito launches a peace offensive with visits to Cairo, Damascus and Baghdad.

**Czechoslovakia / West Germany – August 3, 1967 (KCA)**

Czechoslovakia and Western Germany sign a Trade Agreement.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 5, 1967 (LBC)**

The State Department announces that the travel restrictions imposed on Soviet diplomats are relaxed.

**Poland / Israel – August 8, 1967 (KCA)**

Poland cuts all maritime activities with Israel.

**East Germany – August 11, 1967 (OSA)**

East Germany has been requesting recognition in the Middle East for a long time, as a full-fledged member of the diplomatic arena. The only countries with which East Germany maintains full diplomatic relations with are communist states. The East German regime concentrates on the non-aligned Arab “bloc”. In March 1953, East Berlin concluded a long-term trade and payments agreement with Cairo. In February 1965, the SED leader was received in Egypt by Nasser for an official visit. East Germany had granted Egypt credits amounting to 102 million marks up to 1965. Foreign Minister Winzer goes on a mission to Cairo and an extensive tour of the Arab states in a bid for Arab recognition. The GDR’s efforts to win Arab recognition have been aided by the Soviet Union and other East European countries.

**Hungary – August 11, 1967 (OSA)**

The article tells two stories, both featuring a conversation between the author and a priest after the latter offers wine to him. It basically tells of the changes that villages went through and the decline of authority that the priests have experienced. Through socialism and developments people stray further and further away from believing in God.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 11, 1967 (LBC)**

An amendment by the U.S. Senate bans a 50-million-dollar loan to the USSR for an automobile plant to be built in the Soviet Union.

**Poland / Middle East - August 12, 1967 (OSA)**

Radio Warsaw reports that Polish stevedores in Gdańsk are also engaging themselves in helping Arab victims of Israeli aggression as they work to speed up the loading of offerings and gifts from the Polish people. An eighth ship is soon to leave for the United Arab Republic (Egypt) with these gifts.

**Poland / Middle East - August 14, 1967 (OSA)**

Polish society declares material aid to the victims of Israeli aggression. The Central Council of Trade Unions has recently sent a delegation to the United Arab Republic (Egypt) and Syria headed by the chairman up of the Sailors and Stevedore Trade Union and representative for the Sejm, Ryszard Pospieszynski, in order to become aware of the needs and most effective forms of help for the people of these countries. The Polish trade union movement had already allocated 2.5 million zł to the UAR and 1.5 million zł to help Syrian workers.

**Hungary – August 22-25, 1967 (HC)**

On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Hungarian Historical Association, international conference is held in Budapest.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 24, 1967 (LBC/KCA)**

The U.S. and the Soviet Union prepare a joint draft treaty for the Geneva based U.N. Disarmament Commission in order to forestall nuclear proliferation. Negotiations have been underway since the first resolution of the UN General Assembly. The draft leaves the third article on international supervision empty. – It has proved difficult on an international stage to decide upon the controls and governing bodies on nuclear disarmament. However, this submission sees the two countries submitting very similar draft treaties. The French news agency’s report based on “official circles” claims that France does not intend to sign the treaty.



**Soviet Union / U.K. – August 25, 1967 (KCA)**

The U.K. and USSR agree to implement a hotline between London and Moscow, proceeding the Soviet hotlines set up with the U.S. and France.

**East Germany / Hungary / Poland – August 26, 1967 (OSA)**

The Polish journal *Politika* reports on an agreement concluded between the GDR and Hungary stipulating the provision of Hungarian manpower to tackle the East German labor shortage. It is expected that an increasing number of workers are to migrate from Hungary to the GDR, starting with a first ‘instalment’ of 20,000 individuals in 1968.

**East Germany – August 28, 1967 (KGD)**

The five-day work week is introduced.

**East Germany – August 28, 1967 (OSA)**

In 1960, the total number of foreigners visiting Eastern European countries amounted to 3.7 million. Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia are the most attractive tourist countries and half of the total number of tourists in 1965 went to these two states. The tourist development fluctuates because of floods in Czechoslovakia in 1965 and the outbreak of zoo epidemics in Hungary. In 1965, the entry figure of tourists from East European countries reached approximately 5.6 million. The East European countries had a total of 370.000 hotel beds available in 1965. Most East European countries are making serious efforts to create conditions favorable to an increase of their tourist trade.

**September****Bulgaria - September 4, 1967 (OSA)**

A group of academics criticize Zhelyo Zhelev, who criticized Lenin’s philosophy. He argues that Lenin’s “dogma” is now open for interpretation and debate across the socialist states.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia - September 4, 1967 (OSA)**

The East German news agency announces that Peter Florin has been appointed the GDR’s new ambassador to Czechoslovakia. He was born in 1921, the son of a communist functionary and Reichstag representative, specialising in chemistry. He is a faithful executor of Ulbricht’s line.

**Yugoslavia – September 4-6, 1967 (HC)**

The representatives of the socialist countries negotiate in Belgrade. (They discuss economic cooperation with Arab countries.)

**Soviet Union / Ukraine – September 5, 1967 (KCA)**

Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet Podgorny signs a decree to allow Crimean Tatars to return to the Crimea. The Tatars are returning after having been expelled by Stalin who had accused them of collaborating with the Nazis. Podgorny acknowledges in two decrees that the Crimean Tatars were unfairly blamed for Nazi collaboration when only a few had done so.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – September 6, 1967 (HC)**

Led by general secretary L.I. Brezhnev and Prime Minister A.N Kosygin, a delegation of the Soviet Communist Party and the Soviet government take a four-day long visit in Hungary. (September 9; they sign a new agreement on friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance.)

**East Germany / Bulgaria – September 7, 1967 (OSA)**

The Bulgarian– East German Friendship Pact is signed. This bilateral treaty ensures cooperation in cultural, social, economic, and scientific matters, as well as mutual assistance in case of armed aggression. The East German–East European pacts follow the Soviet–East German treaty of 1964. As such, Bulgaria becomes the fourth non-Soviet bloc country to sign a friendship treaty of this kind with the GDR in 1967, following Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary. This series of pacts may be interpreted as a response to, and reveals East German concerns about, West Germany's policy of *Ostpolitik*.

**Poland / France – September 12, 1967 (LBC/PLC/HPB/KCA)**

De Gaulle's visit in Poland. He meets chairman of the Council of State Ochab, First Secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party Gomułka and Minister of Foreign Affairs Rapacki. De Gaulle declares that he looks upon Poland as “a popular, strong and respectable country” that must have an outstanding role in the world of balance and independence. West Germany must accept the Oder-Neisse line and the GDR and must renounce the possession of nuclear arms. When these conditions are fulfilled, tensions may decrease and there can be understanding and cooperation from the Atlantic to the Urals. – Gomułka refuses to relax its stance towards the FRG or to be more independent of the Soviet Union. According to Gomułka the pre-war Franco-Polish military alliance proved inadequate to protect the two countries from the catastrophe of defeat and Hitlerite occupation. As a result, the newly born Poland drew the historical conclusions and chose the path of friendship and alliance with its large eastern neighbor, the USSR. An alliance with the other East European nations including the GDR is the cornerstone of Polish foreign policy. Following the visit, France and Poland issue a joint communique in which they condemn the war in Vietnam as a war aggression and under the Geneva Agreements of 1954, the conflict should end. In addition, they agree that Polish–French mutual trade and friendship is a valuable asset towards *detente*.

**Finland – September 7, 1967 (SJM)**

The Sibelius Monument, which is constructed as a remembrance of Finnish Composer Jean Sibelius, is unveiled in Helsinki. It is made by Sculptor Eila Hiltunen.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – September 18, 1967 (LBC)**

U.S. Secretary of Defense McNamara announces that the U.S. is deploying a missile system, which will be capable of defending the nation against a missile attack by China. McNamara asserts that the Soviet Union and the US are incapable of attacking one another without being annihilated by the retaliatory strike. Neither side will be able to gain superiority in first strike capability in the near future. The USSR and the US both have adequate second-strike capability and this capability is the best motivation to avoid a nuclear war.

**Hungary – September 20, 1967 (HC)**

The leadership of the World Alliance of the Hungarians holds its session in Budapest. (Chairman: József Kárpáti.)

**Soviet Union / China – September 20, 1966 (KCA)**

The Chinese government orders foreign students to leave. In retaliation, the Soviet Union forces all Chinese students to leave the USSR until the Chinese once again acknowledge the foreign exchange clause in the Sino-Soviet agreement on cultural co-operation and allow their students to remain in China.

**Poland / Mali - September 22, 1967 (OSA)**

The chairman of the Polish Council of the State Edward Ochab sends messages of congratulation to the President of Mali, Modibo Keita on the occasion of the state's Independence Day.

**Bulgaria - September 24, 1967 (OSA)**

A criticism of other literary critics in Bulgaria. The author urges literary critics to resist reactionary trends and to follow the Party line.

**West Germany / Yugoslavia – September 25, 1967 (PLC)**

Emigrant organization of the Croatian Democratic Committee in West Germany is banned and disbanded.

**Poland / Mozambique - September 25, 1967 (OSA)**

On this Polish day of solidarity with Mozambique, the Polish Committee of Solidarity with Asian and African Nations sent messages of greeting and support to the central committee of the Liberation Front of Mozambique (FRELIMO) who have spent the last three years fighting against Portuguese colonialism.

**Czechoslovakia – September 26–27, 1967 (PSC)**

The Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (CPCz CC) decides that the Ministry of Culture and Information will edit the weekly magazine of the Union of Czechoslovak Writers, *Literární noviny*. Ivan Klíma, Antonín J. Liehm and Ludvík Vaculík are expelled from the CPCz CC.

**Hungary – September 29, 1967 (HC)**

The Parliament approves law number 1967: II about the labor code, law no. 1967: III about the agricultural collective farms and law no. 1967: IV about the ownership and usage of land.

**Soviet Union / Turkey – September 29, 1967 (KCA)**

Prime Minister Demirel of Turkey visits Kosygin and Podgorny in Moscow. In a joint communique, the two parties agree that Israel should cease hostilities and withdraw militarily from the Arab states. Regarding Vietnam, both request that the Geneva Convention of 1954 be adhered to and the country be given autonomy. Soviet Union and Turkey jointly agree to work towards mutual assistance and trade.

**October****Soviet Union / Canada – October 5, 1967(KCA)**

Soviet scientist Dr. Boris Dotsenko, working at Edmonton University on a research grant, seeks permanent residency in Canada.

**East Germany / West Germany / USA - October 7, 1967 (OSA)**

Lyndon B. Johnson calls for German reunification in his speech at the National Conference of Editorial Writers.

**Poland / India – October 8-11, 1967 (HDP)**

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of India visits Poland.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – October 10, 1967 (HC)**

Led by first secretary János Kádár party and governmental delegation take a five-day long visit in Czechoslovakia.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia – October 11, 1967 (OSA)**

The Deputy Chairman of the Soviet Printing and Publishing Commission – Martirosian – declares in Leipzig that the Soviet Union will void its agreement to participate in the Frankfurt Fair unless the Fair's organizers cancel their regulations discriminating against the GDR. The West German concessions to their East German counterparts are still symptomatic of the flexibility of the Federal Republic's policy. Two East Berlin publishers gloat over the "delayed rationality" shown by the Frankfurt managers. East Germany has shown by its requests that it intends to adhere to its all or nothing policy. The East German arguments must be seen as pretexts to gain a further point in the quest for political respectability.

**Finland – October 11, 1967 (TGY)**

Finnish markka is devalued by 31% which should increase industrial output and therefore accelerates economic growth.

**Soviet Union – October 12, 1967**

The Supreme Soviet approved the economic budget plans for 1968-70. The defense expenditure is revealed and increased. Military service is decreased from three to two years and Navy service is increased from three to four years.

**Yugoslavia – October 15, 1967 (KCA)**

Skopje Steelworks opens in Southern Yugoslavia.

**Soviet Union – October 18, 1967 (KCA)**

Soviet space probe *Venus-4* lands on Venus. It is the first craft to make a soft landing on another solar system planet.

**Bulgaria - October 20, 1967 (OSA)**

New oil fields have been discovered in Dolni Dabnik. The engineers, drillers, geologists and workers, with their families, have arrived to live in the village while they work on the oil fields. However, they live without public utilities, goods and other necessities.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia - October 25, 1967 (OSA)**

Jerky Jablonowski writes that beginning in 1953, Hungarian workers will work in East Germany as one of several efforts to solve East Germany's shortage of labor.

**Poland / East Germany – October 25, 1967 (OSA)**

In this report it is stated that starting from 1963, Hungarian workers have to work in East Germany to solve the labor shortage. The agreement also stated an increasing number of

workers expected during the following years. Information is given via an article published on August 26th, 1967.

**Poland – October 26, 1967 (OSA)**

In light of the beginning of a new school year, a meeting takes place in the headquarters of the Polish Committee of Solidarity with Asian and African Nations between the chairman of the committee, vice-prime minister Eugeniusz Szyr, and youth representatives of African, Asian, and Latin American students in Poland. During the meeting the vice-prime minister spoke to the representatives of over 1200 foreign students and highlighted that the “problems of the third world are our problems, it is in the name of a fight for peace, of independence on an international scale, as well as the taming of imperial aggression against the people of Vietnam, and Israeli aggression against the Arab nations of the Middle East”.

**Bulgaria – October 27, 1967 (OSA)**

According to an RFE report, Bulgaria will soon introduce a five-day work week.

**Bulgaria – October 27, 1967 (OSA)**

Press survey detailing the following: required reforms to the education system for the new academic year; the role of the press in disseminating policy and ideological teachings; and the press' role within the Bulgarian state and its influence across the state.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia / West Germany - October 27, 1967 (OSA)**

Josef Lenart, Czechoslovak Premier, says that West Germany had to recognize East Germany in order to normalize their relations with Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia – October 30-31, 1967 (PSC)**

At a CPCz CC plenum, Alexander Dubček criticizes the first secretary of CPCz and president of Czechoslovakia, Antonín Novotný.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia – October 30, 1967 (OSA)**

According to an RFE report, District court Director and SED member Dr. Gustav Jahn lectures on combating crime, arguing about the reasons for the existence in socialist society of crime. He suggests that such penalties are reserved to prosecute murders or other criminal offences. 50% of illegal border-crossers between the GDR and Czechoslovakia are young people who are fined for each infringement.

**Hungary / South America – October 30-November 28, 1967 (HC)**

Led by István Szurdi Minister of Domestic Trade, government delegation travels to Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay.

**Poland / Algeria - October 30, 1967 (OSA)**

A Polish delegation headed by vice-prime minister Piotr Jaroszewicz visits Algeria on invitation from the government to attend celebrations of the 13th anniversary of the outbreak of the Algerian Revolution on November 1.

**Czechoslovakia – October 31, 1967 (PSC/ PSCZ)**

Police violently suppress a demonstration by Prague University students protesting poor dormitory conditions.

## **November**

### **Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / GDR / Hungary / Poland / Romania / Yugoslavia – November 1967 (KCA)**

Communist countries with the exception of China and Albania, meet to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution. Brezhnev, in a four-hour address, uses his time to condemn the CCP.

### **Poland – November 1967 (HPB)**

*Dziady* (Forefathers' Eve) – a play by Adam Mickiewicz is staged in Warsaw, directed by Kazimierz Dejmek. It includes strong anti-Russian elements, therefore is banned from staging after the intervention of the Soviet Ambassador Aristow. The last staging takes place on **January 30, 1968** and results in demonstrations against the Soviet Union.

### **Poland / East Germany - November 1, 1967 (OSA)**

The Secretary General of the Committee of Solidarity with Asian and African Nations in East Germany, Heinrich Egebrecht visits Poland with his wife. The secretary general was welcomed by the vice-prime minister and chairman of the Polish Committee of Solidarity with Asian and African Nations, Eugeniusz Szyr. The program of Egebrecht's visit is said to include discussions with representatives of Polish socio-political groups.

### **Soviet Union – November 1-9, 1967 (MMS/KCA)**

Moscow, Summit (Celebration of the 50th anniversary of Bolshevik revolution).

### **Hungary – November 3, 1967 (HC)**

Scientific session takes place of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution.

### **Warsaw Pact – November 9, 1967 (CAC)**

A meeting of Warsaw Pact party leaders is held concerning preparations for a conference of world communist parties in 1968.

### **East Germany – November 10, 1967 (KCA)**

Dr. Kiesinger, Chancellor of West Germany speaks about the potential opening up of diplomatic relations with Eastern Germany, political climate permitting.

### **Bulgaria - November 11, 1967 (OSA)**

Article from Archimandrite Gorazd (Church of Christ) on the importance of the Church in shaping culture, and thus the progression to a socialist society.

### **Warsaw Pact – November 13-17, 1967 (CAC)**

A meeting of chiefs of general staff in Dresden urges creation of a staff of the Unified Command and a committee on technology as a first step toward reorganization of the Warsaw Pact. Romania opposes it.

### **Czechoslovakia / France – November 15, 1967 (KCA)**

Maurice Schumann, French Minister for Atomic Questions and Research and Jan Neumann, head of the Czechoslovak Atomic Energy Commission, sign the Franco-Czech agreement over the uses of atomic energy. They agree to cooperate on the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

**Soviet Union / Austria – November 15, 1967 (KCA)**

Soviet head of state Podgorny opposes Austrian agreements with the EEC which would violate the Austrian State Treaty.

**Italy – November 15, 1967 (PLC)**

Students' movement starts in Milan. It spreads to all Italian universities in 1968.

**Cyprus – November 16, 1967 (PLC)**

Severe tensions between Turkey and Greece about Cyprus, where Greek-Turkish tensions erupt when the Greek junta attempts to overthrow President Makarios.

**East Germany – November 16, 1967 (OSA)**

A week-long conference on electronic data processing is opened in East Berlin by candidate Politburo member Gunther Klaiber on 13 November.

**Hungary – November 19, 1967 (KCA)**

The Hungarian government proposes a settlement plan for the repayment of pre-war debts and non-sterling bonds.

**Poland – November 21, 1967 (KCA)**

Changes are made to the Polish Cabinet, and a new post, Minister of the Engineering Industry, is created.

**Bulgaria - November 22, 1967 (OSA)**

A meeting is held regarding the ideological education of Bulgarian students. Existing limitations are discussed as well as the biggest threats to the education of Bulgarian youth.

**East Germany – November 22, 1967 (OSA)**

Borba's correspondent O. Miliceviov published an article on November 19th under the title "Labor Exchange among Socialist Countries." The agreement between Hungary and the GDR providing for the initial transfer of 30,000 Hungarian workers to the GDR imparts a completely new quality to this process. Yugoslavia's position concerning the free international transfer of its surplus labor force is known. 200,000 Yugoslavs are employed in Western countries. Workers prefer to go to countries with convertible currency and where free exchange is allowed than to socialist countries.

**Hungary – November 24, 1967 (KCA)**

It is announced that a Communist conference will take place in February 1968 in Budapest. Upon the announcement, the aims of the Conference are to, "...strengthen the Unity of the Communist movement and to unite all Socialist and Democratic forces in the struggle against Imperialism..."

**Hungary / Soviet Union – November 25-30, 1967 (HC)**

Jenő Fock chairman of the Council of Ministers takes a six-day official visit in Moscow.

**Albania / Macedonia - November 30, 1967 (OSA)**

In a November 22nd interview with "Rilindja" by the Chairman of the Republican Conference of the Socialist Alliance of Macedonia, Azem Zylfiqari reveals that the increased cooperation on the part of two Yugoslav regions with large Albanian populations is paralleled by an expansion of activities between Macedonia and the Albanian People's Republic.

**Albania / Yugoslavia - November 30, 1967 (OSA)**

An agreement was concluded recently between publishing houses in Prishtina and Tirana for the exchange of publications. The Prishtina daily "*Rilindja*," reveals on June 12th that two Yugoslav publishing houses (one from Belgrade and the other from Pristina) has decided to import books from Albania. This positive development in the field of culture between the heretofore animosity-prone neighbors was hoped to start a more relaxed atmosphere in this area.

**East Germany - November 30, 1967 (OSA)**

*Magdeburg Volksstimme* publishes that there are 35 barns, 21 stables, 37 agricultural machines, 22.416 quintals of straw, and 13.706 quintals of hay were destroyed by fire in Magdeburg Bezirk from January 1 until this date.

**December****COMECON – December, 1967 (CEC)**

The 21st COMECON session is held in Budapest. The coordination of the 1971–1975 plans are proposed.

**Poland / African Countries - December 1, 1967 (OSA)**

On the occasion of the International Day of Africa, the Polish Committee of Solidarity with Asian and African Nations and the Polish-African Friendship Society published a statement calling for the independence of all African countries, facilitating the people of south west Africa in deciding their own fate, the lifting of political apartheid in South Africa, as well as solving the issue of South Rhodesia in accordance with the demands of the United Nations.

**Australia / Hungary – December 2-5, 1967 (HC)**

J. McEwen Australian Deputy Prime Minister takes a four-day visit in Hungary. (He signs a trade agreement for four years.)

**East Germany / West Germany - December 7, 1967 (OSA)**

The London Times publishes a poll among the adult West Germany on the Oder-Neisse line. 53 per cent consider the Oder-Neisse line as reasonable in order to have better relations with Eastern bloc; 33 per cent reject this line; 9 percent are undecided regarding the matter; 5 per cent argue no view on this. 90 per cent of those participating in the poll state that they lean towards a direct negotiation between the Bonn and East Berlin regime regarding the easing of restrictions on travel and postal communication between the two halves of Germany.

**Soviet Union / China – December 7, 1967 (KCA)**

After 2,000,000 Chinese demonstrated at the Sino-Soviet border in October 1967 over Chinese territorial claims, military training schools are called up for Soviet Republics after a demonstration. It is reported that Soviet troops have been gathered from Eastern Europe and are at the Sino-Soviet border along with up to 60 Chinese divisions. (22047A)

**Hungary – December 8, 1967 (OSA)**

'How long is the ideological view of the public servants their private matter?' The article tries to answer the question, while stating that the ideological shift that can be detected in the countryside is partly due to secularized festivities and legislature that public servants work on.



Being ideologically 'two-faced' (being a public servant and still going through religious ceremonies) is something harmful.

#### **Soviet Union / Czechoslovakia – December 8–9, 1967 (PSC/PLC)**

Brezhnev arrives in Prague at the personal request of Novotný, for a brief, unofficial visit. He carries out separate talks with several members of the Presidium of CPCz CC, but refuses to intervene in the Czechoslovak Communist Party's internal disputes. The Novotný leadership unsuccessfully attempts a coup by the end of the year.

#### **Romania – December 9, 1967 (RUR/SRR/HC)**

The National Conference of the Romanian Communist Party is held. The Grand National Assembly appoints Nicolae Ceaușescu as chairman of the State Council. Ceaușescu was already Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party. A Council of Ministers is also announced as well as economic planning reform.

#### **Bulgaria - December 11, 1967 (OSA)**

Press survey detailing reports on the following topics: allowing criticism to attack the remnants of capitalism; Turkish populations in Bulgaria; people taking 'disability' pensions in order to work privately full-time for their personal gain.

#### **Czechoslovakia – December 11–13, 1967 (PSC/VSF)**

An extraordinary session of CPCz CC Presidium discusses dividing the posts of the First Secretary and the President of the Republic. Five members vote for separation, five against. At the meeting, the CPCz CC Presidium also discusses Novotný's position on Slovakia. The Central Committee criticizes the policy of Novotný.

#### **East Germany - December 11, 1967 (OSA)**

East Germany Party high-level members and government delegation arrive in Moscow for a two-day visit. On this visit, both East Germany and the Soviet Union shared several similar opinions on the on-going world problems. Among others, they condemn the U.S. aggression in Vietnam and the Israeli aggression in the Near East. They also agree on sustaining a long-term economic collaboration and on promoting exchange of scientific and technical knowledge.

#### **Soviet Bloc – December 12-14, 1967 (MMS)**

COMECON summit in Budapest. (also represented: Yugoslavia and Vietnam).

#### **NATO – December 12, 1967 (LBC)**

NATO's Defense Planning Committee determines the three steps of flexible response: conventional forces would be used against the invaders; tactical atomic weapons would be used against the attacking troops; strategic atomic missiles would be used against enemy countries.

#### **Greece – December 13, 1967 (PLC)**

Unsuccessful royalist coup against the military regime in Greece. A day later king Constantine II is exiled to Rome. Colonel Georgios Papadopoulos becomes Prime Minister (1968- dictator).

#### **East Germany – December 14, 1967 (OSA)**

The high-level East Germany Party and government delegation arrived in Moscow at the invitation of the Central Committee of the CPSU and of the government of the USSR on 11 December. The communique proclaims the identity of views on a number of topical questions, support of the consultative meeting of communist and workers' parties in Budapest and prepare

for an international communist meeting. The communique states that both sides consider West Berlin as an independent political unit which does not belong to the FRG. East Germany's two-day Moscow visit follows Soviet Foreign Minister A. Gromyko's trip to Poland. The Soviet-East German talks concern the German question and the posture to be adapted in view of the success of West German Ostpolitik in Yugoslavia. The GDR reacts with nervousness to any Eastern oriented West German political initiative. The Soviet memorandum of the 8th December can be seen as a propagandistic concession by Moscow to Ulbricht.

#### **NATO – December 14, 1967 (CAC)**

NATO adopts the Harmel Report defining the organization's goals as both defense and détente.

#### **Czechoslovakia – December 19-21, 1967 (PSC)**

During a CPCZ CC meeting, Novotný is criticized and asked to resign as first secretary. The meeting is adjourned until January 3, 1968.

#### **Warsaw Pact – December 19-21, 1967(HC/MMS)**

The Foreign Ministers of the European socialist countries convene in Warsaw. (Subject: Situation in the Middle East.)

#### **Soviet Bloc / Middle East – December 19-21, 1967 (OSA)**

A meeting takes place in Warsaw of socialist Europe's Ministers for Foreign Affairs, attended by the ministers of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Poland, Romania, Hungary, and the USSR. The discussion centered on the situation in the Middle East. The ministers placed an onus on Israeli aggression and occupation of stolen territories for the continuing tensions in the region. The ministers declared solidarity with the Arabs on behalf of their governments and supported the constructive approach to resolving the issue by the United Arab Republic (Egypt) and other Arab states.

