

# Nikita Is Important Cog In World Peace Machine

Ten years ago you had hardly heard his name. Now he has become one of the giants of our time, so when you heard the false rumor a while back that Nikita Khrushchev had died, it gave you a start.

It wasn't a start of affectionate sorrow, but of concern. You know Khrushchev pretty thoroughly. He doesn't wish you well, but there is a certain amiability in his animosity. You know he is under savage pressure to play Genghis Khan, but he is a very tough hombre, sunning and flexible.

He needs peace and he knows he needs it, as he proved in Cuba. Any successor would need peace as badly, but the chance he would know it when the pressure mob moved in, is not good.

Therefore, we, the Americans, need Khrushchev right where he is, as chairman of the Central Committee of the Soviet Union.

Now he is in plenty of trouble, and it will test his capacities, which are many and remarkable, to maintain his leadership.

His trouble is double: agricultural-industrial production shortcomings, and ideological. His production problem was treated briefly here recently.

The struggle between the Soviet Union and Red China for predominance in the communist world is probably the most significant event of our decade. To oversimplify, it is a struggle between peaceful coexistence, and overt aggressive world revolution. Con-

ciliation failing, Khrushchev is apparently all-out to thwart Red Chinese ascendancy.

The day he was reported dead, he was host to Gomułka, the Polish party chief, and a delegation. He had just returned from a fence-mending mission to Hungary. He had just pledged "equality" to the various national communist parties.

He summoned them now to stand by him in the Red China fight.

But Poland and Hungary have moved somewhat away from Soviet tutelage in recent years. Romania is a third dissident in Eastern Europe, and even sent a mission to Red China, a fiasco. Recently there was a news story that

Romania and independent Yugoslavia were seeking closer ties. Yet there appears no danger that Poland, Hungary and Romania will side with Red China.

Fifteen years ago the eastern satellites were set up by the Stalin regime as political puppets which would submit their economies to Moscow's dictate. All have moved in

varying degrees away from this position. To hold them in orbit, Khrushchev has to defer to them in various ways, and the "equality" pledge is one way. The development is roughly comparable to the loosening of ties called the British Commonwealth, after Empire. Don't underestimate Khrushchev. He may get away with it.

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## Council for Retarded Children Sets Meeting

The California Council for Retarded Children, an organization of more than 70 units located in all major communities of California, will hold the 14th annual convention beginning tomorrow and continuing through Sunday at Richardson Springs in northern California.

Stanley Le Bon, past president of the Garden Valley Association for Mentally Retarded Children, will attend with some 300 other delegates.

Keynote speech will be presented by Judge Jack Halpin, chairman of Governor Edmund

G. Brown's newly formed Commission on Mental Retardation. John G. Fetting, president of the National Association for Retarded Children, will be a banquet speaker.

Workshops, meetings and discussion periods will be arranged for parents, professionals and other interested citizens who are working with the more than 500,000 mentally retarded in the state.

It is a barren kind of criticism which tells you what a thing is not.

—Rufus W. Griswold

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