

THE HISTORY OF
THE SOVIET BLOC
1945–1991

A Chronology

PART II
1953–1968

SECOND ENLARGED EDITION

EDITED BY
CSABA BÉKÉS

Cold War History Research Center
Budapest

2020

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Csaba BÉKÉS

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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. The second part of the timeline contains information dealing with the period from 1953 to 1968.

The entries were compiled using 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. 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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THE HISTORY OF THE SOVIET BLOC 1945–1991. A CHRONOLOGY. PART II, 1953–1968

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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 – 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 / 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.

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.

Poland – 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 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.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – January 6, 1953 (PVC)

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

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.

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.

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.’

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.

Romania / China – January 9, 1953 (PIR)

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

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.

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.

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 – 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.

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.

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.

Poland / Vatican – January 14, 1953 (OSA)

Archbishop Stefan Wyszyński 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.

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.

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 principal 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Poland / Vatican – January 28, 1953 (KCA)

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

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.

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

The U.S. rejects Soviet preconditions for negotiations.

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 Zapotocky and nine Vice-premiers is formed. A number of Cabinet changes are also announced.

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.

February

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.

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).

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.

Hungary / Romania – February 5, 1953 (PIR)

Romania and Hungary upgrade diplomatic relations to the embassy level.

Romania – February 5, 1953 (PIR)

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

Romania – February 7, 1953 (PIR)

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

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”.

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.

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).

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.

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.

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”.

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.

Poland – February 15, 1953 (OSA)

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

East Germany – 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 27-28, 1953 (HC)

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

Soviet Union / Vatican / United States – February 27, 1953 (OSA)

Father Georges Bissonette (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 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.

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.

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.

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.

Poland – 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 Wyszynski. There are concerns of more actions against Wyszynski who was reproached for adopting the Vatican's stance 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 23rd 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.

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 / China / U.K. – March 2, 1953 (KCA)

Churchill announces to the House of Commons that the Hungarian Government has proposed a prisoner exchange. Edgar Sanders, who was sentenced to 13 years imprisonment in 1950, would be exchanged in return for the release of Lee Meng, a Chinese terrorist who in **September 1952** had been sentenced to death in Malaya for possessing a hand grenade.

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.

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.

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 / 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.

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.

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.

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.

Soviet Union – March 9, 1953 (KCA)

After a four-day period of national mourning, Stalin's body is interred 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.

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.

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 Lviv, Ukraine. These demonstrations were purportedly anti-Soviet in nature, following the lifting of the extraordinary curfew measures put into place following Stalin's death.

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.

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.

Hungary – March 13, 1953 (HC)

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

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).

Czechoslovakia – March 14, 1953 (KCA)

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 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.

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.

Finland / West Germany – March 22, 1953 (OAA)

West Germany opens a commercial agency in Helsinki.

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.

Czechoslovakia – March 25, 1953 (KCA)

It is announced in Prague that President Zapotocky has appointed two further Deputy Premiers.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 honor at a reception given by the Moscow Press Club.

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.

East Germany – March 30–April 10, 1953 (OSA)

Within a three-week period, the SED put in place and then subsequently retracted an order pressuring East Berlin employers to withhold wages from border-crossing employees from West Berlin.

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.

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.

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.

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**.

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.

East 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], Levinson is forced to resign his position. The withholding of 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 Levinson 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.

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.

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.

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 / 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.

Bulgaria – 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 takes part in the celebration of **May 1** in Romania.

Hungary – April, 1953 (HC)

Föltámadott a tenger ("The sea has risen"), a film by Kálmán Nadasdy 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 Bradenburg 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.

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 / 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.

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 / 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 May 1 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.

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 Wyszynski, 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.

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.

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.

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)

The U.S. sends a note of protest to the Soviet Union for the handling of the Berlin uprising. The Soviets respond on **June 20** justifying the 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 – 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.

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.

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.

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 17th 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%.

Yugoslavia / Burma – July 1, 1953 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs a trade agreement with Burma.

Hungary – July 2, 1953 (HC)

The Government led by prime minister Mátyás Rákos resigns.

Hungary – July 2, 1953 (HC)

József Domankos, 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.

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”.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Soviet Union / Australia – July 16, 1953 (KCA)

It is announced that Nikolai Generalov has been appointed as Soviet Ambassador to Australia.

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.

Soviet Union / Turkey – July 18, 1953 (KCA)

The Turkish Government sends a reply of satisfaction to the Soviet Union.

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 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.

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 "the wall sealing off the (Czechoslovak) people".

August

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.

Hungary – August 2, 1953 (HC)

Decree 1038/1953 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that the home farm land 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.

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.

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.

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 / United States – 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.

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.

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.

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

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 – September, 1953 (OSA)

Wladyslaw Gomulka has been reported to have been released from prison and will no longer be tried 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 / 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.

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 Wyszynski, the primate of Poland, is arrested. His location is kept secret from the public.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Poland / France – October 29, 1953 (OSA)

A Franco-Polish trade agreement was signed.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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*.

Poland – November 6, 1953 (OSA)

A Swedish first mate (nautical officer), Einar De Jonge 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.

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.

Poland / Great Britain – November 11, 1953 (PSM)

Poland and Great Britain sign a trade agreement for the years 1954-1956.

Soviet Union / Greece – November 12, 1953 (KCA)

The Greek Government repudiates the complaints of the Soviet Government.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Soviet Union / Israel – November 27, 1953 (KCA)

Former Israeli Ambassador in Moscow Samuel Eliashev resumes his post in Moscow.

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**.

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.

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.

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 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.

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 / 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.

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.

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.

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 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.

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.

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.

Albania / Yugoslavia – December 21, 1953 (PLC)

Albania reinitiates diplomatic relations with Yugoslavia.

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.

Yugoslavia – December 24, 1953 (PVC)

First meeting of the new Federal Assembly takes place.

East Germany / Germany– December 31, 1953 (KGD)

391,390 people flee from the GDR to the FRG and West Berlin in 1953.

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 Piskésetető 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.

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 – 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.

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.

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.

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.