#### **East Germany – December 21, 1967 (OSA)**

In the international press conference of the National Council of the National Front, Norden delivers a monologue about West German domestic and foreign policy. East German spokesman has advocated a normalization of relations between the 2 German states and between the GDR and West Berlin. Norden argues that the Federal Republic's contention that the relationship between the 2 German states is based on national rather than international law. The SED leadership decide that Norden has gone too far.

#### **Bulgaria – December 28, 1967 (OSA)**

The Bulgarian Central Committee and Council of Ministers announce price changes of common goods, including increases for various meat products and reductions for sugar and fish.

#### **Bulgaria – December 28, 1967 (OSA)**

The Bulgarian Central Committee and Council of Ministers announce economic changes to goods' prices, pensions and public services. Investment in healthcare, social security and education is deemed necessary to improve standards of living. In addition, low earning pensioners will see a 15% increase in their pensions from July 1968. For those who are teachers or employed in material production, their pensions will increase by 3% every year they continue to work past their retirement age. Changes to natal funding will also come into effect as of January 1, 1968.

**Bulgaria – December 29, 1967 (OSA)**

An RFE report includes data on the religiosity of the Bulgarian people, and the development of atheist teaching in the state. With 52% of babies still being baptized, there is concern about the influence of religion upon Bulgarian youth.

**Bulgaria – December 31, 1967 (OSA)**

The Bulgarian Central Committee announce reforms which will introduce a five day work week across different sectors of the economy between 1968 and 1970. Healthcare staff, agricultural workers and educators will not see a reduction in their weekly working hours. The extra hours are to be used for cultural activities.

## 1968

### **Finland – 1968 (LJF)**

The USSR refuses to no longer recognize Finland as a neutral country. The Soviets reason that they could take advantage of the present student radicalism and the Left's growing influence to effect a gradual transition to Communism in Finland. The Soviet's also fear that their satellites could drift into the Western sphere or become neutral in Cold War.

### **Romania – 1968 (RUR)**

Ceaușescu eliminates the Hungarian Autonomous Region, this action is part of a nation-wide territorial reorganization.

## **January**

### **Romania – January, 1968 (RFP)**

Romania expresses concern about the situation in Czechoslovakia. The Romanian embassy in Prague sends a telegram to Romania including the information about plenum of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, held on January 3-12, which approves Novotný's resignation and replaced him by Dubček.

### **Romania – January, 1968 (RFP)**

Plenum adopts the principle of the separation of functions at all levels.

### **Romania – January, 1968 (RFP)**

The Romanian Communist Party renews the demand for convocation of the Political Advisory Committee of the Warsaw Pact. Czechoslovakia and East Germany object to this claim, Moscow agrees.

### **Yugoslavia / Middle East / Africa – January-February 1968 (RYN/KCA)**

President Tito visits Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Ethiopia and U.A.R in an effort to generate interest in another conference of the nonaligned states. He also obtains agreement from the 'Third World' on the Israeli/Arab problem.

### **Hungary – January 1, 1968 (PLC/HC)**

Limited economic reforms take place in Hungary ("New Economic Mechanism"). A new consumer price system comes into effect. According to the announcement, the overall price level decreases by 1%.

### **Czechoslovakia – January 3-5, 1968 (PSC/PLC/KCA)**

The so-called January meeting of the Czechoslovak Communist Party's Central Committee takes place. An elite refinement occurs, which is the start of a reform process. The posts of First Secretary and President of the Republic are separated. Dubček is elected First Secretary, Novotný remains president. Many other dismissals of government posts follow. The Prague Spring ensues, eventually prompting the Soviet-led invasion of August 1968.

**Romania /Soviet Union – January 4-12, 1968 (RFP)**

The Soviet-Romanian negotiations are held in Bucharest. A new treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance is reached.

**Romania – January 4, 1968 (RCW)**

Ivan Bashev presents a report on the CPSU-organized meeting in Warsaw, where Eastern European government officials exchanged views on the situation in the Middle East. Among the discussed topics were the Arab–Israeli conflict, the Yemeni Civil War, and recent developments in Iraq.

**Yugoslavia / East Germany / Soviet Union - January 7, 1968**

Zagreb daily *Vjesnik* issues a commentary by Mirko Bilic titled “Again Center” on a piece in the periodical of the Central Committee of the East German SED Party written by Paul Markowsky. The commentary criticizes Markowsky for his argument to gather around the Soviet Communist Party for its historical merits and put it at the forefront of the international Communist movement.

**Yugoslavia / Hungary / Soviet Union - January 8, 1968**

Yugoslav paper *Borba* issues a commentary by Sl. Vujica on a Soviet TV series program devoted to the 50th anniversary of the October revolution, in which the author criticizes the series for omitting the prehistory of the “Budapest October” and distorting the history of the Hungarian events of 1956 overall...

**Yugoslavia / Italy – January 9-11, 1968 (KCA)**

A joint communiqué is issued after Yugoslav representatives, Mika Špiljak and Marko Nikezić, President of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council and Federal Executive of Foreign Affairs respectively, visit Italian Prime Minister, Aldo Moro. Talks conclude with both countries agreeing upon U.N. action in the Middle East and for mutual cooperation, within the EEC framework.

**Albania - January 10, 1968 (OSA)**

Above average industrial and agricultural production increases for 1967, and a prediction for still greater growth for 1968, were some of the highlights of the final session of the Albanian National Assembly, held between December 21st and 23rd. At the same time, in a speech prior to the parliamentary meeting, Enver Hoxha outlined and justified the economic development program for the near future, which emphasizes the further development of the Albanian economic base.

**Soviet Union / France – January 11, 1968 (KCA)**

A joint communiqué is issued after a meeting between Soviet and French Scientific and Economic Ministers. A treaty on mutual cooperation in space research and exploration is signed.

**East Germany – January 12, 1968 (KGD)**

A number of new measures are announced in order to punish the opponents of the SED regime.

**Finland – January 15, 1968 (LKS)**

President Urho Kaleva Kekkonen is re-elected to his third term in office.

**Hungary – January 16, 1968 (HC)**

The re-election of the People's Front committees begins.

**Soviet Union – January 16, 1968 (KCA)**

Jacob Malik is announced the new Representative for the Soviet Union at the United Nations.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 17, 1968 (KCA)**

In U.S. President Johnson's State of Union Address, he recognizes the continual thawing of hostilities between the U.S. and Soviet Union but stresses the importance of maintaining a high level of defense.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – January 18, 1968 (LBC/KCA)**

The Soviet Union and the U.S. present the revised, full text of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty to the U.N. Disarmament Commission in Geneva. This version now includes the "Third Article" concerning international supervision.

**Bulgaria - January 19, 1968 (OSA)**

In his report in the National Assembly on the national economic plan for 1968, the Chairman of the State Planning Commission gave some figures on the achievements during the last two years, instead of the customary data on the expected results of the preceding year alone. 1966 and 1967 were the first two years of the current five-year plan (1966-1970), and according to Pashev, the results achieved are ahead of those stipulated for the same period by the five-year plan. The targets set by the new plan for 1968 provide for comparatively modest increases in total industrial production, capital investment and foreign trade turnover, whereas the targets for the growth of national income and rural production are higher than the increases which had been planned for these branches for 1967.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – January 19, 1968 (KCA)**

An agreement for mutual cooperation in science and technology agreement is signed in London between the United Kingdom and Soviet Union.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – January 20, 1968 (PSC)**

Upon Dubček's request, János Kádár meets him in Topolčianky, Slovakia.

**Poland / Middle East - January 20, 1968 (OSA)**

The coordinator of the regime's presence in the Arab world is to be the ambassador in Tunisia Jerzy Wiechecki and is tasked with expanding Warsaw connections not only among "progressive" Arab states but also "reactionary and feudal" states like Saudi Arabia. The previous three months have already seen the first steps being taken by the Polish airline "LOT" and state travel agency "Orbis" to expand into Saudi Arabia and Libya. Libya is reported to have ordered 33 deep-sea fishing boats from Polish shipyards which could, *Dziennik Polski* claims, be easily converted for war aims. "CEKOP", the state-owned company for foreign trade, has also started deliveries of sugar and paper goods to Egypt in quantities far exceeding those foreseen in the Polish-Egyptian trade agreement. Additionally, Cairo has issued special discount for groups tourist trips from Poland and the quotas for Arab students in Polish universities have also been increased, adding to the over 120 Tunisian, 109 Sudanese, and 75 Iraqi students in Poland. A group of Polish technicians and experts in phosphate plants have also arrived in Damascus.

**Czechoslovakia – January 22-23, 1968 (PSC)**

At a plenary session of the CC of the Communist Party of Slovakia, Vasil Bil'ak is elected First Secretary.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – January 22-24, 1968 (KCA)**

A joint communiqué is issued after British representatives visit Moscow to meet with the Soviet leaders. Among the topics discussed, Vietnam and the Middle East are high priority as well as European security issues. Wilson also brings up the issue of Jewish rights in the Soviet Union.

**Albania – January 24, 1968 (OSA)**

The close parallel between Albania's initial drive for national unity under the 15th century hero Skanderbeg and the communist revolution during and following World War II were emphasized by Mehmet Shehu at the Skanderbeg commemorative celebration in Tirana on January 16th, 1968. These two historic episodes are viewed by the Albanian premier as two parts of an uninterrupted historical development, with the revolution as the culminating event of Albanian national evolution. The commemorative speech of Shehu and other similar addresses delivered by various high functionaries during the week-long festivities stand out for their outspokenness in applying the lessons of Skanderbeg's era to 20th Century Albania. Present-day ideological principles like "unity" of the people, "the power of the masses," "self-reliance," and so forth, are viewed as historical Albanian phenomena whose roots are traceable back to the 15th century.

**Czechoslovakia – January 24, 1968 (PSC)**

The Czechoslovak Writers Union elects Eduard Golstücker its chairman. The Union decides to publish *Literární Listy* as its own new weekly magazine.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – January 24, 1968 (RFP)**

A Romanian delegation consisting of Ceaușescu, Maurer and Mizil travel to Yugoslavia for a short friendly visit.

**Poland / Middle East - January 25, 1968 (OSA)**

January 25th was declared the International Day of Solidarity with Arab Nations at the international conference in New Delhi from November 11th to 14th 1967. On this day of solidarity, the statement of the Polish Committee for Peace is published in Trybuna Ludu. The statement again condemns Israeli aggression and declares wholehearted solidarity with Arab nations. The statement describes that despite the majority of UN nations, Israel continues to annex and take by force the territory of Arab states, highlighting that this aggression beginning on June 5th 1967 is supported by the US and Great Britain.

**West Germany – January 28, 1968 (PLC)**

The student movement begins in West Germany.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – January 29-30, 1968 (PSC)**

Dubček meets Brezhnev and Podgorny in Moscow.

**Poland / Soviet Union - January 29, 1968 (OSA)**

An RFE report quoting the study by Mr. Keith Bush published in August 1967 by the Radio Liberty Bulletin that compares retail prices in the Soviet Union, the US, and Western Europe, adding data on Poland.

**Bulgaria - January 30, 1968 (OSA)**

Bulgaria's economic output has surpassed its targets set within the latest Five-Year Plan, according to state statistics. Record increases in consumption and production are also recorded.

**Poland - January 30, 1968 (OSA)**

A demonstration by students takes place in Warsaw against the ending of performances of the 19th century Polish play by Adam Mickiewicz 'Dziady' (Forefathers Eve) with its strong anti-Tsarist Russian lines. The militia was reported by western news agencies (Reuter and UPI) as detaining about 50 students but released most after a few hours, though five are said to be held on hooliganism charges. Eyewitnesses at the final performance said that some 200 chanting students marched after the performance to a nearby statue of Mickiewicz and later a banner was left reading "We demand further performances".

**Soviet Union / India – January 31, 1968 (KCA)**

Kosygin visits India on an official visit. A communiqué that is issued states the hope for increased trade cooperation. Kosygin and Mrs. Gandhi also discuss Indo-Pakistani relations.

**Yugoslavia / West Germany – January 31, 1968 (KCA)**

Yugoslavia and West Germany announce the resumption of their diplomatic ties. Ties were originally broken in accordance of the Hallstein Doctrine after Yugoslavia recognized the state of the German Democratic Republic in 1957.

**February****Bulgaria / Sudan – February, 1968 (KCA)**

Bulgaria signs agreement to send technical military aid to the Sudan.

**Cyprus – February, 1968 (PLC)**

Makarios III wins Cyprian elections with 95% of the votes.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – February, 1968 (SRR)**

The Romanians go beyond their traditional support of North Korea by endorsing the independent neutral course in the Sino-Soviet conflict. Cooperation with Yugoslavia is limited to economic matters of mutual national benefit such as the so-called Iron Gates project for developing hydroelectric power through harnessing and exploiting the potential of the Danube. Ideological consultations on matters related to Soviet imperialism within the socialist camp are held periodically since 1964 and frequently, with both Romanians and Yugoslav anxious to maintain the validity of their common doctrine of equality of members in the socialist camp. Relations with Albania and Cuba are correct but in-significant; these countries do not have common problems as Romania and Yugoslavia.

**Romania – February, 1968 (RFP/SRR)**

The Romanian power elites pay homage to Dubček and to the Czechoslovak independent course in a state visit to Prague. Romanian leadership is offered an opportunity to see the situation in Czechoslovakia during the celebration marking the 20th anniversary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party's acquisition of power. Ceaușescu not only openly sides with Czechoslovakia, he also uses the opportunity to reaffirm some of the points in his program; the



destruction of the military blocs and foreign bases in Europe and the retreat of all foreign troops within their national borders.

**East Germany / Soviet Union / West Germany / France / U.K. / U.S. – February 1968 (KCA)**

The Soviet Union protests the actions of West Germany to France, Britain and the United States. The Soviet Union claims that West Germany was holding illegal regular “Parliamentary Weeks” and stepping up its employment of civil servants and ministers in West Berlin. East Germany restricts West German overland movement into the GDR. The Soviet Ambassador to the GDR will criticize the West German “Parliamentary Weeks” in a press statement in March 1968.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – February 4, 1968 (PSC)**

Dubček meets Kádár in Komárno. Zoltán Komócsin and Károlyi Erdélyi also represent the Hungarian side.

**Poland / Angola / Cuba / Vietnam - February 4, 1968 (OSA)**

The “Three Continents” club in Warsaw holds celebrations organized by the Polish–African Friendship Society and Union of African Students in Poland for the day of solidarity with the Angolan nation. Diplomatic representatives of Cuba, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, and the permanent representative of Vietnam’s National Liberation Front were present at the celebrations. The chairman of the Union of Angolan Students, Pierre Ningi-Barros, spoke of the current political and economic situation in his country and the achievements of partisans in the fight against Portuguese colonialism. A member of the permanent representation of Vietnam’s NLF compared the situation in South Vietnam to Angola and highlighted that both nations are successful only due to the incessant struggle against the shared enemy of imperialism. The students from Africa, Asia, and Latin America joined with the Warsaw youth to accept a resolution and those gathered also sent a telegram to the Portuguese government calling for the total independence of the Portuguese colony in Africa.

**Czechoslovakia – February 6, 1968 (PSC)**

The CPCz CC Presidium decides that reports from the sessions of the CPCz CC Presidium and Secretariat will be published in the media.

**Czechoslovakia / Poland – February 7, 1968 (PSC)**

Dubček meets Władysław Gomułka in Ostrava (Northern Moravia).

**Yugoslavia – February 7, 1968 (RYE)**

Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito appeals during a press conference in Cairo for a new conference not only of non-aligned but also of countries supporting the policy of peaceful settlement of international conflicts. The Yugoslav press and government, who apparently are taken by surprise, hasten to agree but also interpret Tito's cautionary additional remark about the need for thorough preparation to mean that the path to this conference is naturally long, intricate and tedious. In fact, the Lusaka Conference of the non-aligned, successor to the Belgrade and Cairo conferences of 1961 and 1964, do not meet until September 1970.

**France – February 7, 1968 (PLC)**

Students’ movement begins in Paris.

**Romania – February 8, 1968 (RFP)**

The session of the Executive Committee of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party is held in Bucharest. It is decided that Mihail and Dălea will take part in the Budapest Conference. The decision is confirmed on February 14, 1968 by the plenum of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party.

**Soviet Union / India – February 9, 1968 (KCA)**

Talks between Indian and Soviet scientists end with an agreement on cooperation between both countries' scientists.

**Hungary / Netherlands / Venezuela – February 12, 1968 (HC)**

J.M.A.H. Luns, Foreign Minister of the Netherlands, takes an official four-day visit in Hungary. He signs an economic, technical, and industrial agreement. Also Jesus Faria, the General Secretary of the Communist Party of Venezuela visits Budapest.

**Bulgaria – February 13, 1968 (OSA)**

Communist governments, imbued with utopian goals and a unique sense of mission, are vitally concerned with the transmission of their ideology to the younger generation. The publication of Todor Zhivkov's theses concerning youth on December 1st, 1967 triggered an extensive discussion in Bulgaria aimed at the introduction of a new Party policy toward the young generation. Necessitated by the failure of previous approaches which had alienated a considerable segment of the youth and weakened the effectiveness of the Komsomol organization, the theses represented the basic document and were approved by a plan of the CC of the BCP and by delegates to the 11th Komsomol Congress as the basis for wide-ranging reforms. The policy which has emerged during the course of the discussion is a combination of several new initiatives and the "more effective: reiteration of several traditional ones. The former includes structural reform of the Komsomol and a possible reduction in membership, the transformation of the Komsomol into a politically involved organization, and an emphatic patriotic education campaign. Among the more familiar aspects of the policy are the struggle against bourgeois influence, the improvement of Marxist-Leninist education, and the Party's role vis-a-vis the Komsomol. The impact of the new approach has been felt not only by the youth; repercussions have been registered already in the cultural and communications areas, in foreign relations, and within the BCP itself.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – February 14-16, 1968 (HC)**

Boris Ponomarev, the Secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party makes a three-day visit to Budapest.

**Romania – February 14, 1968 (RCW)**

Minutes of the plenary meeting of the Romania Communist Party are issued. The Politburo suggests the following agenda of the plenary meeting: Finalizing the proposals made by the Central Party and Government Commission regarding the organization of districts and cities and discussions regarding the consultative meeting of the Communist and Workers Parties in Budapest. The present tension in the communist movement is emphasized.

**Poland / South Africa – February 14, 1968 (OSA)**

The Polish-African Friendship Society releases a statement in relation to the ruling of the South African court on February 9th which sentenced 30 activists of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) to 20 years and life sentences. The society calls the verdict racist, unjust, and going against the Charter of the United Nations and so condemns the court's ruling.

**Romania – February 16, 1968 (PLC/HC)**

Under the first amendment to the constitution, the province system is abolished in Romania, re-establishing the county system. As a consequence, the Mures-Magyar Autonomous Region is abolished.

**Poland / Africa - February 18, 1968 (OSA)**

On the occasion of six years of the Polish–African Friendship Society a meeting of the society's activists takes place. At the meeting, the chairman of the Polish Committee of Solidarity with Asian and African Nations, the vice-prime minister Eugeniusz Szyr gave a speech in which he spoke of the achievements of the society such as a greater academic interest in the problems of the African continent, an increasingly richer Polish literature on the topic, and closer relations between Polish and African students. He also touched on some unrealized possibilities for closer relations such as the numerous Polish specialists living in Africa and alumnus of Polish universities who return to Africa and wish to maintain connections to Poland.

**Soviet Union / Romania – February 19, 1968 (OSA)**

A delegation from the Ministry of Armed Forces, led by Minister of Defense Ion Ionita, left Bucharest for Moscow to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Red Army.

**Romania – February 20, 1968 (RFP)**

The Permanent Presidium of the Central Committee discusses the proposal and the counter proposal concerning the agenda for the Budapest conference expressed in the Central Committee plenum.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – February 21-23, 1968 (HC/PSC)**

On the occasion of the anniversary of the 1948 “people's victory”, celebrations take place in Prague. On February 22 at Prague Castle, Dubček delivers the main address at a ceremonial session of CPCz CC, the Central Committee of the National Front of the CSSR, and the government. Also speaking are Brezhnev, Gomulka, Ulbricht, Kádár, Ceaușescu, Zhivkov and Vlahovič.

**Hungary – February 25, 1968 (HC)**

The Presidential Council passes a decree, number 1968:5, about the regulation of the State Secretary positions.

**East Germany – February 26-27, 1968 (CAC/MMS)**

Deputy foreign ministers meeting in Berlin reach no agreements because of Romanian opposition to the Soviet draft of a non-proliferation treaty.

**Communist countries – February 26-March 5, 1968 (KCA/MMS/SRR/RFP)**

A preparatory meeting for the „great” conference of Communist parties is held in Budapest, representing 67 countries. A new agenda is imposed. China refuses to send any delegates. Romanians oppose all attempts of Soviets to restore unity in the bloc. Attacks against the Romanians are initiated immediately after the chief of the delegation, Mizil, presents the anti-Soviet views of the Romanian Communists. The Romanian delegation walks out of the meeting on February 29, after the other parties express their support of the Soviet position against China and other dissidents.

**Hungary / UK – February 28, 1968 (HC)**

Hungary and England sign a barter agreement for five years in London.

**Poland – February 29, 1968 (OSA)**

A meeting of Warsaw's literary figures takes place at the Warsaw branch of the Polish Writers' Association. Early information reported in *Sztandar Młodych* informed that the topic of conversation was the final performance of Mickiewicz's *Dziady* at the National Theatre in Warsaw.

**Warsaw Pact – February 29–March 1, 1968 (CAC)**

A meeting of Warsaw Pact chiefs of staff in Prague is held to resume the project of reorganizing the alliance. The group agrees to create a Military Council despite Romanian opposition.

**March****Bulgaria / Soviet Union – March, 1968 (OSA)**

Member of the Bulgarian Politburo Todor Pavlov is received by Kirilenko in Moscow to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the liberation of Bulgaria from the Turks.

**Czechoslovakia – March–April, 1968 (KCA)**

During these months four government and Party officials are found dead and are presumed to have committed suicide. Three of them had some involvement in the Šenja-affair or the investigation into Jan Masaryk's death.

**Romania – March, 1968 (SRR)**

The meeting of the Warsaw Pact is held. Since this meeting, Romania is not consulted anymore.

**Bulgaria / Soviet Union / Turkey – March 1, 1968 (OSA)**

The improvement in relations with Turkey, highlighted by the recent repatriation agreement and Todor Zhivkov's upcoming visit to Ankara, currently stands out as a rather solitary example of Bulgaria's oft-proclaimed "peaceful policy in the Balkans." While Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko's conspicuous failure to plaudit this policy during his recent visit might suggest Moscow's disapproval of the 'national' character of the present dispute between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia, Sofia's general posture in the Balkans continues to coincide with Soviet interests. The current situation offers an opportunity to examine the primary factors motivating Bulgaria's policy and to speculate on the future implications of the present convergence of Bulgarian and Soviet interest in the area.

**Romania – March 1, 1968 (RFP)**

Ceaușescu says in the extraordinary plenum of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party, all the promises and attitudes concerning the Budapest congress are only aimed at avoiding distrust and were concerned with gathering as many parties as possible in Budapest.

**Romania – March 2, 1968 (RFP)**

An article published in Italian UNITA regrets the Romanian departure and supports Niculescu-Mizil opinions.

**Czechoslovakia – March 4, 1968 (PSC)**

The CPCz CC Presidium begins the process of abolishing censorship.

**Romania – March 5, 1968 (HC/RFP)**

The Communist and workers' parties hold their international convention in Budapest, without the presence of the Romanian delegation.

**Warsaw Pact – March 6–7, 1968 (CAC/KCA/RFP/PLC)**

A PCC meeting held in Sofia agrees, with Romanian abstention, to create a Warsaw Pact staff and a Military Council. Agenda comprises the Non-Proliferation Treaty, the Vietnamese question and military questions. Romania expresses the importance of the treaty for the Communist movement and attempts to limit the actions of the Pact and demands for a substantial reduction of its military mission in the Romanian capital. On these amendments no agreement is reached. Romania refuses to discuss the Czechoslovak situation. Consequently, Romania is not invited to later negotiations related to Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / U.S. – March 6, 1968 (KCA)**

The U.S. State Department confirms General Jan Šejna's defection to the United States. General Šejna had served as a member of the National Assembly and Defense Ministry of the Communist Party.

**Czechoslovakia – March 8, 1968 (PSC)**

For the first time, the Czechoslovak press prints a demand for Novotný's resignation from his post as president.

**Poland – March 8-25, 1968 (HPB/PLC)**

On March 8 around 1200 students gather at the University of Warsaw to demonstrate against the regime. It is crashed by the police; many students are beaten and arrested. From March 9 to 25 there are demonstrations at the universities in Łódź, Poznań, Wrocław, Toruń and Cracow. In general, 2549 people are arrested during this period, including 536 students. Among the arrested leaders are Jacek Kuroń and Adam Michnik. The students' movement is supported mainly by the intellectuals and the Episcopate.

**East Germany – March 10, 1968 (KCA)**

The GDR prohibits members of the National Democratic Party of West Germany from entering the German Democratic Republic. Western Ambassadors refer to the agreement to free movement across the boundaries. East Germany also goes on to prohibit Ministers and Officials of the West German government from entering their territory.

**Bulgaria – March 11, 1968 (OSA)**

With the approach of spring and the new tourist season for Bulgaria's Black Sea coast not far away, the regime appears once again to be directing its attention toward the potential dangers that await those Bulgarian citizens who fraternize too closely with Western tourists. The problem has been accentuated considerably in recent years by the BCP's active promotion of Bulgaria as a tourist attraction, a more inspired by hard-currency considerations.

**Czechoslovakia – March 13-20, 1968 (PSC)**

Two meetings take place in Prague between young people and political and cultural officials. With as many as 20,000 participants, discussions of formerly forbidden topics take place.

Participants in the second meeting send a letter addressed to Novotný demanding his resignation.

**Czechoslovakia – March 14, 1968 (PSC)**

The CPCz CC Presidium decides to accelerate the rehabilitations of citizens who were unjustly persecuted during the 1950s.

**Hungary – March 14, 1968 (OSA)**

‘Religious criticism is finding new paths. Where does new religious criticism lead in light of Marxism and religiosity? Politically and in terms of citizenship rights religiosity and religious people do not face any backlash. Religions social importance cannot be neglected, especially in the conservative relationships within families. The problem is mainly due to methodology. The article describes in detail, what changes are needed.

