

Mink, Notorious G.P.U. Agent, En Route To Mexico

STALIN'S HIRELINGS AIM FOR TROTSKY

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and known in Paris as an employee of the G.P.U., had arrived in Mexico on an obscure mission.

Subsequent to his arrival, there came to Mexico a well-known Stalinist spokesman, recently returned from Spain, where he fought the Spanish Civil War from a comfortable hotel room in Barcelona, "Captain" Ralph Bates.

Only a few days ago, finally, we learned of the order given by the Communist Party in New York to a prominent fanatical party member who served as Agitational-Propaganda Director for the party in New Jersey and prior to that in Pittsburgh, that she leave immediately for "work" in Mexico.

Why Is Mink Going To Mexico?

Why this "concentration" on Mexico? Above all, why the dispatch of the international assassin of the G.P.U., George Mink?

He can have but one mission: to murder Leon Trotsky. It has already been established officially by the Swiss police that one of the escaped murderers of Ignace Reiss, who went under the alias of Rossi, or Rous, but whose real name was Roland Abbatie, had in his room when it was raided a map of Mexico City and its suburbs and a duplicate of his application for a visa to visit Mexico. The purpose of his visit was unmistakable.

So is the purpose of Mink's visit? The Stalin regime has cold-bloodedly framed-up and shot down the whole generation of Bolsheviks who made the October Revolution possible. The veriest handful of them are still alive in the Soviet Union and their days are numbered by the Borgias in power. Only Leon Trotsky has thus far been out of Stalin's reach.

Now the long, blood-stained arm of the G. P. U. is stretching out across continent and sea to put an assassin's bullet through the heart of the great survivor of the October generation.

Let Stalin's skulking gunmen bear this in mind: We know their methods; we know their purpose; we know their names.

And let them—and above all, their chief—bear this in mind, too: The international proletariat has already fixed the responsibility for any harm that will befall Leon Trotsky. The assassins are known in advance. They will be judged accordingly.

U. S. Puts Off Freedom For Philippine Islands

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ese influence in the islands was growing.

Promise of Independence

Roosevelt, viewing the Far Eastern scene and the Japanese threat to American imperialist interests, considered it good policy to grant the Philippines at least a promise of independence in order to ensure that when the showdown of war came the native ruling class of the Islands would side with American and not Japanese imperialism.

Now comes the announcement that "economic" independence is to be postponed until 1960! The point has not been lost on Washington "observers." They believe that although the agreement between Roosevelt and Quezon leaves unchanged the date for Philippine political independence—July 4, 1946—that date, too, may eventually be affected.

The Tydings-McDuffie Act was never more than a sham. No sooner was it passed than propagandists for American imperialism began warning of the dire economic consequences to the Philippines which would result from independence. In particular, they were able to point out that the abolition of tariff preferences which insure a duty-free market in the United States for the Philippines—sugar, hemp, coconut oil—would bring utter ruin to the Islands, since there would be little possibility of placing them in the free, competitive markets of the world.

Bourgeoisie Crawls

This propaganda worked. The Filipino bourgeoisie, with Quezon as their spokesman, came crawling to Washington on all-fours to ask for guarantees of a continued market in the United States after independence became effective.

The exploited workers and peasants of the Philippines, however, take independence seriously. It is they who have supplied Quezon with his mass following. These downtrodden masses know the economic deprivation and the oppression which have been caused them by American imperialism since its seizure of the Islands from Spain forty years ago. Quezon could not, therefore, ask for cancellation of the independence act without sacrificing his own following. Nor could Roosevelt cancel the act without risking an upheaval in the Islands. Hence the stratagem of postponing only "economic" independence.

Warning to Japan

The Washington observers see

as the essential significance of the Roosevelt-Quezon move the fact that "for another 22 years the United States will have a direct interest in the Philippines and responsibility for them. Consequently, they pointed out, the United States policy will be drawn toward the Far East instead of stopping short just beyond Hawaii." (New York Post, April.)