Hungary – January 9, 1954 (HC)

Decree 1/1954 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that identity cards will be introduced.

Romania – January 9, 1954 (PIR)

Education for the training of cadres needed in the collective agricultural household (GAC's).

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.

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 billion. U.S. import from the East bloc was \$1 billion 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 billion. – *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 – 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 / 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 placed in operation.

February

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.

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.

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.

Romania – February 1, 1954 (KCA)

The revaluation of the Romanian currency from 2.8 lei: 1 Soviet ruble, 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.

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.

Soviet Union / U.K. – February 4, 1954 (KCA)

Business agreements are reached between British businessmen and the All-Union Chamber of Commerce in Moscow.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 / U.S. – February 27, 1954 (KCA)

The Polish Government asks the U.S. Government to close its Consulate at Gdansk.

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

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.

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 / Great Britain – March 4, 1954 (OSA)

Negotiations are taking place between Poland and Great Britain for a new trade and payments agreement.

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.

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.

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 10–17, 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.

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.

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 világnépről (About the peasants’ world view), an article by Imre Sarkadi is published in the *Irodalmi Újság*.

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**.

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 / France – March 15, 1954 (KCA)

Warsaw announces that Stanislaw Gajewski has been appointed Polish Ambassador to France.

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.

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.

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.

Romania – March 18, 1954 (PIR)

The measures to be taken in the trial against the ‘spy’ group lead by Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu are discussed in the Political Bureau.

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.

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 / 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.

Romania – March 25, 1954 (PIR)

The Romanian Government publishes "The Declaration regarding collective security in Europe".

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 – 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 / 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.

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”.

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.

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.

Romania – April 6–13, 1954 (PIR)

The trial of the Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu-Remus Kofler-Herbert Zilber group takes place.

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.

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.

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.

Soviet Union / Australia – 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 28th 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 Indochina. 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.

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 / 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.

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.

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.

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.

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 Pupyshev is accused of attempting to bribe a British officer, and Andrei Gudkov of at least three attempts to recruit Soviet agents.

Hungary – May 9, 1954 (HC)

The Tiszaalök 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.

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.

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 / 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.

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.

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 / 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.

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.

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 Koća 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 / 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.

Yugoslavia – June 12, 1954 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Federal Council passes a law abolishing State control and direction of the universities.

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.

Hungary – June 17, 1954 (HC)

Decree 1043/1954 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that a Publisher Directorate will be established.

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**.

Poland – June 18, 1954 (PSN)

Poland rejoins UNESCO after leaving the organization in 1949.

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.

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

Yugoslavia / Ethiopia – July, 1954 (RYN)

Emperor Haile Selassie visits Yugoslavia. He is the first African leader to visit the country.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 Indochina 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 – July 21-25, 1954 (OSA)

Polish Communists in France celebrate the 10th 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.

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.

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.

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

Poland – August, 1954 (HDP)

Political body to lead Polish emigration and Polish institutions abroad called Council of Three is established in London.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Soviet Union / U.K. – August 10-11, 1954 (LBC)

A delegation of the British Labor 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.

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 – 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 – 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 Bodnaras, 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 18th 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 / 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.

Yugoslavia / Western Europe – September–October 1954 (CUY)

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.

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 – 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 rubles, 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 / 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.

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.

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 spend three years in prison.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Hungary – November 1, 1954 (HC)

The Pedagogic Science Institute opens in Budapest.

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.

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.

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."

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**.

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.

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'.

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.

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.

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 / 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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”.

East Germany / Germany– December 31, 1954 (KGD)

184,198 people flee from the GDR to the FRG and West Berlin in 1954.

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

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 (OEEC).

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.

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.

Hungary – January 1, 1955 (HC)

The Magvető, the publishing house of the Hungarian Writers' Union is founded.

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.

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.

Soviet Union / Belgium / France / Netherlands / Italy / Luxembourg / U.K. – January 11, 1955 (KCA)

The Soviet Government sends a note to Britain, France, Italy, Belgium, Netherlands 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.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – January 14, 1955 (KCA)

A Yugoslav-Hungarian trade agreement is signed.

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.

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*.

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.

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 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Soviet Union / Italy – February 4, 1955 (OSA)

The Soviet Ship *S/S Rjev* arrived in Trieste with a cargo of 2510 tons of ore.

Romania – February 6, 1955 (PIR)

Constantin Argetoianu, former Prime Minister of Romania (1939), dies in the Sighet penitentiary.

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. Averell 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.

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 Oliviu Beldeanu, attack the Romanian Legation in Bern in order to liberate political detainees who had been taken hostage.

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.

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.

Soviet Union / Italy – February 22, 1955 (OSA)

The Soviet Ship *S/S Irkutsk* arrives from Batumi 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.

Poland / East Germany – February 27–March 9, 1955 (OSA)

The Leipzig Spring Fair took place with the USSR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria presenting technical samples from their industries.

East Germany / Soviet Bloc – 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, Albania...).

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 of the brutality of the response, the Romanians entrench themselves, waiting for a more favorable moment.

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) / United Kingdom – 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.

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”.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 – 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.

Yugoslavia / Italy – March 31, 1955 (KCA)

A number of economic and financial agreements between Italy and Yugoslavia are signed in Rome.

April

Hungary – April 1955 (HC)

Díszelőadás (“Gala performance”), a film directed by Márton Keleti, and *Budapesti tavasz* (“Spring in Budapest”) by Félix Máriássy are first shown.

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.

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.

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.

Soviet Union – April 6, 1955 (KCA)

A new Ministry for Construction in the Coalmining Industry, under Melnikov, is created by the Soviet Government.

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 / 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.

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.

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.

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".

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 Popovič (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.

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.

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, Rumania 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.

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 17th 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 Újpest Danube rail bridge is opened in Budapest.

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.

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*.

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.

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.

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 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 / 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.

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.

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.

Yugoslavia / Finland – June 10, 1955 (PVC)

Yugoslav-Finnish trade agreement is agreed upon.

Soviet Union / Western Europe – June 13, 1955 (KCA)

The Soviet Government agrees that the “summit” talks should take place in Geneva in July.

