

WESTERN OCCUPATION OF BERLIN MUST END

Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1915 GMT 26 March 1962--M

(Ymer Minxhozi talk: "Berlin and NATO")

(Text) A former mayor of West Berlin, a certain Reuter, left the following words to his successors as his last recommendation: "Berlin is the cheapest atomic bomb." Reuter did not live to explain why and how. But he certainly did not mean the financial resources which are spent to maintain the readiness of this bomb, because insofar as expenditures to maintain West Berlin are concerned, West Berlin costs a great deal. Even if we consider Bonn's records, which are purposely small, the Western powers are spending billions of dollars annually--or as much as the budget of a medium-sized country--to keep this part of the German capital and to present it as a show window of the free world. The mayor meant something else--the efficiency of this bomb and in its capacity to develop subversive activities directed against the socialist camp.

In fact, the danger of this bomb in the center of Europe is growing, although sometimes it looks as if the flame is covered with a thin layer of ashes. In past months, with the aim of deceiving international public opinion and of attracting more attention to their shameful aggressive activities in West Berlin, the Western powers--the members of the aggressive NATO bloc--are claiming to agree on talks and even to pretend that they are conducting talks about the situation in West Berlin.

We say that they are claiming to talk, because by trying to postpone the settlement of the German problem and (subsequently of?) West Berlin to an undertermined time, thus far they have (persisted?) only on preliminary and exploratory talks with the aim of avoiding (real?) talks.

Instead of real talks, the Western powers are still conducting investigations to see, so it seems, whether bases for understanding exist.

The question arises: Is it true that the West Berlin problem is so unfamiliar to the Western powers that years of preliminary and sounding talks are needed to settle it?

The West Berlin question is not like the question of the inheritance of French count (name indistinct) which, after 280 years of investigation, has not been settled by the courts with jurisdiction. It is known to whom Berlin belongs. It is known who liberated it. Also known are the concrete proposals for normalizing its situation.

As was to be expected, the so-called preliminary talks have produced no results. The talks between the American Ambassador in Moscow and Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko brought no new elements in the Western attitude. The preliminary investigations of the U.S. Government did not approach within even a centimeter real talks on West Berlin. On the contrary, these talks were exploited by the Western powers only to bring back their old proposals, already rejected some years ago, and completely unacceptable. The American diplomat once more presented the American plan of 26 May 1959 which anticipates the expansion of the occupation zone to all Berlin, meaning even the Eastern part of the city. Thus the entire attitude of the Western powers, or the concession which they make to the other side, is comprised of the proposal to deprive the GDR of its capital, Berlin.

A very interesting picture is created: Instead of paying his debt, the debtor demands the interest on it. This picture would not be complete if we failed to mention here the other proposals made by the U.S. Government at the Moscow talks, which are not new, and which deal with the internationalization of the approaches to West Berlin-- which would be another brutal violation of the territorial sovereignty of the GDR.

Judging from these proposals--if we may consider them as such--and from the repeated statements and declarations made by President Kennedy and the representatives of the governments of the other Western countries, it is crystal clear that they are ready to discuss only under one condition--if the conclusion of the talks is defined a priori and if they are given a priori right to stay in West Berlin, as occupation powers, and for an undetermined period.

Recent months have brought new proof of the already well known fact that the NATO powers are maneuvering the West Berlin question not with the aim of settling it according to a new and reasonable basis, but only with the purpose of seeking concessions from the other side, in order to (give a legal basis?) to the abnormal situation now existing in West Berlin. While continuing their maneuvers of supposedly trying to settle the West Berlin question (few words indistinct), the major powers of the aggressive NATO pact--the United States, Britain, France, and West Germany--are increasing their provocative activities in the (frontline?) city, trying to (point out?) their determination to defend the occupation regime and to use West Berlin as a spur to increase international tension and as a means for the war of nerves in the center of Europe.

It would be a very profitable business for the NATO powers to prolong the life, even for a short time, of the (80?) espionage organizations into an advanced post against the socialist camp, as West Berlin is. These diversionist nests have recently gone so far as to dig underground tunnels with the sole purpose of observing the GDR.

The so-called preliminary investigation period is not only futile insofar as the new reasonable proposals for the settlement of the problem are concerned, but also merely serve as a period of provocative activities on the part of the NATO powers in the military and political fields. Since the beginning of this year, along with the statements for talks and meetings in the usual diplomatic way, week after week and night after night, (armed vehicles?) of the U.S. Army and the other units which compose the NATO forces are constantly traversing the Berlin-Helmstedt Autobahn. Continual troop movements are using GDR roads from West Germany to West Berlin and from West Berlin to West Germany. The maneuvers and alarms of the U.S. Army units in West Berlin and on the roads leading to it have now become a regular phenomenon. All this brandishing of arms is accompanied by radio and press (reports?) presenting it as a show of force at the NATO advanced post. Military provocations are often mixed with political provocations. Although West Berlin is not an integral part of West Germany, Bonn's Bundestag is holding many of its meetings and the meetings of its organs in West Berlin. The ministers of Adenauer's new government, even before becoming acquainted with their departments, began visiting West Berlin (to show that they are ruling from there?). In two weeks, five Bonn ministers and a group of high officials made a pilgrimage to the frontline city to point up Adenauer's great interest in West Berlin.

Again it is interesting to point out that when the GDR demands normalization of the situation in its capital, the American President grasps his sword, and when Adenauer points his claws toward West Berlin, Bonn's allies in NATO act as if everything were normal and they even encourage the West German revanchists.

In all his press conferences, the U.S. President makes provocative statements concerning Berlin and West Germany. The determination not to recognize the GDR--which was pointed out remarkably in Kennedy's interview with IZVESTIYA's chief editor in November 1961--continues to be heralded with great noise. On 1 March, after pointing out that American soldiers in Germany are not tourists, Secretary of State Dean Rusk assured Adenauer that the presence of the United States in West Berlin and in its communication lines with the other part of the world is of vital importance for the West. On one side there is the denial of the existence of the GDR and the efforts to maintain at any costs the

occupation regime in its capital, and on the other there are maneuvers for preliminary talks and investigations, whether or not there are bases for agreement. This means dancing on the edge of a volcano.

The forces of the NATO aggressive bloc have pitched their tents in the half of a city which they did not liberate and from there they try to dictate conditions to the socialist camp. This is weak game which can deceive only those who want to be deceived. The peoples of Europe and the world have long known the way out of this situation. The way out of this impasse is to liquidate as soon as possible this powder keg bearing the name of the occupation regime in West Berlin and to turn it into a free and demilitarized city.