Roosevelt has, in effect, served notice on Japan that dollar imperialism intends to defend its territorial possessions in the Far East. Independence for the Philippines, as a "gift" from the United States, is an exploded myth. When the Tydings-McDuffie Act was passed, the Marxists proclaimed it a myth, a political stratagem of the imperialist overlords of the Islands which would never become independence in fact. Only two short years have been required to confirm that estimate.

The colonial slaves of the imperialist robber states can never gain their freedom as a result of "deals" between their native exploiters (the bourgeois nationalists) and the bigger robbers across the seas. It is probably true that the Philippines would be gobbled up by the Japanese imperialists if the United States relinquished its hold over them. This is the inescapable fate of weaker peoples in the present-day world of imperialist free-booting.

Against All Imperialisms

But the road of freedom for the Philippines does not lie in the direction of preferring the American imperialists to the Japanese. Overthrow of the world system of capitalist imperialism is the only road and the only hope.

Even if Philippine independence should go into effect on schedule (July 4, 1946), the exploited masses of the Islands would be no freer, no more independent in reality than are the 300,000,000 Indian slaves of British imperialism under the much-vaunted India Constitution. The Tydings-McDuffie Act, like the India Constitution, was designed to enlist the native bourgeoisie to the side of imperialism, by giving the latter a greater share in the oppression and exploitation of the downtrodden masses. Nothing more.

SUBSCRIBE NOW TO THE SOCIALIST APPEAL

SHARFIN, GARBER RELEASED ON BAIL

Arthur Sharfin and Ossip Garber, New York Stalinists indicted recently by a Federal Jury on a charge of aiding in obtaining the fraudulent passports used by Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Rubens, G.P.U. agents now in prison in Moscow, are at liberty under \$1,000 bail. No date has been set for trial, as the Federal officials are waiting to arrest other persons named in a sealed indictment returned by the same jury which indicted the two Stalinist associates of the Robinson-Rubens ring.

Rumors are circulating in New York that Rubens, before leaving for Moscow, made attempts to contact liberal members of the American Committee for the Defense of Leon Trotsky.

In this connection it was recalled that when the Robinson-Rubens case first broke in the press, a Hearst reporter interviewed Dr. Horace Kallen, professor at the New School for Social Research, suggesting that Dr. Kallen might have been acquainted with Rubens because of Kallen's membership on the American Committee.

Kallen, as the Appeal stated at the time, failed to identify the Rubens photographs of Robinson-Rubens, and denied all knowledge of him. Efforts to trace the new rumors to their source have thus far proved unsuccessful.

Will Improve Panama Canal For War Uses

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struction of super-battleships of 45,000 tons.

For War Vessels

These vessels would not be able to negotiate the canal as it is at present, a fact which was amply demonstrated a few years ago when H. M. S. Hood, largest battleship of the British fleet, just succeeded in passing through the locks with a clearance of only a few inches on either side.

No attempt is made to hide the fact that the new construction work on the canal is regarded primarily as a war measure. The Washington bureau of the United Press, in reporting the scheme in a special dispatch to the New York Sun April 6, clearly indicates its connection with the announced intention of the Roosevelt administration to lay down "the world's biggest battleships."

Originally it was intended to dig a new canal across Nicaragua at an estimated cost of \$1,000,000,000—a canal sufficiently wide and deep to accommodate vessels of widest beam and deepest draft, vessels in the battleship category. It was never pretended that the facilities of the Panama Canal were inadequate for commercial shipping. The decision to improve the Panama Canal is now announced as a substitute for the more costly Nicaragua project.

Offensive Aims Revealed

As the war plans of the imperialist government at Washington take on ever wider scope, their offensive aims become clearer. The lie that the vast armaments on land, on sea, and in the air will be used only for defending the shores of the United States and that U.S. imperialism retains only the most "peaceful" of intentions with regard to its rivals—especially its great rival in the Pacific, Japan—is becoming more and more an exploded myth.