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.

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 Jawaharlal Nehru visits Poland. In joint declaration issued on June 25 Poland states that it accepts and supports the Panca Sila 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 archaeological, 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 / 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”.

Yugoslavia / Sweden – June 25, 1955 (PVC)

Yugoslavia signs a one-year trade agreement with Sweden.

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.

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.

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.

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 re-join 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 Sispera, 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 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.

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.

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.

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.

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 – 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. A round 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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 troops 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 Bodnăraş, Miron Constantinescu and Petre Borilă are appointed Prime Vice-Presidents of the Council of Ministers.

Romania – October 6, 1955 (PIR)

General Constantin Ilasievici dies in the Văcăreşti prison.

Romania / Mongolia – October 6-8, 1955 (PIR)

A Romanian delegation led by Gheorghiu-Dej visits the People’s Republic of Mongolia.

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”.

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 / 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 Stanislaw Kulczykanski, Deputy Speaker of the Diet and activist of the Democratic Party, elected as speaker.

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.

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 1955

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.

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 – 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.

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 / Soviet Union – 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 celebration on November 7 in Moscow, appointing Bodnaras as the chief of the delegation. Bodnaras returns to Bucharest, announcing that Khrushchev and Bulganin agree with the Romanian position to withdraw Soviet 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.

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.

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.

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".

Soviet Union / India – November 23-24, 1955 (KCA)

Bulganin and Khrushchev visit Bombay.

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.

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.

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.

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 / 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.

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.

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 fulfill the undertaking they assumed under the Treaties of Peace signed in Paris on February 10, 1947.

Hungary – December 12, 1955 (HC)

The Borsodi Vegykombinát (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.

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 Fierlinder 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.

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.

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 Chicinevschi, Nicolae Ceaucescu, János 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.

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.

1956

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 / 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.

Hungary / Austria – January 3–5, 1956 (KAC)

Frigyés Puja, the Hungarian minister in Vienna, visits Burgenland and meets the regional leaders.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – January 5, 1956 (KAC/BER)

The Hungarian-Yugoslav Tourism Agreement is signed.

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.

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.

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.

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)

Frigyes Puja, the Hungarian Minister in Vienna, meets the regional leaders of South-Austria. His aim is to improve bilateral relations.

Hungary – January 28, 1956 (KAC)

The Chinese-Hungarian Cultural Agreement for 1956 is signed in Beijing.

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

Forty German diplomats, who were foreign office employees before the Second World War, return home from the Soviet Union to West Germany.

East Germany / United States / 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 Industrie), 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 / 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 – 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.

Soviet Union / U.S. – March 6, 1956 (LBC)

Bulganin calls the Eisenhower letter on arms reduction "interesting and good."

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.

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.

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 – March 20, 1956 (HDP)

Edward Ochab is elected First Secretary of the Polish United Workers` Party.

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.

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 / 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 has 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.

Poland / Italy – April 12-27, 1956 (OSA)

The Polish Light Industry Delegation attended the Milan Fair.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – April 17, 1956 (MOL)

A Yugoslavian parliamentary delegation visits Bulgaria.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 – April 30, 1956 (OSA)

A new television station opened in Warsaw in the Palace of Science and Culture. It is viewable within 100 kilometers.

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 1st 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.

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. signalled 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.

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 – 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.

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.

Hungary / Austria – May 28–June 8, 1956 (KAC)

Negotiations about mutual property claims are continued in Budapest.

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 – 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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-British 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 – 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.

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 Poznan 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 month. 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 / United Kingdom – 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).

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.

Yugoslavia / West Germany – July 7-17, 1956 (MOL)

Economic talks take place in Belgrade between Yugoslavia and the Federal Republic of Germany.

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 / 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.

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 / 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.

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 – 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.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – July 21, 1956 (KAC/BER)

The representatives of Hungary and Yugoslavia sign an agreement on air traffic regulation.

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.

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. Ravndal 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 3rd Plenary Session of the Polish Youth Association (ZMP) was held and discussed the revolutionary aims of the organization. The 3rd Congress of the ZMP will be held in February 1957.

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.

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.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – August 23, 1956 (KAC/BER)

A delegation of the National Alliance of Cooperatives, headed by Zoltán Vas, leaves for Yugoslavia.

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 Petöfi 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.

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.

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.

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 9th 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 – 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*.

Hungary / Romania – September 9, 1956 (KAC)

Pál Pándi publishes an article titled "On our common issues" about the Hungarian minority living in Transylvania after travelling there for a month.

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.

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 / 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 Sudetan land thus far in 1956.

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.

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.

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.)

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.

Czechoslovakia – October 11, 1956 (OSA)

Rumors circulate in Prague that former Foreign Minister Victor 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.

Poland – October 11, 1956 (OSA)

Polish Vice-Premier H. Minc is dismissed.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 12, 1956 (KAC)

A delegation of the trade unions led by Sándor Gáspár visits Yugoslavia and meets Tito.

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 – 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.

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.

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 Petőfi 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.

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 re-enter 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 Gáspás, 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-ing, the General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, talk about the Polish and the Hungarian situations in Moscow.

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 Ribíánszky (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 fulfill 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.

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 *Luctuoissimus 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 Wyszynski is released from imprisonment and returns to Warsaw.

Poland – October 29, 1956 (OSA)

Cardinal Wyszynski 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 Yurii 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 to 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 troop 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 pull-out 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 – 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 Bordzilowski, 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 pull-out 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 pull-out starts the meetings in the Parliament. At 10 pm 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 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 39th 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)

Csou 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 Vágot-puszta (Mecsek Hills).

Hungary – November 6, 1956 (BBR)

A Soviet armored convoy carrying János Kádár leaves Szolnok for Budapest in the late evening.

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 30,000 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 – 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.

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 an 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.

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 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, member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, all members attend the meeting. They illegitimate the Kádár government and oppose that Imre Nagy make a statement about his resignation. The speech further complicates relations with Khrushchev.

