

False Passport of the Assassin of Leon Trotsky Traced To GPU

It Belonged To A Loyalist Soldier In Spanish War

(Special to Socialist Appeal)
MEXICO CITY, Oct. 7.—Stalin's GPU passport-forging factory supplied the false passport with which "Frank Jackson," the assassin of Trotsky, came to this continent, the Mexican government's investigation has revealed.

Jackson used one of the many passports from Stalin's GPU took from American and Canadian volunteers who enlisted in the Loyalist army in Spain. Taken from the volunteers in the course of their transportation to Spain through Stalinist-controlled channels, the passports were then sent in diplomatic pouches to the USSR from Spain.

Walter Krivitsky, former head of the Soviet secret service in Western Europe, has told how bundles of these passports came to Moscow in every mail during that period. There, in the hands of the most skilled passport forgers in the world, the passports underwent the necessary alterations to make them usable by GPU agents.

The one which the GPU altered for Jackson's use was originally issued by the Canadian authorities to Tony Babich, resident of Canada and a naturalized British subject, born at Lovinae, Yugoslavia, June

13, 1905. Babich used this passport when he went to Spain, where he fought in the Loyalist army. On May 12, 1939 the Spanish government issued a death certificate for Tony Babich.

But Babich's passport, meanwhile, was skillfully altered in Moscow. The name of Tony Babich was erased and the name of Frank Jackson put in instead. The photograph of the dead man was removed and replaced by that of the man who had been assigned to murder Trotsky.

The assassin thought that he had prevented the possibility of tracing his passport back to the GPU forging factory from which it came. He told the judge he had burned the passport along with his other personal papers, before he went to Coyoacan the day of the murder. The burning of the passport was in itself a confession that Jackson was fearful that government experts would trace the passport back to those who falsified it.

However, the Mexican authorities have been able to trace the passport back to its source, and thus to establish another irrefutable proof that the murderer of Trotsky is an agent of Stalin's GPU.

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SOCIALISM WILL BE
TROTSKY'S MONUMENT

267

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FOR MILITARY TRAINING— UNDER CONTROL OF UNIONS!

This Wednesday over five million men must register for conscription. That day should be a solemn day for the masses of this nation. It should be a day of hard thinking about the future. For most of those five million who are able-bodied know, or they should know, that they are fated to undergo training in the use of arms—and they will use those arms in battle. That is already determined, the die is cast. Only pacifist fools can long delude themselves that it is not so.

About a million of those men will undergo military training this year, another million next year, and so on for five years. Five million trained soldiers! But that staggering thought merely records the government's admitted program. What are those men being trained for, what are fifteen billions of dollars already appropriated for? Not for dress parades and to stock museums with specimens of armament! These men and armaments will be used, make no mistake about it. That is already a settled question.

Some pacifist daydreamers, some voices of yesterday like the Norman Thomas "socialists", and the sinister puppets of Stalin like Browder, join in a chorus to call for repeal of the conscription law. And what do they propose to take its place? Nothing. In other words, they adopt a negative attitude toward all forms of mass military training. Fortunately, the workers do not listen to this pacifist clap-trap. The workers un-

derstand that in this age of universal war and militarism it is necessary for the workers to learn well the use of arms. The most "backward" worker who has grasped this fundamental thought is by that, infinitely far more advanced politically than the "socialist" Norman Thomas and the "communist" Earl Browder.

Yes, we say, it is a fortunate and hopeful fact that the great mass of the workers who are required to do so will go to the registration places on Wednesday seriously and without whining or empty regrets. They go to the army as they go to the factory. They do not like the exploitation to which the bosses subject them in the factory. They will not like the exploitation to which the bosses, in officers' uniforms, will subject them in the army. But they do want what is to be done, in the army as in the factory.

