

Albania Acts to Pull Out Of Reds' Military Pact

From News Dispatches

Albania acted yesterday to withdraw from the Communist Warsaw Pact.

The Albanian news agency ATA and the state Radio Tirana said Premier Mehmed Shehu called on the Albanian People's Assembly to vote for withdrawal on the ground that Albania has "long been excluded" (in effect) from the treaty and the time has come to get out. The all-Communist Assembly will vote Friday and its approval is a foregone conclusion.

Meanwhile, the leader of the Italian Communist Party, Luigi Longo, said the world Communist conference planned for November in Moscow would be "neither useful nor opportune nor perhaps even possible" because of the invasion of Czechoslovakia. These doubts were expressed as Moscow indicated it wanted to go ahead with the conference.

Premier Shehu, whose country is the only Eastern European ally of China, accused the Soviet Union of "aggression" against Czechoslovakia.

He said Moscow has changed the Warsaw Pact "from a peace treaty into a treaty of enslaving war, from a treaty of defense against imperialist aggression into an aggressive treaty against the socialist countries themselves."

Actually, Albania has been excluded from the Communist military alliance since 1961 when the Soviets broke with the tiny Balkan country over its support of China in the ideological dispute between Moscow and Peking. Since then, Albania and the Soviet Union have continually quarreled over ideology.

Longo, the Italian Communist leader, said his Party

would support a Communist summit only if it served to foster agreements on common problems, not create splits or deepen existing ones.

The Italian Party had serious reservations about a Communist summit even before the Czechoslovak crisis, complaining that the Soviet Union was demanding hegemony over other parties.

Longo, whose remarks appeared in the Communist ideological organ *Rinascita*, reiterated his Party's opposition to the invasion of Czechoslovakia and said occupation troops should be withdrawn to prevent a return to the cold war and a drift to the right in the West.

Longo said that regardless of differences on individual issues the Italian Communist Party, largest in the West, would never move away from its "solidarity" with the other Communist countries. But he added that "for us there does not and cannot exist a guiding party or state, nor can there be one or more centralized managements of the international Communist movement."

Pravda, the Soviet Communist newspaper, today printed an article by Jacques Duclos, a veteran French Communist leader, describing the November meeting as vital for the consolidation of "progressive forces" throughout the world. Western observers in Moscow saw publication of the article as a sign the Kremlin was still interested in the meeting despite opposition by several national Communist Parties to the invasion of Czechoslovakia.

In Paris, Duclos said he wrote the article for a French Communist paper before the invasion.