Hungary / Soviet Union – November 11, 1956 (KAC)

The Presidency 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 / Yugoslavia – November 11, 1956 (KAC)

The original Temporary Responsible Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party meets at the Yugoslav embassy in Budapest. János Kádár and Sándor Kopácsi are not present. The Committee agrees that the Kádár government is illegal and Imre Nagy should not resign.

Hungary / Soviet Union – November 11, 1956 (KAC)

The Presidency of the Soviet Communist Party sends Suslov and Aristov to Hungary

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 Rokossovsky is called away 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 workplace.

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 to 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."

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.

Hungary – November 22, 1956 (BBR)

Talks between a KMT delegation and Kádár take place at night.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 22, 1956 (BBR/KAC)

Vidic 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 – 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.

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.

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.

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 / Indonesia – November 27, 1956 (NMC)

Soedarsono, a representative of the Indonesian government, arrives to Budapest.

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.

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 / 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 Wyszyński. Mr. Jansen's visit to Poland will be the first visit since the war of a Catholic news agency representative.

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.

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.

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.

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 (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.

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 re-established 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".

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.

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 Rácz 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 / 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 / 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.

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 / 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.

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 (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.

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.

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.

1957

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.

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 / 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 5-7, 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 / 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**.

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 canceled 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 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.

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 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 / 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 / Soviet Union – January 22, 1957 (KAC)

A Soviet delegation led by Semicsastnij, the Vice Minister of Foreign Trade, visits Hungary to negotiate the Trade Agreement for 1957.

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 / 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.

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 the Labor Ministry 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”.

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 / 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.

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 / Yugoslavia – February 1, 1957 (HC)

The Hungarian *Forum* Publishing House opens in Novi Sad (Yugoslavia).

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.

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 / 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.

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 People's Democratic 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 / 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 Kóvágó.

Hungary /Switzerland – February 8, 1957 (NMC)

Ambassador József Marjai presents his credentials in Bern.

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 Újlaki 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 / 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.

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.

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.

Soviet Union – February 15, 1957 (CWC)

Shepilov is ousted from the foreign ministry. 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 / 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 / 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 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).

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.

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.

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.

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 Marosán 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).

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 / 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*, Vljako 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 / 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.

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. Be 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 „as 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.

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 Mikojan 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.

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 attache 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 Czottnér (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 neighborly 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 dollars 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 water power 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-neighborly 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.

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 Novotny'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 Indochina.

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 / 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).

Czechoslovakia / Poland – July, 1957 (PSM)

The Polish-Czechoslovak Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation is set up.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 ambassador, to discuss the current problems about the two countries’ relations. They do not reach any agreements.

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 – 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”.

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 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.

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.

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 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.”

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.

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.

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 / 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 / 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%.

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.

Soviet Union / Austria – October 24, 1957 (KCA)

A three-year trade agreement in total value of \$150,000,000 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 reexamine 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)

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 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

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.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – November, 1957 (MOL)

Seven members of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the U.S. Congress visit Yugoslavia.

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 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.

Societ 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 Istvánné 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)

Antonin Novotny 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.

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

Hungary – December, 1957 (HC)

Éjféltkor ("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 / 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 Russel. 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 minister 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.

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.

U.K. – December 31, 1957 (LBC)

The British government rejects the Soviet proposal for an East-West summit.

Hungary – December 30, 1957 (BBR)

László Iván Kovács is executed due to his role in the revolution of 1956.

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.

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 – 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.

Romania / Soviet Union – 1958 (RUR)

Soviet troops move out of Romania.

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.

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 / 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.

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.

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 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.

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.

Finland – January 10, 1958 (UFF)

Finland joins to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

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 / India – January 15, 1958 (NMC)

The extension for another two years of the Hungarian-Indian Trade Agreement is signed in Delhi.

Hungary / U.S. – January 16–17, 1958 (KAC)

An American delegation of 11 journalists visits Hungary. Their questions are answered by Ferenc Münnich.

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.

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 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.

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 miscalculation 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.

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 / 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.

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.

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.

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 of SS and H in 1948linka 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 CPCz's renewed aim to eradicate 'unreliable elements' including social democrats and revisionists extends the anti-religious climate.

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 South East 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 / West Germany – March 13, 1958 (NMC)

The Hungarian–West German Trade Agreement for 1958 is signed in Bonn.

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**.

Yugoslavia / Italy – March 21, 1958 (MOL)

Yugoslavia protests against the Italian missile bases.

Yugoslavia – March 21, 1958 (MOL)

Elections are held in Yugoslavia.

Hungary / Sweden – March 21, 1958 (NMC)

In Stockholm the Hungarian-Swedish Trade Agreement is extended for another year.

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 / 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.

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.

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

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.

Czechoslovakia – May, 1958 (OSA)

Housebuilding has been consistently below targets, and new plans to centralize industrial construction while leaving housing to remain, paradoxically, largely the preserve of the private construction sector.

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 tried, 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.

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.

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.

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 Peace 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.

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. Hendrych joins Novotny as the only two 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.

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.

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 Communist Party 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 legation in Bern. The Hungarian Foreign Ministry objects the attacks in a memorandum. Two men attacked the building. The staff of the legation fired at the aggressors and cooped them up in a room. The Swiss police used tear gas to make the aggressors harmless 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.

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 legation 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 legation.

Hungary / France – September 5, 1958 (KAC)

Hungarian immigrants attack the Hungarian legation in Paris. The Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs sends a memorandum about the case to the French legation 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. (This is not true.)

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 envoy'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, the government's spokesman announces to the media that evidence was found that the employees of the American legation 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.

Yugoslavia – September 17, 1958 (ACY)

Bishop German of Žiča is installed as 43rd patriarch of the Serbian Orthodox Church.

Hungary / France – September 18, 1958 (KAC)

Hungarian immigrants attack the Hungarian legation in Paris again.

Soviet Union / U.S. – September 18, 1958 (CWC)

Soviet Minister for Foreign Affairs Gromyko criticizes American policies in the Taiwan Straights, 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 legation in Paris. The French authorities promise to provide more security to the mission.

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 initiated by Soviet, Polish and French intellectuals, but which 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 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.

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.