**Hungary – March 14-15, 1968 (OSA)**

The year’s first conference of the Bench of Catholic Bishops took place in Budapest between March 14th and 15th. It threw an ominous light on the utterly unsatisfactory status of the top hierarchy of the Hungarian Catholic Church. The succession of the Bishop of Szekesfehervar was interfered with by the Hungarian government. The government’s ban on ad limina visits of the Bishops is also an issue indicating some obstacles within the functioning of relations between the Hungarian government and the Catholic Church.

**Soviet Bloc – March 14-15, 1968 (MMS)**

Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Trade in Budapest.

**Czechoslovakia – March 14-15, 1968 (PSC)**

The Slovak National Council presents its demand that Czech-Slovak relations be organized in accordance with the principles of a federation.

**Soviet Union / U.N. / U.S. – March 14, 1968 (KCA)**

The revised joint U.S.–Soviet Non-proliferation Treaty is submitted to the U.N. General Assembly.

**Czechoslovakia / East Germany – March 18, 1968 (PSC)**

East German journalists are prohibited from visiting the Czechoslovak Embassy and the House of Czechoslovak culture. They are forbidden from reporting information about Czechoslovakia and all private and official business trips to Czechoslovakia are prohibited.

**Czechoslovakia – March 19, 1968 (PSC)**

The information office of the previously prohibited Scout organization “JUNAK” opens in Prague.

**Poland – March 19, 1968 (PLC)**

Following the student demonstrations, Wladysław Gomułka holds a speech with anti-Semitic overtones.

**Poland - March 20, 1968 (OSA)**

A meeting takes place in Warsaw of leading party activists of PRL Armed Forces with the Minister of National Defense, Polish Marshal Marian Spychalski. The activists expressed the

full solidarity of the Polish Army with the Central Committee of PZPR and the First Secretary, Władysław Gomułka.

**Poland - March 20, 1968 (OSA)**

A meeting of the National Student Council of the Union of Rural Youth (ZMW) is called in Warsaw to discuss the present situation in academic circles. The meeting was attended by all ZMW activists from all academic centers in the country as well as the chairmen of voivodeship trade union councils. The letter written by attendees of the conference to activists of student rural youth unions stated that it is clear that the events of recent days aimed at provocation and the most vital interests of the Polish nation. The attendees appealed to ZMW members to counteract these rebellious elements which are calling for boycotts of lessons.

**Poland – March 20, 1968 (OSA)**

A national conference organized by the Central Council of Trade Unions (CRZZ) congregates in Warsaw to discuss the cultural development of the country. Among those present was the vice minister of Arts and Culture Zygmunt Garstecki with instructors, managers, and directors of amateur artistic groups from around the country and representatives from Voivodeship Trade Union Commissions taking part in the conference. The conference was opened by the secretary of the CRZZ who states that the main goal of the conference is to consider points made during the Festival of Cultural Trade Unions. Those at the conference accepted a resolution which speaks of the 150,000 members of amateur artistic groups which are represented by cultural trade unions, and “condemn the initiators and organizers of political excess which recently took place in Warsaw and other Polish cities.” The resolution articulates the unions’ full support for the cultural politics of “our party”.

**Poland - March 21, 1968 (OSA)**

*Życie Warszawy* (Warsaw’s Life) front page reads: ‘Full support and solidarity with the position of the Party and its First Secretary Władysław Gomułka’. The article describes the full support and solidarity with the position of the Communist Party and its First Secretary, Władysław Gomułka after his appearance at Tuesday’s (March 19th) meeting with Warsaw activists. On Wednesday (March 20th) the paper reported that great rallies and masses could be seen all over the country following the speech of “comrade Wiesław” expressing support for the leadership of the PZPR. The paper also reports that condemnation of recent political disturbances continues and demands are supposedly being made to bring consequences upon those responsible. Assemblies in factories, coal mines, and steel works are reported to say ‘We will best express our support for the party, for Władysław Gomułka, through our productivity.’

**Poland – March 21, 1968 (OSA)**

*Trybuna Ludu* reports on the ‘unbreakable unity of party and nation’. The article describes how whole Poland tuned in to the speech by ‘comrade Wiesław’ (nickname for Władysław Gomułka) with genuine concern for the painful events of recent days. The article described Gomułka as carrying the heavy burden of responsibility for the fate of the nation and its people. The paper describes workers from all professions and all generations as speaking to strong-will and wisdom, the far-sightedness and consideration of the speech, of its truthfulness and way of calling painful and difficult issues by their name.

**Poland – March 21, 1968 (OSA)**

The Presidium of the Democratic Party issues a statement regarding the events taking place in universities across the country. The Presidium writes that ‘a portion of the academic youth has seemed to have allowed itself to be led astray by reactionary powers.’ The statement goes on to

highlight that the ‘great majority of academic youth has maintained a responsible, civic, and socialist attitude’ and that they ‘strongly condemn the organizers which aimed to undermine the trust of society towards the ruling party, PZPR’ as well as weakening of the Polish–Soviet union. The Presidium writes that it warmly welcomes the position taken by the First Secretary of the PZPR, Władysław Gomułka, towards the events.

#### **Poland – March 21, 1968 (OSA)**

Radio Warsaw reports that spontaneous rallies and masses gathered in numerous workplaces in Krakow, Rzeszow, Katowice, Lublin, Opole, Lubusz, and Zielona Gora Voivodeships.

#### **Poland - March 21-24, 1968 (OSA)**

Students in Wrocław decide to boycott lectures as a protest against the distortion of their protests in the press. A Radio Free Europe report describes how the boycotts went well at the State School of Fine Arts, The Higher School of Agriculture, at the Polytechnic, and the Higher School of Physical Education. The boycott was less successful at the University where about half of the students attended lessons on Friday (March 22). At the Higher School of Economics the boycott failed completely. Three students – two from the Polytechnic and one from the Medical Academy – were arrested for actively planning the occupation strike. A six-person group, including two Jewish students, was also arrested from the Warsaw University for reading posters and banners with slogans such as “the press lies”. The report describes how UB officers entered the occupied lecture halls with weapons in hand which caused the students to run for fear that the officers would wish them harm. Several departments (architecture, electronics and one other) at the Polytechnic were closed and students were made to enroll anew with those who were not accepted being immediately called into the Army.

#### **Czechoslovakia – March 22, 1968 (PSČZ/PSC)**

Antonín Novotný resigns from the function of president.

#### **Czechoslovakia – March 22, 1968 (PSC)**

The “Action Group for the Restoration of the Social Democratic Party” formally comes into being.

#### **Czechoslovakia – March 22-23, 1968 (PSC)**

The fourth session of the CPCz CC Control and Auditing Commission takes place. Chairman Pavel Hron and the leading members of the commission resign. The commission votes for the total rehabilitation of former General Secretary Rudolf Slánský and other prominent party members persecuted in the 1950s. The commission further declares void the expulsions of writers Klíma, Liehm and Vaculík from CPCz and cancels disciplinary proceedings against Milan Kundera and Pavel Kohout.

#### **Finland – March 22, 1968 (MKB)**

Social Democrat Mauno Koivisto forms a government with the Centre Party, SKDL and Social Democratic Union of Workers and Smallholders (TPSL).

#### **Hungary – March 22, 1968 (OSA)**

A sociological report titled ‘Are you religious?’ describes the findings that were gathered through conducting research among high school students. Their attitude towards religiosity, atheism, and the position of religious students within the community is discussed.



**Poland – March 22, 1968 (OSA)**

*Dziennik Polski* reports that students in Krakow and Warsaw continue to pursue their demands. The students' sit-in continues and they call for participants to remain calm and block out regime provocations whilst rejecting accusations of "antisemitism" or "Zionism", or of renouncing socialism. The First Secretary's speech, written in the newspaper for Poles living in Great Britain, seems to have had no effect on the youth.

**Poland – March 22, 1968 (OSA)**

The boycott of students at the Warsaw Polytechnic comes to an end in the evening and lessons return to normal the next day.

**Romania / Canada – March 22, 1968 (KCA)**

A Canadian–Romanian Trade Agreement is signed, giving one another the 'most favored nation' status.

**Warsaw Pact – March 23, 1968 (PSC/DCO/PLC/MMS/PSC)**

Top officials of the Communist Parties and governments of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia Hungary, East Germany, Poland, and the Soviet Union meet in Dresden. Romania is not invited. The only topic on the agenda is the "Czechoslovak question". The situation in Czechoslovakia is defined by several participants as counter-revolution and Gomulka proposes the military intervention of the member states of the Warsaw Pact. The Soviet Union and Hungary do not agree. A senior secretary of the East German Socialist Unity Party (SED), Kurt Hager, delivers a sharp attack against the policies of the CPCz and Smrkovský.

**U.N. – March 23, 1968 (KCA)**

22nd meeting convenes on the Soviet-U.S. Non-Proliferation draft treaty.

**Czechoslovakia / U.K. – March 24, 1968 (PSC)**

A commentary on possible Soviet intervention in Czechoslovakia is published for the first time in the western press (Sunday Express, London).

**Poland – March 24, 1968 (OSA)**

Polish Roman Catholic church leaders condemned the 'brutal use of force' during current student unrest in the country and said that they have made representations to the government. This statement was read in churches in university towns and was the church's first declaration regarding student protests over the past two weeks. The statement is dated March 21st and is signed by all archbishops, including the Primate, Cardinal Wyszyński, at an episcopal conference in Warsaw. 'We try to understand and sense the source of this disquiet which is deeply troubling the youth, and which seems to be troubling also the youth of the whole world today,' reads the statement and adds that the bishops and the whole church in Poland did not cease to pray with the youth and for the youth, commending to God 'all those whom recent days have caused sufferings.' The statement went on to say that 'we ask Him that the whole nations and those who exercise authority in our state should serve well their duties to society' as 'all matters which divide people in the contemporary world should be solved not by means of force but by way of penetrating dialogue.'

**Hungary / France – March 25-28, 1968 (HC)**

Jenő Fock, chairman of the Council of Ministers makes an official 6-day visit to France.

**Albania – March 25, 1968 (OSA)**

Enver Hoxha has moved to introduce the latest segment of his reform program by proposing radical changes for the Albanian educational system. Basically, the educational reform calls for the establishment of a truly national school system through a sharp curtailment of the Soviet educational methods introduced in Albania following World War II. Hoxha's recommendations call for organizational, ideological and curriculum changes. His early teaching background gives him an added interest in this reform.

**Bulgaria / Turkey – March 26, 1968 (KCA/PSC)**

A joint communiqué is issued after Todor Zhivkov, Prime Minister of Bulgaria, visits Turkey to meet with Turkish Prime Minister Demirel. Both parties agree to allow Bulgarian nationals of Turkish descent to immigrate to Turkey if relatives have remained there from before 1952. This agreement enables 52,000 (130,000 according to other sources) Turkish Bulgarians to move to Turkey. Other issues on the table are Vietnam and the Middle East as well as non-proliferation. Notably, both Turkey and Bulgaria agree to maintain a cooperative relationship.

**Czechoslovakia – March 27, 1968 (PSC)**

In Prague, a preparatory committee is established for representing Czechoslovak citizens who were victims of persecution in the 1950s. On March 31, Klub 231 is formed.

**Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia – March 28, 1968 (PSC)**

Bulgarian authorities block tourist travel to Czechoslovakia due to the political situation there.

**Bulgaria – March 28, 1968 (OSA)**

In the two months since the 11th Komsomol Congress, the public discussion on youth and related matters has visibly dwindled in both substance and tone. Contrary to the recent explosive developments involving and affecting youth in Czechoslovakia and Poland, the current atmosphere in Bulgaria is one of outward calm. This stands in marked contrast to the almost frenzied urgency which characterized the earlier debate (initiated by the publication of Todor Zhivkov's youth theses on December 1st, 1967 and maintained until shortly after the Congress in mid-January). In part, the contrast reflects the manner in which the regime's monopoly of the communication media allows for the discussion or the avoidance of particular issues; indeed, the BCP has evidenced a traditional predilection for initiating or responding to various situations in this way, i.e., through the concentration of every available resource in a well-orchestrated campaign on a specific issue (as was true with the youth discussion). These campaigns have often proved to be merely temporary expedients, utilized according to the exigencies of the moment, and then discarded. This does not appear to be true in the case of the youth discussion. While the spate of rhetoric and exhortation has considerably decreased, a number of significant organizational innovations and alternations have occurred since the Congress. In terms of implementation, the changes have not been in complete accord with Zhivkov's suggestions, but as regards the goal, that of bringing the activities of youth under

**Hungary – March 29, 1968 (HC)**

The ashes of Leó Frankel are put to a grave in a pantheon, erected by worker movements in the Kerepesi cemetery.

**Hungary / Yugoslavia – March 29, 1968 (HC)**

Zoltán Komócsin, the Secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party holds a meeting with representatives of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia in Beograd.

**Czechoslovakia – March 30, 1968 (PSC)**

The National Assembly elects Svoboda president by a vote of 282 to 6.

**Czechoslovakia – March 31, 1968 (PLC)**

“Klub 231” is formed to become one of the biggest oppositional organizations in Czechoslovakia.

**Hungary – March 31, 1968 (OSA)**

‘To the new paths of Religious criticism’ – an article is published, debating the new paths of religious criticism, its importance and relations with religious people and role in a socialist society. It is also a reflection on another article and its views.

**April**

**Romania – April, 1968 (SRR)**

Party makes the decision to rehabilitate victims of Stalinist oppression; however the party remains the ultimate source of power and the director of all activities of the population.

**Yugoslavia – April, 1968 (RYE)**

Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito visits Moscow, where the situation in Prague and growing Soviet alarm over trends there are among the topics discussed.

**Czechoslovakia – April 1-5, 1968 (PSC)**

A CPCz CC plenary session adopts the CPCz Action Program, completes the formal rehabilitation of all persons unjustly persecuted in the 1950s, and elects a new CC Board consisting of Barbírek, Bil'ak, Černík, Dubček, Krieger, Piller, Rigo, Smrkovský, Špaček, Švestka. The Czechoslovak leadership sets "Socialism with a human face" as its goal.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – April 1, 1968 (HC)**

The Irodalmi Szemle (Hungarian newspaper in Czechoslovakia) publishes the suggestion of the Hungarian section of the Slovakian Writers' Alliance about the stabilization of the ethnic problems in Czechoslovakia. (It recommends the establishment of an independent Hungarian central committee to organize the education. It further suggests the establishment of a national Hungarian scientific institution, national Hungarian library, and an independent Hungarian publishing company.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – April 2-3, 1968 (HC)**

Hungarian Politburo member and CC Secretary Zoltan Komócsin holds talks with CPSU CC Secretary Ponomarev and “Chief of a Department of the CPSU Central Committee” Rusakov in Moscow.

**Czechoslovakia – April 3, 1968 (PSC)**

The Minister of National Defense, Army General Lomský asks to be relieved of his position.

**Czechoslovakia – April 3, 1968 (PSC/KCA)**

A new investigation begins into the circumstances of Jan Masaryk's death. Since the process of liberalization has begun, Jan Masaryk's death has been opened up for public investigation with many visiting his hometown and journalists enquiring into the nature of his death.

**Yugoslavia / COMECON – April 4, 1968**

*Vjesnik* publishes an article by Zagreb Professor Djordje Privicevic discussing economic challenges faced by Comecon members and suggesting two possible solutions, one being transforming Comecon into a "supranational agency" and the other extending "the influence of economic laws on the mutual economic relations" among member states.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - April 4, 1968 (OSA)**

An RFE report on the reforms in the agricultural sector in Czechoslovakia that follow the Soviet pattern in the post-Khrushchev period.

**Poland / Algeria - April 4, 1968 (OSA)**

The Algerian Minister for Foreign Affairs Buteflika accepts the ambassador from Poland in the country, Edward Wychowan, and conducts a long discussion with him on the topic of cooperation between Poland and Algeria as well as some problems of the current international situation.

**Czechoslovakia – April 5, 1968 (KCA)**

Jan Beneš, who has been incarcerated for 19 months, is released.

**Poland – April 5, 1968 (OSA)**

Wrocław students went on hunger strike and a large number of students did not appear at the canteen, a Radio Free Europe report outlines. However, like during the March 21st to 24th strikes, only about half of the students of the University only took part in the strike whilst the canteens of the Higher State School of Fine Art, Higher State School of Music, at the Polytechnic, and at the Higher School of Agriculture saw minimal numbers of students eating there. Following the strike, a lecturer at the Polytechnic Dr Ryszard Krasnodębski announced a hunger strike which he was to lead until the publication of the student resolution and an end to the press' deceitful communications. Dr Krasnodębski was dismissed after a few days and was taken to a mental institution, with those who knew him claiming that he never suffered from any mental illness.

**Czechoslovakia – April 6, 1968 (PSC)**

The CSSR government resigns and Oldřich Černík is asked to set up a new government.

**Soviet Union / Iran – April 7, 1968 (KCA)**

A joint communiqué is issued after Kosygin visits Iran to talk with the Shah and Prime Minister Hoveida. All parties agree that the Security Council measures of 1967 are required in the Middle East.

**East Germany – April 8, 1968 (KGS/KGD)**

A new constitution defines the GDR as a “socialist state of the German nation”. The new “Socialist constitution” comes into force on April 9.

**Czechoslovakia – April 9, 1968 (PC)**

The new government under Černík is sworn in.

**Czechoslovakia – April 8, 1968 (PSC)**

František Kriegel is elected chairman of the CC of the National front of the CSSR.

**Poland – April 9, 1968 (HDP)**

Marian Spychalski replaces Edward Ochab as Chairman of the State Council.

**Czechoslovakia – April 9, 1968 (KCA)**

Czechoslovakia's Road to Socialism is published. Amongst the ideas put forward, the Czechoslovakian Communist Party proposes a weakening of security police powers. The document outlines the process of democratization and the liberalization of the economy and political system.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – April 9-10, 1968 (PSC)**

At a hastily summoned session, members of the CPSU CC consider the situation in Czechoslovakia promulgating the resolution: “We will not give up Czechoslovakia”.

**Poland – April 11-18, 1968 (HDP)**

Wojciech Jaruzelski becomes Minister of National Defense.

**Czechoslovakia / U.S. – April 12, 1968 (LBC)**

American officials inform Czechoslovakia that the U.S. will not return the 18.4 tons of Czechoslovak gold that the Germans took in World War II, now in U.S. possession, until Prague pays compensation for American property nationalized in 1948. According to U.S. estimate the claims are worth 72 million dollars.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – April 14, 1968 (PSC)**

Soviet Ambassador to Czechoslovakia Chervonenko hands Dubček a letter from Brezhnev, dated April 11, which expresses dissatisfaction with developments in Czechoslovakia. In a telephone conversation on the same day, Brezhnev proposes to Dubček that both sides meet for talks.

**Czechoslovakia – April 16, 1968 (KCA)**

After releasing a document outlining the subjugation of the Roman Catholic Church in Czechoslovakia, Bishop Tomášek praises the Czechoslovak government for its improved attitude towards the church.

**Hungary – April 17-19, 1968 (HC)**

The 4th Congress of the Patriotic People's Front takes place in Budapest. (Chairman: Gyula Kállai, general secretary: Ferenc Erdei)

**Czechoslovakia – April 18, 1968 (PSC)**

At the 22nd meeting of the National Assembly, Smrkovský is elected chairman of Parliament.

**Hungary – April 18, 1968 (OSA)**

An article reports on the conference of professors from European socialist countries discussing the topic of sociology of religion. The colloquium was opened by Tibor Erdey-Grúz, the General Secretary of The Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

**NATO – April 18-19, 1968 (LBC)**

The seven members of the Nuclear Planning Group of NATO announce that the present conditions do not justify the deployment of an ABM system in Europe. Secretary Of Defense Clark Clifford expresses his “sincere anxiety” that the European allies do not cover a major part of the cost of American troops in Europe despite the fact that the U.S. faces continuous balance of payment deficit.

**Yugoslavia – April 18, 1968 (PLC)**

Yugoslavia rejects participation of the planned 1969 Moscow World Congress of Communist Parties.

**Warsaw Pact – April 19-27 1968 (PSC)**

Warsaw Pact’s Commander-in-Chief Yakubovsky negotiates with Polish military and government officials in Warsaw. He holds further negotiations on April 21-22 in Berlin, on April 23 in Sofia, and on April 27 in Budapest.

**Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia – April 20, 1968 (KCA)**

The Czechoslovakian and Bulgarian First Secretaries sign a Mutual Cooperation and Friendship treaty.

**Albania – April 21, 1968 (OSA)**

The 150th Anniversary of Marx’s birthday has been used by the Albanian communists to reassert their independent internal line and at the same time to reaffirm that the Chinese Communist Party together with the Albanian Workers’ Party, as a result of their extensive fight against “opportunism, reforming and modern revisionism,” have become the worthy successors of the early exponents of communism. Further, it is maintained, these two parties along with other Marxist-Leninist forces have become the exponents and defenders of the purity of “creative” Marxism-Leninism. These political notions were contained in an anniversary article written by the Party theoretician, Thanas Leci, for the April issue of the theoretical monthly, *Rruga e Partise* (Way of the Party).

**Poland – April 21, 1968 (KCA)**

The Warsaw Daily cites that nearly 7,000 members have been expelled from the Communist Party in 1968 so far. Most of them are Jewish.

**Soviet Union / Pakistan – April 21, 1968 (KCA)**

Kosygin visits Pakistan for talks. A joint communiqué states that the talks took place in a convivial air and that the two nations would increase cooperation particularly concerning oil and gas.

**Cuba / Romania / Soviet Union – April 22, 1968 (OSA)**

An RFE report on the Soviet-Cuban confrontation and Romanian interference in Latin America. As a response to the Soviet economic pressure (i.e., marginal increase in trade and aid to Cuba), Castro exploited domestic difficulties and issues with the Soviet Union to arrange for a deal with Romania, where the latter would provide \$29,75 million worth of oil-drilling equipment to Cuba. Despite Cuba and Romania being far apart in the spectrum of Communist regimes, their alliance was instructed by the aim to resist to Soviet pressures.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – April 22, 1968 (OSA)**

First Secretary of the Moscow City Party Committee V. Grishin gives a speech at a celebratory meeting in honor of the 98th anniversary of Lenin's birth in the Kremlin. The speech gives insight into possible developments in Czechoslovakia as Grishin considers the developments there dangerous.

**Romania – April 22-25, 1968 (PLC)**

The Romanian Communist Party's leadership exercises partial self-critique about past offences against the law and the old elite – most notably Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej. The old elite is gradually removed from the Party leadership. Ceaușescu formally breaks away from the old party leadership.

**Czechoslovakia – April 23, 1968 (PSC)**

The T.G. Masaryk Association is founded in Prague.

**Czechoslovakia / Warsaw Pact – April 23-25, 1968 (PSC)**

During an official visit to Czechoslovakia Commander-in-Chief Yakubovsky requests that the training for the Šumava military exercises will be held from June 20 to 30, not in September as was originally planned.

**Hungary / United Arab Emirates – April 23-25, 1968 (HC)**

The foreign minister of the UAE makes an official three-day visit to Budapest.

**Hungary – April 24-28, 1968 (HC)**

The session for the preparation of the International Convention of the Communist and Worker Parties takes place in Budapest.

**Hungary – April 28, 1968 (OSA)**

An article reports on a gathering organized to discuss matters related to Marxist sociology of religion. Professors from European socialist countries have also taken part in the event. Topics such as the future of religion and the youth's relationship with religion were discussed. One of the participants was Dr. Erika Kadlecova, a leading Marxist sociologist of religion, and her research is discussed in the article.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – April 28, 1968 (OSA)**

Smena reports Czechoslovak Minister of National Security Karol Bacílek's public accusation on Anastas Mikoyan for allegedly ordering the political trio of Rudolf Slánský, and other Czechoslovak officials in 1951. This attack has further exacerbated the relations between Prague and Moscow.

**Romania – April 29, 1968 (RFP)**

Confrontation between Basov, the ambassador of the Soviet Union and Mizil occurs. Committee of the Romanian Communist Party receives an invitation from the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party to take part in the session of the committee preparing the international conference which will be held in Budapest at the end of the year. Romania agrees but because of "lack of conditions to unify the international Communist movement", the Romanian Communist Party does not attend the working group session held in Budapest on April 24-28.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – April 30, 1968 (OSA)**

An RFE report on the Pravda publication on April 30th, 1968, which reportedly was the first article in the Soviet press to break the previous Soviet narrative of the events in Czechoslovakia. It presented the negative aspects of the Czechoslovak developments along with the positive ones, which may signal a "realist" turn in propaganda, as well as point at the deterioration of the Soviet-Czechoslovak relations.

### **May**

#### **Romania – May, 1968 (RFP)**

Indirect pressure from the Poles is imposed towards Romania. The text is probably the outcome of the secret meetings held by the SIX in Dresden and Budapest. The text will be talked on by the First Secretaries and Prime Ministers of the Central Committees on June 20-25, 1968.

#### **Soviet Union / U.S. – May, 1968 (PLC)**

The USSR notifies the U.S. that potential Soviet actions in Czechoslovakia do not interfere with American interests in Europe.

#### **Hungary / Austria – May 1, 1968 (KCA)**

An electric power line between Győr and Vienna is completed.

#### **Czechoslovakia – May 2, 1968 (PSC)**

*Literární Listy* publishes an appeal to the National Assembly to abolish the People's Militia.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Italy – May 2, 1968 (PSC)**

The First Secretary of the Italian Communist Party Luigi Longo visits Prague.

#### **Czechoslovakia – May 3, 1968 (PSC)**

About 4,000 Prague citizens take part in an open discussion in the Old Town Square voicing demands for the establishment of an opposition party and expressing support for Polish students.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - May 3, 1968 (OSA)**

An RFE report on the CSCP conferences in Czechoslovakia, where the problems of party work, development of the economy, science, culture, and state and judicial organization were discussed.

#### **Czechoslovakia / East Germany – May 3, 1968 (PSC)**

Radio Prague announces that East German authorities have begun jamming its German broadcasts.



**France – May 3-June 27, 1968 (PLC)**

Mass student movements reach their peak in Paris.

