

# Socialist Appeal

Official Weekly Organ of the Socialist Workers Party, Section of the Fourth International

SOCIALISM WILL BE  
TROTSKY'S MONUMENT

VOL. IV—No. 34.

NEW YORK, N. Y., SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1940

FIVE (5) CENTS

# WE BRAND STALIN AS THE MURDERER OF TROTSKY

## Trotsky's Fight Goes On Under The Banner Of The Fourth International

### Death Follows Brutal Attack

Leon Trotsky, co-leader with Lenin of the Russian Revolution, died in Mexico City on August 21 at 7:30 P. M., victim of a brutal assault by a GPU assassin.

He fought for life for 26 hours after Stalin's hired murderer had driven a pickaxe into his brain.

It was his last battle.

But he did not surrender until he had indicted the monster in the Kremlin as the organizer of his murder. He did not surrender until, in his very last words which he insisted upon dictating before he lost consciousness, he had handed on the banner of the Fourth International to the men and women throughout the world whom he had gathered together in the World Party of Socialist Revolution.

"Please say to our friends," he concluded, "that I am sure of the victory of the Fourth International. Go forward!"

It was characteristic of his great genius that, certain he was dying—immediately after the attack he told Joseph Hansen that "I will not survive this attack"—he devoted his last moments of consciousness to urging forward the activities of the Fourth International.

Equally characteristic was his conduct as he fell under the mortal blows of the GPU assassin and Trotsky's secretary-guards rushed in, arms in hand, and flung themselves upon the assassin.

"Let him live!" cried Trotsky repeatedly. Not out of kindness! But to assure the possibility that from the assassin might be wrested additional confirmation which would help to damn the Kremlin Cain in the eyes of the working class of the world.

#### The Hand of the GPU

Thanks to Trotsky's dissection of every available bit of evidence, key participants in the May 24 attempt to murder him are now in prison formally charged with that crime, a number of them having confessed their complicity. Having learned from the unfolding of that crime how Stalin's GPU works, the federal police authorities were quick to recognize its trademark in the successful follow-up to the May 24 attempt.

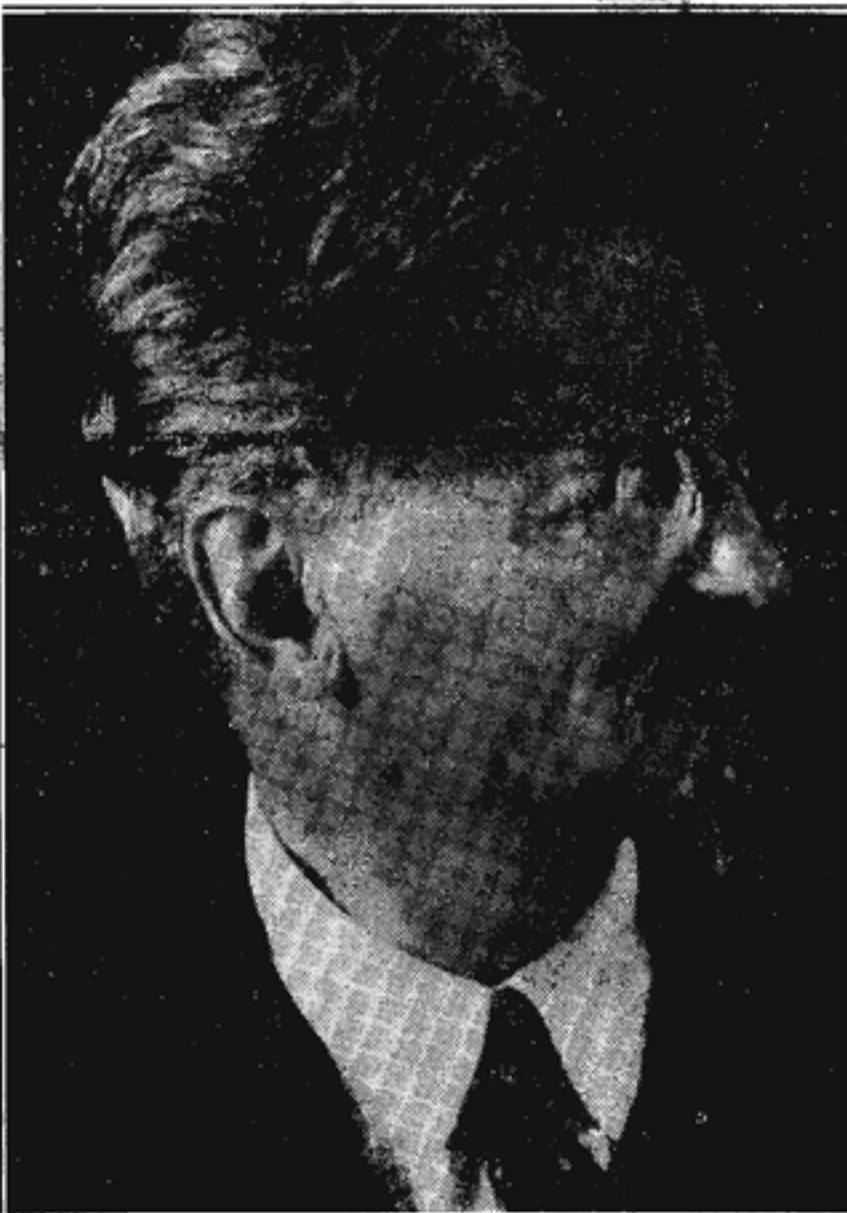
Col. Leandro Sanchez Salazar, chief of the detective bureau, told reporters yesterday that he is convinced the assassin's real name is Monrod, that he is a Belgian, and that he came to this continent as an agent of the GPU, the Stalinist secret police.

