

Press Lies And Distortion Of Brezhnev Speech

The following is a partial gridding of bourgeois press distortions and suppressions of Brezhnev's speech of May 8 and the May 10 proclamation of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Soviet government.

Bourgeois Press on Proclamation of CPSU and Soviet Government

Press of May 10

Baltimore Sun: Wholesale distortion by Michael Parks, who writes: "The Soviet leadership expressed satisfaction with the current trend in East-West relations, noting that 'the situation in the international arena has changed radically' away from the Cold War tensions that followed World War II....Although the Kremlin declaration is highly rhetorical and presented no departures in policy, its highly optimistic and conciliatory tone was taken by Western diplomats as a new Kremlin effort to demonstrate its willingness to be forthcoming in East-West relations."

Washington Post: Recognizes that the Central Committee call is "unusual"; then pushes the CIA "detente" line on the proclamation — namely, that the Soviets' call for peace is conciliatory capitulation — writing "more than any other pronouncement in a series which began last month with a meeting of the CPSU CC (Central Committee), today's stressed the gains of detente, which it said have 'radically changed' the world situation for the better."

Sddeutsche Zeitung: Downplays all the 30th Anniversary of V-E Day proceedings entirely.

New York Times: Blacks out Central Committee statement altogether.

Avanti (Italian Second International Socialist Party); **Corriere della Sera** (Agnelli; Milan), **Il Giorno** (Milan): Black out statement altogether.

La Stampa (Agnelli; Turin); **L'Unita** (CIA-controlled leadership of the Italian Communist Party): Edit and rewrite Proclamation to transform it into Second International polycentrist manifesto.

Bourgeois Press on Brezhnev's Speech

Press of May 9

Financial Times (London): Thrust of the coverage is that "...The Kremlin's foreign policy based on detente is to continue as before, and once again it is Mr. Brezhnev who has reaffirmed his country's course." The coverage makes no mention of Brezhnev's reference to the Mutual Assured Destruction response of Soviets.

Washington Post: Coverage focuses on Brezhnev's references to Vietnam. Brezhnev said to talk five minutes.

Baltimore Sun: Front-page article which correctly locates possible war danger as the key to Brezhnev's statement; Vietnam and the Mideast mentioned only in passing. No mention of Brezhnev's favorable references to Yugoslavia.

Sddeutsche Zeitung: One of the worst liars. Headline of article: "Brezhnev Sees No Danger of War."

Le Figaro: Plays up Brezhnev speech as panegyric to detente.

Le Monde: Reporter Almaric lies that Brezhnev's speech was not significant because no Party First Secretaries attended. Pushes line that Soviet CP is terrified of U.S. reaction to loss of Vietnam.

International Herald Tribune: Downplays Brezhnev speech, saying it lasted only five minutes.

London Times: Only coverage which points to MAD reaffirmation in Brezhnev's speech.

Die Welt, DPA (rightwing Springer press): Pushes detente line.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung: Does not mention Brezhnev's concern about war threat. Soviet's program of world-scientific development suppressed.

Bourgeois Press on Yugoslav-Soviet Relations as Referenced in Brezhnev Speech

Sddeutsche Zeitung, May 10: Presents Tito as anti-Soviet who had no help from Soviets in fighting the Nazis. Tito is quoted as saying that (we) Yugoslavs "alone freed our country, that is the historical truth and nothing else."

Die Welt (rightwing Springer press) May 9: Emphasizes close Brezhnev-Tito links.