**Poland / Soviet Union - May 3, 1968 (OSA)**

An RFE report on a May 3rd Radio Mayak broadcast, which quoted parts of the speech made by Cyrankiewicz, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic and Politburo Chairman. According to the report, this broadcast was the first time that any Polish leader other than Gomulka was covered in Soviet media since March.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – May 4-5, 1968 (PSC/KCA)**

The Moscow meeting of top Party and state officials from the USSR and Czechoslovakia, most notably Brezhnev, Kosygin and Černík, takes place. The Soviets characterize the situation in Czechoslovakia as a counterrevolution and declare that they are ready to take even the “most far-reaching steps”. However, a communiqué is issued declaring the intention of cooperation between the two Communist parties.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - May 4, 1968 (OSA)**

Dubcek holds a meeting in Moscow where a loan from the USSR to Czechoslovakia is discussed.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – May 4, 1968 (KCA)**

The Supreme Soviet ratifies the consular convention with the U.S. which was signed four years earlier.

**Czechoslovakia – May 7, 1968 (PSC)**

The Minister of the Interior Josef Pavel announces that the jamming of western radio stations has been stopped.

**Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – May 8, 1968 (PSC/ MMS/PLC)**

At a secret meeting in Moscow, top party and state officials from Bulgaria, Hungary, East Germany, Soviet Union and Poland (“the Five”) discuss the situation in Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – May 8-14, 1968 (PSC)**

Without an official invitation, a Soviet army delegation led by Marshal Konyev and Moskalenko visits Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / Poland - May 9, 1968 (OSA)**

USSR starts military exercises in southern Poland near the Czechoslovak border.

**Czechoslovakia – May 10, 1968 (PSC)**

In a letter to Černík, Soviet Premier Kosygin points out “the completely abnormal and dangerous situation” which is occurring on Czechoslovakia's borders with West Germany and Austria [comes] as a result of the lenient policy of Czechoslovak authorities toward western tourists.

**Czechoslovakia / NATO – May 10, 1968 (PSC)**

At the NATO defense ministers' session in Brussels, General Secretary Manlio Brosio declares that the organization considers direct Soviet intervention in Czechoslovakia improbable.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / Poland – May 10-23, 1968 (PSC)**

Military maneuvers take place in Southern Poland. One Soviet and one Polish tank army participate, with a total force of more than 80,000 troops and 2,800 tanks.

**Czechoslovakia – May 13, 1968 (PSC)**

KAN (Club of Engaged Non-Party People) issues its policy manifesto.

**France / Romania – May 14-18, 1968 (KCA/PLC)**

During De Gaulle's demonstrative visit to Romania a joint communiqué is issued declaring that both parties agree to increase future trade, economic, scientific, cultural and technological cooperation.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – May 15, 1968 (PSC)**

Dubček writes to Soviet Ambassador Chervonenko asking him to inform Brezhnev about Czechoslovak concerns of not being included in the meeting of "the Five" held in Moscow on May 8.

**Czechoslovakia / East Germany – May 15, 1968 (PSC)**

According to a report from the Czechoslovak ambassador to East Germany, the situation in Czechoslovakia is on the agenda of the Politburo of the SED. According to the report, "A struggle is going on between the forces of capitalism and socialism. If the balance of powers changes to the detriment of socialism, the GDR will regard it as its duty to intervene in the CSSR, because this affects the defense of socialism."

**Hungary / Poland – May 15-16, 1968 (HC/KCA)**

Led by W. Gomułka, First Secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party, and Prime Minister J. Cyrankiewicz, a Polish party and governmental delegation visit Hungary. A 20-Year Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between Hungary and Poland is signed.

**Poland / Palestine - May 15, 1968 (OSA)**

On the eve of the International Day of Solidarity with Palestinians, a rally was held at the State School of Shorthand and Foreign Languages in Warsaw by the young people of the capital and Arab students. The rally was also attended by representatives of the Polish Committee of Solidarity with Asian and African Nations, and the Student District Administration of ZMS and ZMP. Those who took part in the rally accepted a resolution of solidarity with the General Union of Palestinian Students and calling for the full rights of Palestinian students in Israel, condemning the oppression of these students, as well as demanding for the release of vice president of the General Union, Taysir Quby, and an end to Israeli occupation in Palestine.

**Czechoslovakia / Romania – May 16-21, 1968 (RFP)**

The bilateral negotiations with Czechoslovakia are held in Bucharest. The goal is to draft the final version of the treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance. During the negotiations, the countries express different positions concerning the Warsaw Pact.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – May 17-22, 1968 (PSC/KCA)**

Kosygin is in Czechoslovakia "for a short-term visit and treatment." During his stay negotiations take place in Prague and Karlovy Vary with Svoboda, Dubček, Černík and other Czechoslovak officials. In the same period Soviet Defense Minister Grechko and Chief of the

central political department of the Soviet Army and Navy, General Yepishev visit Prague. The aims of the visit are portrayed in a communiqué for the Soviets to become familiar with the new Cabinet in Czechoslovakia.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – May 17, 1968 (LYE)**

An agreement is signed between the American firm, Printing Development International (a Time-Life subsidiary) and Beogradski Grafički Zavod for color printing as one of the very first joint ventures.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – May 20, 1968 (OSA)**

An RFE report analyzing the coverage of the Czechoslovak situation in Yugoslav media and arguing that the active support of reforms in Czechoslovakia expressed in Yugoslav papers accounts for the great significance these reforms represent to Yugoslav Communists.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - May 21, 1968 (OSA)**

An RFE report on the relations between Czechoslovakia, the Soviet Union, and other Warsaw Pact allies.

**Romania / Soviet Union – May 21, 1968 (RFP)**

Meeting between General Gheorghe and General Romanov is held. Frozen Romanian-Soviet relations are confirmed.

**Finland – May 21, 1968 (IPS)**

Law on comprehensive educational system is accepted unanimously in *Eduskunta* and the idea of an equal educational opportunity through a 9-year-long common school becomes established. The key concept of ‘equal educational opportunity’ means a strictly uniform and highly inclusive education.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – May 22-24, 1968 (HC)**

Jiří Hájek, the Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia makes a three-day official visit to Hungary.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – May 23, 1968 (OSA)**

An agreement is made to build a pipeline from the Soviet Union to East Germany in order to supply natural gas. This deal is included in a wider ranging mutual economic deal between the GDR and Soviet Union.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – May 26, 1968, (PSC)**

Brezhnev sends a letter to Dubček providing information about the meeting of “the Five” in Moscow on May 8.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – May 27-June 1, 1968 (RFP)**

Discussions between Romania and Yugoslavia are held. Ceaușescu and Tito express the support towards Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / U.S. – May 28, 1968 (PSC)**

U.S. Ambassador Jacob Beam informs Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Hájek that the “U.S. government and the president were watching the developments in Czechoslovakia with great

attention and a constructive interest.” For the time being, he states, they are avoiding active steps which could put the Czechoslovak government in an unpleasant situation.

#### **Bulgaria – May 29, 1968 (OSA)**

Along with the other countries of the Danubian basin, Bulgaria has suffered a prolonged drought this spring. Precipitation in the period from March through mid-May has averaged 15 liters per square meter, as opposed to recent years when the average rainfall has exceeded 150 liters per square meter. The gravity of the current situation is accentuated by the facts that certain agricultural sectors had already been affected by the occurrence of unusually late frosts and that the normal dry season in Bulgaria – June and July – remains to be faced. It appears certain that the bumper harvests of the past two years will not be repeated. Winter wheat and barley, which comprise 62 per cent of Bulgaria’s total grain output, have been the crops most immediately affected by the drought. In addition. The combination of late frosts and the present lack of moisture has had a deleterious effect on early fruits and vegetables. One cannot underestimate the importance of both foreign trade and internal consumption. The expressions of official concern evident in recent weeks provide a major indication of the effect of the drought and of the potential consequences which extend beyond the realm of agriculture alone.

#### **Czechoslovakia – May 29, 1968 (PSC)**

The Bishop of Prague, František Tomášek says in the Italian newspaper *Il Messaggero* that the position of Catholics has significantly improved in the last two months.

#### **Czechoslovakia – May 30, 1968 (KCA)**

Six high ranking officials and former President Novotný are announced suspended from the Czechoslovakian Communist Party in a purge of the past Stalinist elements of the party.

### **June**

#### **Hungary – June, 1968 (OSA)**

‘The youth and religion’ – An article mentions that the III. International Colloquium of Sociology of Religion was organized in Budapest. Its goal is to explain the contemporary findings of research conducted in one of the main topics of the event: the relationship between youth and religion. Subtopics include ‘Socialism and religion’; ‘Religion and youth’; ‘The process of the necrosis of religion in socialist countries.

#### **Romania – June–July, 1968 (RFP)**

Bucharest emissaries travel to the United States to purchase equipment and advanced technology. Bârlădeanu emphasizes in the talks with Secretary of State Dean Rusk, that all technology obtained in the country will be used only for the national economy and there is no question of strategic application.

#### **Czechoslovakia – June 1, 1968 (PSC)**

The Governmental Expert Commission is established to solve economic problems associated with the new constitutional arrangement of the republic. Ota Šik is named chairman of the commission.

**Hungary / Austria – June 1, 1968 (HC)**

Franz Muhri, the Chairman of the Austrian Communist Party takes a five-day official visit in Budapest.

**Yugoslavia – June 2-10, 1968 (PLC/JVJ)**

In the wake of students' riots in France, students demonstrate in Belgrade and other university towns.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – June 4-15, 1968 (PSC)**

A National Assembly delegation led by Smrkovský visits the Soviet Union. Brezhnev and Podgorny receive the delegation on June 14.

**Czechoslovakia – June 4, 1968 (CAC)**

A memorandum to Dubček by 30 research associates of the Military Political and Military Technical Academies outlines principles of Czechoslovakia's military doctrine. On July 2, it is published in the press.

**Czechoslovakia – June 6, 1968 (PSC)**

The Czechoslovak government agrees to abolish the censorship.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - June 6, 1968 (OSA)**

Radjanska Ukraina publishes a lecture given to Kiev factory workers by W/ Trypilskyj, in which he claimed that the attempts to dismantle liberalization and democratization movement in Czechoslovakia were the result of "imperialist machinations".

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – June 6, 1968 (PSC)**

In a report to the Hungarian Party's Politburo, Komócsin denies that there is a counterrevolution underway in Czechoslovakia and requests support for Dubček.

**East Germany / West Germany – June 10-11, 1968 (KGD)**

The GDR introduces an obligatory passport and visa system for travel between the FRG and West Berlin.

**Poland / Upper Volta (Burkina Faso) - June 10, 1968 (OSA)**

A goodwill mission from Upper Volta (Burkina Faso) visits Poland, headed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs Malik Zorome arrives in Warsaw. The guests are greeted by the acting Minister of Foreign Affairs Jozef Winiewicz, his vice-minister Zygfryd Wolniak, and upper civil servants of the ministry.

**East Germany / France / U.K. / U.S. – June 11, 1968 (KCA)**

The restrictions tighten on flow of citizens and goods into East Germany. U.S., France and Britain, in response, remind the Democratic Republic that the stipulations on traffic between the two territories are in opposition to detente. Dr. Kiesinger receives full support from Britain, U.S and France.

**Poland / Romania – June 11, 1968 (RFP)**

Polish proposal is discussed and rejected by the Executive Committee of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party. The plenum of the Executive Committee planned for June 20-25 is postponed.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – June 12, 1968 (PSC)**

Soviet Ambassador Chervonenko hands Dubček a personal letter from Brezhnev, which includes an invitation to a bilateral, confidential and unofficial meeting on June 15-16, “somewhere along the Soviet-Czechoslovak border”. Dubček declines due to his work load and asks instead whether the meeting could be held after the regional party conferences, i.e. after July 14, at the earliest.

**Soviet Union / U.S. / United Nations – June 12, 1968 (LBC)**

The U.N. accepts the final text of the nuclear non-proliferation draft treaty. China and France refrain from accepting the resolution. The U.S. President calls on the Soviet Union to enter into negotiations on the control and reduction of offensive and defensive nuclear arms.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – June 13-15, 1968 (PSC)**

During an official visit to Budapest, Czechoslovak leaders sign the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance between Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

**Poland / Egypt – June 13-15, 1968 (OSA)**

Władysław Gomułka and Józef Cyrankiewicz receive Egyptian Foreign Minister, Mahmoud Riad, for his state visit to Poland. Riad passed on the regards of President Nasser before visiting the grave of the Unknown Soldier in Warsaw to lay a wreath and meeting with acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, vice-minister Jozef Winiewicz. The Polish News Agency reports that the talks were “held in a friendly atmosphere, showed full mutual understanding and an identity of views on the necessity of fighting imperialist aggression in its different forms”. The ministers also discussed the Middle East conflict, reviewed the general international situation, and spoke of the “problems connected with European security and the U.S. aggression in Vietnam”. The Egyptian minister and his wife then visited the vice-prime minister Piotr Jaroszewicz and his wife, during which Jaroszewicz commended the just fight of the Arab nations against imperialism.

**Czechoslovakia / East Germany – June 17-18, 1968 (PSC)**

The CSSR and the GDR Foreign Ministers hold talks in Berlin on the development of mutual relations. Ulbricht unofficially receives Hájek.

**East Germany / West Germany – June 18, 1968 (KCA)**

Brandt meets with East German Ambassador Abrassimov, no resolutions are reached.

**Czechoslovakia – June 19, 1968 (PSC)**

Dubček addresses 10,000 participants at a nationwide rally of the People’s Militia.

**Czechoslovakia / Warsaw Pact – June 19-30, 1968 (PSC/ CAC)**

The Šumava command and staff exercise take place on Czechoslovak territory. About 27,000 Soviet troops, along with small units of the Polish, Hungarian, East German and Czechoslovak armies participate under the supervision of Marshal Yakubovsky. The exercise is aimed at pressuring the Czechoslovak leadership into rolling back its reform program.

**Czechoslovakia – June 20, 1968 (PSC)**

At a Communist Party of Slovakia CC plenary session in Bratislava, members decide to convene an extraordinary congress of the CPS in October 1968.

**Czechoslovakia – June 21, 1968 (PSC)**

The State Statistical Bureau reports that 21,117 people applied for permission to open private business.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – June 21, 1968 (PSC)**

Pravda publishes a letter to the Soviet people from participants of the June 19 nationwide rally of the People's Militia. (*Rudé Právo* publishes the letter only on July 13.) Over the Next 14 days, Pravda publishes letters and resolutions from Soviet workers informing their Czechoslovak counterparts that they are ready to provide help in the common defense of socialism.

**Romania / Israel – June 21-23, 1968, (KCA)**

After visiting Israel, acting Romanian Minister for Foreign Trade Ciaro signs a technological cooperation agreement with Israeli Minister for Commerce and Industry Sharef.

**Hungary – June 22, 1968 (HC)**

H. Boerma, chairman of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) makes a five-day official visit to Hungary.

**Czechoslovakia – June 24-28, 1968 (PSC)**

The National Assembly adopts a law on preparing the federative arrangement of the republic. (As part of the law, the Czech National Council is established as the country's representative body.) The assembly also adopts a law on judicial rehabilitation, and incorporates the abolition of censorship into an amendment to the law on the press.

**Poland – June 24, 1968 (PLC)**

The Party adopts an anti-Semitic position in Poland, resulting in the dismissal of 700 intellectuals. 15,000 people leave the country within a year.

**Poland / South Africa - June 26, 1968 (OSA)**

The international day of solidarity with those fighting for freedom in South Africa takes place. The Polish–African Friendship Society publishes a statement in which they express full support for this fight and heavily criticize any form of discrimination and racial segregation in South Africa.

**Bulgaria - June 27, 1968 (OSA)**

Situation report. The Committee for Art and Culture emphasizes the necessity of public organizations, artists' unions and publishing houses to follow Zhivkov's "theses on youth." The summer youth brigade was launched on June 25th. New legislation is being introduced to combat alcoholism. Bulgaria is said to be following a similar path to communism as the USSR, and not strictly a national one.

**Czechoslovakia – June 27, 1968 (PSC/PLC/PSČZ)**

The "2000 slov" (Two Thousand Words) Manifesto, authored by Ludvík Vaculík, is published in Literární Listy, Práce, Zemědělské noviny and Mladá Fronta to support the process of democratization in the country. On the same day, the CPCz CC Presidium releases its negative

reaction to the document, followed on June 28 by similar statements from other official bodies. This does not stop 34,000 people in Czechoslovakia to sign the document within two weeks.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Soviet Union – June 27-July 4, 1968 (PSC)**

A Hungarian delegation consisting of Kádár, Fock and Aczél meets Brezhnev and Kosygin in Moscow. Their separate assessments of the situation in Czechoslovakia are coming closer together.

#### **Soviet Union – June 27, 1968 (LBC)**

Gromyko announces that the USSR is ready to exchange views on the mutual control and reduction of strategic nuclear delivery vehicles.

#### **Czechoslovakia – June 28-30, 1968 (PSC)**

A series of extraordinary CPCz district and regional conferences are held. About one-third of them support the “Two Thousand Words” proclamation, one-third considers the reaction to the proclamation inappropriate, and one-third agrees with the CPCz leadership’s negative assessment of the document.

#### **Hungary – June 29, 1968 (OSA)**

‘Venial sins?’ – An article reports that the ritual of religious conformation has taken place in a number of villages and towns within the county. Many of the children going through the ritual had parents who are members of the HSWP. The article describes possible explanations for their ideological discrepancies and some ways with which a counter for religiosity can be used.

### **July**

#### **Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – July, 1968 (OSA)**

An Agitator issue features an article titled “Freedom and Responsibility” written Soviet conservative ideologist V. Stepanov, in which he argues for, though indirectly, a harder line towards Czechoslovakia.

#### **Yugoslavia – July, 1968 (RNF)**

Yugoslavia applies to the World Bank for assistance in financing a highway construction program. A World Bank appraisal mission visits Yugoslavia in October and November and agrees to finance three projects – one each in Croatia, Slovenia and Macedonia.

#### **Albania – July 1, 1968 (OSA)**

A special meeting was held during the month of May by the Tirana Party Committee at which its secretary and Politburo member, Manush Myftiu, disclosed a number of distortions of party principles by rank and file. The causes, which have created considerable confusion among the Albanian communists, are twofold. First, there is strong evidence that the recent events in Czechoslovakia and Poland have also exerted ideological pressure on the Albanian Party of Labor. Secondly, Enver Hoxha, in order to counter these pressures, has issued a number of statements setting out recommendations aimed at a further strengthening of Party unity. These two interrelated developments have caused considerable confusion among Albanian communists. Myftiu provides a long list of examples revealing widespread and serious mistakes and misinterpretations of Party principles committed by many members who have subsequently been expelled.



**Bulgaria – July 2, 1968 (OSA)**

Situation report. A meeting of the Committee for Art and Culture met on June 26th to discuss the importance of preventing “ideological diversion” within society through the arts. A new Friendship Treaty was signed on April 26th between Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - July 2, 1968 (OSA)**

*Literaturna Ukraina* publishes a report on the “Ukrainian Days” that took place at the end of June in Slovakia and Prague. Titled “Friendship and Brotherhood Should Become Stronger”, the report features some of the press releases from Czechoslovakia and comments on them, concluding that relationships between Ukraine and Czechoslovakia are improving.

**Soviet Union / England / USA – July 1, 1968 (HC/PLC)**

The agreement on nuclear disarmament and preventing the spread of nuclear weapons (Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty) is signed in Moscow, Washington and London.

**Czechoslovakia – July 1, 1968, (PSC)**

As of this date, the CPCz has 1,677,565 members. Within 6 months in 1968, 18,282 new members join the party and 6,956 members are expelled.

**East Germany / West Germany – July 1, 1968 (KCA)**

The GDR is notified that no East German barges may enter through West German waterways.

**Soviet Union – July 1, 1968 (LBC)**

The Soviet Union’s new disarmament plan: an international agreement banning nuclear arms; the cessation of the production of nuclear arms, the reduction of arsenals followed by the ban and destruction of nuclear arms under international control; the mutual control of nuclear delivery vehicles, later their reduction; the immediate ban on the flight of planes armed with atomic bombs beyond national boundaries and the halting of the patrol of submarines armed with nuclear missiles on waters where the other side is within striking distance; ban on underground nuclear tests with national supervision, working out means to inspect the fulfillment of the ban of chemical and biological weapons; the liquidation of foreign bases; nuclear free zones. – 62 nations sign the non-proliferation treaty, France and China do not sign.

**Czechoslovakia – July 2, 1968 (PSC)**

The magazine *Lidová armáda* publishes a memorandum from researchers at the Klement Gottwald Military-Political Academy recommending changes in Czechoslovak military doctrine.

**Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – July 4, 1968 (PSC)**

The CPSU CC Politburo sends a letter to the CPCz CC Presidium. During the next two days, the GDR, Bulgaria, Hungary and Poland send similar letters.

**Soviet Union / Egypt – July 4, 1968 (KCA)**

President Nasser visits Moscow. Brezhnev pledges Soviet support now and in the future, to the Arab states and recognizes Palestinian rights.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – July 5, 1968 (PSC)**

In a telephone conversation, Brezhnev tells Dubček that it is urgent that the Communist Parties of six socialist countries meet. Dubček writes to Brezhnev inquiring about the subject of the meeting.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia - July 5, 1968 (OSA)**

Yugoslav Professor Branko Pribicevic of the Belgrade Supreme School of Politics Science gives an interview to Radio Belgrade, in which he discusses individual Communist countries' road to socialism, arguing that the fear of national Communism is preconditioned by the unequal positions of the countries within the Communist bloc. Mentioning the example of Czechoslovakia, he argues that the "monolithic unity" of the world Communist movement cannot be achieved if one party exerts pressure upon the other.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – July 6, 1968 (PSC)**

Brezhnev sends Dubček a letter including an invitation to a meeting of six Communist Parties in Warsaw, scheduled for July 10 or 11, to discuss the situation in Czechoslovakia.

**Hungary – July 7, 1968 (OSA)**

'Money from the state. – Who finances the clergy? 68 million in subsidies.' The article describes the financial situation of churches within Hungary citing events occurring throughout the 20 years of communist rule within Hungary. Their persona estates and financial support from believers is also touched upon.

**Bulgaria – July 8, 1968 (OSA)**

On March 15th, 1968, the Bulgarian National Assembly adopted a new Penal Code that had been in preparation since 1963. It replaces the old Penal Code of February 2nd, 1951, which, in turn, had superseded the Penal Law of 1896.

**Czechoslovakia – July 8, 1968 (PSC)**

The 83rd session of the CPCz CC Presidium discusses the letters sent recently by the Communist Parties of Bulgaria, Hungary, East Germany, Poland and the Soviet Union.

**Romania / U.S – July 8, 1968 (KCA)**

After Bârlădeanu, Romanian Politburo member, finishes his three-week tour of the United States, a joint communiqué is published. A mutual agreement is signed to cooperate on matters of science and technology, particularly the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

**Czechoslovakia – July 9–11, 1968 (CAC)**

A Czechoslovak army conference in Bratislava urges elaboration of a national doctrine within the Warsaw Pact framework and "internationalization" of the alliance's command.

**Czechoslovakia – July 10, 1968 (PSC)**

The National Assembly elects the 150-member Czech National Council (85 members for the CPCz, 22 members for the Czechoslovak People's Party, 22 members for the Czechoslovak socialist party, and 21 non-partisan members). Čestmír Císař is elected chairman.

**Czechoslovakia / Warsaw Pact – July 11, 1968 (PSC)**

The Šumava exercises conclude. In the next two days, the first foreign units leave the country.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - July 11, 1968 (OSA)**

Warsaw Pact headquarters and the Czechoslovak government issue announcements that the “gradual transfer” of military units would commence on July 13th. Pravda publishes an article saying that “forces hostile to the Czechoslovak people are in a hurry to use the unstable situation in the country to achieve their counter-revolutionary aims.”

**Soviet Union / Sweden – July 11-13, 1968 (KCA)**

Kosygin visits Prime Minister Erlander and King Gustav VI of Sweden. Both parties agree to cooperation in the future.

**Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – July 12, 1968 (PSC)**

The CPCz CC Presidium declines the invitation to meet “the Five” communist countries in Warsaw, proposing instead to hold bilateral talks with each party’s representatives.

**Czechoslovakia / Romania – July 12, 1968 (RFP)**

The situation in Czechoslovakia is the subject of a session of the Executive Committee of the Romanian Communist Party. Before the meeting of the Executive Committee, Ceaușescu talks with Kurka, the Czechoslovak ambassador. Negotiations confirm cordial and friendly relations between the countries.

**Romania – July 12, 1968 (RCW)**

Summary of the Ministry of Armed Forces Council is issued. Topics covered in the summary are: the establishment of regional commands and military maneuvers in Poland and Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – July 13, 1968 (PSC)**

At Dubček’s request, he and Černík meet Kádár and Fock in Komárno, on the Hungarian-Czechoslovak border, just after 5.00 p.m. Kádár says that “the refusal of the CPCz to go to Warsaw was the biggest mistake that the CPCz leadership has made since January”.

**Czechoslovakia / Warsaw Pact / Yugoslavia – July 13, 1968 (PSC)**

The Czechoslovak Army Commanders hand a letter to the military attachés of the Warsaw Pact countries and Yugoslavia expressing the army’s unconditional support of Dubček’s leadership of the CPCz.

**Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – July 14-15, 1968 (PSC/KCA/DCO/PLC)**

The Warsaw meeting of “the Five” takes place. The CPCz CC Presidium sends a letter to the Czechoslovak ambassador in Warsaw requesting that it be handed to Brezhnev and to the delegations of the other Communist Parties taking part in the meeting. The attending parties declare the events a “counter-revolution” sponsored by imperialists. After the negotiation the Warsaw Letter is issued, warning against anti-socialist and revisionist forces and addressed to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. letter states the good intentions of socialist camaraderie behind the meeting and discussion of Czechoslovak internal affairs. However, the joint letter advises the Czechoslovak government to maintain strong Socialist practices in the face of the real threat of growing right wing agitators. In defense of Czechoslovak Socialism, the letter urges the government to crush any criticism or opposition to the Communist party of Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia – July 15, 1968 (PSC)**

At a press conference General Prchlík, the head of the State Administrative Department of the CPCz CC, makes critical remarks on the military and security policies of Czechoslovakia and the Warsaw Pact.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / Italy – July 15, 1968 (PSC)**

In a visit to Moscow, an Italian Communist Party delegation (Galuzzi and Pajetta) express their support for the “Czechoslovak experiment”.