Czechoslovakia / Romania – October 11, 1958 (OSA)

Radio Bucharest announces an upcoming Romanian delegation is set to visit Prague on undisclosed dates; Romanian-Czechoslovak visits have hitherto been low-level, but the upcoming Party and Governmental delegation may represent the first high-ranking visit.

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.

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 Sik 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 / Italy – October 23, 1958 (NMC)

Gyula Simó, the new Hungarian ambassador to Italy, presents his credentials in Rome.

Hungary – October 23, 1958 (HC)

Csempészek ("Smugglers"), a film directed by Félix Máriássy, is first shown.

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**).

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.

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.

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.

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 resource to apply and record the census, or in order to mask the well-known fact of the German Democratic Republic's declining population. 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-Peking 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 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 – 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 oilwells 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 far-seeing 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 / 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.”

Hungary – January 25, 1959 (HC)

The 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.

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 equal to 12 million dollars in both directions.

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 / U.K. – February 3, 1959 (KCA)

An Anglo-Yugoslav agreement is signed providing for regular air services between Great Britain and Yugoslavia.

West Germany / U.S. – February 4-8, 1959 (KCA)

U.S. Foreign Secretary Dulles visits Western Europe and a Federal 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.

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).

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 Kolozsvár is merged with the Romanian Babes University under the name of Babes-Bolyai University.

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 being a Stalinist.

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 that 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, 1958**) *The New York Times* is banned throughout Poland following the expulsion of *New York Times* correspondent Rosenthal.

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."

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.

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.

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 commonwealth economic activity income distribution and the organs of the collective farms and groups.

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.)

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.

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 are 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**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.

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.

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.

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 – 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.

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.

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.)

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 / 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 have yet to be announced.

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.

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.

June

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.

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 purposes, 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.

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)

The Népszabadság (Communist daily paper) 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 / 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.

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 withdraw or reduce state aid for collective farms - including subsidies and tax reductions - now that 80% of agricultural land has been successfully collectivized and the CC no longer needs to attract farmers to collectives.

Hungary / China – July 29, 1959 (HC)

The parliament passes the Hungarian-Chinese friendly 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

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 States demand 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. It has yet to be approved (largely ceremoniously) by the *Volkskammer*.

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) 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 – October 27, 1959 (MOL)

On the occasion of the 40th 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

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.

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.

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.

Hungary – November 20, 1959 (HC)

Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party readmits particular ex-members of the Hungarian Worker Party.

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.

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 and officially supports the call of the Soviet Union to the governments of the world about the 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 Mátyás Rákosi 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.

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 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-russianize 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.

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 (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 endeavouring 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.

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 / India – March 11, 1960 (KCA)

India and Yugoslavia sign a cultural agreement in New Delhi.

Czechoslovakia / Bulgaria – March 11, 1960 (OSA)

Although the two countries are the Soviet bloc countries with the highest collectivization, both continue to have private plots in collective farms, which - although ideologically paradoxical - aid production.

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.”

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.

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 listens to the disarmament principles that are fundamental for the Western Powers. The Soviet representative at the Geneva Conference suggests that the Eastern and Western Disarmament Plans be scrapped. 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.

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.

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.”

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.

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 Jánosi, 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.

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.

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 farmland 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 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 Kudriavstev, arrives on August 18.

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.

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. Munchenhagen and Renner, the party’s first and second secretaries of city leadership, 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

Yugoslavia / Indonesia – June 1960 (MOL)

Indonesian President Sukarno visits Yugoslavia.

East Germany – June, 1960 (OSA)

Purges of middle-tier SED officials continue in what becomes known as the ‘Dresden Disease’.

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.

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

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 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.

Soviet Union / 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 has 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.

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 will 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 Antonin Novotny accepts the resignation of the government, with plans to announce the new government shortly; and the newly elected National Assembly holds its first meeting.

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.

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 (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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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., Dobrivoje 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.

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.

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.

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 Zivkov 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.

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.

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 Langelle, 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 / 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.

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.

USA – November 8, 1960 (HC)

In the United States of America the Democratic Party candidate, 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 / Romania – November 11, 1960 (OSA)

Trade and technical assistance agreements are signed in Moscow between Romania and the Soviet Union, pertaining to mutual goods deliveries between 1961-1965. They also promise Soviet technical assistance to Romania between 1961-1968 in iron and steel plant building, power plants and other enterprises. Total expenditure envisioned to be 13 billion rubles.

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 consists 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-favored-nation in trade with the United States.

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.

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.

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 Odera-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 individuals' 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%.

Romania – December 19-20, 1960 (PLC)

Romanian Communist Party leadership discusses the outcome of the discusses the outcome of the conference of communist and workers parties in Moscow.

Albania – December 21, 1960 (PLC)

As a demonstration of anti-Soviet propaganda, Albania commemorates Stalin’s birthday.

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 area 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 (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 the 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.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – 1961 (HC)

Based on data from the Yugoslavian census, the number of Hungarians living in the country is 504, 368.

Soviet Union – 1961 (OSA)

The ‘All-Union Institute of State Patent Research’ is founded to support technological advancement in the USSR.

January

Bulgaria – January 1, 1962 (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.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – January 5, 1961 (MOL)

Yugoslavia receives \$27,7 billion from the United States as development loan.

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.

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 / Laos – January 6, 1961 (OSA)

The Soviet Union is withholding news of adventurism in Laos with no mention made of activity in the Soviet press. Great sensitivity is displayed by the Soviet press on the subject of arms supply to Laos.

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.

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 a relations between 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)

Statesmen, press, and public of the free and of the communist world are curious as to whether U.S.-Soviet relations will change and, if so, how? 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.

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 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 series of tensions with the East German Government. The moderate Greifswald Krummacher is later elected in his place as Chairman of the Council.

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. The 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 or why Hammarskjold was sustained.

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 Hammarskjold 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.

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 U-2 and RB-47 incidents.

Soviet Union / Poland / East Germany / Mongolia – March 10, 1961 (OSA)

Izvestia of March 3 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.

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 civic aviation.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 (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.

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.”

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. A relatively large proportion of aid rendered by the Soviet orbit to underdeveloped countries comes from the Soviet Bloc states.

