

THE NETWORK

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Information Bulletin on Stalinist
Organizations and Organizational Forms.

This bulletin is initiated to expose the numerous Stalinist, Neo-Stalinist, and Stalinist influenced groups. The bulletin makes no claim to completeness since the task of describing and analyzing the rapidly growing Stalinist movement here in the United States, in Europe, and in Asia, is far beyond the capacity of only a few persons. Therefore, it is confined for the most part to news items concerning the German political emigration and groups within the orbit of the German Stalinist movement.

ONE YEAR OF THE NETWORK.

We started this Newsletter in January 1944. What seemed a crude simplification one year ago is today almost a platitude: European society is driving from one totalitarian system, Nazism, to another one, Stalinism.

We intended to expose the mechanism of the progressing Stalinization of Europe. Stalinism will not conquer the continent by the establishment of "communist dictatorships".

Stalinism has shaped the "Free National Movements" into instruments which permit the elimination of all hurdles.

We tried to show the interrelationship between the "Free National Movements" and the disbanded Comintern-parties. American observers on the spot, for the most part, are not able to evaluate correctly the specific weight of these movements, to understand the conditions and the dynamism of their growth. American "progressives" are easily fooled by the voluminous amount of sham-democratic behavior of the Stalinists; the Stalinists know the tricks and play with marked cards. The "Free National Movements" will prove most dangerous as infiltration battalions in non-Russian areas. During the past year, the "Free German Movement" stood in the focus of our attention as the successor of Hitlerism in Germany. The revolt of the German Generals of July 20th injected blood in the veins of the Moscow Free German Committee. The Committee was strengthened by a considerable number of deserters, including both officers and soldiers. Its control over German War Prisoners in Russia ("hundreds of thousands....") was increased, and the control was extended to German War Prisoners in the West (France).

Germany after Hitler will be neither "chaotic" nor "living in a vacuum". The Free German Movement is not an improvisation; it is more than a clever propaganda device. The Stalinist policy of building monolithic state-parties out of the left-overs of the Comintern, and its blending of these left-overs with the remnants of Fascism - provided they are pro-Russian - is nowhere so strikingly transparent as in the Free German Movement, thus making the Free German Committee a model of European governments. In the combination of Generals and "German Labor", embodied by Walther von Seydlitz and Wilhelm Pieck, Stalin has already reached for Germany a higher stage of synchronization of conflicting social groups than for countries like France where the process is not as yet fulfilled. Without intimate knowledge of the development of the communist parties and their relationships with the Russian state-party, this process remains enigmatic.

For the same reasons, we have concentrated our attention on the various German front organizations within the Anglo-American orbit, as, for example, on the Hagen-Tillich outfit, the "Council for a Democratic Germany". Moscow has been able to split the German Social-democrats even before Hitler's defeat, a job still to be done in France and also in Italy. In winning over Aufhaeuser, Paul Herz and their stage hands, Hagen has done valuable work for the Stalinists that may speak for him on the day of the last reckoning. Stalin's armies are

entering Germany, followed by the Union of German Officers, by almost all German liberals, and by almost all of what is left of non-communist German "Labor-leaders". THE NETWORK did as much as it could to expose the masquerade, and we shall continue to do so.

Summing up European highlights, we may say that our prognostics have already become historic events. De Gaulle is jammed between the French Forces of the Interior and the remnants of the upper- and middle classes who fear the communist dictatorship, but who are weakened to the extreme, however, by four years of collaboration with Vichy and Hitler. In Italy, Togliatti plays with the Monarchy in order to give the first round to Tito; but he and Tito are strong enough to block all "Western orientation" in Southern Europe. The surprising strength of the Italian communist party after 20 years of illegality is a forecast of things to come... Russia intervenes actively everywhere, even in Belgium... To interpret this intervention correctly, we need merely venture to conceive of a large mass-demonstration in Lublin crying: "Down with the Russian imported government. Down with the Berut, Osubka Morawski and all the others. Long live Churchill, our Liberator Poland must be free itself from these scoundrels, the so-called National Committee for Liberation".