**Romania – July 15-16, 1968 (RFP)**

Ceaușescu declares in Brăila and Galați his trust in the Czechoslovak communist movement.

**Romania – July 15, 1968 (RFP)**

The Romanians send a letter expressing the support to Czechoslovakia is sent to the European Communist parties.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 15, 1968 (CWC)**

The Soviet Union and the United States sign an agreement on cultural, scientific, educational and technological exchange.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 15, 1968 (LBC)**

The first direct air link is opened between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

**Bulgaria – July 16, 1968 (OSA)**

After a six-year interval, the controversial Ninth World Youth Festival will be staged by its Communist sponsors from July 28th through August 6th in the Bulgarian capital of Sofia. Against the background of the massive preparatory work launched by hosts, which included the initiation of a number of steps designed to “prepare” the Bulgarian population ideologically and psychologically, indications of a discriminatory policy on the part of the sponsors with regard to certain youth organizations and groups have become apparent. The festival organizers predict tough ideological confrontation, despite their efforts to ensure that the Sofia meeting will not be an embarrassing one.

**Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – July 16, 1968 (PSC)**

The 87th session of the CPCz CC Presidium discusses the joint letter of “the Five” from the Warsaw talks, and adopts a resolution to propose to the leadership of the CPSU to hold bilateral talks on July 20-21.

**Soviet Bloc – July 16-20, 1968 (MMS)**

Meeting of the Ministers of Agriculture in Moscow.

**Soviet Union / France – July 16-18, 1968 (PSC)**

A French Communist Party delegation, led by Waldeck Rochet, meets Brezhnev in Moscow.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 16, 1968 (KCA)**

The expired cultural exchange agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States is resumed once again.

**Czechoslovakia / France – July 17, 1968 (PSC)**

The Politburo of the French Communist Party proposes to call a meeting of all European Communist Parties as soon as possible to deal with the situation in Czechoslovakia. The proposal receives the support of the Italian, Austrian and Belgian Parties.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - July 17, 1968 (OSA)**

An RFE report on the developments in Czechoslovakia, comparing it to the situation in May 1968. Despite having several similarities, the report underlines an important difference between the two periods being that the Soviet public statements are more anxious, and the Czechoslovak leadership is more affirmed in its independent path to socialism.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia - July 17, 1968 (OSA)**

Belgrade daily Borba publishes an editorial comment by Vlada Teslic, in which the author praises President Tito for supporting the Czechoslovak leaders and advises East European leaders against a direct interference in Czechoslovakia as this would have grave implications for the international communist movement and socialism overall.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – July 17-18, 1968 (PSC)**

The CPSU CC Politburo discusses the situation in Czechoslovakia.

The presidium of the Czechoslovak Central Committee replies to the Warsaw Letter issued on July 15, stating that Czechoslovakia will maintain its reforms and remain tied strongly to the Warsaw Pact. The letter continues to state that the majority population wanted reform and liberalization and so it is being granted.

**Hungary – July 17, 1968 (OSA)**

A collective statement given by the Hungarian Lutheran church on the 20th anniversary of the agreement signed between the state and the church. It expresses their view that they have found their place within the new regime. The church has taken steps towards self-sufficiency, but still requires the support of the state. The church asks the government for their continued financial support.

**Warsaw Pact – July 18, 1968 (CAC)**

Warsaw Pact Supreme Commander Marshal Ivan Iakubovsky accuses Gen. Václav Prchlík, head of the Czechoslovak army's political administration, of revealing Warsaw Pact secrets in a conversation with journalists.

**Czechoslovakia – July 18, 1968 (PSC)**

A special edition of *Rudé Pravo* publishes the letter from “the Five” and the CPCz CC Presidium's response. At the same time, the letter is debated by the National Assembly and the CSSR government, the Presidium of the CC of the National Front, the CPS CC, and the Central Councils of Trade Unions. All express the approval of the presidium statement.

**Czechoslovakia / Warsaw Pact – July 18, 1968 (PSC)**

Commander-in-Chief Yakubovskii sends Dubček a letter in which he accuses General Prchlík of unjustly criticizing the activity of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact at the July 15 press conference, and of disclosing strictly confidential information about the structure and the circumstances of the Warsaw Pact joint command.

**Czechoslovakia / U.S. – July 18, 1968 (PSC)**

U.S. Secretary of State Rusk denies rumors that the United States has warned the USSR against using military forces against Czechoslovakia.

**Soviet Union – July 19-22, 1968 (PLC)**

The CPSU's leadership opts for a military solution in the Czechoslovak crisis (the final political decision is made on August 17).

**Czechoslovakia – July 19, 1968 (PSC)**

The CPCz CC plenary session unanimously approves the presidium's response to the letter from "the Five".

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – July 19-21, 1968 (PSC)**

The CPSU CC Politburo proposes that the CPCz CC attend a bilateral meeting in the Soviet Union. The CPCz CC Presidium rejects the Soviet proposal two days later. On July 21, TASS announces that the talks will be held in Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / France – July 19-20, 1968 (PSC)**

In Prague, leaders of the French Communist Party (Rochet and Kanapa) discuss development in Czechoslovakia over the last six months with Dubček, Černík, Lenárt, Císař and others.

**Warsaw Pact – July 20, 1968 (CAC)**

A Soviet note to the Czechoslovak government criticizes it for allegedly insufficient protection of the country's Western borders and for tolerating activities that undermine the alliance.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – July 20, 1968 (PSC)**

The Czechoslovak government receives a Soviet note expressing concerns over the discovery on July 12 of weapons in the Sokolov region. Czechoslovak authorities had found five backpacks containing 20 Thompson submachine guns, 1,600 cartridges, and 30 Walther pistols with 11 reserve cartridges.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - July 22, 1968 (OSA)**

Pravda publishes an editorial containing a statement that the Czechoslovak reply to the Warsaw letter has been transmitted and approved by the CC Plenum of the CPCS, which signals to Prague that Moscow may reduce tensions for a conference.

**Hungary / Turkey – July 22, 1968 (HC)**

Foreign Minister János Péter arrives in Turkey for a six-day official visit.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – July 22, 1968 (PLC)**

The U.S. notifies the USSR that it will not intervene in Czechoslovakia.

**Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – July 23, 1968 (PSC)**

The Presidium of the Union of Czechoslovak Films and Television Artists sends a letter to related organizations in Bulgaria, Hungary, GDR, Poland and USSR including an invitation to visit Czechoslovakia in order to learn about what is really happening in the country. The Czechoslovak Writers Union, the Union of Czechoslovak Composers, and the Czechoslovak Academy of sciences send similar letters.

**Albania / Bulgaria – July 23, 1968 (KCA)**

The Bulgarian government expels the Albanian Ambassador as well as other members of the Embassy in Sofia. It is alleged that the expelled have breached Bulgarian security.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – July 23 - August 10, 1968 (PSC)**

The “Nemen” logistical training exercises take place in western Russia and the republics of Belorussia, Ukraine, and Latvia. It is reported to be the largest training event for rear-guard troops in the history of Soviet Armed Forces.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – July 23, 1968 (KCA)**

Soviet military reservists are called to training exercises in Czechoslovakia. Under the conditions of the Warsaw Pact, a Soviet military presence still remains in Czechoslovakia.

**Poland / South Yemen – July 23, 1968 (OSA)**

The government economic delegation from the People’s Democratic Republic of Yemen, headed by the agricultural minister Mohamed Awad Bananem, ends its visit to Poland. The delegation held talks on the topic of the economy and trade between Poland and South Yemen with Minister Bananem and was received by the Polish minister of Foreign Trade, prof. Witold Trampczyński. The Yemeni delegation also visited the Ministry of Foreign Relations as well as the Committee of Economic Foreign Cooperation.

**Albania / Yugoslavia - July 24, 1968 (OSA)**

Strong opinions regarding the problem of language equality for the Kosovo-Metohia Region were voiced during the 15th Plenum of the Province’s League of Communists. The reports and statements given by a number of Party officials were marked by their outspokenness in demanding complete equality for the Albanian language as a means of achieving national equality in the Province. The participants were unanimous in demanding a break with outdated policies on the question of the employment of the Albanian language in all spheres of activity. In particular, the Serb and Montenegrin speaking inhabitants of the Province were called upon to take a different stand on the language issue by getting rid of the forces still obstructing this process. The point was also made that the solution of the language problem in the Province is more than of local interest. The authoritative manner in which the speakers voiced their viewpoints was further evidence of the quasi-republican status achieved by the Province, a fact which was publicly acknowledged by one of the participants.

**Albania / Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – July 24, 1968 (OSA)**

An RFE report on the Soviet-Czechoslovak confrontation and Albania’s exploitation of it for propagandistic purposes. The Albanian Communists issued an editorial in Zeri i Popullit on July 24th, 1968 commenting on the situation on Czechoslovakia. The editorial criticized the Soviet leadership for opting for Dubcek instead of Novotny, whose defection caused a split in the Soviet leadership into “liberal” and “conservative” camps. The editorial considered the leaders of the East European Communist countries as “revisionists.” It called for the establishment of a pro-Beijing party in Czechoslovakia to create “the new real Marxist-Leninist Czechoslovak Party.”

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / France – July 24, 1968 (PSC)**

The French party Politburo adopts a resolution to publicly denounce the Soviet Union if it takes any military action against Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / France – July 24, 1968 (PSC)**

The CPCz CC Presidium declares in a letter to the French Party Politburo that it considers a call for a meeting of the European Communist Parties inappropriate.

**Poland / Middle East - July 24, 1968 (OSA)**

The Polish Committee of Solidarity with Asian and African Nations thanks all people and institutions who answered the appeal for help to the Arab people suffering as a result of Israeli aggression in *Trybuna Ludu*. All offerings were given to the United Arab Republic (Egypt), Syria, and Jordan whilst any monetary contributions were used to buy food and clothing for those in Arab refugee camps. As a result, the General Secretary of the committee received a letter from the governor of Suez in which he expressed a deep gratitude to the people of Poland for their aid and support in the war. The committee renews its appeal for aid due to the repeated aggressions of Israel and the increasing number of Arab refugees.

**Czechoslovakia – July 25, 1968 (PSC)**

The 90th session of the CPCz CC Presidium deals with the preparations for the 14th Extraordinary Party Congress. The Presidium decides to abolish the State Administrative Department of the CPCz CC and to transfer General Prchlík to a different position. On the same day, the Military Council of the Ministry of National Defense backs up Yakubovsky's criticism of Prchlík.

**Czechoslovakia – July 25, 1968 (PSC)**

Literární Listy publishes a "Message from the citizens to the Presidium", written by national literary figures, expressing confidence in the leadership in their negotiations with the Soviet Union and the hope in maintaining the January reforms.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – July 25-31, 1968 (PSC)**

Soviet Air Defense forces under the command of Marshal Baticky take part in the "Sky Shield" exercises. More Soviet air power is transferred to the GDR in the course of the operations.

**Poland / Soviet Union – July 25, 1968 (KCA)**

With no warning, Poland and the Soviet Union prohibit the traffic of citizens into Czechoslovakia.

**Albania / Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - July 29, 1968 (OSA)**

In a lengthy editorial on 24 July, *Zëri i Popullit* alleges that the Soviet "revisionist" leadership is split into "liberal" and "conservative" groups on the Czechoslovak question. Moscow, it is claimed, misplayed its cards by opting for Dubcek at the expense of Novotny. The resulting defection of Dubcek from the Soviet control, it is maintained, has alarmed the Soviet "revisionist-conservatives." The editorial also openly declares that Rumania has a "revisionist" leadership. Bulgaria, which recently expelled Albanian diplomats from Sofia, also comes under strong attack. Finally, the Czechoslovak Communists are called upon to form a new "Marxist-Leninist" party.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – July 29, 1968 (PSC)**

The Czechoslovak embassy in Moscow is handed a letter from five Soviet Communists expressing agreement with the CPCz's new direction, and denouncing Soviet pressure on Czechoslovakia.



**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – July 29-August 1, 1968 (CAC/DCO/PSC)**

The Čierna nad Tisou discussions take place between the CPCz CC Presidium and the CPSU CC Politburo. The Soviet leadership alleges a NATO threat to Czechoslovak borders, and claims a common Warsaw Pact responsibility for their defense. Among other things, the joint communiqué notes that both sides agree to hold multilateral talks on August 3 in Bratislava.

**Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Germany / Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – July 30-August 1, 1968 (PSC)**

The Czechoslovak embassy in Warsaw reports high concentrations of Soviet tanks in Poland moving towards the Czechoslovak border. The Czechoslovak embassy in Berlin is informed about the presence of heavy tank and missile units at the Czechoslovak border. Also three years of reserve soldiers have been summoned for training. On August 1, the Czechoslovak embassy in Budapest reports that Hungarian and Soviet troops have been moving towards the Czechoslovak border for two days.

**August****Romania – August, 1968 (RUR)**

Ceaușescu eliminates a number of his party rivals. Ceaușescu's refusal to provide troops for the Warsaw Pact invasion is a turning point in his leadership. It provides him more legitimacy in Romania and it is considered as the ultimate expression of nationalism. Ceaușescu effectively uses foreign policy to mobilize his domestic constituency. Shortly before the invasion, Ceaușescu signs a treaty of friendship with Dubček. During the invasion, he continues denouncing the Soviet actions.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – August 1968 (LBC)**

From the election platform of the Democratic Party: the U.S. must "continue to accept its world responsibilities – not turn inward and isolate ourselves from the cares and aspirations of mankind." At the same time "it must resist the temptation to try to mold the world or any part of it our own image, to become the self-appointed policeman of the world." "The reimposition of Soviet tyranny [in Czechoslovakia] raises the specter of the darkest days of the Stalin era" and increases the danger of war in Central Europe, "a war could become a nuclear holocaust."

**Soviet Union – August, 1968 (PLC)**

At the end of the month, seven Soviet opposition leaders protest against the intervention of Czechoslovakia on Moscow's Red Square. They are arrested and five of them are forced to emigrate.

**Finland – August 1968 (SFF)**

The Finnish government calls for the withdrawal of troops from Czechoslovakia.

**Albania – August 1, 1968 (OSA)**

The Statistics Directorate reports an increase in Albanian industrial production of 21 percent during the first half of 1968, compared to the corresponding period in 1967. The report also claims good agricultural production for the current year. The Chinese have publicized the wheat "bumper harvest" in Albania, while the Soviets continue to press the line, by using outdated and selective data, that the Albanian economy would be better off if it cooperated with the socialist community of Eastern Europe.

**Czechoslovakia – August 2, 1968 (KCA)**

Dubček announces the decision to continue adhering to the reforms.

**Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – August 3, 1968 (PLC/PSC/DCO/CAC)**

The Bratislava meeting of “the Six”, the leaders of the Warsaw Pact’s including the leaders of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, takes place. Among other things, the joint proclamation emphasizes that the protection and strengthening of socialist achievements in individual socialist countries are “the common international obligation of all socialist countries”. During the talks, Radko Kaska, aide to Drahomir Kolder, hands Shelest a draft “letter of invitation” appealing for assistance in the face of counterrevolution.

**Poland / Nigeria - August 4, 1968 (OSA)**

The Polish Red Cross sends aid in the form of blankets and powdered milk to victims of the Nigerian Civil War, including those starving in the province of Biafra.

**Warsaw Pact – August 5, 1968 (PSC)**

General Sergei Shtemenko, an expert on offensive operations, replaces Mikhail Kazakov as Chief of Staff of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Treaty Organization.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 7, 1968 (PSC)**

Soviet Ambassador Chervonenko meets Dubček and Černík.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – August 7, 1968 (PSC)**

At a meeting of the CC of the Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party, Kádár reports on the discussions at Čierna nad Tisou and Bratislava: “if this is not achieved by political means, the use of other means is not excluded.”

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 9, 1968 (PSC)**

In a telephone conversation, Dubček and Brezhnev discuss the fulfillment of agreements from Čierna nad Tisou and Bratislava.

**Czechoslovakia – August 9, 1968 (PSC)**

A petition is begun in Prague calling for the dissolution of the people’s militia. Investigators later discover that more than 50 undercover state police agents have infiltrated the activist groups.

**Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia – August 9-11, 1968 (PSC/PLC/KCA)**

Tito leads a party delegation in a demonstrative visit to Prague to declare his support for the democratization.

**East Germany / West Germany – August 9, 1968 (OSA)**

SED leader Walter Ulbricht suggests the initiation of trade talks between the GDR and the FRG in a speech before the *Volkskammer*. Soon thereafter, the GDR’s Foreign Trade Minister Soelle makes an offer for negotiations to Schiller, the FRG’s Economic Minister.

**Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – August 11, 1968 (PSC)**

TASS announces that “liaison units and staff of the Soviet Army, the National People’s Army of the GDR, and the Polish People’s Army have begun joint training on the western borders of Ukraine and in the southern parts of Poland and the GDR.

**Romania – August 11, 1968 (RUR)**

Ceaușescu claims in a graduating speech at the Bucharest Military Academy that nothing would justify the use of armed force to intervene in the internal affairs of a member country of the Warsaw Pact.

**Czechoslovakia / East Germany – August 12, 1968 (PSC)**

SED leaders, including Ulbricht and Honecker meet Czechoslovak leaders in Karlovy Vary.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Soviet Union – August 12-15, 1968 (PSC)**

At Yalta, Kádár debates with Brezhnev, Kosygin and Podgorny on developments in Czechoslovakia. Kádár is asked to talk once more with Dubček.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 13, 1968 (CW/PSC)**

The telephone conversation between Brezhnev and the Czechoslovak leader Dubček is recorded. Brezhnev expresses anxieties about the anti-Socialist ideas dominating in Czechoslovakia and his dissatisfaction with the lack of fulfilment of the agreements reached at Čierna and Bratislava. He appeals to Dubček to solve the situation in the country as soon as possible.

**East Germany / Soviet Union – August 13, 1968 (PSC)**

Soviet Minister of Defense Grechko and Chief of the Main Political Administration of the Soviet Army General Yepishev arrive in Dresden.

**Czechoslovakia – August 14, 1968 (PSC)**

The CPCz CC publishes opinion polls held among delegates to the CPCz district conferences (held at the end of June): 88% welcomed the extraordinary congress; 90% consider the personnel changes made at the May CPCz CC plenary session to be insufficient; 52% believed the CPCz was capable of carrying out the changes it had undertaken; 75% were convinced that the party’s direct management of state and economic entities was detrimental.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 14, 1968 (PSC)**

Soviet Ambassador Chervonenko hands Dubček a CPSU CC declaration expressing dissatisfaction with the failure to fulfil agreements from Čierna and Bratislava.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 15-17, 1968 (PSC)**

An extended session of the CPSU CC Politburo ends with the decision to intervene militarily in Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / Romania – August 15-17, 1968 (HC/PLC)**

Ceaușescu visits Czechoslovakia. During this demonstrative visit a treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance is signed on August 16.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 16, 1968 (PSC)**

Soviet Deputy Minister of Defense Pavlovsky is appointed commander of the intervention troops.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – August 17, 1968 (PSC)**

As proposed by the Soviet leadership, Kádár meets Dubček at Komárno.

**Romania – August 17, 1968 (RCW)**

On the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party, Ceaușescu informs about the talks with Dubček held in Prague.

**Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – August 18, 1968 (PSC/MMS)**

In Moscow, Polish, East German, Hungarian and Bulgarian leaders unanimously approve the Soviet stance on intervention in Czechoslovakia.

**Bulgaria – August 19, 1968 (OSA)**

The July 24th to 26th enlarged plenum of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party was one of the most important sessions of this body in recent years. The membership approved the Bulgarian delegations' stand at the Warsaw meeting, "unanimously" supported the letter of the five, and, expressed "serious alarm" at the position of the Czechoslovak Party Presidium. The plenum focused mainly, however, on internal affairs – specifically, First Secretary Todor Zhivkov's extensive report entitled "Main Directions for the Future Development of the System of Management of Bulgarian Society." As incorporated in the final decisions of the CC plenum, the report's recommendations signal marked changes in almost every sphere of Bulgarian life. While the degree to which they will be implemented remains to be seen, it appears now that, in terms of its potential impact on the economy, government, Party, and educational system, the recent CC session will represent, along with the oft referred to April (1956) plenum, a milestone in the post 1944 history of the BCP. This paper discusses certain political aspects of the plenum, in particular the suggested changes in government structures and Party activity and the nature of the Party-state relationship.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 19, 1968 (PSC)**

A large group of KGB officers, disguised as "tourists" arrive in Czechoslovakia. They go to the Soviet embassy as well as to Czechoslovak army headquarters.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 19, 1968 (PSC)**

In the evening Chervonenko hands, at Prague Castle, over the final letter of warning from the CC CPSU Politburo to President Svoboda in the presence of Dubček and Černík.

**Czechoslovakia / Warsaw Pact – August 19-20, 1968 (PSC)**

During the night Warsaw pact forces move into position to begin the intervention.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / U.S. – August 20, 1968 (CW/PSC)**

At his requests, Soviet Ambassador Dobrynin meets U.S. President Johnson. Dobrynin presents the statement of the Soviet Government and informs Johnson that the Soviet Military units will enter the territory of Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in order to keep European peace and world security. According to Dobrynin, the Czechoslovak party and the government's highest representatives have requested the intervention. Johnson expresses his appreciation that the Soviet Union informs him about the steps that will be taken.

### **Czechoslovakia – August 20, 1968 (PSC)**

The 93rd meeting of the CPCz CC Presidium takes place.

### **Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – August 20, 1968 (PSC)**

Černík, attending a session of the CPCz CC Presidium, is informed at 11.00 p.m. by telephone that troops of the “Warsaw Five” have crossed over state borders. He requests verification. At the time Western information services lose radar contact with Prague and its environs, and long-range signals begin to be jammed.

### **Czechoslovakia / Warsaw Pact – August 20, 1968 (PSC)**

Chervonenko arrives at 11.30 p.m. at Prague Castle and informs president Svoboda that “allied troops have entered Czechoslovakia”. During the Soviet Ambassador mission, the president receives a telephone call from Smrkovský asking him to attend a session of the CPCz CC Presidium.

### **Czechoslovakia / Warsaw Pact – August 20, 1968 (PSC)**

At 11.40 p.m., Černík informs the members of the Presidium about a report received from the Minister of National Defense Martin Dzúr concerning the invasion of Czechoslovakia by “allied troops”.

### **Czechoslovakia – August 20, 1968 (PSC)**

After 11.00p.m. the CC CPS Presidium meets in Bratislava. The text of “the letter of invitation” is presented along with the comment that the document was accepted by virtually all members of the CPCz CC Presidium in Prague, including Dubček. Only Smrkovský and Kriegel were said to be opposed. Six out of ten members of the CC CPS vote to accept it, while four vote against.

### **Czechoslovakia / Warsaw Pact – August 20-21, 1968 (DCO/LBC/PLC/UNW/KCA)**

Czechoslovakia was occupied by 200,000 soldiers of the armies of members of the Warsaw Pact. Romania and, of course, non-aligned Yugoslavia do not participate in the invasion. International railroad and air links are cut by Warsaw Pact forces. Brno, Bratislava and Prague are all occupied. Tanks and gun placements are positioned in the streets, and it is reported that Soviet troops open fire on protesters. The forces will stay to support the process of “communist normalization.”

### **Soviet Union / U.S. – August 21, 1968 (LBC)**

Johnson convenes the NSC because of the invasion. After the meeting Secretary of State Rusk talks with Soviet ambassador Dobrynin.

### **Czechoslovakia – August 21, 1968 (PSC)**

General r Dzúr issues an order that all Czechoslovak army troops are to remain in their barracks to avoid armed resistance to the intervention. He also states that Czechoslovak units are to provide the intervening troops “maximum all-around assistance.” Air force commanders are to ban all take-offs by Czechoslovak aircraft. Safe landing has to be provided for Soviet aircraft at the Prague and Brno airport.

### **Czechoslovakia – August 21, 1968 (PSC)**

The CPCz CC Presidium adopts by a 7 to 4 vote, the text of a proclamation “To all the People of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.” (Barbírek, Černík, Dubček, Piller, Smrkovský, and

Špaček are in favor; Bil'ak, Kolder, Švestka, and Rigo against). The statement condemns the intervention as an act that “not only contravenes all principles governing relations between socialist states, but also violates the fundamental provisions of international law.”

**Czechoslovakia – August 21, 1968 (PSC)**

The CC CPS Presidium, after receiving the authentic text of the CPCz CC proclamation, revokes its earlier resolution and accepts a new proclamation supporting the CPCz CC position.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 21 (1:30 a.m.-2:00 a.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

Two Soviet military aircrafts land at Prague's Ruzyně airport. Several dozen Soviet soldiers on board occupy the main airport building and disarm airport personnel. This is the begin of the airborne operation. After 2.00 a.m., at interval of less than one minute, a total of 120 AN-12 aircraft land at Prague's Ruzyně airport. The operation is covered from the air by 200 MIG 19s and 21s. By morning, one airborne division has landed. Acting under instructions from General Džúr, the supreme command of the Czechoslovak Air Force ensures that the runways are well lighted and that the Soviet Commanders have been contacted.

**Czechoslovakia – August 21 (1:50- a.m.-2:00 a.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

Czechoslovak radio repeatedly broadcasts the text of the CPCz CC Presidium proclamation.

**Czechoslovakia – August 21 (approx. 2:15 a.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

The CPCz CC Presidium session comes to an end. Černík returns to the presidium offices, Švestka leaves for the *Rudé Právo* office, and Bil'ak and Indra leave for the Soviet Embassy in Prague. The other presidium members remain in Dubček's office.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 21 (approx. 3:00 a.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

Černík is arrested by Soviet airborne troops at the presidium offices.

**Czechoslovakia / Warsaw Pact – August 21 (approx. 3:00 a.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

Soviet Marshal Grechko orders General Pavlovsky, the Commander-in-Chief of the intervention operation, to move his staff from Legnice, Poland, to Prague.

**Czechoslovakia – August 21 (approx. 3:00 a.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

In an altercation between the occupying forces and the local citizenry of Liberec (in northern Bohemia) several Czechs are seriously wounded. They become the first casualties of the invasion.

