

COUNTERATTACK

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
FACTS TO COMBAT COMMUNISM

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Dear Subscriber:

CASES OF JOSEPH STALIN, SAMUEL J. NOVICK, AND CLARENCE F. HISKEY throw a bright light on naive attitude of many Americans toward Communists. Stalin became the subject of almost pitying concern in many newspapers and news broadcasts this week. The poor fellow, it seemed, was now a "prisoner of the Politbureau". He had reached an agreement with U S, Britain, and France for ending Berlin blockade...but evidently other members of Politbureau overrode him, for Marshal Sokolovsky at Berlin refused to carry out the Stalin agreement. Fact is Stalin played Western powers for suckers.

He gave them the usual Stalin runaround. This consists of two parts. First, Stalin shows you what a reasonable man he is. He listens to you, he argues, he bargains, he compromises...and thus he gains valuable time...maybe weeks or even months. And after finally reaching an agreement with you "in principle", he refers you to Molotov or someone else to work out the details. But Molotov...or Sokolovsky, or whoever it is...proves unexpectedly tough. You argue with him and thus you let another couple of weeks slip by before you wake up. And then, just as you are considering whether to tell the world what has been going on, Stalin beats you to the punch by issuing a propaganda blast, which distorts the whole matter.

IF DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PROSECUTES SAMUEL J. NOVICK FOR PERJURY, it will be taking a much different attitude towards him than the Govt has done in the past. That attitude was naive. Or worse.

Novick was named in second issue of Counterattack, dated May 23, 1947. He had just given \$500 to a leading Communist front, the American Russian Institute, at its annual dinner, where main speaker was Gromyko.

Novick got \$6,000,000 of war contracts on very secret electronic devices during Second World War. This meant he was trusted by U S Govt. He was cleared. He was a dependable citizen. Well, what was his record?

He sponsored Johannes Steel and Wm S Gailmor on radio. House Committee on Un-American Activities describes them as "notorious pro-Communist commentators". Counterattack gave facts about Steel, July 25 '47. Steel has had a twisted career. When he fled from Germany in 1933 he said he had been a fund-raiser for Hitler. He had fallen out with the Nazis and had barely escaped alive. Reaching U S in 1934, he soon became a party-liner.

Gailmor, "People's Pickpocket" and auto thief, also has a strange history (Counterattack July 30). He makes the money-raising speeches for the Commgressives at Wallace meetings. He has gone all over the country on this business. And Ex-Congressman Hugh DeLacy's Communist weekly, the New World (of Seattle), has praised him as "the People's Pickpocket". Several years ago he was convicted of auto theft. He now has a weekly radio program that's sponsored by Geo F Stuhmer & Co, bakers, of Brooklyn.

Novick has given a lot of money to Communist fronts. Among them: Young Communist League, alias American Youth for Democracy.

New Masses, Communist Party weekly (now merged & renamed).
International Labor Defense, former legal arm of Communist Party.
Jefferson School of Social Science, the party's biggest school.
Veterans of Abraham Lincoln Brigade.
Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee.
"The Protestant" magazine (ardently pro-Moscow).
Voice of Freedom Committee (to put Communist commentators on air).
Friends of the Soviet Union.
Natl Council of American-Soviet Friendship (successor to above).
American Russian Institute (Novick is a director).
International Workers Order (party's fraternal insurance society).

All this and more was well known about Novick during the war. The FBI reported he attended parties at Soviet consulates and visited Soviet Embassy. Yet the company of which he's president, Electronic Corp of America (formerly Tranformer Corp of America), received war contracts for very secret electronic devices used in radar installations...and in fact for a while it was the ONLY supplier of these devices. Was somebody high up in the Govt being naive? If not, why were FBI reports ignored?

Novick's public relations director at Electronic Corp used to be Carl Bristel, former business manager of the party weekly, New Masses.

When Novick was called before the House Committee recently, he was asked about Arthur Adams, the Soviet spy who headed an atomic espionage ring during the war and who later disappeared and presumably returned to Russia. Novick testified that he had met Adams in 1938, as a customer of a company Novick headed then, Wholesale Radio Service.

Fact is that Novick helped to bring Adams to U S before then. On Dec 19, 1937, Novick sent a letter to the Immigration & Naturalization Service, urging Adams' admittance to U S from Canada, where he was at that time. In this letter Novick said Adams was a radio engineer whom he had employed for 10 years in Canada.

The Govt was naive enough to admit Adams to the U S. For a time he represented Amtorg, the Soviet commercial agency. It was apparently as a representative of Amtorg that Adams made large purchases from Novick in 1938.

Adams couldn't have been working for Novick in Canada from 1927 to 1937, as Novick said in his letter to the Govt. In 1927 Adams came to U S with his wife, after an absence in Russia of several years (he had been here before on Soviet business). He said in 1927 that he represented the Amo Motor Co, the first Soviet automobile enterprise. From 1927 to 1932 he was back in Russia. In 1932 he returned to the U S, saying he was a member of the Soviet aviation trust and had been sent here to buy airplanes from Curtiss-Wright. After a few months he went back to Russia. In 1936 he returned here again. In 1937 he went away, saying he was going back to Russia. Whether he did so is unknown. Anyhow in a short time he turned up in Canada, seeking admittance to U S...and getting it, with Novick's help.

Novick says last time he saw Adams was in 1945, and the place was the office of Eric Bernay's company, Keynote Recordings. "I went there to discuss record manufacturing possibilities with Mr Bernay," he says. Bernay had given Adams a cover job, which he used to disguise his activities in atomic spying (Counterattack Sept 17, p 1). Bernay is a former advertising manager of New Masses. Adams' alleged salary was \$75 a week, and Bernay says he worked a four-hour day. At least he hung his hat there sometimes.