Let them ponder deeply, however, what has to be done. Most of these five million men, between the ages of 21 and 36, are workers and poor farmers. A considerable number of them are union members, especially CIO members. They have learned that what has to be done in the factory includes not only what the bosses demand, but also what the workingmen demand and can secure by organizing into unions. Because they are many and the bosses are few, they have won many concessions in the factories—union wage scales, working rules, shop stew-

ards, etc. Thus some ten million organized workers today have some voice in saying what has to be done in the factories. There is no reason why they should not have a voice in saying what has to be done in the armed forces.

Compulsory military training? Yes, certainly. But why must it be done in the open-shop atmosphere of the army, under the life-and-death control of utterly reactionary, capitalist-minded officers? It doesn't have to be done that way. If the workers insist strongly enough, it will not be done that way. Concessions can be won in this field from the bosses, their political agents and their army officers, just as they have been won in the factory. The open shop is no more eternal in the field of military training than it is in the field of industry!

All that the workers need to do away with it is a program around which to rally, and a firm leadership to fight for that program.

That program will vary in many of its details at different stages of the unfolding of this epoch of militarism and war, just as the program of any union varies with changing conditions. But the foundation of that program, in the military field as in industry, does not change. It is: the defense of the interests of the workers against all their enemies. That means: the defense of the working class against the capitalist class.

Concretely it means at this moment that the military training of the workers shall not be in the hands of the enemies of the workers. The workers do not want to trust their fate in the hands of capitalist officers any more than they want to trust their fate in the hands of capitalists in the factories.

Let the trade unions, the organizations which represent the workers, control the military training of the workers!

Let us demand federal military appropriations for the establishment and equipment of training camps which shall be run by the workers' own organizations!

Fifteen billions have been appropriated for armaments. At the very least, then, appropriate a half billion dollars to pay for training camps to be run by the unions!

The workers would undergo military training far more confidently if their own union brothers, the militants from the picket line, the shop stewards, led them. Then let us demand federal training camps which shall be run by the workers' own organizations!

As we register on Wednesday, let us resolve to go back into our unions and into our shops, in the time that is still left, and rouse our fellow-workers to join with us in pushing this workers' program for military training!

Another Stalinist Jailed For Attack on Leon Trotsky

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 5.—David Alfaro Siqueiros, sought by the police since June as the leader of the machine-gun band which made the assassination attempt against Trotsky on May 24, was captured yesterday morning.

He was hiding out on a ranch in the state of Jalisco. He had grown a beard and mustache and was dressed like a typical ranchero.

From hiding, during the last months, he had sent four letters to the press, justifying the attempt to murder Trotsky.

transgression independent of all organizations, international or national.

It is clear from this statement that Siqueiros will center his efforts on attempting to shift the blame from the Communist Party and Stalin's GPU, and particularly attempt to absolve David Serrano, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party, who has been in prison for this crime since June. Siqueiros will seek to pose, at one and the same time, as a Stalinist in ideology but in no way connected with the Stalinist organizations.

In his last interview with the press before his flight, Trotsky warned that Siqueiros, if seized, would attempt to pose as a "Trotskyist" who became disgusted with Trotsky—the same GPU formula which the assassin, Jackson, later used.

Siqueiros' statement will be made mainly for international consumption, for in Mexico itself any attempt by him to pose as a non-Stalinist is simply laughable. He has been a well-known figure in the Stalinist movement for many years, is president of the Stalinist Spanish civil war veterans' organization, and was a "major" in a Stalinist battalion in Spain.

ON THE WAR FRONTS

by GEORGE STERN

(This column was formerly entitled "Behind the Lines." Every succeeding day, however has rendered that title more and more archaic. The front lines are everywhere. Modern technology has rendered meaningless the distinction between the worker in the war industries—which now means all industry—and the worker who operates the products of those industries. Which countries are at peace and which at war? One can speak only of the extent of participation in the war at any given moment. Hence the new title for this column.—EDITORS)

part of the leaning process. But Stalin will not learn too far. The entry of German troops into Rumania on Oct. 8 opened up the prospect of establishment of German forces on the Black Sea and offered direct and clear warning to Stalin to stay within the reservation.