Poland was sacrificed in the hope of a gentlemen's agreement in Western Europe, but one of the gentlemen stepped out.

Tito's Slav Federation is a turning point in European history. This federation will attract all Balkan countries, and will be a stronghold of Russian influence. The British will sit in the midst of a restless Greece, where a permanent "Underground" can always find help and weapons in Marshal Tito's realm.

Spain is next on the list; Switzerland and Sweden are not forgotten, The Stalinization of Europe begins to show its effects in the Middle East and in China.

The Free National Movements have outgrown the stage of being merely a Network of Stalinist organizations; they are now forming, and jeopardizing governments, they are in power in Yugoslavia and in Poland, on the road to power in France and in Italy, they are in powerful opposition in Belgium and Greece, and preparing to take over in Germany. The future of Europe is closely linked to the export of Stalinism to the West and to the East. Europe of tomorrow will be a Stalinist continent. Therefore we will call our information bulletin, beginning with January 1945 "EUROPEAN STALINISM".

We intend to publish letters of our friends in Europe, and to present information about the communist parties in Europe, their connections with the Moscow center, profiles of their leading men, and other valuable material.

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WHAT WILL MOSCOW DO WITH GERMANY ?

The First Authentic Report On the German Revolt of July 20th, 1944.

The weekly "Freies Deutschland", published by the National Committee Free Germany in the U.S.S.R. contains the most informative document on the events of July 20th in Germany. The authors of this document are German generals who surrendered after July 20th to the Russians. Its whole character permits no doubt of its authenticity.

Today we present only the most outstanding facts contained in the statement, which has been ignored - so far - completely by the American press.

POLITICAL ORIENTATION:

1) Russia - the decisive Factor of the War.

One of the general viewpoints of the analysis given by the "Union of German Officers" in Russia is the exclusive emphasis on Russia's part in the war and in the catastrophe of Hitlerism. The officers consider the defeat of Stalingrad as the starting point that on the one hand led to the conferences of Moscow and Teheran and on the other was exploited by Hitler to increase party control over the army. They describe as the second factor the Russian winter offensive on the Donetz and beyond Kursk, the breakdown of the German summer offensive and the advance of the Red Army on the Southern front. Hitler reacted with new measures against the generals and demonstrated that the Nazi party intended to continue the war under any and all circumstances, even if that should mean the destruction of Germany. The Free German Officers enumerate specifically the defeats at Cherkassy, Krivoy Rog, Nikopol, Uman and Leningrad. The immediate impetus for action was Hitler's unbelievable orders with regard to the Northern German army. Hitler personally issued counter-orders on July 13th after the withdrawal of the dangerously exposed army-group had been already ordered and begun on the basis of a memorandum of all responsible army staffs as well as the commander-in-chief, Colonel-General Lindemann on July 10th. In doing this Hitler sacrificed an essential part of the Eastern army, no less than thirty divisions, as he had done previously with the Crimea Army.

On July 13th, it had been decided to undertake the planned coup d'etat on July 20th, earlier than originally intended.

Lindemann is one of those generals who came over to the Russians and joined the Free German Committee, immediately after the revolt. The invasion of France by the Anglo-American armies is mentioned in the whole document only once and only incidentally as a contributory factor.

2) Attitude Towards the Moscow Free German Committee.

" The change of attitude of the Officers' Corps towards the Free German National Committee and the Union of German Officers', founded in Moscow and headed by General von Seydlitz, also played a certain role although there were strong uncertainties concerning the character of that movement. The ideas, represented by the National Committee and by General von Seydlitz, found more and more response, especially after the General Staff of the Army (O.K.W.) had officially admitted the National Committee's existence... In the leading circles of oppositionist generals, where the officers of the National Committee were personally and intimately known, it was hoped that the "Free German" movement was an expression of those tendencies in the Officers' Corps which aimed at a rupture with Hitler and at his elimination".

