

EUROPE DIVIDES

As the full significance of events in Czechoslovakia is revealed, 16 nations meet in Paris to co-operate in Europe's Marshall programme of recovery. Recognising that a high standard of life is the best barrier against Communism, Ernest Bevin says:-

SOUND

And as the lights of Europe dim out one by one under the dark shadow which creeps westward, the Czech nation mourns the passing of Jan Masaryk, a man whose whole life was devoted to one single purpose - the cause of liberty.

Long into the night the people whom he served so well file slowly past the catafalque. It is as if every family had lost its own son, for this man belonged to all of them.

President Beneš, paying his last tribute, speaks words of consolation to the sister of his friend.

Except in his own sad country, the tragic end of Jan Masaryk is nowhere more deeply mourned than in Great Britain. Even in the dark days of 1938, when his own land seemed to be left friendless, his loyalty to Britain was unshaken. His wartime exile was spent here with us, sharing the common dangers, a man who proudly described himself as a "proper Londoner."

Following the Masaryk family behind the cortege walk the Ministers of the new Government.

To Prague, the name of Masaryk will stand forever as the word for Liberty. To Democrats throughout the world it will remain a symbol of the never-ending fight for freedom.