**Czechoslovakia / Warsaw Pact – August 21 (4:30 a.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

TASS publishes an official statement to the effect that Warsaw Pact forces have entered Czechoslovak territory upon the request of the Czechoslovak Party and various state officials whose names are not mentioned.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 21 (approx. 4:30 a.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

The first Soviet armored cars, led by a Prague Soviet embassy limousine, arrive at the CPCz CC building and begin occupying it.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 21 (approx. 5:00 a.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

A special Soviet plane carrying Kirill Mazurov, a member of the CPSU CC Politburo, lands in Prague. Mazurov, alias General Trofimov, has been assigned to oversee the political direction of the intervention.

**Czechoslovakia – August 21 (approx. 5:50 a.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

Dubček, Smrkovský, Kriegel, Špáček and Šimon remain in Dubček's office.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 21 (approx. 8:30 a.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

The initial battle for control of the Czechoslovak Radio building erupts between Soviet occupiers and Czechs. 17 people are shot; 52 of the most seriously wounded are transported to the hospitals.

**Czechoslovakia – August 21 (8:30 a.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

Czechoslovak Radio broadcasts President Svoboda's first address to the nation, in which he calls on the people to stay calm. He neither condones nor condemns the invasion.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 21 (approx. 9:00 a.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

Two Soviet officers and three members of CSSR State Security arrive at Dubček's office and lead him away, along with Smrkovský, Kriegel and Špáček, informing that they are under arrest pursuant to orders from the revolutionary tribunal headed by Alois Indra.

**Czechoslovakia / Warsaw Pact – August 21 (10:00 a.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

An emergency session of the Presidium of the National Assembly is convened. In an appeal addressed to leaders of Warsaw Pact countries, the Presidium protests the invasion and requests that all foreign troops be withdrawn immediately.

**Czechoslovakia – August 21 (12:00 noon), 1968 (PSC)**

A general strike is called in Prague.

**Czechoslovakia – August 21, 1968 (PSC)**

At 1.00 p.m. President Svoboda leaves the CPCz CC Presidium and returns to the Prague Castle.

**Czechoslovakia – August 21 (2:35 p.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

An extraordinary plenary session of the National Assembly condemns the occupation, and demands that all arrested constitutional representatives be released and that all occupying forces be withdrawn.

**Czechoslovakia – August 21 (7:00 p.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

The Czechoslovak government publishes its declaration "to all the People of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic," condemning the invasion.

**Romania – August 21, 1968 (RCW/KCA)**

Protocol No. 5 of the Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Communist Party on the situation in Czechoslovakia is issued. The Romanian leadership decides to publicly express its astonishment at the actions of the five Warsaw Pact member states participating in the invasion of Czechoslovakia. In addition, Ceaușescu and the Communist party of Romania, the Government and Grand National Assembly denounce Soviet actions in Czechoslovakia.

**Romania – August 21, 1968 (RUR)**

Ceaușescu talks in Bucharest about the invasion as a great error and serious danger. The Hungarian *Magyar Hírlap* accuses him of over-nationalism. Because of concern over the reaction of Budapest and ethnic Hungarians in Romania, the Hungarian regions of Harghita and Covasna are granted higher levels of investment in the last years of the Fourth Five-Year Plan. Ceaușescu creates a National Council for both ethnic Hungarians and ethnic Germans that would address minority problems.

**Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia – August 21-22, 1968 (KCA/JVJ)**

President Tito expresses his concern and condemns Soviet aggression in Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / France / Italy / U.K. / U.S. – August 21, 1968 (KCA)**

The British and American governments condemn Soviet actions against Czechoslovakia, as do the Italian and French Communist parties.

**Czechoslovakia / Italy / Soviet Union - August 21, 1968 (OSA)**

The Italian trade unions condemn the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / Romania / Soviet Union - August 21, 1968 (OSA)**

The Romanian trade unions hold an extraordinary meeting at which they condemn the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 21, 1968 (OSA)**

*Izvestia* and *Pravda* publish a document attacking some figures of the Czechoslovak leadership (Dubcek, Hajek, Kriegel, Prchlik, Svestika) and listing its past mistakes.

**Peru / Interparliamentary Union – August 21-September 6, 1968 (HC)**

The Interparliamentary Union holds its congress in Lima. (Lajos Csotterki, the secretary of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic leads the Hungarian delegation.)

**Bulgaria – August 22, 1968 (OSA)**

Along with reorganization of the state apparatus, the CC plenum held from July 24th to 26th also dealt with the new economic system and questions of economic policy. Acknowledging that there are still many shortcomings and unsolved problems in the mechanism of the new system and its application, the plenum decisions provide for a new procedure in setting up the economic plans for individual enterprises, with greater centralism in overall planning than was originally envisaged. A new Economic Council (Committee for Economic Coordination) under the Council of Ministers is being set up to coordinate economic policy and to direct the ministries. In the sphere of finance, the decisions call for strengthening the financial system and for further stabilization of the lev and its transformation into convertible currency. A major step toward the much-delayed price reform, one of the main prerequisites for the application of the new system, is now promised for January 1st, 1969, when new wholesale prices are to come into effect. The decisions also call for changes in various aspects of the economic competition among them, and for improvement of the contract system. The last chapter of the plenum decisions deals with policy questions related to the standard of living. It provides for increased production of consumer goods, improvement of trade, services, transport, etc. A special program for housing construction is to be worked out. Some increase in wages, especially low ones, is envisaged for the middle or end of 1969. More details connected with the improvement of the standard of living were given by Todor Zhivkov in his report at the plenum.



**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / Warsaw Pact – August 22 (11:00 a.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

President Svoboda meets Soviet Ambassador Chervonenko and the commander of the intervention forces, General Pavlovsky; he requests a meeting with the Soviet leaders in Moscow.

**Czechoslovakia – August 22 (morning), 1968 (PSC/PLC/PSCZ)**

The hastily organized 14th Extraordinary Congress of the CPCz is convened at ČKD, the largest heavy industry factory in Prague. 1,192 of the 1,543 regularly elected delegates take part. A new CC of the CPCz and a new Presidium are elected; the latter unanimously elects Dubček to the post of First Secretary. Delegates also express their condemnation of the invasion and approve the general strike in protest against the occupation. Later the congress will be ruled invalid.

**Czechoslovakia – August 22 (12:00 noon), 1968 (PSC)**

The general strike in Prague begins.

**Czechoslovakia / Warsaw Pact – August 22, 1968 (KCA)**

Czechoslovak citizens gather in Prague, despite being ordered home under threat of gunfire. The Soviets finally fire and seven people are reported dead. Pravda attacks Dubček under the charge of leading Czechoslovakia too far to the right of the political spectrum.

**Czechoslovakia – August 22, 1968 (PLC)**

Soviets unsuccessfully attempt – following the Hungarian Kádár government's example in 1956 – to introduce a Czechoslovak “workers-peasants” government. (Future party leader Miloš Jakeš participates at the negotiations.)

**Czechoslovakia / Warsaw Pact / U.N. / U.S. – August 22, 1968 (LBC/ PSC)**

The U.N. Security Council votes on a draft resolution condemning the interventions: 10 votes for, 2 against (USSR and Hungary), and 3 abstentions (Algeria, India and Pakistan). On the same day, delegates from Brazil, Great Britain, Denmark, France, Canada, Paraguay, Senegal and the U.S. submit a draft resolution asking the U.N. general secretary to send an emissary to Prague to insist upon the release of arrested Czechoslovak officials and guarantees for their personal safety. According to the American representative in the U.N., George Ball, the intervention is directed at “imposing by force a repressive political system which is plainly obnoxious to the people and leadership of Czechoslovakia.” Ball does not accept the “feeble and futile self-justification” of the Soviet Union. In his view the decision underlines that the aggressors committed “an inexcusable international crime,” the Czechoslovak people have the right to control its own affairs without external intervention. The occupational troops must be pulled out immediately. The Security Council must call on the occupational countries to “refrain from further murders and tortures.”

**Czechoslovakia – August 22, 1968 (PSC)**

Petitions circulate throughout Prague demanding the withdrawal of occupying troops, the release of arrested Czechoslovak leaders, and support for legal state authorities.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 22, 1968 (PSC)**

The conservative faction of the CPCz spends the entire day in meetings at the Soviet Embassy. At about 5.00 p.m. an agreement is reached on the personnel structure of a “provisional revolutionary government” headed by Indra. A delegation headed by Piller arrives at 9.15 p.m.

at the castle, where they present this arrangement to President Svoboda, who rejects it for tactical reasons and insists on visiting Moscow.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 22 (11:00 p.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

Svoboda meets Chervonenko again to discuss his demand to be allowed to hold talks with Soviet leaders in Moscow.

**Bulgaria – August 23, 1968 (OSA)**

The controversial Ninth World Youth Festival held in Sofia, which ended on August 6th, reflected the fragmentation in the Communist world. Numerous incidents that arose during the 10-day session were indicative of the organizers' failure to rigidly control and limit the activities of the delegates. The extensive criticism directed at the organizers and appeals for changes in the format of youth gatherings place in question the future of the festival movement.

**China – August 23, 1968 (PLC)**

The PRC condemns the Soviet intervention in Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - August 23, 1968 (OSA)**

TASS issues a communique mentioning Gustav Husak's presence in the Czechoslovak delegation to Moscow.

**Czechoslovakia – August 23 (8:45 a.m.), 1968 (PSC)**

Czechoslovak Radio broadcasts Svoboda's speech in which he informs the public of his departure to Moscow.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 23 (afternoon), 1968 (PSC)**

From a prison in Ukraine, Dubček is taken to Moscow, where he meets Brezhnev, Kosygin and Podgorny. Černík is also present at the meeting.

**Czechoslovakia – August 23-26, 1968 (KCA/PSCZ)**

During the negotiations in Moscow between the Czechoslovak Communist Party and Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the agreement on normalization of situations in Czechoslovakia is concluded. On August 26, the Moscow protocol and a joint communiqué are signed. Kriegel, a member of the CPCz CC Presidium, refuses to sign the documents. The communiqué states Czechoslovak intentions to move forward with socialism, Soviet commitment to military withdrawal from Czechoslovakia, and an agreement that Soviet forces would abstain from involvement in internal Czechoslovak affairs. Upon arrival back in Czechoslovakia, Dubček addresses the nation stating that foreign forces will move to a reserved area and that there would need to be a temporary restriction on the freedom of expression shown since the January reforms. Dubček is forced by the Soviet Politburo to reinstate media censorship.

**Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 23, 1968 (OSA)**

The 10th Plenum of the Yugoslav Central Committee is held in Belgrade, sharply condemning the intervention of the Warsaw Pact countries in Czechoslovakia. At the plenary session, President Tito pledges to aid Czechoslovakia and warns the Soviet Union and its allies that if attacked, Yugoslavia will defend its independence. Foreign Minister Marko Nikezić states that, despite sympathizing and respecting the struggle of the Soviet people, one should not assume that the Soviet road to communism is the only one. President of the Yugoslav Communist youth organization Janez Kocijančič accuses the five Warsaw states of launching a "strong dogmatic

campaign” at the Sofia Youth Festival, while claiming that the Yugoslav youth rejected this propaganda. Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Croatian Central Miko Tripalo asserts the solidarity of the Croatian people with Czechoslovakia and warns about their preparedness to defend their independence. One of the TU leaders Vajo Skendžić warns about the consequences the Soviet invasion will have for socialism globally. General Ivan Dolničar and Kemal Serjufa, one of the representatives of the Turkish minority, agree in the opinion that the occupation of Czechoslovakia poses a direct threat to Yugoslavia.

**Czechoslovakia / U.N. – August 24, 1968 (PSC)**

At a session of the U.N. Security Council, Hájek, the Czechoslovak Minister of Foreign Affairs, states that neither the Czechoslovak government nor any of its constitutional officials had requested military assistance from the states of the Warsaw Pact, and that the government considers the occupation of the country as an act of violence.

**Czechoslovakia – August 24-25, 1968 (PSC)**

In Bratislava, a plenary session of the CC CPS demands the immediate withdrawal of the intervention forces and decides to convene an extraordinary congress of the CPS.

**Romania / Yugoslavia – August 24, 1968 (KCA)**

Tito and Ceaușescu meet to discuss bilateral relations.

**Soviet Union – August 24-27, 1968 (HC/MMS)**

The communist party delegations of the socialist countries (not represented: Czechoslovakia, Romania) hold a summit meeting in Moscow to talk about the situation of Czechoslovakia.

**France – August 24, 1968 (PLC)**

France detonates its first hydrogen bomb.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - August 25, 1968 (OSA)**

Literarni Listy issue an anonymous article where the rightists argue they are unable to prevent an agreement between Czechoslovak and Soviet leadership.

**Poland / Sudan - August 25, 1968 (OSA)**

A three-person delegation from the Polish-Sudanese Friendship Society, headed by Abu Zeid, visits Poland on invitation from the Polish–African Friendship Society. The visit included meetings with those working at the Polish–African Friendship Society which informed the Sudanese guests of the workings and achievements of the society with Abu Zeid thanking the society for its genuine help in Poland.

**Albania / Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 26, 1968 (OSA)**

Radio Moscow broadcasts a commentary to Albania, in which it accuses the Sino-Albanian ideologists of having common cause with the “imperialists” with regards to the Czechoslovak situation. In condemning Albania for opposing to the “allied socialist countries [the five Warsaw Pact countries] who extended a helping hand to their class brethren”, the Soviet side neglects its general line of accusing Yugoslavia for its opposition to the invasion of Czechoslovakia.

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**Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - August 26, 1968 (OSA)**

*Rabotnichesko Delo* publishes a speech made by the Bulgarian Party leader Todor Zhivkov and delivered by Politburo member Stanko Todorov in Sliven, which justifies Bulgaria’s participation in the occupation of Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia – August 26, 1968 (PLC)**

Following previous unsuccessful attempts at forming a government, the restoration of the Communist dictatorship begins in Czechoslovakia. The process is based on a “treaty” (Moscow Protocol) and is led by the previous reform leadership. According to the treaty, Warsaw Pact troops leave the country, but Soviet forces remain.

**Czechoslovakia – August 26, 1968 (PSC)**

A nationwide work stoppage takes place.

**Czechoslovakia / U.K. – August 26, 1968 (LBC)**

British Prime Minister Wilson condemns the occupation of Czechoslovakia but adds that this cannot dissuade the Western world from realizing détente with the communist world. He rejects returning to “the frozen immobilism of the Cold War.” Earlier he declares that the invasion “dealt a serious blow” to East-West relations.

**Czechoslovakia – August 26-29, 1968 (PSC)**

The 14th Extraordinary Congress of the CPS is held in Bratislava. A new CC of 107 members is elected. Husák, who had reported to the delegates on the negotiations in Moscow, is elected First Secretary, replacing Bil’ak.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - August 27, 1968 (OSA)**

Pravda publishes an article attacking those who deny the international importance of Leninism and targeting C. Cisar.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - August 27, 1968 (OSA)**

Pravda covers the situation in Czechoslovakia indicating it is calmer than earlier in the week, although calling for some vigilance.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - August 27, 1968 (OSA)**

Radio Moscow broadcasts President Svoboda’s speech where he states the commitment to implement the decision of the April Plenum and the Action Program.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - August 27, 1968 (OSA)**

*Izvestia* issues an editorial, which is broadcast in Romanian by Radio Moscow, where the Bucharest government is criticized for holding secret meetings with unauthorized Czechoslovak representatives.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia - August 27, 1968 (OSA)**

The Soviet and Czechoslovak reach an agreement, which is deemed short-lived by the Yugoslav Communists. Despite the five Warsaw states’ satisfaction with the August 27th agreement, the Yugoslav expert on international law Professor Milan Bartoš argues in *Politika* that it was

“reached under very unfavorable conditions and circumstances for Czechoslovak representatives whose country, without provocation, is forcibly occupied”.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 27, 1968 (PSC)**

Early in the morning, the Czechoslovak delegation returns to Prague from Moscow. In a radio broadcast, Dubček and Svoboda report on the meetings in Moscow. The information they provide is general, leaving the public unsatisfied.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 27, 1968 (PSC)**

Soviet units begin withdrawing from the center of Prague and from the area around the Prague Castle.

**Czechoslovakia – August 28, 1968 (PSC)**

A plenary session of the National assembly issues a proclamation classifying the occupation as an illegal act in contravention of the U.N. Charter as well as of the statutory norms of the Warsaw Pact.

**Czechoslovakia – August 28, 1968 (KCA)**

Prime Minister Černík declares on a radio broadcast that the troops should not interfere with internal affairs and calls for calm.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 28, 1968 (OSA)**

Gustav Husak arrives at the Slovakian Extraordinary Party Congress, where he is elected as First Secretary of the Slovakian Party. After this the Soviet press begins to increase the coverage of Husak. Radio Moscow reports that Husak refused to join the Central Committee elected by the 14th Czechoslovak Party Congress.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - August 28, 1968 (OSA)**

The Secretariat of the World Federation of Trade Unions meets in Prague declaring solidarity with the central committee of the Czechoslovak unions and condemning the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - August 28, 1968 (OSA)**

*Pravda Ukrainy* publishes an article in the aftermath of an emergency convocation of the Ukrainian Writers' Union on August 26th voicing support for the Soviet intervention in Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 28, 1968 (OSA)**

Radio Czechoslovakia broadcasts a speech given by Czechoslovak Premier Oldřich Černík, in which he highlights economic challenges (communications and transport, agriculture) resulting from the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – August 28, 1968 (OSA)**

The Foreign Affairs Committee of the Croatian National Assembly meets to condemn the intervention in Czechoslovakia by the five Warsaw states.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 28, 1968 (OSA)**

An RFE report on the Soviet press coverage of the latest developments in Czechoslovakia. August 27: *Pravda* published an article attaching those who deny the international importance of Leninism and targeting C. Cisar. August 25: *Literarni Listy* issued an anonymous article

where the rightists argued they were unable to prevent an agreement between Czechoslovak and Soviet leadership. August 27: Radio Moscow broadcast President Svoboda's speech where he stated the commitment to implement the decision of the April Plenum and the Action Program. August 27: Izvestia issued an editorial, which was broadcast in Romanian by Radio Moscow, where the Bucharest government was criticized for holding secret meetings with unauthorized Czechoslovak representatives.

#### **Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Soviet Union – August 28, 1968 (OSA)**

An RFE report tracing the differences in East German coverage of the events in Czechoslovakia between August 27th and August 28th – before and after the Czechoslovak-Soviet agreement was signed in Moscow. The report argues that the main difference is that before the signing, East German media blames West German and “other revanchist influences” for anti-communist activities in Czechoslovakia, while after the Moscow communique, the media began to stress the negative influence of Czechoslovak anti-socialist actors.

#### **Czechoslovakia – August 29, 1968 (PLC)**

Special Congress of the Slovak Communist Party demands the federal reorganization of Czechoslovakia.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 29, 1968 (PSC)**

The Czechoslovak government initiates talks with Soviet commanders on the withdrawal of all military units from Prague and from all press, radio, and television buildings.

#### **Czechoslovakia – August 30, 1968 (PSC)**

Deputies to the National Assembly unanimously declare that they did not invite either in writing or orally, the government of the Warsaw Pact to intervene militarily in the CSSR.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 30, 1968 (PSC)**

Soviet occupation units begin distributing *Zprávy* (“News”), a journal edited by the “Editorial council for Soviet troops” and printed in Dresden.

#### **Soviet Union / U.S. – August 30, 1968 (LBC)**

President Johnson's speech in San Antonio: there are rumors that the Soviet Union is preparing to repeat its military action in Czechoslovakia “elsewhere in the days ahead in Eastern Europe.” The President warned the “would-be aggressor” “not to misjudge American policy during this administration.”

#### **Albania / Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – August 31, 1968 (OSA)**

Radio Tirana broadcasts a commentary in which it criticizes the four Eastern European countries participating in the Soviet-led intervention in Czechoslovakia.

#### **Czechoslovakia – August 31, 1968 (PSC)**

A CPCz CC plenary session is held in Prague at which CC members are informed of the wording of the Moscow Protocol, and a new Presidium of the CPCz CC is elected. Dubček, Smrkovský, Černík, Bil'ar, Piller, Špáček are all reelected. Newly elected members include Svoboda, Erban, Husák, and Šimon. During the session, a very well informed Brezhnev telephones Dubček to criticize the “undemocratic methods by which the CC was elected”, i.e., the inclusion of some delegates to the extraordinary congress in the new CC.

**Czechoslovakia – August 31, 1968 (PSC)**

Josef Pavel, Minister of the Interior, is recalled from his post. Jan Pelnár is named as his replacement.

**Czechoslovakia / NATO – August 31, 1968 (PSC/LBC)**

In Washington, NATO ambassadors meet representatives from the State Department. Their communiqué notes that invasion represents “the largest presence of Soviet military forces since W.W. II”, and that the situation “poses a menace to the security of the U.S. and its allies”. According to the State Department the military balance between East and West is upset as a result of the Warsaw Pact’s intervention against Czechoslovakia.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - August 31, 1968 (OSA)**

*Izvestia* issues an article mentioning Husak’s refusal to accept the decisions reached by the 14th Czechoslovak Party Congress.

**Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – August 31, 1968 (OSA)**

Belgrade daily Borba publishes an editorial in which it analyses the causes for the anti-Yugoslav propaganda in the “Warsaw five” countries, concluding that the purposes are to isolate Yugoslavia and threaten smaller socialist countries.

**September****Hungary – September, 1968 (OSA)**

A letter by György Lukács on the relationship between Marxism and Christianity. The letter is an answer given to a Professor in Frankfurt who wrote to him after a seemingly unexplainable turn of events when a number of theology students have started to support the Marxist group at the university. Lukács gives a brief and at parts unsatisfactory explanation of his views on the matter.

**Czechoslovakia – September 1, 1968 (PSC)**

A comprehensive report on the occupation of Prague states that 25 people were killed and 431 seriously wounded. Additionally, many buildings were heavily damaged by gunfire.

**Czechoslovakia – September 1, 1968 (KCA)**

A communiqué is issued after a plenary session of the Central committee is held. It states Czechoslovak commitment to building a Socialist nation and finding a resolution to current relations with Warsaw pact countries. A new Presidium is elected.

**Czechoslovakia / Poland / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia - September 1, 1968 (OSA)**

Polish paper *Tribuna Ludu* publishes an anti-Yugoslav article that justifies the invasion of Czechoslovakia and condemns the Communist parties of Italy, Romania, and Yugoslavia.

**Hungary – September 1, 1968 (OSA)**

‘The 20-year development of agreements between the churches and the state.’ The document tells the story and turning points of the relationship between the state and the churches throughout the 20 years of communist rule within Hungary.

**Czechoslovakia – September 2, 1968 (PSC)**

Ota Šik is removed from his post as deputy prime minister and reassigned as economic adviser to the Czechoslovak embassy in Belgrade.

**Soviet Union / France – September 2, 1968 (LBC)**

French foreign minister Debré meets Soviet ambassador Zorin and demands that the Soviet Union withdraws from Czechoslovakia without delay. Later he declares: only détente could lead to the normalization of the European situation but Moscow must prove with deeds that it did not give up the policy of détente.

**Warsaw Pact – September 2, 1968 (CAC)**

Marshal Grechko, at a meeting with four other Warsaw Pact defense ministers in Legnica, Poland, discusses options for occupation forces in Czechoslovakia.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union - September 2, 1968 (OSA)**

Belgrade daily *Borba* publishes an article titled “In the Service of Violence” criticizing the Soviet media for its subjectivity in reporting the situation in Czechoslovakia.

**Romania / Soviet Union / U.S. – September 3, 1968 (LBC)**

According to the State Department’s spokesman Soviet ambassador Dobrynin reassured Secretary of State Rusk that the rumors about a potential Soviet aggression against Romania lack all foundation.

**Czechoslovakia – September 5, 1968 (PSC)**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs refuses to approve the status of KAN and of K-231.

**Czechoslovakia – September 6, 1968 (PSC)**

Kriegel resigns his post as chairman of the CC of the National Front of the CSSR.

**Czechoslovakia – September 6, 1968 (PSC)**

In the presence of Dubček and Černík, President Svoboda receives Foreign Minister Hájek and informs him it will be impossible for him to remain in his position. On September 14, Hájek will resign as Foreign Minister.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – September 6, 1968 (LBC/PSC)**

Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Kuznetsov arrives in Prague as plenipotentiary of the Soviet government. An agreement is made on the partial withdrawal of Warsaw Pact troops, the recall of Soviet secret police and intelligence personnel, on the guarantee of the personal security and protection of Czechoslovak citizens and the improvement of the conditions of consultation between Prague and Moscow. He remains until early December, becoming a key figure in asserting Soviet control over the “normalization” process in the CSSR.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia - September 7, 1968 (OSA)**

Zagreb daily *Vjesnik* publishes an interview deposed Czechoslovak Deputy Prime Minister Ota Šik gave to the Italian writer Alberto Moravia. In the interview, Ota Šik argues that the Soviet leadership is comprised of bureaucrats not ideologists, including Brezhnev, who does not care for ideology. Touching on the occupation of Czechoslovakia, Šik claims that the decision to intervene was made before the meetings in Čierna and Bratislava, and the meetings were supposedly “smokescreens”.



**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union - September 7, 1968 (OSA)**

Belgrade paper *Vecernje Novosti* issues an article by Dusan Djuric titled "Useless Search for a Crack – on the Occasion of Some Solo Actions of Certain Embassies of Socialist States in Belgrade". The article argues that officials of the Soviet Embassy in Belgrade have threatened some editorial boards and individual journalists in relation to attacks against the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in the Yugoslav press.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – September 7, 1968 (OSA)**

Radio Zagreb broadcasts a commentary on the economic crisis unraveling in the Soviet Union and social disagreements it has provoked, arguing that economic reforms are urgently needed to overcome the crisis.

**Poland – September 8, 1968 (UNW)**

Ryszard Siwiec commits suicide by self-immolation in protest against the invasion on Czechoslovakia.

**Bulgaria - September 9, 1968 (OSA)**

A report from the Washington Evening Star predicts that incumbent economic reforms in Bulgaria will set them on a similar path which brought radical liberal reforms to Czechoslovakia earlier this year. The author claims that Bulgaria's economic model is crippling its capacity for true economic development.

**Soviet Union / France – September 9, 1968 (LBC)**

De Gaulle declares that he condemns the Soviet intervention in Czechoslovakia but he will continue the policy of détente with the USSR nonetheless.

