

French Reds Assail New Soviet Leaders For Blaming Stalin

By **ROBERT C. DOTY**

Special to The New York Times.

PARIS, June 18—The leaders of France's powerful Communist party revealed tonight their discontent with the course and methods of the current de-Stalinization campaign by the present leaders of the Soviet Union.

A statement issued by the French party's Politburo declared it was "not just" to heap blame on Stalin alone for "all that was negative in the activity of the Communist party in the Soviet Union."

By clear implication, it blamed Stalin's associates, now his successors, for permitting one-man, arbitrary rule to develop. The statement's criticisms, both overt and implied, of the present Soviet leaders, paralleled in many particulars those leveled over the week-end by Palmiro Togliatti, secretary of the Italian Communist party. There were similarities, too, with the dissents uttered by United States and British Communists.

The party statement found unsatisfactory the explanations given thus far by Soviet leaders on Stalin's rule, and called for a "profound Marxist analysis" of the circumstances that permitted Stalin to achieve personal power.

The politburo also complained that the French party had been

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left in the dark on ideological developments and had had to read about the anti-Stalin critique by Nikita S. Khrushchev, Soviet party secretary, in the "bourgeois" press. The statement plaintively demanded that the French party be supplied with copies of Mr. Khrushchev's report to the Soviet Communist party congress last February before its own party congress opens next month.

The French party leaders and their press had remained silent until now on the full disclosures of Mr. Khrushchev's charges against Stalin that were published in the non-Communist Western press. Maurice Thorez, the French party's secretary, and his principal lieutenants have long been regarded as being among the most "Stalinian" of Western Communists.

The theory has been seriously advanced here that, without the "Stalinian" discipline imposed by M. Thorez, the French Communist party could not remain an effective, monolithic force.

Many observers saw a significant straw in the wind when it was authoritatively reported that there were no fewer than fifty-four expressions of opinion at a recent joint meeting of the Communist parliamentary delegation and Central Committee to discuss the party's attitude toward France's Socialist-directed Cabinet. Never before had such free, wide-ranging discussion been tolerated in the formulation of a party position.

Solidarity Formally Stated

Today's statement began and ended with formal expressions of solidarity with the positions defined by the Soviet leaders. But the strength of the criticisms in between confirmed the reports that the French Communists were finding the de-Stalinization campaign indigestible.

"The bourgeois press publishes a report attributed to Comrade Khrushchev," the statement declared. "This report, which adds to the errors of Stalin already known the announcement of very grave faults committed by him, arouses legitimate emotion among the members of the French Communist party."

The Politburo expressed re-

gret, however, that the bourgeois press "had been in a position to publish facts that the French Communists had ignored." Such a state of affairs, it continued, was not favorable to the normal party discussions of these problems but favored instead "the speculations and the maneuvers of the enemies of communism."

The assertion that the French party had not received the Khrushchev reports caused surprise here. The Politburo said that it had asked the Central Committee of the Soviet party for the text "of this report of which the members of certain Communist and workers' parties have had knowledge." It had been assumed in Paris that the leaders of all major Communist parties had been supplied with full texts of the Khrushchev reports.

"The explanations given up to now on the faults of Stalin, their origin, the conditions in which they were produced, are not satisfactory," the party declaration stated. "A careful Marxist analysis is indispensable to determine the combination of circumstances in which Stalin came to exercise personal power."

Like Signor Togliatti, the French party leaders blamed those who treated Stalin as a demi-god during his lifetime, including, necessarily, all of those who now wield power in the Soviet Union. They said it had been wrong "to attribute to him all merit for all the successes carried out in the Soviet Union."

"This attitude contributed to the development of the cult of the personality and to influence, in a bad direction, the international workers' movement," the statement said. "Today it is not just to attribute to Stalin alone all that was negative in the activity of the Communist party of the Soviet Union."

Whatever internal difficulties may be indicated by the statement, expressions of independence with regard to the Soviet Union may bring the French Communists domestic political benefits. The isolation in which the party has existed for the last nine years has been largely due to the conviction held by most non-Communist Frenchmen that the Communists were a "foreign" party.

Khrushchev Voices Assurance

Special to The New York Times.

MOSCOW, June 18—Nikita S. Khrushchev was asked tonight at a reception given by President Tito of Yugoslavia what he

thought of Signor Togliatti's statement last week-end.

Mr. Khrushchev said he had not read the statement but that he knew Signor Togliatti and whatever the Italian Communist party leader said was all right.

Anastas I. Mikoyan, a First Deputy Premier, then declared that he had read Signor Togliatti's remarks and that they proved that "Togliatti is Togliatti."