

Comrade Mehmet Shehu's Speech At Farewell Banquet

Following is a translation of the full text of the speech made by Comrade Mehmet Shehu, Head of the Albanian Party and Government Delegation, at the farewell banquet given by him in Peking on May 10, 1966. — Ed.

Dear Comrade Liu Shao-chi,

Dear Comrade Chou En-lai,

Dear Comrades and Esteemed Friends,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The visit of our Party and Government Delegation to the People's Republic of China is coming to an end.

First of all, I feel it my duty to express, on behalf of the Albanian Party of Labour and Comrade Enver Hoxha and in the name of the Government of the People's Republic of Albania, the entire Albanian people and all the other comrades on the Delegation, our heartfelt gratitude to the great Chinese people, the glorious Chinese Communist Party and the Government of the People's Republic of China and to Comrade Mao Tse-tung, the great leader of the 700 million Chinese people and the great and devoted friend of the Albanian people, for the warmest and very brotherly reception accorded us during our visit to your beautiful country.

We feel at home in your beautiful, vast, mighty and flourishing country. The extremely warm, cordial and fraternal reception given to us in Kunming, Peking, Harbin, Shanghai and Hangchow, our meetings with the untiring and dexterous commune members, the heroic workers in the factories, the powerful militia units and the students and Young Pioneers educated in the revolutionary spirit, and the very cordial talks with your beloved state leaders and, in particular, the unforgettable meeting with Comrade Mao Tse-tung, the great and glorious leader of the Chinese people and their Party and the most respected friend of the Albanian people — all this fills our hearts with the ever-growing, the purest, most sincere, most revolutionary, internationalist and eternal friendship between our two Parties and two peoples.

Wherever we went, we were accorded by the Chinese people a reception which is beyond description and exceeds all our expectations. We feel the warmth and kinship of comrades-in-arms, the sincerity of dauntless revolutionaries and the love of true internationalists for the Albanian people, our Party of Labour and Comrade Enver Hoxha, the leader of our Party and people. We have personally seen and felt everywhere the great friendship cherished by the great Chinese people towards the Albanian people and we have personally seen and felt the strength of this great friendship. This friendship is a great encouragement to our

Party, Government and people. It encourages them to fight for the cause of socialist construction in Albania, for our common cause of communism and for the cause of world peace. We will bring this great friendship of the Chinese people and their Party and leaders to our Party and our people.

The meetings and talks our Delegation held with the leading comrades of the Communist Party of China and the Government of the People's Republic of China are unforgettable to us. Our talks were conducted between true comrades and brothers, between equal comrades-in-arms striving for the common aim and ideal. As in the past, we are completely at one in our views on all questions we have discussed. We have held discussions on the relations between our two Parties and our two countries, on the socialist construction in our two countries, on the international situation and the international communist movement. In particular, we have had fruitful exchange of opinions on the question of taking measures for preventing the emergence of revisionism and the restoration of capitalism in our two countries. Our talks are characterized throughout by identity of views and actions. The Joint Statement of Albania and China is an embodiment of this unbreakable unity and constitutes one more important document for the constant strengthening of the great friendship and the revolutionary fraternal co-operation between our two peoples and our two Parties.

Our meeting with the great leader Comrade Mao Tse-tung will remain for ever in our hearts. We had several meetings with Comrade Mao Tse-tung before. But every time we met him, we were further inspired by his great thought and theories, his firm adherence to the Marxist-Leninist principle and his Communist simplicity. Talking with Comrade Mao Tse-tung will immediately remind one of the words of the outstanding internationalist Doctor Norman Bethune. When Bethune met Comrade Mao Tse-tung for the first time 28 years ago, he wrote down his impression of Comrade Mao Tse-tung as follows: ". . . he is a giant, one of the greatest men of our century."

The Albanian people and the Party of Labour of Albania have infinite admiration for Comrade Mao Tse-tung. He is not only the great leader of the Chinese people and the Chinese Communist Party but also the faithful successor to the great cause of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin.

The international situation and the international communist movement today are characterized by the fact that U.S. imperialism and Soviet revisionism are collaborating in a scheme to bury socialism and dominate the world. In this complex situation, great China has

become an impregnable bastion of socialism, a bulwark of revolution and an insurmountable barrier to imperialism and revisionism.