**Romania / U.K. – September 9 – 10, 1968 (LBC)**

British Secretary of Foreign Affairs Stewart visits Bucharest. According to Pravda Stewart's visit "is an impermissible interference in the internal affairs of Eastern Europe." Stewart earlier cancelled his visits to Hungary and Bulgaria.

**Czechoslovakia – September 10, 1968 (KCA)**

Prime Minister Černík signs a guarantee for the protection of citizens' rights.

**Czechoslovakia – September 10, 1968 (PSC)**

Svoboda, Dubček, Smrkovsk, Černík and Husák publish a proclamation to the Czechoslovak people, in which they express their determination to continue with the policy of reforms that was begun in January 1968.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – September 10, 1968 (PSC)**

Černík leads a delegation meeting with Brezhnev, Kosygin, and Podgorny in Moscow to discuss economic cooperation between the CSSR and the USSR. Issues such as the presence of Soviet troops in Czechoslovak territory and the problems surrounding normalization are discussed.

**Czechoslovakia / Warsaw Pact – September 11-12, 1968 (KCA)**

Soviet tanks withdraw from Prague and reposition in rural areas.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – September 11, 1968 (OSA)**

Vjesnik u srijedu publishes an article titled "At the Turning-Point" written by Secretary of the Zagreb City Party Committee Marinko Gruic, in which he argues that the five Warsaw Pact

countries responsible for the invasion of Czechoslovakia (the USSR, Poland, East Germany, Hungary, and Bulgaria) are ruled by neo-Stalinists.

**Albania – September 12, 1968 (KCA/PLC)**

Due to the intervention in Czechoslovakia, Albania formally announces that it leaves the Warsaw Pact.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – September 12, 1968 (OSA)**

An RFE analysis of the coverage of the events in Czechoslovakia in the East European media (Bulgaria, Poland, Hungary, and Romania), arguing that it has decreased.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - September 12, 1968 (OSA)**

An RFE report presenting an analysis of the Soviet media arguing that the coverage of Gustav Husak's activities within the CSCP and the government does not imply further advancement in Husak's political career.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – September 12, 1968 (OSA)**

An RFE report presenting an analysis of the writings of I.I. Udal'tsov, Ambassador Chervinenko's chief political counsellor at the Soviet embassy in Prague, based on which it argues that the Soviet Union's present ideological attempts to account for the military intervention in Czechoslovakia are identical to the mechanisms used during Stalin's intervention in October 1944: in both cases, the accusations of internal counter-revolution, foreign imperialist agents, and invitations of "fraternal aid" are used to justify the interventions. The analysis, therefore, reveals Udal'tsov as an "orthodox Stalinist ideologist".

**East Germany / Mongolia – September 12, 1968 (KCA)**

East Germany and Mongolia sign a 20-Year Mutual Friendship Treaty.

**Poland / Middle East – September 12, 1968 (OSA)**

Poland informs the UN Secretary General, U Thant, that it has contributed food and medicine worth \$5.5 million to Egypt, Syria, and Jordan on a bilateral basis. A letter released by the Polish government describes that the Polish trade unions and other unnamed public organizations who were "moved by the plight of Arab refugees" have also extended their assistance to the Arab population, though the type and value of this assistance was not specified.

**Warsaw Pact – September 12–17, 1968 (CAC)**

At a Moscow meeting, deputy chiefs of staff prepare final documents for the reorganization of the Warsaw Pact.

**Czechoslovakia – September 13, 1968 (KCA)**

Limitations on freedom of media are reinstated.

**Albania / Warsaw Pact – September 13, 1968 (CAC)**

Albania formally withdraws from the Warsaw Pact in protest against the invasion of Czechoslovakia.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union - September 15, 1968 (OSA)**

Yugoslavian Party leader and theoretician Edvard Kardelj delivers a speech in Nova Gorica, in which he claims that despite the might of the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia will not accept the doctrine by which communist states can interfere in the affairs of other communist countries.

According to the article, the invasion was instructed by the countries' leaders' fear of "a democratic development and real socialist revival in Czechoslovakia". The author also argues that the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia has demonstrated that the majority of communists worldwide are opposing the Soviet path to socialism.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – September 16-17, 1968 (PSC)**

In Mukachevo (USSR), Ministers of Defense Džúr and Grechko meet to discuss problems connected with the number of Soviet troops temporarily remaining on Czechoslovak territory.

#### **Soviet Union / Bulgaria – September 16–19, 1968 (OSA)**

Venelin Kotsev, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, responsible for ideological and cultural matters, visited Moscow at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. There he met with officials of the departments of propaganda, science, education and culture.

#### **Czechoslovakia – September 17, 1968 (PSC)**

The Presidium removes Jiří Pelikán from the position of director of Czechoslovak Television and Suk from the post of director of the Czechoslovak Press Office.

#### **Yugoslavia / Soviet Union - September 18, 1968 (OSA)**

Belgrade paper *Vecernje Novosti* publishes an article by Živko Milić titled "Crazy Ideas", in which he speculates about the benefits of the introduction of self-management to Soviet enterprises, kolkhozes, and institutions, proposing that a small country, and not the usual hegemon, could pose as an example.

**Czechoslovakia – September 19, 1968 (KCA) → September 6.** ("Hájek resigns on Sept. 14.") Foreign Minister Hájek, resigns and Černík appropriates the responsibilities of the Foreign Minister as well as his own responsibilities as Premier.

#### **Yugoslavia / Soviet Union - September 19, 1968 (OSA)**

Moscow television attacks President Tito and the rest of the Yugoslav leadership for the presumed support of "counterrevolution" in Czechoslovakia, which produces a negative reaction in Yugoslavian press.

#### **Romania / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia - September 22, 1968 (OSA)**

Zagreb daily *Vjesnik* publishes an article by Dara Janeković, which claims that the Soviet Union is exerting pressure on Romania to fulfil its obligations as a Warsaw Pact country and to allow the allies' troops enter its territories. The author argues the current position of Romania has increased concern in the country and will postpone the announced measures of democratization.

#### **Yugoslavia / Soviet Union - September 22, 1968 (OSA)**

A political symposium takes place in Salzburg, Austria, where the Soviet delegate Chikvadze attacks President Tito for being elected President for life and thus diminishing the role of the Party. The Yugoslav delegate in turn attacks the Soviet delegate for the militarist practices the Soviet Union employees when dealing with other socialist countries, i.e., Czechoslovakia.

#### **Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – September 22, 1968 (OSA)**

Belgrade weekly *Nedeljne Novosti* issues an article by Miodrag Marović, where he argues that the Soviet intervention in Czechoslovakia has not only produced international challenges but also led to complication in the Soviet internal reforms.

**Bulgaria – September 23, 1968 (OSA)**

In his report to the July Plenum of the CC of the BCP, Todor Zhivkov discussed in considerable detail his vision of the future management of Bulgarian society. He argued that the scientific-technological revolution both requires and provides the opportunity for a new approach to the planning and managing of the Bulgarian economy. The electronic age and the results of the experiments with the new system of management now make a recentralization of planning necessary. Bulgaria is thus the first country in Eastern Europe formally to reverse decentralization principle, the basic tenet of the economic reform movement. The important feature of the reform which is being preserved is the idea of rationalization through financial levers. Many of the steps being taken to attack the most pressing economic problems, however, still reflect the old bureaucratic approach of multiplying responsibility. Bulgaria has not yet solved the problem of a viable economic, much less a social or political, system.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia - September 23, 1968 (OSA)**

Belgrade paper *Vecernje Novosti* publishes an article by Risto Bayalski titled “What Is Kuznetsov Doing?”. The article reports a discussion held between Moscow’s special emissary to Czechoslovakia Vasily Kuznetsov and CPCS leaders in Jihlava, during which the Czechoslovak counterparts are accused of conducting a “two-faced” policy and the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia is deemed an obstacle to the Soviet-Czechoslovak cooperation.

**Bulgaria – September 24, 1968 (OSA)**

A Bulgarian official, Yanko Petrov, notes deficiencies in the economic reforms which were adopted in late 1967. A lack of sufficient training and mechanization are cited as major issues.

**Poland / Middle East – September 25, 1968 (OSA)**

In answer to the UN General Secretary’s, U Thant’s, call for aid to the people of Arab states who are suffering as a result of the conflict in the Middle East, the Polish government pledges to deliver 150 tons of powdered soups, valued at around 5,800,000 zł, to the people of Jordan, Syria, and the United Arab Republic (Egypt). This aid is to be distributed by the World Food Programme.

**Soviet Union – September 26, 1968 (LBC/PLC)**

The Brezhnev doctrine of limited sovereignty is promulgated in Moscow.

**West Germany – September 26, 1968 (PLC)**

Twelve years after its ban, the Communist party is again legalized in West Germany.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – September 26, 1968 (OSA)**

Yugoslav Central Committee weekly *Komunist* publishes an article by Vojislav Stanovčić, where he argues that rule of law or democracy is impossible in the Soviet Union as long as the present political system, which he calls partocrata, prevails and calls for a “radical change” of the system which sustains itself on militarist practices. The issue also features a piece by chief editor of *Komunist* Gavro Altman calling out the Soviet hegemony and coercive practices to influence international and domestic policy in small socialist countries.

**Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – September 27, 1968 (PSC)**

The leaders of “the Five”, Brezhnev, Zhivkov, Gomułka, Kádár and Ulbricht meet in Moscow to discuss the Czechoslovak situation. On the same day, Svoboda receives Warsaw Pact Chief Marshal Yakubovsky in Prague.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – September 27, 1968 (OSA)**

An RFE report on the Yugoslav media coverage of the events in Czechoslovakia criticizing the Soviet aggression.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union - September 27, 1968 (OSA)**

Yugoslav Army weekly *Narodna Armija* features a piece by two military analysts, A. Gaelic, and N. Anić, who argue that the Soviet leadership is prepared to wage “limited and local wars” in light of the Soviet intervention in Czechoslovakia, therefore posing “a potential danger to be turned into an armed action”.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – September 27, 1968 (OSA)**

Belgrade *Vecernje Novosti* publishes an article by Živko Milić titled “Spy Beria”, where he condemns the Soviet intervention in Czechoslovakia and criticizes Moscow’s coercive practices in socialist countries as well as domestic oppression.

**Czechoslovakia – September 28, 1968 (PSC)**

Defense Minister Džúr expands the number of military areas accessible to Soviet troops.

**Romania – September 28, 1968 (RCW)**

Marshal of the Soviet Union, Jakubovsky talks with Ceaușescu and the Romanian leadership about changes that were being made to the Unified Command structure.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union - September 28, 1968 (OSA)**

Yugoslav Central Committee weekly *Komunist* publishes an article by Vojislav Stanovčić, where he argues that no real liberalization and de-Stalinization of the Soviet Union has happened since 1956 as these are not possible without “the re-introduction of legality”.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union - September 29, 1968 (OSA)**

Belgrade weekly *Nedeljne Informativne Novine* publishes an article by Miodrag Marović, arguing that the Soviet leadership considers liberalist movements in socialist countries as treason.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – September 30, 1968 (HC)**

J. A. Furceva, the Cultural Minister of the Soviet Union takes a six-day official visit in Hungary.

**October****Yugoslavia / Kosovo – October, 1968 (PLC)**

Albanian anti-Serb demonstrations begin for the creation of a republic near Suva Reka, Prizren and Peć in Kosovo (riots last till December). Thirty leaders of the demonstrations are sentenced to up to five years in prison.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia – October 1, 1968 (OSA)**

The Czechoslovak response to the GDR’s press attacks against Dubcek has not led to a further escalation of East German attacks. The press is directed against the West with a focus on Bonn and its alleged role in the Czechoslovak crisis. *Neues Deutschland* has issued a warning against any attempt to change the status of West Berlin. *Neues Deutschland* carried a lengthy attack on Prof Goldstuecker on September 27th, in which he was described as a leading figure in the

counter-revolution who encouraged his followers to dismantle the socialist achievements in Czechoslovakia. *Neues* also claims that Bonn seeks a base of operation in Czechoslovakia because it is the ripest for penetration in the socialist bloc. Ulbricht declares that his party is against the imperialist thrust and concurs with M. Brzezinski in the GDR.

#### **Poland / Czechoslovakia – October 1, 1968 (OSA)**

Polish Prime Minister Josef Cyrankiewicz opens the Silesian University in Katowice, south-east Poland, with a speech stressing that the present alignment of forces in Europe must not be altered. Cyrankiewicz says that Poland is economically and militarily strong because of her 'unbreakable alliance' with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries as well as because of the political conditions in Europe created by the alliance. 'This alignment of forces could not and will not be broken by frontal attempts to liquidate the western buffer of security of the socialist countries, the German Democratic Republic'. The premier continues to say that it was necessary for Warsaw Pact forces to enter Czechoslovakia the previous month to present 'the perfidious attempts to by-pass this buffer from the south, through the gradual wrestling of Czechoslovakia from our common system of security'. Cyrankiewicz urged the Czechoslovak people 'not to allow themselves to be persuaded that it was the socialist states which wanted to interfere in Czechoslovak internal affairs. No one wants the peoples of Czechoslovakia to return to the Novotny era and its mistakes and distortions.'

#### **Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – October 3-4, 1968 (LBC/PSC)**

Czechoslovak-Soviet talks convene in Moscow. The delegations of Dubček, Černík and Husák from the Czechoslovak side and Brezhnev, Kosygin, Podgorny from the Soviet side discuss questions of "normalization" and the billeting of intervention troops on CSSR territory. An agreement is signed to witness that Moscow will keep existing treaties and agreements and Prague will not aspire for neutrality. The Fourteenth congress of August 22 is declared null and void. The communist party will strengthen its leading position in state and economic leadership and will restore its control of the Ministry of the Interior. Press censorship is reintroduced; nobody will be persecuted for cooperation with the occupational forces. The U.N. Security Council will be called upon to remove the Czechoslovak issue from the agenda; Soviet-Czechoslovak economic relations will be expanded; no new political parties can be formed; all socialist opposition clubs will be banned; Czechoslovak foreign policy will remain in the framework the Socialist alliance; talks between the two parties will not be published in the future; friendship between the two states will be strengthened.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – October 4, 1968 (OSA)**

Trud publishes the speech delivered by Alexander Shelepin in relation with the situation in Czechoslovakia at the plenary meeting of the All-Union Central Committee of Labor Unions of the USSR, justifying the Soviet intervention in the CSSR by the aggressive activities of the imperialists. Shelepin also presented a report about the results of talks with the union delegations from Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, France Hungary, and the WFTU that took place in September in Budapest and Moscow.

#### **Bulgaria – October 6-14, 1968 (HC)**

The education ministers of the Socialist countries hold their assembly in Varna. The Hungarian delegation is led by Pál Ilku.

#### **Czechoslovakia / France / Soviet Union – October 7, 1968 (OSA)**

The French Foreign Minister renews his demand for the Soviet Union to withdraw its troops from Czechoslovakia as a necessary prerequisite for detente.

**Soviet Union / Finland – October 7-9, 1968 (KCA)**

Kosygin visits President Kekkonen of Finland. Their talks are reported to be undertaken in an air of friendship.

**Czechoslovakia – October 8, 1968 (KCA)**

The trials are held for protesters against Soviet actions in Czechoslovakia. Dr. Litvinov and Mrs. Daniel receive five and four years respectively, in exile.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – October 8, 1968 (OSA)**

*Izvestia* publishes an interview given by the Mayor of Prague Ludvík Černý to paper correspondents V. Krivosheyev and Yu. Ponomarenko. During the interview, the mayor discusses the federalization plans of Czechoslovakia, which do not meet criticism from the Soviet correspondents.

**Czechoslovakia / Romania / Soviet Union – October 8-9, 1968 (OSA)**

Alexander Shelepin meets a delegation from the Romanian trade unions headed by G. Apostol in Moscow, at which they reach consensus on a series of matters except for the situation in Czechoslovakia.

**Poland / Czechoslovakia - October 9, 1968 (OSA)**

In an interview on Telewizja Polska, the Polish vice minister of Foreign Affairs Adam Kruczkowski speaks about the current focus of the West on the situation in Czechoslovakia. The vice minister points to other unresolved issues on the international stage such as the Vietnam War and the lack of any results of the four-month long negotiations in Paris, further escalations of U.S. action in Vietnam, as well as the conflict in the Middle East and supposed increases in Israeli aggression most recently. Kruczkowski also brings attention to the lack of a system of collective security in Europe despite the efforts of the socialist countries as well as Poland herself. The vice minister refers to the Polish decision to ‘help Czechoslovakia’ and calls the Western spotlight on the invasion a way to turn international focus away from the issues in Vietnam and the Middle East which is much more dangerous from the perspective of international peace.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – October 11, 1968 (OSA)**

Yugoslav daily *Vjesnik* publishes a commentary on Gromyko’s speech to the UN delivered on October 3 that is titled “After the Bar Has Eaten His Fill — He Becomes a Pussy Cat”. The article expresses an increased preoccupation with the possibility of a Soviet invasion, with the fear escalating due to Moscow’s theory of “conditional sovereignty”.

**Yugoslavia – October 11, 1968 (JVJ)**

An agreement on guest workers is signed between Yugoslavia and the Federal Republic of Germany.

**Mexico – October 12-27, 1968 (HC)**

The 19th Olympic Games take place in Mexico. (Hungarian athletes earn ten gold, ten silver and twelve bronze medals; the FRG and the GDR are represented by separate teams for the first time. East Germany wins 25 medals and finishes in fifth place in the medal tables.)

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia - October 14, 1968 (OSA)**

Yugoslavia's Foreign Minister Marko Nikezić delivers a speech at the UN General Assembly arguing for the prevalence of the principle of independence and sovereignty over any "alleged higher interests" and "ideological or other loyalty" in light of the situation in Czechoslovakia and the fear of Soviet invasion that has increased in Yugoslavia.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – October 14-15, 1968 (PSC/KCA)**

Negotiations commence between the CSSR and the USSR delegations on conditions of the residence of Soviet troops on Czechoslovak territory. Both parties sign a treaty allowing the Soviets to maintain a military presence in Czechoslovakia for the first time since 1945.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – October 16, 1968 (PSC/PLC)**

Following two more days of negotiations in Prague, Kosygin and Černík sign a treaty on the "Temporary Presence of Soviet Troops in the CSSR."

**Czechoslovakia – October 17, 1968 (HC)**

The Slovak National Assembly approves the new law, number 1968:144, about the ethnic minorities. The law recognizes the ethnic minorities as collective parts of the society.

**Hungary – October 17, 1968 (HC)**

The Parliament passes the law, number 1968:IV, about the railway system. (It defines the rules of the establishment, operation and demolition of railroads.)

**Hungary / Uruguay – 17-21, 1968 (HC)**

Led by Luis Rinon Perret, chairman of the Uruguayan Parliament, a parliamentary delegation visits Hungary.

**Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 17-18, 1968 (LBC)**

U.S. Undersecretary of State Katzenbach visits Belgrade. This aims at reaffirming U.S. support facing growing Soviet pressure. According to the Yugoslavs Katzenbach's visit is the result of a remark Johnson made earlier, to which the President expressed his "very clear and continuing interest in Yugoslavia's independence, sovereignty, and economic development".

**Soviet Union / Bulgaria – October 17, 1968 (OSA)**

A Bulgarian economic delegation, headed by First Deputy Premier, Zhivko Zhivkov, arrived in Moscow. He first met with Soviet First Deputy Premier Mazurov and Deputy Premiers Baybakov, Lesechko, and Novikov. Talks revolved around increased economic co-operation and co-ordination.

**Czechoslovakia – October 18, 1968 (PSC)**

The National Assembly approves the treaty on the "Temporary Presence of Soviet Troops in the CSSR", by a vote of 228 to 4, with 10 abstentions. More than 50 deputies are not present. Svoboda ratifies the treaty the same day.

**Warsaw Pact – October 18, 1968 (CAC)**

A meeting of five Warsaw Pact defense ministers in Moscow decides to withdraw non-Soviet troops from Czechoslovakia.



**Czechoslovakia / Poland – October 19, 1968 (HDP)**

Polish troops leave Czechoslovakia.

**Bulgaria – October 21, 1968 (OSA)**

A two-day session of the Bulgarian National Assembly was held on October 7th and 8th. The agenda of the session included the consideration of two bills and a statement by Premier Todor Zhivkov, which has not yet been made public. The work of the session showed no sign of improvement over the Assembly's previous procedures, despite repeated objections to the "formal" manner in which the National Assembly continues to function. The most recent and significant criticism of the Assembly was voiced at the July Plenum of the CC of the BCP; the Plenum decisions envisaged an expansion in the role and authority of the National Assembly. The extent to which these proposals will be implemented remains to be seen. The recent session of the Assembly clearly demonstrated the meaningless nature of that body's title of "the supreme organs of state power" in Bulgaria.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / United Kingdom – October 21, 1968 (OSA)**

Pravda publishes an article warning Britain that the country's attitude towards Czechoslovakia "could damage relations with the USSR".

**Finland / Hungary – October 21—24, 1968 (LKS)**

Finnish Foreign Minister Ahti Karjalainen visits Hungary despite of the invasion of Czechoslovakia only two months earlier. It is important to the Finnish government to realize the visit and to continue and be consistent in its policy of neutrality.

**Hungary / Soviet Union – October 21-24, 1968 (HC)**

The session of the Hungarian-Soviet economic and cooperative committee takes place in Budapest. They sign an agreement about automobile production.

**Albania – October 23, 1968 (OSA)**

The Sixth Plenum of the Albanian CC, which has called for a further struggle against "bureaucratism, technocratism and intellectualism," is but a continuation of the process of the so-called revolutionizing of the country's life. This process has its origin in the Fifth Party Congress directives. As a result of the rigid Party line, two Party officials from the city of Tirana have been demoted, being transferred to a collective farm. They are CC alternative member Ismail Çausi and Jovan Bardhi, both secretaries of the Party Committee of a borough of the city of Tirana.

**Bulgaria – October 23, 1968 (OSA)**

Deyan Pavlov, an expert in 'anti-communism', is interviewed by Radio Sofia. He criticises the West's belief that socialism and capitalism will eventually deconflict and integrate.

**Poland / Iraq – October 23-25, 1968 (OSA)**

During a three-day visit in Baghdad with the Iraqi President Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr, the Polish President Marshal Marian Spychalski stated that "full understanding exists in Poland for the just Arab cause". Radio Warsaw, quoting an official communique, said that both sides are convinced that the condition for a peaceful resolution of the Middle East conflict rests in ending "Israeli aggression", and above all the evacuation of occupied Arab territories by Israeli troops. On the Iraqi side, the President confirmed its rejection of all claims of attempts at expansion in Europe on the part of West Germany and recognises the status quo in Europe. Both sides also agrees that the only condition which would lead the Paris talks to a political solution of the

Vietnam conflict was a complete cessation of the bombing of North Vietnam by the U.S. With regards to relations between Iraq and Poland, the Polish side expressed readiness to consider the possibility of giving credit facilities for the implementation of a number of economic projects in Iraq to be undertaken by Polish enterprises.

**Poland / Syria – October 24, 1968 (OSA)**

Polish President Marshal Marian Spychalski postpones the official state visit to Syria which was to follow the President's visit to Iraq (October 23rd to 25th). Polish Foreign Ministry officials give no immediate confirmation nor explanation for the last-minute cancellation. The official Polish news agency PAP reports the day before that the Syrian Ambassador to Poland, Ishan Marrache, is travelling aboard the head of state's special plane, presumably to take part in the planned Syrian visit. The agency has since withdrawn earlier references to the Damascus trip and there is no mention of it in the day's newspapers.

**Czechoslovakia / Japan / Soviet Union - October 25, 1968 (OSA)**

Pravda publishes an article titled "A Strange Position", in which it criticizes the Japanese Communist Party and Japanese communist newspaper *Akahata* for its "anti-Soviet" position with regards to the situation in Czechoslovakia, arguing that *Akahata* "assisted the detrimental activities and ideological sabotage of the imperialist forces against the socialist commonwealth and the international communist movement".

**East Germany – October 25, 1968 (OSA)**

SED has printed numerous articles indicating the need for the East German regime to convince both the functionaries and the population of the correctness of its actions. East German media has criticised prominent individual Western Communists for their dissenting views. Axen points out the mistakes of the Italians and states that the role of the working class has been downgraded in favour of other groups. He finally claims that the Soviet Union is the most progressive and powerful state in the world.

**Germany / Hungary / Romania – October 25, 1968 (PLC)**

The Hungarian and German Ethnic Councils are created in Romania.

**Czechoslovakia / Japan / Soviet Union - October 26, 1968 (OSA)**

Japanese daily *Akahata* publishes an article attacking the Communist Party of the USSR for "resorting to superpower tactics similar to those of the Mao Zedong clique" and condemning the Soviet intervention in Czechoslovakia.

**Soviet Union – October 26, 1968 (KCA)**

Soviet Union conducts manned space missions for the first time since the death of Colonel Komarov.

**Czechoslovakia – October 27, 1968 (KCA/PLC)**

Czechoslovak National Assembly passes Law of Federation turning the country into a federation of the Czech Socialist Republic and Slovak Socialist Republic.

**Czechoslovak / Soviet Union – October 28, 1968 (KCA)**

Anti-Soviet protests take place in Prague on the 50th anniversary of founding Czechoslovakia.

**Yugoslavia / Bulgaria - October 28, 1968 (OSA)**

In his speech in Leskovac on October 20th, President Tito quoted a statement allegedly made by “one of the highest Bulgarian leaders” that, even without an invitation, Bulgaria would be willing to lend “assistance: to Yugoslavia. There is no public record of such a Bulgarian statement. It appears that the Yugoslav leader either referred to an unreleased Bulgarian statement or has embellished an earlier public one. The latter possibility is the more plausible, particularly in light of an article written last month by the Bulgarian Deputy Defense Minister.

**Warsaw Pact – October 29–30, 1968 (CAC)**

Warsaw Pact defense ministers meeting in Moscow approve agreements on new alliance structures. Romania signs on, but reserves the right to examine the provision allowing the supreme commander to deploy forces on member-states’ territories in peace time.

**Soviet Union – October 29, 1968 (HC)**

The defense ministers of the Warsaw Pact member countries convene in Moscow.

**Hungary / Denmark – 29 October, 1968 (HC)**

Knud Jespersen, chairman of the Danish Communist Party takes a 3-day official visit in Budapest.

**Czechoslovakia – October 30, 1968 (PSC)**

In Bratislava Castle, Svoboda signs the constitutional law on the federative arrangement of Czechoslovakia.