Secretary of State Cordell Hull's opposition to a "stay-at-home" policy for the U.S. Navy, or the establishment of a "naval frontier" beyond which American warships should not operate, as reported in last week's Socialist Appeal, has been followed by the equally revealing remarks of Major R. Ernest Dupuy of the Army General Staff.

Speaking in the Hotel Warwick, New York City, before the Phoebe Apperson Hearst Memorial Post of the American Legion on April 5, this spokesman for the Army ridiculed the notion that the armed forces of the United States either could or would be employed invariably in a strictly "defensive" manner.

A. B. C. of War Strategy

Adequate defense, he was reported to have said, involves "not only the ability to defend ourselves but the strength to counter attack.... the theory of adequate defense, per se, is just a theory and no more. To be on the defensive, necessity requires

Where Is Juliet Poyntz, Missing Now For A Year?

Tresca Links Disappearance To Agents Of G.P.U.; Stalinists Maintain Tight-lipped Silence

Where is Juliet Stuart Poyntz? Carlo Tresca, the well-known anarchist leader, asks this question in the March issue of the Modern Monthly. We have asked it before and intend to keep on asking it until an answer is forthcoming to clear up the mystery of her sudden disappearance last year.

Juliet Poyntz was for a full 15 years and more a prominent public figure in the activities of the Communist Party of this country. In May, 1937, in conversation with Carlo Tresca, whose personal friend she had been for 20 years despite their political differences, she confessed disgust with the Stalin regime in Russia and with Browder's Communist Party.

Had Reason to Fear

The Stalinists in this country knew of her attitude and had reason to fear her because she might disclose some of their secret nefarious doings. For Juliet Poyntz had quit public activity in the Communist Party in 1934 to become an agent of Stalin's G.P.U. According to Carlo Tresca, witnesses are available who knew her through her work as a G.P.U. agent. As late as 1936 she was seen in Moscow in the company of George Mink, a well-known agent of the G.P.U. and an equally well-known member of Browder's Communist Party. Mink served a jail sentence in Denmark as a Soviet spy and then went to Spain, where, according to Tresca, he directed and participated in the assassination of Camillo Berneri in Barcelona on May 6, 1937.

Disappearance of Juliet Poyntz is linked in some quarters with the activities in New York of one Schachno Epstein, alias Joseph Berson, who for a time was editor of the Stalinist Daily Freiheit, afterwards becoming an agent of Stalin's G.P.U. Epstein was seen in New York in May, 1937, shortly before Juliet Poyntz disappeared, by several witnesses. Tresca saw Epstein and Poyntz together at the end of that month, one week before Poyntz vanished. Epstein sailed for Europe on the liner Queen Mary on August 11, 1937.

Stalinists Keep Silent

The linking of Epstein with the disappearance of Juliet Poyntz has brought no protestations whatsoever either from Epstein or from Browder's Communist Party. In fact, they have maintained a silence which suggests guilty knowledge, especially when one considers the volatility with which the Stalinists

that an offensive be launched. This, of course, is one of the first things to be learned by a student of war strategy. The workers of this country must learn it, too—if they are not to be caught up in the coils of the imperialist war machine and made the unresisting instrument of the robber aims of their exploiters.

That the armaments of U. S. imperialism are to be used, can only be used, and will only be used for imperialist robber wars and not for any idealistic ends such as preserving "democracy" or protecting the rights of weak nations, was made clear by Major-General Smedley D. Butler in testimony last week before the Senate Naval Affairs Committee.

All for Wall Street

This enfant terrible of the leathernecks, as reported in the New York Times, April 9, said he had used up 15 years while in active service as an officer of the U.S. Marines "going about the world guarding Standard Oil tins." He added that he had participated in twelve expeditions, outside the United States, which were missions largely in the interest of Wall Street.