SOCIAL BACKGROUND.

1) Conservative Approach of the Professional Officers.

The document describes the "new orientation" as follows: The officers "reacted with military mentality" that is, in unison although without previous arrangement indicating to their superiors in concrete reports on the situation, that "under the given circumstances such and strategical or tactical measures were nonsense and dangerous..." Dozens of documents piled up... As far as Hitler learned of the contents of these documents, he ignored them completely. Some of the quibblers were courtmartialed.

It is amazing that these officers, living ten years in the Nazi state should show such lack of comprehension as regards the totalitarian character of Nazism. The authors remind us emphatically of Hitler's promises:

- a) To keep the army out of politics.
- b) The right to bear weapons to be reserved for the army.

They find it necessary to underline the breaking of these promises. "The army has been humiliated and obliged to serve as an instrument of the narrowest party interests". These collaborators of Nazism of ten years standing, suddenly discover that there is a special party army, the Elite Guard (S.S.) and the Elite-Guard-in-Arms (the Waffen SS.) These promoters of total mobilization suddenly speak in belittling terms of "total mobilization".

THE COUP D'ETAT.

1) Preparation

The opposition in the Officers' Corps changed its plans after Stalingrad. In General Staff circles, for the first time, the idea developed that the war now recognized as lost, should be concluded in the 1918 style of Hindenburg-Ludendorff - the categorical demand by the

military leadership that the government immediately open peace negotiations in order to preserve the Reich. The military leadership should force Hitler to resign. Responsible high army commanders were sounded out on the proposition.

At the same time suitable connections were made in "business" and political spheres".

"Behind the conflict between army and party, the greater conflict between Hitler and the German people emerged. By the spring of 1944 a decided leadership in the opposition among high ranking army officers was working "uncompromisingly" for a greater aim: "to forcibly overthrow the Hitler regime in the army and in the state, terminating the lost war, and forming a new government, openly hostile to Hitler." The leadership crystalized in the General Staff and in the Staff of the Reserve Army. An opposition of a new kind, embracing all parts of the army and the people was also developing. War-weariness was the predominant characteristic and everything indicated readiness for action. There was, however, a large circle of "initiated" who knew only the general plan without details. The actual job was to be carried out by the reserve troops.

2) Myth and Reality.

The document refutes the Goebbels report on the events of July 20th as a fairy tale. From Goering and Goebbels down to the soldiers of Kramnitz and Klein-Glienicke, who had been ordered to the Bendlerstrasse on July 20th, so many persons in Germany know the facts, that the truth eventually became generally known. "Through one of those chance situations such as are known to every soldier in the field, the effect of the bomb and of the concussion was too weak at that spot where Hitler was standing. Exited about a remark of General Schmundt, Hitler - according to his habits - leaped up, ran through the room, He was just in a corner of the room, near the window, when the bomb exploded." Confusion at the Fuehrer's headquarters lasted for hours. Finally Himmler arrived and gave orders for the first counter measures. He warned all army-groups to line up with the conspirators. The latter immediately operated as a new government. They occupied the governmental district of Berlin. In numerous other cities the main buildings were occupied. But the expected news about Hitlers assassination did not arrive. Instead the Elite Guard went into action, late at night. The reserve troops, mobilized by the new government, were inadequate to deal with the Elite Guards. The clash was especially sharp in Koenigsberg.

The conspiratory leadership in the Bendlerstrasse tried their best to organize an orderly retreat at the risk of their own lives. Himmler got them. However: "The civilian section of the inner leading staff remained almost completely untouched. At their trial, the conspirators did not give away the secret of the movement at large and took it with them to their graves."

3) Balance-Sheet.

a) Uprising without front-line soldiers.

"It was a mistake to neglect the establishment of close connections with the Front Troops and their incorporation into the action proper. The idea to improve peace-conditions by keeping up the front, was understandable from the view-point of the generals".