**Poland / Czechoslovakia - October 31, 1968 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe special reports that Poland now competes with East Germany in being the exemplary disciple of the Soviet neo-Stalinists. The report claims that ‘After the June War in the Middle East, a so-called anti-Zionist campaign was started in Poland based on the Soviet pattern. It shows plainly antisemitic trends and therefore it is not surprising that about 3,000 Polish Jews have applied for emigration’. The report also claims that the first serious warning to Czechoslovakia from the future occupation powers came in a letter dated in Warsaw. The report goes on to highlight that Poland, together with East Germany, has played a leading role in the political and ideological campaign against Dubcek’s reformed communism whilst the Hungarian news media has kept an embarrassed silence. Meanwhile, the Polish and East German media are enthusiastically defending the invasion of the fraternal socialist country.

**November****Finland – November 1, 1968 (SYA)**

Finland is accepted to the U.N. Security Council for a two-year term of 1969—1970.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia - November 5, 1968 (OSA)**

In the article entitled “The SED and the CPCS” which appears analyses in the Polish *Tribuna Ludu* and the Soviet *Pravda*, the SED outlines the situation in the CSSR leading to the events of August 21st and expresses dissatisfaction with the present CPCS leadership for its failure to implement the Dresden, Moscow, Warsaw, Vienna, and Bratislava agreements.

**U.S. – November 5, 1968 (HC)**

Richard Nixon is elected as President of the United States.

**Albania – November 6, 1968 (OSA)**

The recent Sixth Plenum of the Albanian CC has introduced a drastic new cadre reshuffled policy in the country. Reports from three districts indicate that the number of cadres affected of cadres affected by the rotation is substantial. At the same time, these reports also reveal the difficulties being encountered in the process of the cadre reshuffle. Voices have been heard to the effect that the Party's policy reflects a campaign against the "old cadres." The authorities have contradicted these "rumors" by stressing the "voluntary" nature of the process of rotation.

**Czechoslovakia – November 7, 1968 (PSC)**

Massive anti-Soviet demonstrations take place in the streets of Prague, Bratislava, Brno and České Budějovice. 176 persons are arrested in Prague.

**Czechoslovakia – November 10, 1968 (KCA)**

Clashes take place between pro and anti-Soviet Czechoslovak demonstrations.

**Bulgaria – November 11, 1968 (OSA)**

Radio Sofia discusses reactions to the US election results, including discussions of how millions of Americans are not represented by the policies of either of the two main parties. Two delegates from the Indian Communist Party visited Bulgaria from November 7th to 10th. An ideological conference of Sciences and Technologies was hosted in Sofia on November 5th, during which Zhivkov made a speech. The Bulgarian Orthodox Church announce they will be changing to a "corrected Julian calendar" (the Gregorian calendar) to come into alignment with the Bulgarian state which has used the Gregorian calendar since 1916.

**Bulgaria – November 11, 1968 (OSA)**

In the months since the July Plenum of the Central Committee, it has become clear that the so-called 'historic event' has only served to cause confusion regarding the new economic reforms. Recent debates on the Party's role in the Bulgarian economy are discussed.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia – November 11, 1968 (OSA)**

Several Western sources report that Radio Vltava is located in Dresden, East Germany. On November 9th, *Neues Deutschland* features a description of the event by Prague correspondent Klaus Haupt, dated November 7th, stating that the police are slow in acting against provocateurs who are ripping down and burning red flags.

**Bulgaria – November 12, 1968 (OSA)**

While official statements and the information media have hailed the July Plenum of the Central Committee of the BCP as a "historic event," of equal or even greater importance than the hallowed April (1956) Plenum, it has become increasingly clear in recent months that the reports and decisions of the Party gathering have, if anything, confused rather than clarified the future of economic reform in Bulgaria. The Plenum not only failed to formulate a coherent program of economic doctrine, but, as a result of the inconsistencies and contradictions in the speeches and particularly in the main report of Party Secretary and Premier Todor Zhivkov, lent credence to the assumption of many observers that verbal gymnastics, political priorities, and Party fiat continue to be the principal characteristics of economic reform in Bulgaria. The general tenor of the Plenum discussions and decisions suggested a retreat on the part of the Zhivkov leadership from certain of the original theses of the NEM. There is no question but

that the occupation of Czechoslovakia and the subsequent condemnations of Yugoslav and Czechoslovak economic reform (in which the Bulgarian press has participated) have reinforced the circumspection of the Bulgarian regime and will be of vital significance for the implementation of Bulgaria's own "model." Against this background, and particularly in view of the impetus for orthodoxy and conformity provided by the example of Czechoslovakia, it is extremely interesting to note the variety of views that recently emerged in the Bulgarian press on various aspects of the economic reform. This paper examines the discussion of the Party's role in economic affairs. It also reviews two articles on economic reform that have recently appeared in the BCP's theoretical monthly *Novo Vreme*, one of which displays a degree of economic rationality rarely found in Bulgarian media.

#### **Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – November 12, 1968 (KCA)**

First Secretary Brezhnev (on the 5th Congress of Polish United workers' Party in Warsaw) refers to the invasion of Czechoslovakia as a 'necessity'. He cites the threat to the direction of Socialism as reason enough to intervene (second proclamation of the Brezhnev doctrine).

#### **Bulgaria - November 13, 1968 (OSA)**

A decree has been issued by the Council of Ministers, introducing new regulations regarding enterprises, wages and economic planning. They will come into force across the state on January 1st, 1969. For those enterprises which have already introduced the reforms, an increase in output is noted.

#### **Czechoslovakia – November 14-17, 1968 (PSC)**

At a CPCz CC plenary session, a new Executive Committee of the Presidium is elected. Mlynář is relieved of all posts at his own request.

#### **Hungary / Soviet Union – November 14-18, 1968 (HC)**

Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko visits Budapest. He signs a cultural and scientific agreement.

#### **East Germany / Czechoslovakia - November 15, 1968 (OSA)**

East Germany answers the question of whether or not Yugoslavia is considered a socialist country by the Warsaw Five.

#### **East Germany - November 15, 1968 (OSA)**

The State Council passes the state economy insurance law.

#### **Greece – November 15, 1968 (PLC)**

In Greece, a forced constitution legalizes the military junta.

#### **Yugoslavia / Austria / U.S. – November 15, 1968 (LBC)**

Dean Rusk announces that if Austria or Yugoslavia is attacked by the USSR it "would clearly be related to the area of NATO security interests." Rusk also warned that an attack on Romania would have far more serious repercussions than the attack on Czechoslovakia.

#### **Romania / Soviet Union – November 16, 1968 (OSA)**

Sovetskaya Rossiya publishes an article titled "Romania Today" by V. Moskovsky, who is visiting Bucharest. Reporting satisfaction with the progress post-war Romania has made in industry and agriculture, the article is the first positive record of Romania in the Soviet press since the Czechoslovak invasion.

**Soviet Union / NATO – November 16, 1968 (LBC)**

Three-day conference of the NATO council of ministers. In its declaration it warns the Soviet Union to refrain from another direct or indirect intervention in Europe or the Mediterranean region. “The Soviet intervention in Czechoslovakia has seriously set back hopes of settling the outstanding problems which still divide the European continent and Germany and of establishing peace and security in Europe and threatens certain of the results already achieved in the field of détente.”

**Czechoslovakia – November 17, 1968 (PSC)**

Following rejection of a request to hold a parade, Prague University students begin a 3-day strike to support their demands; students in other cities immediately join in.

**Czechoslovakia – November 18, 1968 (PSCZ)**

The National Assembly approves the occupation of Czechoslovakia by the Soviet Army.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia – November 18, 1968 (OSA)**

The attacks against Yugoslavia have become the SED’s official line, inspiring the GDR’s interstate relations. The world expects that the GDR will demonstrate the existence of a Germany which is different from that of the past. However, the GDR betrays those expectations. East German troops take part in the occupation of Czechoslovakia and citizens of this country have been reminded of the events which took place in the past. The GDR has given itself the right to decide what the order and system in other countries should be. The GDR has declared itself against national independence, sovereignty, and equality, with a doctrine of limited collective sovereignty. On February 15th Walter Ulbricht says that he rejects Bonn’s demand that Yugoslavia should break diplomatic relations with the GDR as a price for the re-introduction of diplomatic relations with West Germany.

**Soviet Union / Bulgaria – November 19, 1968 (OSA)**

A protocol for co-operation in tourism was signed in Sofia, between Bulgaria and the Soviet Union. The protocol covers the period between 1971 to 1975 and outlined the potential of 200,000 Soviet tourists to visit Bulgaria by 1977, and for 50,000 Bulgarian tourists to visit the Soviet Union.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – November 20, 1968**

Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union sign a trade deal.

**Albania / Czechoslovakia – November 21, 1968 (OSA)**

A major *Zeri i Popullit* editorial has provided a blueprint for the organization and establishment in Czechoslovakia of a new “Marxist-Leninist” party, taking advantage of the ripe conditions in that country for such an undertaking. This party of “revolutionaries” is urged further to wage a “national liberation” struggle against the two major forces in Czechoslovakia today, i.e., the “clique of Novotny veterans” supported by the Soviet occupiers and the Dubcek-Svoboda “clique backed by the national bourgeoisie. “The organizational advice to the Czechoslovak “revolutionary” strata of workers, peasants, youth, and army is an exact model of Sino-Albanian ideological principles. The authors of the article conclude that the role to be played by the Czechoslovak “revolutionaries” will serve as an example for the overthrow of “revisionist cliques” in other East European countries and especially in the Soviet Union.

**Bulgaria – November 21, 1968 (OSA)**

There are many elements of contradiction on the Bulgarian regime's dual goals of modernization and political commitment. This paper discusses certain aspects of the relationship between politics and scientific-technical expertise in Bulgaria. In discussing the Party's attitude toward the technical intelligentsia, extensive emphasis is placed on the composition of the BCP and on those factors that have contributed to the relative exclusion of specialists from the Party. Finally, recent initiatives designed to improve the professional qualifications of certain segments of the labor force are contrasted with an apparent hardening in the Party's attitude toward Bulgaria's specialists.

**Hungary – November 21, 1968 (OSA)**

A collection of letters sent by the readers of the newspaper describing their opinions related to the work of ideological enlightening. Topics such as having a dated ideology while being in a higher position, the spread of social events and the religious roots of people are touched upon.

**Soviet Bloc – November 21-23, 1968 (MMS)**

Meeting of the representatives of central and foreign trade banks and COMECON secretariat in Budapest (also represented: Mongolia)

**Czechoslovakia – November 23-24, 1968 (HC)**

Hungarian professionals living in Czechoslovakia hold a convention in the High-Tatras. They stabilize their suggestions about the ethnic questions in a declaration.

**Hungary – November 23, 1968 (HC)**

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Hungarian Communist Party, the central committee holds a celebratory session.

**Romania – November 26, 1968 (RCW)**

Anton Moisescu, President of the Romanian Red Cross informs Ceaușescu about Czechoslovak reactions to the Soviet-led invasion and occupation of Czechoslovakia and especially of Prague.

**Romania / U.S. – November 26, 1968 (LBC)**

The U.S. and Romania sign a two-year cultural exchange program.

**Soviet Bloc – November 26-29, 1968 (MMS)**

Meeting of military leaders in Bucharest.

**East Germany – November 27, 1968 (OSA)**

The establishment of the State Insurance of the German Democratic Republic.

**Romania / Soviet Union - November 29, 1968 (OSA)**

An issue of *Novoye Vremya* is published featuring a study of the Little Entente by A. Yazkov. The study criticizes the alliance as having been anti-Communist and anti-Soviet and supports the idea of the unification of Transylvania with Romania.

**Soviet Union – November 29, 1968 (KCA)**

Ministry of the Interior (M.V.D) replaces Ministry for the Preservation of Public Order, functioning in the same capacity.

**Yugoslavia – November 29, 1968, (RYE)**

Celebrations of the new Yugoslavia's official twenty-fifth birthday.

**Yugoslavia – November 29, 1968, (RNF)**

Kosovo explodes in violence. Demonstrators numbering in the hundreds smash windows and overturn cars in Priština. The anti-Serbian demonstrations quickly spread to other towns in Kosovo, leaving thirty-seven injured (among them, thirteen police) and one dead. There are reports that some rioters demand annexation by Albania and that riotous crowds could be heard chanting „Long live Enver Hoxha!” The protestors draw up a list of demands that including dropping Metohija, a Serbian word, from the official name of the region (Kosovo-Metohija), its redesignation as a republic, the extension of the right of self-determination to Kosovo, and the establishment of an independent university in Priština. At the same time, the disturbances spread to the Macedonian cities of Gostivar and Tetovo, both with large Albanian populations.

**Yugoslavia – November 30, 1968 (RYN)**

At a major press conference at Jajce, Tito acknowledges that “the preparations [for a nonaligned conference] are more or less at a standstill, not because we think the conference is unnecessary, but because the present situation is such that there is no need to accelerate the preparations. It would be better to delay them a little until we see where the world is headed, and what the situation will be in the coming months.”

**Hungary / Italy – November 30-December 3, 1968 (HC)**

T. Vecchietti and G. Tagliazucchi, two leaders of the Unity of Italian Proletariat visit Budapest.

**December****Hungary – December 2, 1968 (OSA)**

The latest meeting of the Council of Ministers decided to fulfill the request made by the Hungarian churches and religious groups and extended the granting of religious subsidies until December 31st, 1974. The decisions came as a relief, after the churches fears that the state would suspend the granting of the extraordinary subsidy.

**Soviet Union / U.K. – December 2, 1968 (KCA)**

Foreign Minister Gromyko accuses the British government of using the political situation in Czechoslovakia to condemn the Soviet Union. In a note given to the British Ambassador, the Soviets accuse the British of instigating a propaganda campaign against them. Soviet Ambassador in London, Smirnovsky does not agree with the allegations.

**Bulgaria – December 2, 1968 (OSA)**

Prior to the convocation (November 27th) of an ideological conference of the Bulgarian Writers' Union, the weekly newspaper of the Union Literature Front and the Party daily *Rabotnichesko Delo* published several articles on Bulgaria's cultural life. The articles reflect the rigidity of thought that has characterized the regime's cultural policies in recent years. Of particular interest, however, is the renewed verbal offensive against Radoy Ralin, one of the most prominent satirists in Bulgaria. The articles provide explicit evidence of the regime's intention to channel the creative energies of Bulgaria's satirists. This paper reviews the nature of the long-standing feud between Ralin and his official critics and places the recent attacks on him in this perspective of the regime's anxieties.



**Hungary – December 3, 1968 (OSA)**

‘The Churches stand together with socialism.’ – A conference was held on the 20th anniversary of an agreement struck between the churches and the state. The agreement states that the churches accept the changes that went down both in society and economy and support the construction of socialism. A national unity between socialists and believers has been achieved on matters related to domestic and international affairs.

**Hungary – December 3, 1968 (OSA)**

‘On the margin of a decision’ – an op-ed expressing the author’s views on the agreement struck between the churches and the state, finding it to be beneficial to the smooth continuation of the construction of socialism in Hungary.

**Poland / the Netherlands /France – December 3, 1968 (OSA)**

The editor of the Dutch bulletin published in French in Paris, informs Radio Free Europe that the “Nouvelles de Hollande ” bulletin is authorised in Poland. The first ten copies of the bulletin have been introduced and distributed by the Dutch Embassy in Warsaw.

**East Germany / Czechoslovakia – December 4, 1968 (OSA)**

East Germany has published a manual on good manners, addressed to members of the National People’s Army. Some of the advice given to the socialist soldiers is reminiscent of rules of etiquette contained in the nineteenth century. The Emily Post provides information on all situations in the life of a soldier and makes suggestions for the behaviour of the soldier outside the barracks, advising East German citizens on their behaviour during trips abroad.

**Hungary – December 4, 1968 (HC)**

Initiated by Rezső Nyers, the report about the economic reform is discussed by the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party.

**Yugoslavia / Soviet Union - December 5, 1968 (OSA)**

The leader of the Croatian Communists, Dr. Vladimir Bakarić, speaks at the 6th Congress of the League of Communists of Croatia arguing that despite Tito’s optimism in terms of the relations between Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia is to remain under the Kremlin’s pressure for a long time. Dr. Bakaric claims that anti-Yugoslav sentiments will persist in Eastern Europe.

**Albania / China - December 6, 1968 (OSA)**

The two topics of this report are further evidence of a new phase in Sino-Albanian ties and continues the analysis of this new development as described in Part I of the Research report of December 5. Part II examines Tirana’s emphasis on foreign relations and the continued strong Chinese economic support to Albania, elaborated by Mehmet Shehu in his address of December 2.

**Bulgaria – December 6, 1968 (OSA)**

A Plenum of the Central Committee of the BCP was recently convoked (November 26th to 27th) to discuss the role of the People’s Councils in Bulgaria. In his speech to the meeting, Party First Secretary and Premier Todor Zhivkov dealt only briefly with this subject, concentrating instead on the development of “socialist democracy.” While examining those aspects of the address devoted to “socialist consciousness” and the continuation of the “class struggle,” this paper raises the possibility that the speech constitutes an indication of the BCP’s intention to readjust partially its attitude regarding the relative importance of and danger

emanating from foreign “ideological diversion” and internal political attitudes. Also reviewed is Zhivkov’s reaffirmation of loyalty to Moscow and its implications for the regime’s patriotic education campaign.

**Czechoslovakia / Hungary – December 6-7, 1968 (HC)**

František Hamouz, Deputy Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia, takes a two day official visit in Hungary. He mainly discusses the economic cooperation.

**Poland / Sweden - December 6, 1968 (OSA)**

The Polish Ambassador in Stockholm, J. Koszutski, is to be recalled owing to his political views clashing with those of Gomułka. He is to be replaced by the former Minister of Health, Jerzy Sztachelski.

**Soviet Union / U.S. – December 6, 1968 (LBC)**

U.S. Secretary of State Rusk recommends high level talks on nuclear arms reduction to Soviet Ambassador in Washington, Dobrynin.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – December 7-8, 1968 (KCA/PSC)**

Czechoslovak and Soviet leaders meet in Kiev. They discuss the progress and development of media representation and liberalization policies.

**Hungary – December 8, 1968 (OSA)**

A report on the agreement struck between the churches and the state related to the financial support given by the latter to the former.

**Poland / France – December 8, 1968 (OSA)**

Reports reach Radio Free Europe that Polish visitors to France are being spied upon and put under surveillance by agents of the Polish Consulate in Lyon. These agents are recruited from among Polish communities in France and remind visitors of the “duty” to register with the Consulate in Lyon. When a visitor comes to the Consulate, their passport is taken away and returned by mail several days later whilst consular officials contact agents to find out whether the person concerned has made any unfavourable remarks about the present regime. One of their main tasks is to find out whether the visitor used to listen to RFE programs at home and what they thought about the situation. Rumours circulate that upon return home reprisals await those who made derogatory comments about the regime.

**Soviet Union / Romania – December 10, 1968 (OSA)**

Radio Moscow’s Romanian language broadcasting time was extended from three hours per day to five.

**Poland / Soviet Union – December 11, 1968 (OSA)**

C.L. Sulzberger writes in the New York Times that Russia allowed internal easement to occur in Poland following the 1956 uprising, but told the Poles to be quiet which is reflected in the country's international relations. The article describes Poland as ‘the largest single chunk of communist East Europe, and the energetic, imaginative, voluble Poles may be the most gifted people in the area, a combination that would allow Poland to speak with the authority of a middle power were it not for its unfortunate geography’ as ‘the filler of a Russo-German demographic sandwich’. The article goes on to describe how the Poles ‘seem to have reconciled themselves to accepting that the essence of Polish foreign policy will be Kremlin-distilled.’

**Bulgaria – December 12, 1968 (OSA)**

On November 26th to 27th, a Plenary session of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party was held to discuss the place and role of the People's Councils as local bodies of state power in Bulgaria. The decisions adopted at the Plenum discuss a number of aspects of the People's Council under the new economic system, including problems of their relationships with ministries and other central agencies, the role and responsibility of the People's Councils in solving the ever-growing public problems of the population, their economic functions, financial support, and Party leadership of their activities. This paper discusses some of the most important aspects of the proposed reorganization of the People's Councils.

**Czechoslovakia – December 12-13, 1968 (PSC)**

At a plenary session, the CPCz CC decides on nominations for senior governmental position in connection with the new federative arrangement of the CSSR.

**Poland / Soviet Union - December 12, 1968 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report outlines prevailing tensions in Poland. It describes the anti-Soviet demonstrations that took place in Szczecin as an example and the fact that Warsawites were unhappy over the fact that the Party organ *Trybuna Ludu* had not mentioned these demonstrations against the Soviet Consulate in Szczecin. Additionally, RFE programs are again being strongly jammed, so much so that listening is almost impossible until midnight.

**Poland / United Kingdom / Soviet Union / China – December 12, 1968 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe outlines changes in Polish requirements for goods imported within the country by England since Gomułka's return to power. Where in the past Poland focused on buying heavy machinery and copper wire, now the Poles are interested in machinery for the light and construction industry. Polish industrial circles are said to be greatly concerned over deliveries of Soviet ores for Nowa Huta since when Poland refused to supply steel to Russia at the usual lower price, Russia stopped deliveries of iron ore to Poland. Since Poland's output of steel exceeds her requirements and the country no longer wants to export it at ridiculously low prices according to Comecon plans, the country has made direct contact with China with a view of supplying Polish steel on normal trade conditions and terms.

**Soviet Union / Romania – December 13, 1968 (OSA)**

Romania and the Soviet Union signed the 1969 trade agreement in Moscow. It provided for goods exchange amounting to 815,000,000 rubles, representing a 6% increase from 1968.

**Hungary / U.K. – December 15, 1968 (LBC)**

Ford Motor Co. in England announces that Hungary is buying 3000 automobiles for 3.6 million dollars.

**Hungary – December 15, 1968 (OSA)**

The resolution of the Ecumenical Council of Churches in Hungary published on the 20th anniversary of the reconciliation of the relationship between the churches and the state. The document provides details on the attitude of churches towards collaboration with the state.

**Poland / Iran – December 15, 1968 (OSA)**

Kazimierz Sidor is appointed the new Polish envoy to Tehran. During the early period of the Communist regime, Sidor played a rather important role in the army but was later put aside. He is now one of those who have returned to lucrative positions.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / United Kingdom - December 16, 1968 (OSA)**

British Defense Secretary Healey delivers a speech condemning the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia and deeming it a “typical episode in the decay of an Empire”.

**Finland – December 16, 1968 (EKF)**

Finland joins the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

**Soviet Union / Romania – December 16, 1968 (OSA)**

A delegation of the Moscow City Party Committee and of the Moscow Soviet Executive, headed by Central Committee Member Vladimir Promyslov, arrived in Bucharest at the invitation of the Bucharest Municipal Committee.

**Yugoslavia – December 18, 1968 (JVJ)**

Modifications are made to the Yugoslav constitution.

**Bulgaria – December 19, 1968 (OSA)**

The Party’s attitude toward the poets is discussed against the background of the latter’s cultural traditions. Various aspects of the vicissitudes of BCP’s policies (particularly since 1956) are examined, as well as the regime’s current campaign to mobilize the cultural community in the glorification of Communist achievements and struggle against the influences of “ideological division.”

**Bulgaria – December 19, 1968 (OSA)**

One of the most prominent Bulgarian specialists of state law, Professor Boris Spassov, who is working on the draft of a new Bulgarian Constitution, recently published an article on the future State Council which, according to the decision of the July 1968 CC Plenum, will replace the present Presidium of the National Assembly. The author cites the example of the State Council in the GDR, but emphasizes that, in Bulgaria, this new body will correspond with the country’s own conditions. One difference will be that, in Bulgaria, the membership of the State Council must be elected from the membership of the National Assembly. Whereas Professor Spassov remains vague on the exact structure and size of the future State Council, he deals in some detail with its legislative, executive, control, organizational, and coordinating functions. In connection with the latter, he asserts that the State Council must not restrict the independence of the People’s Councils. The author does not provide any indication as to the date when the State Council will be established.

**Hungary – December 19, 1968 (OSA)**

The state continues to grant extraordinary subsidies to the churches after the cession of the agreement granting them in the previous year. The subsidies allow bishops to grant a regular monthly salary to parish priests and church employees and to meet the most necessary expenses connected with the regular functioning of church services.

**Poland / Soviet Union – December 20, 1968 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe outlines changes to traffic on the Polish-Russian border since Gomułka’s return. Prior to this, thousands of Poles went to Russia to visit their relatives and to trade, including the selling of much sought-after clothes and linen whilst bringing back cameras, watches, TV sets, and furs to sell as a good profit in Poland. For about a month and a half it has been very difficult for Poles to obtain Russian visas, and customs controls on the Russian side have become more stringent. Starting with the recent days of tension in Poland and Hungary,

the border has been closed and many Poles who had gone to Russia are now stranded in Lwów or even Vilna.

**Poland / Soviet Union – December 21, 1968 (OSA)**

An article in the Moscow daily Isvestia speaks of the ‘active diplomacy’ of the Polish regime. The article describes Polish initiatives which aim to secure European security and highlights the party’s and regime’s emphasis on increasing cooperation and friendship with the Soviet Union. This cooperation is said to be founded on the respect towards rules of political peace and coexistence with countries with different political systems.

**Poland – December 24, 1968 (OSA)**

Sources inform Radio Free Europe that the crew of Polish ships and personnel of maritime enterprises working ashore demand changes of personnel in the administration of their institutions. They want professional, qualified men to take the place of unqualified persons who hold important positions.

**Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – December 27, 1968 (PSC)**

The Soviet government protests the publication of the so-called Czech Black Book, compiled by the Historical Institute of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences.

**Hungary – December 27-29, 1968 (HC)**

The session of the Central Committee of the Communist Youth Alliance takes place in Budapest.

**Poland – December 28, 1968 (OSA)**

A Radio Free Europe report describes the state of medical care in Poland. It outlines how physicians in Poland are overworked and, unless they have a private practice, their income is very low. Patients are even worse off as they have to spend endless hours in doctors’ waiting rooms and in pharmacies. Whilst Polish medicines are cheap, they cannot be compared with foreign products which some pharmacies are entitled to buy from private persons, though this is often abused by personnel who resell the products on the black market. There is also an acute shortage of containers and a variety of medical instruments.

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