The gallant general never thought to enlighten the people of the United States concerning the piratical nature of his expeditions while he was engaged in them. Today, retired, he can blow off steam to the discomfiture of the big army and navy men, who, in concert with the Wall Street financiers and the capitalist press, are conspiring to make the country war-minded, to dupe the masses into supporting the next piratical war expedition which is being prepared at ever-increasing speed.

protest about most anything. Juliet Poyntz's own attorney, who may or may not have G.P.U. connections, concealed the fact of her disappearance for seven months. A newspaper in New York learned of it by chance while running down facts in the Robinson-Rubens-G.P.U. "mystery" frame-up when that story first broke into the news with the arrest of the Rubens couple in Moscow late last year.

All the facts in the case, that is, all such facts as are known outside of Communist Party and G.P.U. circles, have been placed by Carlo Tresca before a Federal Grand Jury. But Juliet Stuart Poyntz is still missing, unaccounted for.

Where is Juliet Stuart Poyntz, American G.P.U. agent and onetime prominent member of Browder's Communist Party? Is she alive or dead? If she is alive,



JULIET STUART POYNTZ

who kidnapped her and where is she now? If she is dead, who killed her?

These questions cry aloud for answer. We shall keep on asking them until answers are forthcoming.

Where Is She?

SOVIET UNION NOTES

Red Army and Navy Feel Effects Of Purge—New Party Elections To Be Held To Fill Vacant Posts

By JOHN G. WRIGHT

Crisis in the Soviet Armed Forces

An extensive article on the critical condition of the Soviet armed forces resulting from Stalin's decimation of the commanding personnel, is contained in the Sotsialisticheski Vestnik, Menshevik organ published in Paris, of March 8, 1938. The general staff of the Red Army has been wiped out. Marshal Tukhachevsky and seven members of the general staff were doomed by a tribunal of eight men: Alksnis, one of Voroshilov's four deputies, head of the Air Corps; Shaposhnikov, head of the general staff; five commanders of military districts: Budenny, Bluecher, Belov, Dybenko and Kashirin and the commander of the Cossack cavalry corps, Goriachev. What has been the fate of the "judges"?

All of them—with the sole exception of Kashirin—were designated as candidates to the Supreme Council. All of them, with the exception of Alksnis, were "elected" deputies, and almost all of them have already been liquidated. Kashirin disappeared last autumn. Alksnis was removed on the eve of the elections. Dybenko, commander of the Leningrad District, and Belov, commander of the White Russian district, both disappeared after the elections, together with Kuibyshev, commander of the Trans-Caucasian district. Budenny and Bluecher have been under a cloud. Their names were not even mentioned in the dispatches issued in connection with the twentieth anniversary of the Red Army. To the above names should be added that of Velikanov, commander of the Trans-Baikal district who was removed after the elections. The same fate was suffered by Mezis, member of the White Russian Military Council, Ozolin (Kharkov), and Apse (Trans-Caucasia). Marshal Yegorov, Tukhachevsky's successor who was elected deputy to the Supreme Council, has disappeared, together with thousands of other army commanders.

Admirals Given Liquidation Order

The top personnel of the Navy has been even more seriously affected. Orlov, one of the four vice-commissioners of defense and head of the navy, was removed last fall. His successor, Victorov, elected deputy to the Supreme Council, likewise disappeared. Ludri, head of the naval academy, and Sivkov, commander of the Baltic fleet since January, 1937, have also turned out to be "fascist hirelings." Kireyev, appointed to command the Pacific fleet, was nominated as deputy to the Supreme Council but never elected. Kozhanov, commander of the Baltic fleet, disappeared last October and was replaced by Smirnov-Sverlovsky, who did not last long even though he was "elected" deputy. The same fate was suffered by Dushenov, head of the Northern fleet.

Out of 22 high ranking officers in the army and navy who were elected last December to the Supreme Council, eight have already turned out to be "enemies of the people."

So grave is the situation that, as Vestnik points out, no troops were permitted to parade on the twentieth anniversary of the Red Army.

Recent Developments in the Soviet Union

On March 30, the Central Committee issued instructions for the re-election of all the leading organs of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The elections are to be held in the period between April 1 and June 15. They will be "secret"—except for the posts of secretaries and the highest bodies such as presidiums of locals and districts. When the "returns" come in, the full scope of this latest purge in the party, camouflaged as an election, will become evident.