The reason is that China has all along been led by the glorious Communist Party. The Chinese Communist Party has always given brilliant leadership to the Chinese people because it is in possession of the immortal Marxist-Leninist ideas and the great thought and theories of Mao Tse-tung. Hence, glory goes to Comrade Mao Tse-tung, who belongs not only to China but also to Albania, to the whole socialist camp, the entire international communist movement and the progressive mankind as a whole! Glory for ever goes to Comrade Mao Tse-tung and his great contributions!

People's China has left a deep impression on us. In your country, the heroic Chinese people are plunging themselves with an incomparable revolutionary zeal into the three great revolutionary movements of class struggle, the struggle for production and scientific experiment.

The brilliant successes achieved by the Chinese people in ideological education and material production and in giving play to the creative powers of the working masses have laid a most solid basis for new successes and for the fulfilment of the great tasks under the Third Five-Year Plan (1966-70).

We are fully convinced that the mass line, which is being so effectively implemented in People's China, is pushing and will continue to push China's socialist construction forward. It is the guarantee for still greater victories. The Tachai Brigade has become a banner for socialist agriculture, the oil workers of Taching have become a banner for China's socialist industry. New Tachais and new Tachings are now emerging in all parts of your country, and their banners fly all over the vast land of China. This mass movement is irresistible, because it is a revolutionary movement; and it is revolutionary because it is guided by the great thought and teachings of Comrade Mao Tse-tung and the great principles of creative Marxism-Leninism. The momentum of this mass movement is more forceful than the torrents of the Yangtse River, it is grander than the Pacific Ocean, it is more majestic than the Himalayas, because the source of strength of this movement surpasses that of any other forces in the world, because it has the science of Marxism-Leninism as its basis, and because the labouring masses are the creators of material and spiritual wealth, the creators of history.

Wherever we went in your beautiful and glorious country, we saw the tremendous revolutionary enthusiasm and passionate creative labour of the great Chinese people in building socialism. We saw the iron solidarity and unity between the Chinese people and the glorious Chinese Communist Party headed by Comrade Mao Tse-tung; we saw the determination, preparedness and invincible strength of the great Chinese people in protecting their victorious and great socialist country from the possible attack by any enemy; we saw the internationalist spirit of the Chinese peo-

ple. We saw that every worker, peasant, student or fighter has in his mind implanted the idea of working, studying, creating and fighting not only for his own country but also for all other peoples.

Wherever we went, we saw People's China's great truth of putting politics in command and giving prominence to politics. During our visit in People's China, we were affected by your revolutionary enthusiasm, joy, confidence in victory, tirelessness in work, determination and ideological principle. We saw how People's China has become a great school for Marxism-Leninism, in which not only those of a higher educational and cultural level are studying the great ideas and teachings of Mao Tse-tung and of Marxism-Leninism, but all the working masses, without exception, are studying them. This is the best example of mastery of these ideas by all the working masses and their turning the great ideas of Marxism-Leninism into material forces. This is the only road to ensure uninterrupted revolution, tempering of people's revolutionary consciousness, and training new people ready to sacrifice their very lives for the people and the great cause of Marxism-Leninism, builders of socialism and communism and fighters for the world revolution. This is the only road to for ever prevent the emergence of modern revisionism or capitulation to imperialism.

We greatly rejoice over all these great achievements we have seen during the few days of our stay in China. We regard these achievements as our own achievements and are inspired by them.

Our Delegation wishes to take this opportunity to sincerely congratulate the great Chinese people, the glorious Chinese Communist Party and the illustrious Chinese scientists and scientific workers on the new and great victory of the explosion of their third nuclear bomb yesterday. This is a very great victory not only for People's China but also for the socialist camp and mankind, because nuclear weapons in the hands of revolutionaries educated in Marxism-Leninism and Mao Tse-tung's thought are in the service of peace and socialism and throw into panic our enemy — the U.S. imperialists who are attempting to burn up the whole world and bury socialism. Glory to the revolutionary scientists of People's China! Glory to the powerful Liberation Army of the great China!