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 RSFSR decree 2-5 years of exile and compulsory 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 / 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 persons 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 with 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 security, 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.

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)

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. Both reaffirm their support for a neutral and independent Laos under a democratic government.

Soviet Union / U.S. – June 3–4, 1961 (CAC)

President Kennedy and Khrushchev meet in Vienna. The U.S. president refuses to yield to Soviet demands on Berlin.

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 deteriorate 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. Reportedly at the end of May the Soviet military attaché and his staff 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.

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 number.

Soviet Union / China – June 19, 1961 (KCA)

China and the Soviet Union sign agreements on economic, scientific and technical cooperation in Moscow.

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.

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 *Neues Deutschland* announces a series of changes in the government’s management of the East German economy following the 13th 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 is the wave 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.

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 amount 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 Berlin – 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.

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 for 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.

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 strong and significant delegation to the GDR's anniversary celebrations, which includes: Anastas Mikoyan, First Deputy Chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers; M. G. Perkuvin, the USSR's ambassador to the GDR; A. L. Orlov, Soviet Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, among others. This show of influence 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.

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)

Aspects of a Soviet big bomb testing remain propagandistically valid and the Soviets may have gained important military knowledge from massive explosions. The Soviets may have made real progress in developing an anti-missile system.

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.

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 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:

	The West	China and the East bloc
Number	7.9 million	8.2 million
ICBM	63	50
IRBM	186	200
Atomic submarines	22	6
Conventional submarines	260	480
Medium and long range bombers	2800	1290
Aircraft carriers	58	None

Poland / Albania – November 22, 1961 (KCA)

Gomulka 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 to World Council of Churches membership takes place. Soviet motivation to increase respectability of churches in question among Western Christians and to assure a broader presentation of the Soviet point of view.

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.

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.

Bulgaria / Soviet Union – November 28–29, 1961 (HC/PLC)

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.

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 1946–1948 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 5th 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 / Albania / China – December 20, 1961 (OSA)

The diplomatic break between Moscow and Tirana was possibly hastened by an Albanian suggestion to the Chinese to obtain Stalin's body and relocate it to China.

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” in 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 Kršto 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.

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 / 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

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 for 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.

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.

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.

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.

Hungary – March 29–31, 1962 (HC)

The 5th Congress of the National Alliance Co-operative Society takes place in Budapest.

April 1962

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.

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*.

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.

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 these 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.

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.

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.

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 Novochoerkassk 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.

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 (Southern) 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.

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 roundtable 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.

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.

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 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.

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.

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.

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.

Soviet Union / Cuba – August 27, 1962 (PLC)

Soviet-Cuban agreement on immediate weapons shipment.

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 demobilizing 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 demobilized many troops summoned at the time of the Berlin Crisis.

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.

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.”

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.

Hungary – September 21, 1962 (HC)

The Collage of Education in Nyíregyháza 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.

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.

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.

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.

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 States, 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.

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, Dimitar Ganev, Mitko Grigorov, General Ivan Mikhailov, Encho Staikov, Stanko Todorov, Boris Velchev, Todor Zhivkov, and Zhivko Zhivkov as full members, and Dimitar 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.

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.

Hungary – November 17, 1962 (HC)

An electrified railway between Budapest and Miskolc is opened to the public.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 articles 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 steelmaking 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 credits 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.

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 Kračír 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 / 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 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 Yumjaagin Tsendenbal, sign an agreement delimiting the 2,500-mile frontier between China and Mongolia. Marshal Tsendenbal 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

Hungary / U.N. – January 3-8, 1963 (HC)

Vladimir Velebit, General Secretary of the Economic Committee of the United Nations visits Budapest.

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 remarks before Havana students 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
Export	19.9	20.8
Import	14.50	16.4
Deficit	2.46	2.0

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.

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. Resulting from 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.

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.

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) → February 1962

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 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.

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.

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.

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 6th 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)

Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia admits that during 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)

Yugoslav Federal Assembly accepts 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.

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.

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.

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.

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 the international affairs and the possibility of developing economic co-operation.

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 disproves. 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.

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 the nuclear weapons.

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.

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) –» June 20.

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 Averell 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.

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.

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.

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, Gomułka, 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.

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.

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.

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.

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 / 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.

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.

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.

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.

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 Bokhara, 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.

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.

Czechoslovakia / Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / Poland / Soviet Union / U.S. – November 12, 1963 (LBC)

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 / 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 / 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 of 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 / England – 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.

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 side-tracked 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 / 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.

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 1964 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 Jozef 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 Gomułka Plan is submitted but the USSR opposes the verification measures proposed in the plan.

Poland – February 29, 1964 (PSM)

Władysław Gomułka 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 Gomułka is rejected by the Western leaders.

March

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.

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 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.

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.

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.

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.

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) → April 5.

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.

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. Gomułka 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 economic 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 / 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. Gomulka, 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.”

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.

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 / 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.

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.

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 Elektrosonf is going to build a water dam 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.

Yugoslavia / France – June 19, 1964 (MOL)

The representatives of Yugoslavia and France sign a five-year agreement on cultural cooperation is signed in Belgrade.

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.

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 join 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.

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 Labor 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

August

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)

Alexsander 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.

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 / 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.

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 Selasie, 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

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 Gomulka 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 GDR's 15th Anniversary (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 / 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 13th 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 longdelayed WP PCC meeting.

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.

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.

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 21, 1964 (HC)

Construction begins on the Erzsébet Bridge in Budapest.

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.

Hungary –December 30, 1964 (HC)

The National Board of Labor Unions calls for a socialist competition celebrating the anniversary of the country's liberation.

Czechoslovakia / Albania – December 30, 1964 (OSA)

Czechoslovakia and Albania sign a trade and payments agreement for 1965.

East Germany / West Germany – December 31, 1964 (KGD)

Walter Ulbricht demands negotiations with the government of the FRG.

1965

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.

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 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, expanded 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.

Finland – 1965 (LJF)

The Communist Party (SKP), the primary component of Finnish People's Democratic League (SKDL), split into an orthodox, hard-liner, Stalinist minority and a moderate wing.