They call this an "uncompromising" point of view. The Free German generals have now reached the conclusion that in Germany's desperate situation what is imperative is not the keeping up of the front, but an immediate cessation of the war with the overthrow and annihilation of the Elite Guard. "Thus only the army as the people in arms is able to save itself from destruction, to be of further value to Germany and to contribute to the gaining of a better peace".

b) Uprising without workers.

"It was a mistake, that the connections with the civilians were limited to the top of the administration, to commerce and to light industries. This point is even more true than that concerning the reserve troops. One cannot mobilize the masses merely by giving orders from above".

The above confession of General Lindemann and his colleagues seems to be the result of intimate conversations with their cohort Wilhelm Pieck.

PATTERN OF COLLAPSE.

1) Optimistic Outlook.

The document emphasizes repeatedly that Himmler was unable to crush the movement entirely. Even the fatal omission of not bringing in the front troops is quoted as a favorable factor for future actions. The general anger "over the cruel comedy of the "Court of Honor" and the execution on the gallows of a Fieldmarshal, three generals and four staff officers has won thousands of new followers to the opposition. The movement continues".

2) Our Conclusion.

July 20th settled the problem of how Hitlerism will collapse. The document, we are dealing with, shows us a number of hesitant Prussian officers finding their way to the Free German movement. Their failure led to elimination of their political and social inhibitions. Since August 8th, they refer to the lackeys of the "Court of Dishonor" and to the hangman Freisler and the Elite Guard bandits in the same way as do Pieck or Weinert.

Participants in the July revolt assert that the final crisis of the Hitler regime will be decided by "an armed uprising within Germany".

Our own conclusion: Whatever form this final crisis actually takes, so much is certain: one of its major elements will be: - mutiny in the army from top to bottom in close contact with the Seydlitz Committee in Moscow.

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FREE GERMAN NEWSREEL.

Wilhelm Pieck bows Before the Emperor's Flag.

When black-white-red was fluttering over Germany, Wilhelm Pieck - then a faithful member of the pre-First-World-War Social Democratic Party, attended Rosa Luxemburg's lectures in the party school. When the First World War was over, he belonged to the founders of the Spartacusbund, the fiercest adversary of all to the "black-white-red". When Hitler approached leadership, he was instrumental in Moscow's policy furthering the Fuehrer's rise to power. Now, in the company of so many black-white-red-swastika generals and marshals, he is not ashamed to confess:

"Under the flag black-white-red we communists honour the Empire, which was founded under these colours and which Hitler now intends to destroy by violence".

(Quotation from "La Otra Alemania" Chile, October 23rd, 1944)

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General Seydlitz Mourns Communist Florin.

A touching document, drawn up in Moscow, proves the new "Community of People" (die Volksgemeinschaft), now prepared by experts for post-Hitler Germany. On July 5th, 1944, Wilhelm Florin, old communist Reichstag deputy, died a natural death. Even that can happen at rare intervals, in Moscow. The Free German Committee sponsored the funeral. On the open grave two speakers honoured the dead man. Wilhelm Pieck mixed all ingredients together:

"...Florin was an energetic fighter in the front ranks for the scientific socialism of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin... and was therefore an impassioned fighter against barbaric Hitlerism and rapacious imperialism... for the freedom and the happiness of our German people ... for this very reason he was a real national-conscious (national-bewusster) German."

In the name of the "Union of German Officers", General von Seydlitz declared Florin as "the most loyal son of his people" (und dass Dein aermster Sohn, Dein getreuester war) and added: an honest, forceful, genuinely German fighter (ein kerndeutscher Kaempfer).

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Marshal Paulus at the Plenar Session
Of the Moscow Free Germans.

A plenar session of the "National Committee Free Germany in the USSR" has been held recently near Moscow. The most outstanding speaker was General Field Marshal Friedrich von Paulus, who has joined the National Committee a few days after the General's revolt of July 20th. To be sure, none of the foreign correspondents in Moscow was admitted.