The Albanian people and the Albanian Party of Labour are proud to stand side by side with People's China on the road of socialist construction and in the great battle between Marxism-Leninism on the one hand and imperialism and modern revisionism on the other. The People's Republic of Albania is situated in the southwestern part of the socialist camp. The people of our country are working, constructing, studying and living there "with pick in one hand and rifle in the other" because, geographically, they are encircled by imperialism and revisionism. They have never yielded and will never yield in future. "Rather die standing than live on their knees," they stint no sacrifices and are advancing resolutely towards the peak of socialism. They have

never felt alone, because they have many loyal and powerful friends like the People's Republic of China; the people in the socialist countries and people the world over are all their friends. The Albanian Party of Labour and the Albanian people will safeguard their great friendship with the fraternal Chinese people as the most precious thing, and will strive for the further tempering of this great friendship. Marxism-Leninism is not restricted by geographical distance but lives in the hearts of the people. Therefore, our friendship that is based on Marxism-Leninism will bring happiness to our two peoples, gladden all our friends and annoy our enemies. Our friendship, like Marxism-Leninism, will grow for ever.

The Albanian Party of Labour attaches special importance to communist education so as to cultivate in our people a pure revolutionary consciousness. Our Party has carefully studied the causes for the emergence of revisionism in the Soviet Union and many other countries and Parties. It clearly knows the root-cause and reasons for the emergence of modern revisionism. Our Party is fully aware of them and has adopted and will continue to adopt, on the basis of Marxist-Leninist ideas and theory, all measures to block the channels of the rise of modern revisionism and restoration of capitalism in Albania. We assure you, Chinese brothers and comrades-in-arms, that imperialism and modern revisionism will never be allowed to succeed in the People's Republic of Albania, which is under the leadership of the Albanian Party of Labour and Comrade Enver Hoxha. The Albanian Party of Labour and the Albanian people regard it as their internationalist duty to wage uncompromising struggles against imperialism headed by the United States and modern revisionism centred round the Khrushchov leading clique of the Soviet Union and to carry these struggles through to the end.

At present, the international situation is favourable to the advance of mankind in the struggle for freedom and along the road of revolution. Owing to the revolutionary and anti-imperialist struggles of the people of all countries and the inherent contradictions of imperialism, the imperialist system has been irrevocably shaken to its very foundation. On the other hand, the modern revisionists—the servants and collaborators of imperialism—are also facing disasters. In spite of this, the people and revolutionaries of all countries have no reason to be off their guard. The enemy will never give up its position of its own accord. On the contrary, particularly in their dying days, the imperialists and revisionists will put up death-bed struggles all the more desperately and go in for adventures so as to avoid their doom.

The line of demarcation between the Marxist-Leninist front and the revisionist front has now been drawn most distinctly. There can be no intermediate zone or "no man's land" between these two fronts and these two ideologies that are locked in a life-and-death struggle. Historical experience proves that the middle-

of-the-road attitude of standing "neither on this side nor on that side" cannot live long. In this struggle the polarization of various forces is inevitable. This is an objective law that is constantly at work independent of the will of anyone who attempts to sit between two stools.

U.S. imperialism is ganging up with the revisionist Soviet leaders and other revisionists and with the reactionaries of various countries in hatching all kinds of plots, engineering coups d'etat, carrying out schemes and setting traps in an all-out effort to make revolution recede. But, as in the past, they are not able to turn back the tide of revolution that is sweeping the world, to prevent the revolutionary storms in Asia, Africa and Latin America, to stop the revolutionary actions of the international working class and to destroy socialism, because the objective laws of world development are propelling revolution forward and pushing imperialism and its offspring revisionism towards their inevitable doom.

Look! Here is a vivid example which demonstrates that imperialism is not as strong as it appears and that it has no strength to put down the struggle of the world's people for freedom. This example is the legendary heroism of the fraternal Vietnamese people fighting against U.S. imperialist aggression. No matter how many troops the enemies send and how many kinds of weapons they use and no matter what plots the imperialists and the modern revisionists engineer for a "peaceful" settlement of the Vietnam question, final victory will definitely belong to the Vietnamese people. The Vietnamese people's freedom lies in the muzzles of their guns, and not at the negotiation table of U.S. imperialism. All peoples opposing U.S. imperialism are with the Vietnamese people. The Albanian people regard the struggle of the fraternal Vietnamese people as their own struggle.