January

East Germany / Egypt – late January, 1965 (OSA)

Following an official invitation from Nasser, SED leader Walter Ulbricht confirms a trip to Egypt to occur 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 (an Ambassador) than the GDR (a Consul general and a trade mission), this trip may generate further tensions with regard to the Hallstein doctrine.

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 Intermetal 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.

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.

Czechoslovakia / Chile – January 16, 1965 (OSA)

Chile and Czechoslovakia agree to resume diplomatic and consular relations.

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.

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 the NATO nuclear force. NATO's Multilateral Force project (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.

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 / 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.

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).

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 (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.

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 1, 1970.

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 – 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.

Soviet Union – February 17, 1965 (KCA)

Vladimir Matskevich is appointed Minister of Agriculture.

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 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 the 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.

Hungary – March 11-13, 1965 (HC)

The Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party discusses the experiences of the education reform.

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.

Poland – March 18, 1965 (PLC)

Polish Jacek Kuroń and Karol Modzelewski's "Open Letter" is published. The authors are arrested and sentenced four months after.

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.

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 / 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.

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).

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.

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, 1964 (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”.

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.

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.

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 / 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.

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.

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.

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.

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 States, 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.

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.

China / Albania – June 9, 1965 (PLC)

New Sino-Albanian commercial agreement signed in Beijing, which renders the Albanian economy completely dependent on China.

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.

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 / 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 (Czechoslovakia). 50 thousand people become homeless; the reconstruction will take two years.

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.

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 Apróand 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.

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 Népszabdság 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.

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 29th session of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) was held in Prague.

Hungary – July 1, 1965 (HC)

The Kállai-government takes office.

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.

Czechoslovakia – July 8, 1965 (OSA)

Party Presidium candidate Martin Vaculik evaluated the first 6 months of the NEM. 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.

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.

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 / Soviet Bloc – July 9, 1965 (OSA)

A confidential message from Richard V. Burks to Ernest Schneider was encrypted 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 comes to Prague to observe the mass production methods of Czechoslovak agriculture.

Czechoslovakia / UAR – July 10, 1965 (OSA)

Czechoslovakia and the UAR sign a trade treaty for the next 5 years.

Czechoslovakia / France – July 12–15, 1965 (OSA)

French parliamentary representatives visit Czechoslovakia.

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.

Greece – July 15, 1965 (PLC)

During a political crisis, the Greek King forces Papandreou and his government to resign (*Apostasia* or Royal Coup).

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 TU 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.

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.

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 the 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 friendly 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.

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.

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.

Czechoslovakia / US / Vietnam – October 5, 1965 (OSA)

The 48th 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 Czechoslovakia besides criticizing the US presence in Vietnam.

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 the 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”.

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.

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 1961-65. 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, the 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.

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 30th 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.

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 150th 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.

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.

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.

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 with 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.

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 20th 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's post 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 Podgorny 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.

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 / 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.

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 is 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.

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.

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 days 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.)

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.

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)

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 rumored 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.

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.

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.

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."

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

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 Nkurmah'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**.

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 Aknkrah'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 / 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 – 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).

Soviet Union – April 7, 1966 (OSA)

According to the representatives of the Motion Picture Export Association right now the distribution of Western films in the USSR is not as strict as before, but the unpublicized arrangements are made from case to case.

CMEA / Yugoslavia – April 12–25, 1966 (HC)

Negotiations take place between the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and Yugoslavia.

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.

Yugoslavia / Vatican – April 18–25, 1966 (ACY)

Discussions between the representatives of Yugoslavia and the Vatican are concluded in Belgrade.

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.

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 racialist 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 manoeuvre between the Soviet Union and China, and there might be cautions for Romania.

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.

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)

Selepin made a speech on May 13 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 American 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.

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 the 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

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**.

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.

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”.

Hungary / Soviet Union – June 13–18, 1966 (HC)

Led by Pál Ilku Cultural Minister, cultural delegation visits to Soviet Union.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Soviet Union / Canada – July 11, 1966 (KCA)

A civil aviation agreement is signed between Canada and the Soviet Union. It provides for 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)

János Péter, the Foreign Minister takes an official visit in Soviet Union.

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.

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.

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.

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 / Denmark – August 9, 1966 (HC)

Per Hækkerup, 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.

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.

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.

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 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.)

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 / Maldive Islands – September 20, 1966 (KCA)

An agreement to establish diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the Maldive 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

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.

Soviet Union – October 10, 1966 (OSA)

Although the U.S. is to obtain 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.

Hungary / USA – October 22–24, 1966 (HC)

American leading businessmen and CEOs convene in Budapest.

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.

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.

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 / 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 nonferrous 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.

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.

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.

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 / France – December 12–14, 1966 (HC)

Hungarian–French law fair at the Hungarian Scientific Academy.

Soviet Union / China – December 12–13, 1966 (KCA)

Mao Tse-Tung'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.

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.

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.

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 American “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 American material force.

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 of its troops 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.

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.

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.

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)

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.

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.

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.

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)

Władysław Gomułka, the First Secretary of the Polish Communist Party and Prime Minister Józef Cyrankiewicz take an unofficial friendly visit to Hungary.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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 Gomułka 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.

Hungary / Sweden – April 6, 1967 (HC)

Torston Wilson Foreign Minister of Sweden takes one weeklong visit to Hungary.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Soviet Union – April 24, 1967 (KCA)

Soyuz, the Soviet spacecraft crashed, killing Colonel Komarov, the only person on board.

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.

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.)

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.

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)

Soviet Union – May 19, 1967 (KCA)

Semichastny becomes Ukranian 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.

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.

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.”

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.

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 of 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)

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.

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.

Romania / Canada – April 4, 1967 (KCA)

Canada and Romania announce the establishment of diplomatic relations.

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.

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.

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.)

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.

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.

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.

September

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. As such, Bulgaria becomes the fourth 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.

West Germany / Yugoslavia – September 25, 1967 (PLC)

Emigrant organization of the Croatian Democratic Committee in West Germany is banned and disbanded.