The communist paper "The German American", New York, December 1st, '44 published a photo, taken from the Soviet press, showing von Paulus in an intimate chat with Wilhlem Pieck, general secretary of the German Communist Party. Von Seydlitz, Erich Weinert, Major General Lattmann and Colonel von Hoven are standing respectfully in the background.

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Paul Hagen changes his Name again.

The "German Language Group of the American Friends of German Freedom" has been liquidated by the fusion of the "American Friends" with the "Association for a Democratic Germany". Hagen's special clan is re-organized under the very timely title of "Anti-Nazi Forum". Chairman Paul Hertz, Board Alfred Baker Lewis, Anna Caples (Hagen's wife), Paul Hagen himself and James Loeb.

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Council for a Democratic Germany.

Albert Norden has entered the Executive Committee of the Council recently. He reinforces the group of official Communists, which are leading the affairs of the Council.

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Why Stalinist Propaganda Among
German War Prisoners in the United States?

The "German-American" (Dec. 1st, '44) writes to a sceptic who has doubts about the "German-American" approach to the problems of "war prisoner re-education".

"It depends on us in what a state of mind these prisoners will return to Germany".

The "German-American" publishes this answer, boasting at the same time, the relatively large number of copies going regularly into P.O.W. camps in the U.S.A.

Thus, the Stalinists in New York, prepare their infiltration in Germany.

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Amusements in Chile.

"Otra Alemania", (The Other Germany) Chile, in a letter from October 24th, draws our attention to the strange activities of the Free Germans in Santiago.

Their schedule for 1944 covers:

June: Rheinischer Abend mit Schinkenklopfen
July: Ringelpietz in der Berliner Laubenkolonie
August: Preisskat mit Mastgans
September: Bockbierfest mit Ueberraschungen

We are very sorry that we cannot translate these picturesque amusements into English.

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"Kabale und Liebe" In Gorki, Russia.

"On our way to the Officer's Camp O..., we are forced to interrupt our trip for a day. The rains have made the roads impassible. In the evening, four German officers, a former German deputy of the Reichstag, a Russian colonel and a representative of the City of Gorki, are together in orchestra seats at the theatre...

German war prisoners among the Russian people, in the midst of the bloodiest of wars, are listening to "Kabale und Liebe"... I have never lived through a better realization of Schiller's idea of a "National Theatre"....Unity of art und public....."

Oberleutnant (Colonel) Fritz Ruecker
Member of the "National Committee Free
Germany".
(Freies Deutschland, Mexico City, Dec. '44)

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CORRECTION:

Through a typing error four words were omitted in our issue # 10 on page 4 and thus the sacred rank order of the New York Free German Committee's hierarchy distorted. The Social Democrat must not be absent in the company. He is Vice-Chairman - the Catholic is treasurer. So it reads:

Paul Tillich, Professor of Protestant Theology, Chairman
Siegfried Aufhaeuser, Social Democrat, Vice-Chairman
Friedrich Baerwald, Catholic, Treasurer
Albert Schreiner, Communist, Secretary

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DETERIORATION OF "TEHERAN".

I.

Balkan Bloc - Nucleus of Eastern Europe.

The magic word "Teheran" made all liberals' and many bewildered conservatives breath easier. The reactionary trend in Russia, persistent since the end of the Civil War in 1921, and the fact that the spirit of the October revolution has vanished in everyday Russian life, seemed to prove the possibility and probability of a long period of prosperity and peace. The collaboration with Stalin seemed to the Western world the sine qua non of stemming the tide of the unbridled "movements" of the "partisan-generation".

The partition of Europe into influence-zones implied the non-intervention of one partner into the living-space of the other. Western and Southern Europe (Italy and the better part of the Balkans) and a large slice of Germany to the Anglo-American partners, and East and Central Europe to Russia, that was the deal of Teheran. The length of the interval between World War II and World War III depends on the "honesty" with which the deal is kept. American inside observers always underline the willingness and easy-going readiness for cooperation of Stalin's Narkomindel with America's Big Business. This is completely in accord with Communist propaganda.