The People's Republic of Albania fully supports Comrade Chou En-lai's four-point statement on China's policy towards the U.S.A. This statement bears out the correctness of the foreign policy of People's China and her revolutionary steadfastness and firm strength in opposing U.S. aggression and in defending the peoples and peace.

On the eve of our departure from your country, we heartily wish the fraternal Chinese people increasingly great successes in their noble work for the prosperity of their socialist motherland, in the glorious common fight against imperialism and modern revisionism and in the struggle in defence of peace in Asia and the world.

Dear comrades and respected friends! Please allow me to thank you for attending this reception.

Let us raise our glasses and drink a toast
to the great and unbreakable friendship between
the peoples of Albania and China,
to the great and heroic Chinese people,

to the glorious Chinese Communist Party and its great leader, dear Comrade Mao Tse-tung, esteemed friend of the Albanian people,

to the fraternal People's Republic of China and its Chairman Comrade Liu Shao-chi,

to the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China and the Chairman of its Standing Committee Comrade Chu Teh,

to the Government of the People's Republic of China and its Premier Comrade Chou En-lai,

to the health of Comrade Teng Hsiao-ping, General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party,

to the health of the diplomatic envoys and their wives present at this banquet,

to the health of everybody present here, and

to the victory of Marxism-Leninism!

Comrade Chou En-lai's Speech at Comrade Shehu's Farewell Banquet

Following is a translation of the full text of Comrade Chou En-lai's speech at the May 10 farewell banquet given by the Albanian Party and Government Delegation headed by Comrade Mehmet Shehu. — Ed.

Dear Comrade Mehmet Shehu,

Dear Comrade Hysni Kapo,

**Dear Comrades of the Albanian Party
and Government Delegation,**

Comrades and Friends,

It gives us great pleasure and honour to attend this grand banquet today given by the Albanian Party and Government Delegation and gather together once more with Comrade Shehu, Comrade Kapo and all the other comrades of the Delegation. Just now, Comrade Shehu has said many warm and cordial words about our Party, our country and our people and spoken very highly of our work. This constitutes a very great encouragement and support to us. For this, I extend hearty thanks to you in the name of the Communist Party, the Government and the people of China.

During its stay in China, the Albanian Party and Government Delegation toured some villages and cities in both the northern and the southern parts of our country, visited industrial and mining enterprises, people's communes and cultural institutions, and came into extensive contact and had cordial meetings with the broad masses of the working people and representatives of all walks of life in our country. You have acquainted us with the brilliant achievements and valuable experience gained by the Albanian people in socialist revolution and socialist construction. The dauntless heroism and the spirit of uninterrupted revolution you have demonstrated on the road of advance is an example for the Chinese people to learn from.

During these days of your visit, the Chinese people have been filled with boundless, festive joys. Wherever you went, the air vibrated with the great friendship between our two peoples. Such is the proletarian revolutionary friendship, the most precious of all friend-

ships. Your visit has pushed to a new high the fighting unity which has long existed between us.

During the visit of your Delegation, our two sides held sincere and cordial talks. We had a full exchange of ideas and held completely identical views on the major issues relating to the socialist revolution and socialist construction of our two countries, the present international situation and the international communist movement.

We both hold that it is imperative to consolidate and develop the dictatorship of the proletariat, carry the socialist revolution through to the end on the political, military, economic, ideological and cultural fronts, dig up the roots of revisionism, ensure the complete victory of the cause of socialism and create the conditions for the future transition to communism.

We both hold that it is imperative to carry through to the end the struggle against imperialism headed by the United States and all reactionaries, and firmly support the national-liberation movement in Asia, Africa and Latin America and the revolutionary struggles of all peoples.

We both hold that it is imperative to carry through to the end the struggle against modern revisionism whose centre is the leading group of the C.P.S.U. and constantly strengthen and expand the world ranks of Marxist-Leninists.

The Joint Statement of China and Albania soon to be issued is a document of historic significance. It is a new milestone in the annals of great friendship and fraternal co-operation between our two Parties and two countries. I am deeply convinced that our talks will not only greatly strengthen the friendship and co-operation between our two Parties, two countries and two peoples and promote the further development of socialist revolution and socialist construction in our two countries, but will also make an outstanding contribution to the cause of defending world peace and promoting human progress.

Comrades and friends! Yesterday, our country successfully conducted its third nuclear test. This is an