The winter campaign soon to open in the Mediterranean and the Near East will doubtless reveal what new part of the reservation is to be temporarily opened to Stalin as part of the Axis strategy of dealing with first things first.

In the U. S. the new Axis alliance has produced a new and notable frankness, both official and unofficial. Secretary of the Navy Knox in a speech at Washington on Oct. 3 said: "An adequate Navy at this time demands that we be able to meet enemies far from our own shores and defeat them in both oceans simultaneously if necessary." Col. Frederick Palmer, a military expert writing in the N. Y. Times, said on Oct. 6: "There are signs that we no longer shall have to depend upon the false scare of a land invasion to arouse our people to the need of preparedness... Our army... will be freed of a lot of motion for public effect, which will be waste when war comes... The best defense is the offensive and the ability to maintain it until victory is ours."

In other words, we are now told that the country has been deliberately prepared by "false scares" for the real thing: i. e. preparation of this country for an offensive war in the future.

Local 544 Defeats Anti-Union Suit

Judge Concedes Baselessness Of Case Against Drivers Union in Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., October 2.—In a 54-page ruling, District Judge Paul S. Carroll today terminated the two-year old "fink suit" against the Minneapolis General Drivers Union, Local 544. The Judge denied to the plaintiffs, four tools of the Associated Industries gang, their main demands: for the removal of the union's officers, the appointment of a receiver for the union, and the holding of a special election.

The lengthy ruling conceded the contentions which the union has established in the nine-months' trial. Among the basic points which the judge conceded are that the union elections were fairly run, that the elected officers are honest and have not wasted union funds.

The judge also dismissed complaints of the finks against Local 544's policy of financing the Federal Workers Section, an unemployed workers union sponsored by the Minneapolis labor movement, and of giving contributions to the Farmer-Labor Party and the North Central District Drivers Council. The judge declared such donations to be "well within the power of the union so to do."

He also conceded the right of the union to use the union's funds in the conduct of strikes and the legal defense of arrested union men, one of the plaintiffs' main complaints. On this issue, a focal point of the base-investigated attack against the union, the ruling stated: "Usually, strikers have no money to pay fines or defend themselves, and it seems to me that it is entirely legitimate for the union to use this money in that way."

On the plaintiffs' demands for removal of the union's officers because they are revolutionists the judge was constrained to say: "If the members of this union desire men who are believers in the Trotsky movement to be their officers, and the Dunne brothers have not denied that they are friendly with and associated with this movement, they have a right to do so."

The finks had also bitterly attacked the role of the local in the organization of the over-the-road eleven state committee, which won a contract for 250,000 truck drivers. The local's Union Defense Guard, established to protect the union against the Silver Shirts and other fascist gangs, was likewise assailed. But the court, in its final ruling, upheld the right

All-India Congress Reports Vicious Repressions

ALLAHABAD, India, July 1 (by mail from the Foreign Department of the All India Congress Committee)—The intensity of repression is increasing every day. In the beginning, the government arrested Socialists and Communists. But gradually it has begun to round up all active workers. Arrests are most active in Bengal, United Provinces, Bihar, Madras and Punjab. Though it is not possible to know the exact number, in Bengal alone the number of persons detained, arrested or warned exceeds a thousand.

Hunger strikes have taken place in Allahabad and Lucknow prisons on account of bad treatment of political prisoners. The political prisoners are not given a special status and if their position is not improved soon, a conflict is bound to arise.

(Readers should take note that this description of British imperialist policy in India comes from the leadership of an organization which pursues a conciliatory attitude toward Britain.)

OLSON BARS STALINISTS FROM CALIFORNIA BALLOT

Socialist Workers Party Offers United Front to Fight Ban

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 7.—While Governor Olson tonight was signing the bill of the California legislature to ban the Communist Party from the ballot, the Socialist Workers Party here awaited word from the Communist Party on a proposal for united front action against the ban.