The surprising fact, is the rapidity of the deterioration of "Teheran". We mean not so much the open conflict between the White House and Downing street. On the contrary, Stettinius' philosophical thesis about true and fake democracy is, in our opinion, an accompaniment of the successful progress of Stalin's policy. Everywhere in Europe, however, especially at all vulnerable spots of the British Empire, Stalin's efficiency in exploiting his military victory is upsetting all arrangements to such an extent that the quarrel between the victors has begun before final victory on the battlefield is achieved.

The background of the sharp turn is the unexpected growth of the neo-communist organizations in Western Europe.

These organizations flourish in the shadow of the Red Armys triumph over the Nazi army. They get strength in the milieu of the incredible misery of the masses in "liberated Europe". They gain strength in the atmosphere of confusion and helplessness prevailing in the political headquarters.

II.

A year ago Churchill met Marshall Tito in Italy. They shook hands; in the House of Commons Churchill made a speech in which he extolled the good relations of the British government with Tito and with the Greek communists. At that time Churchill must have cherished the illusion that "Teheran" meant a clearcut partition of the

Balkans into Russian and British zones, giving to Russia a share in the domination of the Dardanelles and leaving untouched the British lifeline in the Mediterranean. Churchill's dream has come to an end, not so much through the roar of Spitfires over Athens against the Elás, than through a much quieter, far reaching measure: On November 24th, "Marshal" Tito and Dr. Ivan Subasitch, Premier of the Yugoslav government in Exile (London), agreed to the construction of a "Slav Federation" composed of six autonomous states: Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Macedonia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Montenegro. Stalin has approved the Balkan Federation plan, which follows closely the pattern of the sixteen autonomous Soviet States, solemnly announced on February 1st, 1944, as the new model of "Socialist Federation". This federated Yugoslavia will unite its six national units under a central government and will have a planned economy; the factories and the businesses of collaborators would pass into the hands of the State. Foreign capital might be accepted under "certain conditions" for the restoration of communications and the installation of great public works, according to the acting Minister for Commerce and Industry in Belgrade. An all-party federal government is in the making which will avoid the civil disturbances and foreign intervention now obtaining in Greece and Belgium. "Marshal" Tito will be the new Premier; the exile will get "important posts" in the new line up.

Reporters on the scene are cabling: "Belgrade looks like a Soviet city. Uniforms of the Western Allies are rare, Soviet emblems are everywhere... virtually every store window is adorned with the portraits of Marshal Stalin and Tito side by side; a huge two-story picture of Tito hangs in the heart of the city... Partisans are drilling through the streets profusely bedecked with the red star, the hammer and sickle..."; a few days later we read in the same paper: "Although Marshal Tito is openly a communist, there has been no evidence that he wishes to establish a 'communist dictatorship'... the government of Tito will be pledged to the maintenance of the Four Freedoms and will not attempt to strangle expressions of criticism". (N.Y. Times, November 24th, N.Y. Times, December 6th, 1944)

Tito has already established his dictatorship, a partisan government, born in three years of civil war. Linguists are free to discuss whether this species of dictatorship is "communistic" or not; it is certainly totalitarian and dependent upon Moscow. Tito a pupil and later a leading confidante of the O.G.P.U. has been steeped and groomed in Stalinism since 1926. Tito will occupy a place of honour at Marshal Stalin's court in the future Federated Europe, similar to Mussolini's place in the esteem of Reichsfuehrer Hitler during the time of their glory. Tito will "clean" and purge from his federated Yugoslavia the tiniest spot of "Western Democracy" in an amazingly short time. In this respect his job is easy owing to the fact that the London Government-in-Exile has already come into the fold of the partisan movement; for this political wedding Churchill has been best man, in the belief that he would get Tito as a present of friendship from Marshal Stalin. Churchill's disappointment on the Yugoslavian deal may have influenced to a large extent the course of British politics in Greece.