Pravda of March 23 comes out in favor of restoring corporal punishment in schools.

The term "ukase," notorious under the Czars, has been restored to good standing by Stalin. The Supreme Council is now issuing "ukases." The regime still eschews the use of the title "General."

The appointment of new deputies indicates purges in the following departments: Soviet Control Commission, State Planning Commission, Commissariat of Water Transport, Commissariat of Justice and the Northern Sea Route administration. (Pravda, March 28 and 29.)

Dispatch from Gorki: "In the Molotov automotive plant, 1,777 machines are awaiting shipment owing to the failure of the railroad.... A considerable number of the machines are standing in a yard flooded with water. In the next few days it will be impossible to pull them out of the mud." (Pravda, March 28.)

Workers Beginning To Drift, Disgusted, From Communist Party Ranks Everywhere

Increasing dissension within the ranks of the Communist Party, accentuated by the most recent Moscow trial and a growing realization of the betrayal embodied in support to Roosevelt's war plans under the guise of "collective security" is revealed by reports of desertions from the Stalinist camp coming to the Appeal from all over the country.

Factionalism a Crime

The Polish C. P., like the other parties of the Comintern, was beset with factional struggles under the international leadership of Stalin-Zinoviev, and after 1926, of Stalin-Bukharin. Since factional struggles are now regarded as crimes in the Stalinist, the fights in the Polish Party are attributed to "Defenziva" agents. "A most important method resorted to by the Pilsudski clique in disorganizing the Communist movement was the incitement of factional struggle inside the Communist Party of Poland. The Polish 'Defenziva' had its agents in both factions, both in the 'majority' and in the 'minority.'"

Kick Over Traces

Comrade B. J. Widick, labor secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, who has just completed a tour of the Eastern and Middle Western states, reports that C.P. members now openly violate party strictures forbidding attendance at "Trotskyist" meetings, and that it is a common occurrence for Stalinists, either singly or in groups, to use S.W.P. meetings as a forum to announce their break with the C.P.

In Boston our comrades were distributing "An Open Letter to

Members of the Communist Party," a reprint from the Socialist Appeal of March 19, to C.P. members and sympathizers attending a money-raising concert held by the Stalinists. A number of Stalinists attempted to snatch copies of the leaflet from the distributors and discovered, to their surprise, that many of their sympathizers disapproved such methods, while a few denounced such hooliganism.

One individual, who had the "Open Letter" snatched from his hands by an ardent Stalinist, roundly rebuked the Stalinist for his lack of tolerance and insisted on reading the leaflet.

Defy C.P. "Discipline"

Out in Mishawaka, Indiana, officials of the local Workers Alliance invited Hugo Rasmussen, well-known militant who had incurred the wrath of the Stalinists, to speak at a mass meeting. The officials, all members of the C.P., were taken to task by the state organizer of the party and instructed to keep Rasmussen out of their meetings. They refused to obey and have since left the C.P.

Attacks C.P. Policies

Citing his record in the Y.C.L., this young student dismisses contemptuously the Stalinist charge that he is an "enemy of the working class," and proceeds to analyze the fundamental policies of the Y.C.L. Exposing the real aims of "collective security," he tells his former comrades that "our support of this slogan can only mean lining up the workers on the side of the war machine to defend American imperialism."

"My expulsion," he concludes, "actually removes the last deterring factor which hinders me from carrying on a struggle against capitalism and war. To carry out this task it becomes necessary to unite with those forces that are today in this struggle. The 'red-baiting' campaign of the C.P. against the so-called Trotskyites does not deter me from acting jointly with them."

In the past four weeks approximately one-third are directly from the Young Communist League.

Typical of the attitude of the revolutionary youth breaking from Stalinism is the statement of Larry W., a member of the Y.C.L. for over four years and formerly educational director for the Y.C.L. at City College.

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