Warm Khrushchev Tribute To JFK Memory Revealed

By HENRY RAYMONT

NEW YORK — On June 29, 1964, Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev wrote a warm tribute to the memory of President Kennedy—the man he had subjected to a sarcastic and offensive diatribe during their meeting in Vienna three years earlier.

"John F. Kennedy will, without doubt, take his place in history as an outstanding statesman," the Soviet leader wrote.

The tribute was written in the form of a 1,000-word personal assessment of the late president by Khrushchev for the John F. Kennedy Memorial Library's oral history program. It was accompanied by times cartoon's containing

tape-recorded speeches by Khrushchev relating to Soviet-United States relations, his account to the Soviet people of the Vienna meeting, and Soviet newspaper clippings about President Kennedy from 1961 to 1963.

THE EXISTENCE of Khrushchev's memoir and other Soviet contributions to the library's collection became known for the first time last week when transcripts of 300 oral history interviews were opened to scholars and researchers at the library's temporary home, the Federal Records Center in Waltham.

Khrushchev's statement written in Russian, was addressed to Robert F. Kenne-

dy in response to the then attorney general's request for a personal memoir for the library collection. In an English translation released in its entirety, Mr Khrushchev said the president "proved to be a man sof, broad views who sought to realistically assess. the situation in the world and to look for ways of solving unsettled , international problems through negotiation. As examples of Kennedy's contribution to world peace, Khrushchev cited the treaty banning tests of nuclear weap-ons, which was signed in July 1963, and the president's speech on East-West Relations a month earlier at American University in Washington in which he called for "not merely peace in our time but peace for all time." The Soviet leader wrote: only "The signing of that treaty was a convincing proof that however complex present international problems may be, their solutions can be found. To reach these solutions in the interest of maintaining and strengthening the universal peace was and remains the most important task of all governments, their duty before the people."

REFERRING TO Kennedy's speech at American University, Khrushchev, who was ousted four months after he wrote, went on; with income "That statement can be called courageous and more realistic than what the Soviet Union and other countries of the Socialist world often heard from American shores. Although that statement of the president of the United States, too, had some conflicting points and a tribute unfortunately was paid in it to the so-called policy of containment and pushing back of communism, as a whole, however, it proceeded from acknowedgement of the inevitability and necessity of coexistence of states with different resocial systems. I would not like to go into details of the negative points of that statement by John F. Kennedy since, let me say it again, it contained the main idea in that statement the president said.