Novick's Electronic Corp got the Navy E award. And when Electronic celebrated this occasion with a banquet, who do you suppose showed up? Adams, the spy chief. With him was his "intimate" companion, Victoria Stone.

Mrs Stone is a jeweler, and the money for her shop was put up by Julius Heiman, who used to be in textile business but later became a steel importer. She testified before House Committee that Heiman introduced her to Earl Browder, then head of Communist Party, and both she and Browder were frequent guests in Heiman's home. During the war she and Arthur Adams were often guests of Heiman.

All these persons also knew Dr Louis Miller, who was the physician for most of them. Miller is one of the 11 convicted directors of a big Communist front & racket, Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. Miller and the other directors are going to jail for contempt of Congress.

Novick, Miller, Bernay, Heiman, and Victoria Stone "constitute a branch, and a vital branch, of the Communist espionage apparatus in the U S," says the House Committee. "It is the committee's belief that they represent a Communist echelon even higher than the highest echelon of the open Communist Party in the U S." What the committee means is that they are agents of one of Moscow's international organizations, such as Soviet secret police.

Novick's association with all these people was well known. FBI and other agencies reported his connection with Heiman, who was Browder's friend and whose daughter has worked for Soviet Embassy and for Tass, the Soviet news agency. Nevertheless Novick got \$6,000,000 of war contracts for highly secret electronic devices. Was somebody in high office being naive?

SOMEBODY IS BEING NAIVE ABOUT CLARENCE F. HISKEY, who's now a professor of analytical chemistry at Polytechnic Institute, Brooklyn. He held important supervisory posts in Govt wartime projects that developed atomic energy. The House Committee has given a lot of facts about his contacts with Arthur Adams, the espionage chief.

But the president of the Polytechnic Institute, Dr Harry S Rogers, says he won't suspend Hiskey. Why not? Because he hasn't been indicted. Rogers even accuses the committee of injustice because it has published the facts. "The publication of the record of a Congressional committee tending to incriminate private citizens may do grave injustice and irreparable harm," he says. That's right, it may...if it isn't a fair report. Is the committee's report unfair? What's Hiskey's answer to it?

"Are you a member of the Communist Party?" Hiskey was asked this question. He refused to answer, on the ground that the answer would tend to "degrade or incriminate" him. What does Dr. Rogers, the president of Polytechnic Institute, think of that? Rogers is a former president of Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. Many graduates and trustees of Polytechnic Institute hold important business posts. Such persons aren't supposed to be naive. Do they think a man should be retained as a professor at Polytechnic after he refuses to tell Congress whether he's a CP member?

WHETHER THE COMMUNISTS WILL PULL OUT OF THE CIO and form a third labor federation in near future, to rival CIO and AFL, may be decided by events at CIO convention in Portland, Ore, Nov 22. The anti-Communists will take the offensive there, and the question is whether the Russia Firsters will be so weakened that the party will order them to secede.

The Communists took a beating in United Rubber Workers' convention

last week. They had hoped to unseat Pres L S Buckmaster and to induce the union to reject national CIO policy on Truman, Wallace, Marshall Plan, etc. But Buckmaster won reelection, and the convention opposed the Communists' Third Party and endorsed Philip Murray's policy.

CAN COMMUNISTS BUY AN AFL CHARTER FOR \$200,000? Eight Communist-controlled locals of Retail, Wholesale & Dept Store Union, CIO, have bolted that union and formed a "Distributive Trades Council". Now they want a charter...an AFL one. Why? Well, they can't get their contracts renewed next winter unless they're recognized by NLRB. This means non-Communist affidavits must be signed by officers of the locals and of the international.

The Communist leaders would like to take their locals into some party-line international, like United Electrical. But these internationals haven't filed the affidavits. And no non-Communist international in CIO will accept these party-line locals. So what's to be done?

Secretly some Communist leaders have offered \$200,000 to the Bldg Service Employees International Union, AFL, in return for a charter. The officers of this international have signed non-Communist affidavits.

If charter is granted, officers of locals who are party members will resign, and non-party stooges will replace them. But the resigned officers will then get appointive jobs and will still run the locals. This procedure has already been adopted in one of biggest of these locals. And the top Communist chiefs, like Arthur Osman, Wm Michelson, and Nicholas Carnes, will run all eight locals through their joint board, or "Distributive Trades Council". Officers of such a board don't have to sign affidavits.

That's the game the Communists are playing. Now the question is whether they can buy an AFL mask for \$200,000, to disguise themselves with.

MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT HAS A BONE TO PICK WITH COUNTERATTACK. On Aug 13 and Sept 3, Counterattack commented on Mrs Roosevelt's vehement denunciations of Elizabeth Bentley and Whittaker Chambers. The other day, in her newspaper column, Mrs Roosevelt wrote that she had read several paragraphs about herself in Counterattack. She added:

"Since reproduction is prohibited by the publishers I cannot quote them, but I can say I think they are rather weak. I should like to argue with the editors of this sheet if they would be kind enough to allow quotations. There are a lot of funny things in these few pages, and if I am mistaken in being amused, then let us say that it seems to me some of the people who write the sheet are a bit wrong in both premise and conclusion. It would be fun to have a good laugh with them, but I suppose that would worry them, for I imagine they can't afford to laugh. They must keep on a high level and be dull and serious and try to frighten their subscribers a little more than they already are."

Keeping on a reasonably high level, Counterattack has informed Mrs Roosevelt that she's free to quote Counterattack in her column whenever she wishes to comment on it. It will be interesting to see by what means, logical or otherwise, she attempts to justify her bitter attacks on Whittaker Chambers & Elizabeth Bentley...whose offense is that they've told the truth.

Yours faithfully,

October 1, 1948

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