In a state-wide radio broadcast following signing of the act, Olson lashed at his one-time allies—the Stalinists helped elect him.

Progressive labor circles here view the ban as the beginning of a drive against the entire labor movement in line with the war preparations.

As early as September 24, the Los Angeles branch of the Socialist Workers Party sent a proposal for united action to the trade unions, the Socialist Party and the Communist Party, declaring "We

believe in the principles of united front action against the attacks of the capitalist class in spite of the controversies within the working class movement."

A second appeal for united action was addressed to the Communist Party on October 3.

The S. W. P. here is undertaking an extensive drive to secure the repeal of this act. Protests have been wired to the Governor and the state legislature. A telegram was also sent to Assemblyman Paul Ritchie, Sacramento, commending his stand in opposition to the bill. This message stated, "While we have profound political differences with this organization (Communist Party) we give firm support to any action opposing such attacks on political freedom."

Thousands of leaflets have been circulated by the Trotskyists in Los Angeles and other parts of the state, urging the California workers and organized labor to rally against the ban. The leaflet warns that "In fact the law barring the Communist Party from the ballot provides that any party may be banned should the Secretary of State and Attorney General deem it 'subversive.'"

Success Story
America is a land of wonderful opportunity. Take Elmer Roosevelt, for instance, who has just demonstrated what hard work, perseverance and the right connections can do for a young fellow.

Auto Workers Strike Midland Steel Plant

Key Auto Parts Factory in Cleveland Is Closed Down By Militant Picket Line

(Special to Socialist Appeal)
CLEVELAND, Oct. 9.—1200 workers of the Midland Steel Products Co. manned the picket lines here today after weeks of fruitless negotiations. They are demanding a five cent hourly increase in base pay, upward revision of piece rates, the union shop and reemployment and back pay for Mack Cheek, local president fired two years ago for union activity.

Midland Steel produces auto frames for Studebaker, Hudson and Buick. The strikers belong to the United Auto Workers—CIO.

Local 486 This is the second strike at this plant within the past year, the last one netting a contract and union recognition.

Large squads of mounted police, fully armed, swarmed on the scene as mass picket lines halted all production. The cops barricaded themselves behind all plant gates and attempted to intimidate the strikers. The company announced the formal closing down of the plant, and the union is employing skeleton shifts on the line now. Police outnumber the skeleton crews three to one.

Negro-White Solidarity
A conspicuous feature of the picket-line is the solidarity of Negro and white workers. The former are among the most active and militant union members.

A last-minute attempt to forestall the strike was made by David T. Roodley, local copollitator for the U. S. Dept. of Labor.

Other Plants Affected
James F. Dewey, "ace conciliator" of the government is being sent into Cleveland to attempt the same trick he pulled in December 1939. He maneuvered the Midland Steel workers, then new to unionism, back into the plant with a weak agreement. Continuation of the strike means a probable shut-down for Studebaker, Hudson and Buick, due to body-frame shortage.

The strikers are in high spirits, carrying fighting banners and an appeal to the truck-drivers not to drive through the picket lines. Hundreds of the strikers, while relieved of immediate picket duty because of the need for only skeleton crews at the moment, are remaining at the nearby union headquarters and in the vicinity of the plant, in the event the cops start any trouble.

Hillman Moving Into Flint Auto Workers' Fight With G.M.

FLINT, Oct. 8.—The international officers of the United Auto Workers met this weekend in Pittsburgh. The choice of city for the conference is reported to be for the convenience of Sidney Hillman, fresh from his exploits in putting a crimp into the Bethlehem Steel workers' upsurge.

One of the main issues confronting the UAW officers is the fight with General Motors over the firing of 19 key union men four weeks ago at Flint Fisher Body No. 1 plant. The local affected overwhelmingly voted strike authority to its local officers. The international officers stepped in to conduct negotiations with G.M., which have dragged on for four weeks now.