Soviets Contrast LBJ, FDR Views

(Mrs. Cyrus Eaton arrived home before her report from Moscow, but The Plain Dealer is publishing it because of the nature of her on-the-spot observations.)

By ANNE EATON

MOSCOW—The story here is the official Soviet communique on President Johnson's speech celebrating the 20th anniversary of the war's end. This end-of-our patience statement, published in full in all the Soviet papers, is read with grim approval by the man in the street.

"We have been vary delicate until now," it is said, "and we are not ordinarily delicate, but we cannot stay silent after this speech. This is the first time we have criticized your President directly."

ject: disarmament, trade, cultural exchange, anticipated visits to the U.S. by Soviets who now have asked for rain-checks until "the weather is better," and the whole troubled subject of the future.

Deeper and more serious is the dawning awareness of America's "dangerous misconception" of Russia's commitment to Viet Nam and every Socialist country. "We are being challenged at the very core of the Socialist idea," it is said. "If we fail to aid Viet Nam the whole fabric of socialism comes apart. And for what? Our differences with China are trivial compared to this ideological test. We will die for the unity of socialism if necessary."

TO THE SOVIETS [illegible]

by his national anthem.

The solemnity evaporated immediately in a rush of greetings to us from First Secretary Brezhnev, a kindly, smiling man, and his gracious wife; President Mikoyan; Premier Kosygin with his stylish lady who speaks French; Party Secretary Suslov; First Deputy Mazurov; the ministers of trade, agriculture and finance; Deputy Foreign Minister Kuznetsov (Gromyko went on from Budapest to Vienna for the 10th anniversary of the Austrian Treaty) and Deputy President Podgorny, both of whom were with us in Prague; Presidium Member Polyansky; Minister of Culture Madame Furtseva former President Voroshilov always given a place of hono as one of the few living 191 revolutionaries, and Shastr himself with his sweet-faced sari-clad wife.

Hellos from the ambassadors of England, France, Canada (son of an old friend d my husband, and India followed a chat with our own Foy Kohler. The ambassadors were followed by Soviet scientists, scholars, writers, artists and others whom we have known over the years of our trips here.

"You have seen more people than Shastri," said Tamara Mamedova, our chief and terrific customary guide and old friend, "but, then, you already knew everyone."

SHASTRI IS a radiant, small man with a fine, wise face. He was most gracious to us, recalling that Mr. Nehru, the late Indian prime minister, had been our guest in the U.S., that Pugwash scientists had met in India, that we are dedicated to the peace and cooperation between nations which he stressed in his toast.

As we were leaving Marshal Malinovsky brought his wife to meet us. We met the marshal first in Paris just after the U-2 incident and the Summit collapse when the international situation seemed as bad as now with Viet Nam. "I hope we will meet again in five years, and between," said the Marshal, "and that all will be well between our countries." He hailed a waiter and we toasted the next five years.

YORK AT LARGE

"I had hoped that the poli- poverty program would use computers instead of political machines."

icized your President directly."

THE COMMUNIQUE points out that Johnson not only did not mention by name who started the war, what it was fought over, or who the anti-Nazi allies were (the Soviets lost 20 million people, with 1,700 cities destroyed and 70,000 villages burned), he asserted that 'when the dawn came, 20 years ago, it was a grey dawn because the shadow of Soviet ambition fell over the face of Europe.'

"This is a gross attempt to discredit Soviet policy and distort its role in leberating Europe from fascism," the official statement says: it then contrasts Roosevelt's praise of the army and the people of the U.S.S.R. 'whose example and selfishness,' FDR is quoted, 'in the struggle against tyranny and oppression are an inspiration to all united in the common struggle for victory.'

Johnson's speech is analyzed here officially and otherwise as a return to policies abandoned "even by Dulles a half year before he died": ousting Socialism from Europe (including the liquidation of East Germany to re-establish pre-war boundaries), and furnishing nuclear weapons through NATO to West Germany.

TO THE SOVIETS, Johnson is openly advocating a global fight against communism in Europe as well as Asia. Anyone with half an ear can hear in this communique the changes being rung by Moscow in Asia, Africa and Latin America as well as central and eastern Europe. It is a blunt warning that puts the entire burden of responsibility for possible consequences on "the leaders of the U.S.A."

In the preceding week of official luncheons, teas, dinners and receptions, as well as in long, sober serious talks with government leaders, we found that bitter disappointment in the deterioration of U.S.-U.S.S.R. relations over Viet Nam underlies every sub-

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TO THE SOVIETS, this deterioration of relations from Johnson's first State of the Union message which suggested U.S. visits by Soviet leaders is swift, astonishing and terrible. For the U.S. to "raise again the banner of a crusade against socialism" while talking of working toward an agreement with the U.S.S.R. to end tensions "looks strange, to say the least, in this speech imbued with hostility toward all forces of socialism."

Within 24 hours of our arrival we saw hundreds of our old Soviet friends in a crowd at the airport to greet us and at a government reception for India's Prime Minister Shastri. In view of current events next door to India, Shastri's state visit here with a great entourage, his speech to the Soviet Congress and the grand-scale, magnificent farewell reception are a significant contrast to the abrupt U.S. postponement of his intended visit.

To reach the Kremlin's Hall of St. George, scene of these elegant functions for visiting heads of state, guests use a broad, flight-and-a-half marble, red-carpeted staircase into a white-and-gold, 500-foot hall with high vaulted ceiling, huge gold chandeliers and at least a thousand candles glittering high on the cornices.

We have seen it several times on similar occasions, alive with light and history and the subdued murmuring of important guests. Tables down the length of each side were crowded with Russian delicacies; an army of waiters made sure that everyone had wine for toasts by the two leaders who, with members of the Presidium and Mr. Shastri's aides, stood at the far end of a gleaming expanse of intricately inlaid floor.

WE WERE ESCORTED down this aisle between hushed banks of diplomats and Soviet and Indian notables to a place directly before Shastri and Russia's Premier Kosygin, who exchanged formal toasts, each followed