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.

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.

Finland – October 11, 1967 (TGY)

Finnish markka is devalued by 31% which should increase industrial output and therefore accelerates economic growth.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Soviet Union – November 1-9, 1967 (MMS/KCA)

Moscow, Summit (Celebration of the 50th anniversary of Bolshevik revolution).

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.

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.

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 re-erupt when the Greek junta attempts to overthrow President Makarios.

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.

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.

December

COMECON – December, 1967 (CEC)

The 21st COMECON session is held in Budapest. The coordination of the 1971-1975 plans are proposed.

Hungary / Australia – 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.)

Greece / Turkey – December 3, 1967 (PLC)

Greek–Turkish conflict settlement under U.N. and U.S. mediation. Greece backs out due to

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)

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.

Czechoslovakia – December 11–13, 1967 (PSC/VSB)

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.

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).

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.)

1968

Romania – 1968 (RUR)

Ceaușescu eliminates the Hungarian Autonomous Region, this action is part of a nation-wide territorial reorganization.

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.

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 the 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 / 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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)

Makarious 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 elimination 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.

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 Mihil and Dalea 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.

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.

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.

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 50th 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 nonproliferation treaty.

Communist countries – February 26 Boris Ponomarev 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 / England – February 28, 1968 (HC)

Hungary and England sign a barter agreement for five years in London.

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

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.

Romania – March 1, 1968 (RFP)

Ceașescu 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 crushed 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.

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.

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.

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).

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.

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 Gomułka 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).

Hungary / France – March 25–28, 1968 (HC)

Jenő Fock, chairman of the Council of Ministers makes an official 6-day visit to France.

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.

Czechoslovakia – March 28, 1968 (PSC)

At a CPCz CC plenary session, General Svoboda is recommended to be president with 105 of 197 votes. Novotný's resignation is accepted unanimously.

Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia – March 28, 1968 (PSC)

Bulgarian authorities block tourist travel to Czechoslovakia due to the political situation there.

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.

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.

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 home town and journalists enquiring into the nature of his death.

Czechoslovakia – April 5, 1968 (KCA)

Jan Beneš, who has been incarcerated for 19 months, is released.

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.

Yugoslavia – April 18, 1968 (PLC)

Yugoslavia rejects participation of the planned 1969 Moscow World Congress of Communist Parties.

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 the major part of the cost of American troops in Europe despite the fact that the U.S. faces continuous balance of payment deficit.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 / 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.

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.

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 – 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.

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.

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

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.

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

Romania /U.S. – 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 / 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.

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 workload 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.

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.

Czechoslovakia – June 27, 1968 (PSC/PLC/PSCŽ)

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.

July**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.

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.

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.

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.

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 / 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 17-18, 1968 (PSC)

The CPSU CC Politburo discusses the situation in Czechoslovakia.

Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – July 17, 1968 (KCA)

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.

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 Prehložek 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.

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.

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.

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 / 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.

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.

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.

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.

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 fulfillment 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 fulfill 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)

Ceașescu 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, Ceașescu 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.

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 Dzur 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. While two East German divisions were ready at the border to enter Czechoslovakia, in the last minute the Soviet leadership withdrew its permission. (Yet, the Soviet Bloc officially claimed up until 1989 that the GDR army was part of 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 Džúr 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, Kriegl, 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, Kriegl 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 Hirnapló 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.

Peru / Interparliamentary Union – August 21-September 6, 1968 (HC)

The Interparliamentary Union holds its congress in Lima. (Lajos Cseterki, the secretary of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People’s Republic leads the Hungarian delegation.)

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 “provisionary 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.

China – August 23, 1968 (PLC)

The PRC condemns the Soviet intervention in Czechoslovakia.

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.

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 – 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 (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 – 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)

Soviets 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.”

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.

September

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.

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.

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.

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.

Poland – September 8, 1968 (UNW)

Ryszard Siwiec commits suicide by self-immolation in protest against the invasion on Czechoslovakia.

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.

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.

Albania – September 12, 1968 (KCA/PLC)

Due to the intervention in Czechoslovakia, Albania formally announces that it leaves the Warsaw Pact.

East Germany / Mongolia – September 12, 1968 (KCA)

East Germany and Mongolia sign a 20-Year Mutual Friendship Treaty.

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.

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.

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.

West Germany – September 26, 1968 (PLC)

Twelve years after its ban, the Communist party is again legalized in West Germany.

Soviet Union – September 26, 1968 (LBC/PLC)

The Brezhnev doctrine of limited sovereignty is promulgated in Moscow.

Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / East Germany / Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union – September 27, 1968 (PSC)

The leaders of “the Five”, Brezhnev, Zhivkov, Gomulka, 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 – September 28, 1968 (PSC)

Defense Minister Dzur expands the number of military areas accessible to Soviet troops.

Romania – September 28, 1968 (RCW)

Marshal of the Soviet Union, Yakubovsky talks with Ceaușescu and the Romanian leadership about changes that were being made to the Unified Command structure.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Yugoslavia – October 11, 1968 (JVJ)

An agreement on guest workers is signed between Yugoslavia and the Federal Republic of Germany.

Hungary / GDR / 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 – 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.

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.

Germany / Hungary / Romania – October 25, 1968 (PLC)

The Hungarian and German Ethnic Councils are created in Romania.

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.

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.

November

Finland – November 1, 1968 (SYA)

Finland is accepted to the U.N. Security Council for a two-year term of 1969—1970.

U.S. – November 5, 1968 (HC)

Richard Nixon is elected as President of the United States.

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.

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).

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.

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.

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.

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 1971-1975 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.

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.

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. Vecchiotti and G. Tagliazucchi, two leaders of the Unity of Italian Proletariat visit Budapest.

December

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.

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.

Czechoslovakia / Hungary – December 6–7, 1968 (HC)

František Hamouz, Deputy Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia, takes a two days official visit in Hungary. He mainly discusses the economic cooperation.

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.

Soviet Union / Romania – December 10, 1968 (OSA)

Radio Moscow's Romanian language broadcasting time was extended from three hours per day to five.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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