General Jose Nunez, Mexico's chief of police, also said yesterday:

"We are working on the theory that Monrod had accomplices and we are making a minute investigation."

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Leon Trotsky 1879-1940



Just after he was attacked on the evening of August 20, Trotsky said:

"I will not survive this attack. Stalin has finally accomplished the task he attempted unsuccessfully before."

Later at the hospital, just before he lapsed into the coma from which he never revived, Trotsky called Joseph Hansen to his bedside and dictated his final message:

"I am close to death from the blow of a political assassin . . . Please say to our friends I am sure of the victory of the Fourth International. Go forward."

The Socialist Workers Party is planning to hold the funeral of Leon Trotsky in New York City.

"We plan to hold the funeral here," James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the party announced, "to give the working class of New York an opportunity to show their reverence for the memory of this great leader and their hatred and contempt for Stalinism, the gangster machine that murdered him".

Arrangements for the funeral are still in process as we go to press.

### Fight Now As Never Before, Comrades!

#### Statement Of The National Committee

Leon Trotsky, organizer of the Russian Revolution and its true representative, has finally been done to death by Stalin, the betrayer of the Revolution and the mass murderer of the whole heroic generation that made it.

Trotsky was murdered in cold blood by an agent of the Kremlin-Borgia. With his last words Trotsky accused Stalin of the crime, and the whole civilized world proclaims him guilty. To all his unspeakable murders and betrayals Stalin has now added the crowning infamy, the assassination of Trotsky.

#### STALIN'S HORRIBLE MOTIVE CLEAR

The motive of the murder is as clear as the guilt of the murderer: insatiable hatred of the man whose truth and loyalty to the cause of the workers contrasted so sharply to Stalin's own falsifications and treachery; mad thirst for revenge against the fearless and incorruptible fighter who had exposed and pilloried Stalin before the world; ruthless determination to silence the voice of his accuser on the eve of new abominations and betrayals of the working class of Russia and of the world.

Unable to refute the penetrating analyses of Trotsky, or to answer his devastating criticism, Stalin in desperation finally drove a pick-axe through his brain. In the incredibly horrible manner of the murder itself there is contained a deep symbol of its meaning and its motives: *he struck at Trotsky's brain!*

Stalin has struck a terrible blow at the whole movement for the liberation of humanity. The heaviest disaster that has befallen the workers and all the oppressed, in this time of world calamity, is this destruction of its strongest heart, its greatest brain. The vanguard of progressive humanity is deprived forever of Trotsky's indefatigable labor, his incorruptible devotion. Lost is his wise counsel, the inspiration of his dauntless courage.

#### TROTSKY'S IDEAS ENDURE AND WILL PREVAIL

But the great fruit of Trotsky's more than forty years of dauntless work and struggle remains imperishable. For Trotsky, who stands on a historical eminence by the side of Marx and Lenin, worked like them not for a day, but for eternity. The richest products of his

genius are preserved in his writings. They constitute both a faultless analysis of the decay of capitalism and a clear program of struggle for the socialist future of humanity.

Armed with these weapons the oppressed of all the world will arise out of the bloody welter of the present society and fight their way to freedom. They have been deprived of the physical presence of Trotsky. But no power on earth can destroy the mighty inheritance he has left behind—the gift of his incomparable genius to the cause of humanity.

Trotsky, conscious that the ring of assassination was drawing ever closer around him, worked indefatigably up to the last hour to add to this inheritance. The last big product of his labor was the Manifesto of the Fourth International on the War and the Proletarian Revolution. This Manifesto constitutes the program and the banner of the impending revolution against the civilization-devouring war and the decaying social system that produced it. No Stalin, no Hitler can destroy that program!

#### NOT ONLY LEADER BUT ARCHITECT OF REVOLUTION

Comrade Trotsky was not only the teacher of the vanguard of the proletariat. He was also its organizer. He was the architect of the Fourth International, the new international association of revolutionary workers. It is arising on firm foundations in all countries of the world. The Fourth International will be the greatest monument to the memory of Trotsky. It will be the instrument for the final realization of the aim to which he devoted his entire life—the liberation of all humanity from slavery, exploitation and war.

We, his disciples, are overcome with grief at the loss of our beloved teacher, comrade and friend. But we shall not give way to this grief. We shall transmute it into fighting energy. Comrade Trotsky's last testament shall not be forgotten: "Please say to our friends—I am sure of the victory of the Fourth International. Go forward!"

Today we stand with clenched fists at the grave of our martyred leader. Tomorrow we take up the forward march with firmer determination and greater energy. Trotsky is dead! But the party of Trotskyism will live and conquer!

# Leon Trotsky Memorial Meeting

Wednesday, August 28, 1940

8:00 P. M.

Hotel Diplomat 108 W. 43rd St., N. Y. C.

Hear Trotsky's last recorded speech.

#### SPEAKERS

James P. Cannon, Farrell Dobbs, Antoinette Konikow, Murry Weiss,