The Stalinist Slav Federation is, in any case, an excellent piece of political handicraft. It solves the "macedonian question", one of the oldest devices for balkanizing the Balkans. Macedonia is today divided into three parts, one under Bulgarian, the second under Greek, and the third under Serbian domination. Bulgaria joined the German side twice, in two world wars, inspite of her "natural" leaning toward Big Brother Russia, in the desire to have and to hold her part of Macedonia against all aspirations of unification. Bulgaria has now already endorsed the Slav Federation plan. Germany had offered all Macedonia to Bulgaria; since the volte face of the Bulgarian-Russian armistice, however, Bulgars and detachments of the Red Army fight together with the Tito-partisans against the remnants of the German army in the Balkans.

Greek Macedonia with the Salonika port will be drawn irresistibly into the orbit of the new Macedonian state. It is today the stronghold of the Eam and the Elas. The British government can only by force hinder the incorporation of Greek Macedonia into the Slav Federation, and if its succeeds, it will create a trouble spot. Macedonian opposition, beaten today, will be stronger tomorrow when the Slav Federation becomes a reality. The Slav Federation under Tito's rule will attract other parts of the Balkans. Already the possibility of the inclusion of Albania into the Federation is discussed; the commander-in-chief of the Albanian army, Enver Hoxha, president of the Albanian government, is said to be looking forward to making common cause with his neighbors to the East, under certain foreseen conditions. Thus, Tito would solve another Balkan riddle, the "Albanian question".

The political frame-work, important as it might be, is overshadowed by the plan of the "Planned Economy". The Balkans, a backyard of Europe until the present time, an agglomeration of undeveloped countries, of landtilling peoples, is potentially one of the most fertile and promising corners of the earth. Balkan economists have proved for decades that their countries could be as rich in agricultural production (tobacco, corn, fruits, oil, wine, dairy products) as the best farmlands in America. Industrialization, stimulated by the oil-production of Rumania and by the development of an efficient traffic system, could easily progress in leaps and bounds, making lend-lease and imports of American goods superfluous in a surprisingly short period. That is the drive behind the unification trend. The Soviets have bound both, federation and planning, together. The partition of the Balkans into a Western zone and a Russian zone will prove impracticable. A Slav Federation actually functioning in the Balkans may upset the British power system in the Turkish and Iranian zones, already under the fire of Russian intervention. The consequences for the Middle East of such a political reorganization are incalculable. The Greek civil war can only be understood against the background of Tito's peaceful democratic arrangement of his own system.

"Life under partisan rule is described as hard and austere... Discipline and obedience are enforced rigidly, and enemies or those suspected of dealing with enemies are coldly liquidated". (Herald Tribune Nov. 23th) In the democratic Slav Federation under O.G.P.U. "Marshal" Tito, the Balkan tradition of blood-revenge, and the habits of years of guerilla fighting will blend excellently with O.G.P.U. methods made in Russia.



Our map shows the partition of Macedonia between Serbia, Bulgaria and Greece. The proposed incorporation of a united Macedonia in the new Slav Federation, firmly centralized under the Tito government, and with exactly the same sort of national autonomy as the 16 Soviet republics are enjoying within the USSR, involves strongly Greece and her present civil war. Bulgaria has already agreed upon the solution. Greek Macedonia is today firmly in ELAS hands. Meanwhile, armed Bulgarians are infiltrating northern Greece and British reports suggest that they are doing so at the invitation of the ELAS.

Macedonia, permanent trouble spot of the Balkans and a breeding place of guerillas long before the present war started, is now the place where the Tito movement and the EAM-ELAS movement are overlapping. The Tito government has formally recognized Greek sovereignty over Greek Macedonia. The Tito movement, and thereby Russian policy, is actually the strongest international support for the ELAS.

Ilja Ehrenburg wrote, in the Pravda, Dec. 17th: "There can be no half measures... The Red Army has shown what it means to liberate. The Poles, the Norwegians, Serbs and Slovaks know it".