

COUNTERATTACK

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

FACTS TO COMBAT COMMUNISM

85 WEST 42ND STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y. LONGACRE 4-1458

Letter No. 86
January 14, 1949

Dear Subscriber:

COMMUNIST PARTY HAS FINGERS CROSSED ON ACHESON. It expects that his appointment as Sec'y of State will bring a shift of American policy on Stalin Russia...some kind of compromise...some kind of short cut to "peace". But the CP doesn't know how far Truman & Acheson will go...how far they'll play into Moscow's hands. So for the time being it's waiting cautiously.

Dean Acheson used to be an appeaser. How much has he changed? What policy does he favor now? Let's look at the facts about him.

Counterattack was the first to disclose that Acheson acted as a guarantor & protector of Alger & Donald Hiss after Whittaker Chambers went to Assistant Sec'y of State Adolf A Berle, Jr, in August 1939 and told part of his story (Counterattack Aug 6 '48, p 3).

Berle gave the same facts in more detail later when testifying before House Un-American Activities Committee. "I checked on the two Hiss boys," he said. "Specifically, I checked with Dean Acheson, and later I checked when Acheson became the Assistant Sec'y of State and Alger Hiss became his executive assistant...Acheson said that he had known the family and these two boys from childhood and could vouch for them absolutely."

When Berle was asked if he had suspected Alger Hiss, he replied: "A better way of saying it is: I was worried...In the fall of 1944 there was a difference of opinion in the State Dept. I felt that the Russians were not going to be sympathetic and cooperative...I was pressing for a pretty clean-cut showdown then when our position was strongest.

"The opposite group in the State Dept was largely the men -- Mr Acheson's group, of course, with Mr Hiss as his principal assistant in the matter...At that time Mr Hiss did take what we would call today the pro-Russian point of view. Now, that was reason for worry. It is not necessarily a reason to draw the conclusion that he was a disloyal man because many people were quite loyal, including a good many of the Army officers who felt the Russian army would be important in case of an invasion of Japan and that by consequence it was desirable not to raise any issues until later. I say that in Mr Hiss' defense, although I got trimmed in that fight, and, as a result, went to Brazil, and that ended my diplomatic career....

"Now, there was one other thing that worried me, too. At that time we were all trying not to tell anything that ought not to be told, and there were pretty consistent leaks whenever anything went through that office. Usually, we would know about them because they would come out in Mr Drew Pearson's column, and one of the leg men was pretty intimate in that office." (Pearson has a leg-man with a Communist past.) "Well, this was reason for caution...When Mr Hiss began to move up in the hierarchy with Mr Acheson, I checked with Mr Acheson. Frankly, I still don't know whether this is a boy that got in deep and then pulled clear, or what goes on here."

Donald Hiss was chief economic advisor to Acheson. Before Acheson

joined State Dept in 1941, he was a member of Washington law firm of Covington, Burling, Rublee, Acheson & Shorb. He returned to it when he resigned from State Dept in 1947. This firm became counsel for Communist regime of Poland in 1945. Donald Hiss left State Dept to become an employee of the firm, and later was made a partner.

In 1946 the U S granted a \$90,000,000 loan to the Polish Communists, despite strong and long-continued objections of our ambassador to Poland, Arthur Bliss Lane (see the chapter, "Financial Appeasement", in his book, "I saw Poland Betrayed", published lately by Bobbs-Merrill).

Donald Hiss handled the Polish loan and afterwards was active in an attempt to borrow \$600,000,000 more from the World Bank.

After Roosevelt suddenly died in April 1945 and V-P Truman was catapulted into White House, Acheson saw him often. At that time Acheson was an Assistant Sec'y of State. Mrs Truman joined a Spanish class, and Mrs Acheson joined it too. Acheson and Truman became very friendly.

Acheson disagreed with Undersecretary of State Joseph C Grew, who was strongly anti-Communist. The Communists and pro-Communists were waging a campaign against Grew because he opposed their policies on China and Japan. Acheson told Truman that Grew's policies were wrong.

Acheson arranged for Owen Lattimore to see Truman and to tell him what our policies in Far East should be. Lattimore was a member of Exec Committee of Institute of Pacific Relations, along with Frederick Vanderbilt Field, a Communist Party member. Lattimore & Field were also associated in other organizations. They had both been on editorial board of Amerasia magazine, which in 1945 was involved in State Dept espionage case.

Philip J Jaffe, a friend of Earl Browder, was publisher of this magazine. Jaffe got many documents from State Dept. Some of these had been classified as highly secret. In office of his small magazine, the FBI found large-sized equipment for photographing documents.

Campaign against Undersec'y Grew succeeded in August 1945, when he was forced to resign. Truman appointed Acheson to replace him.

In the following month Jaffe was allowed to plead guilty to a minor charge and escape with a fine of \$2,500.

Acheson spoke on same platform with "Red Dean" of Canterbury Cathedral, Rev Hewlett Johnson, in Nov 1945. This was at meeting of big Communist front, Natl Council of American-Soviet Friendship.

But in 1946 Acheson began changing his attitude toward Moscow. In 1947 he was active in launching the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan. Now Herbert Hoover praises him and so does John Foster Dulles.

These endorsements must be treated with respect, even though Dulles also picked Alger Hiss to become president of Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Acheson has definitely convinced many leading anti-Communists that he's no longer an appeaser.

That's all to the good. But some other factors need attention.

First there's the moral question. The Teheran & Yalta deals of war-time, like the Munich deal of 1938, weren't only MISTAKES. They were morally wrong. They betrayed whole peoples to Communist tyranny. They betrayed hundreds of individual democratic leaders to death. When Ambassador Lane wrote his book, "I Saw Poland Betrayed", he chose the title carefully. Our Govt betrayed Poland...and China and other countries as well. These acts were really crimes...or, to use an older word, sins. Yet has Acheson spoken a word of repentance for his part in these betrayals?

Next, Jay Franklin's article in Life magazine, and his previous remarks of the same sort in his newspaper column, can't be ignored. Truman hasn't explained why a known appeaser like Franklin was brought in to write some of Truman's campaign speeches. Franklin says Truman wants a softer policy toward Moscow. The Communists & fellow-travelers think so too.

The Communist Party reacted significantly to Acheson's appointment. It published a long editorial in the Daily Worker beginning, "The headlines announcing the resignation of Secretary Marshall and his Wall Street banker colleague, Robert A Lovett, are another act in the cat-and-mouse game which President Truman is playing with the peace of the United States." Note the significant omission. Those same headlines also announced the appointment of Acheson to replace Marshall...but the Daily Worker didn't mention that fact in the first sentence...or ANYWHERE ELSE in the long editorial. Truman, Marshall & Lovett were named repeatedly...but Acheson NOT ONCE.

Theme of the editorial was that Truman was yielding to public pressure, just as he had done in his "peace" talk in the campaign...and that "the American people can press their advantage...if they put tremendous pressure on Congress and the Senate as well as on the White House itself." But what about Acheson? NOT ONE WORD. Plainly the Communist Party leaders believe Truman is planning a new approach to Moscow, and that Acheson agrees with him. And the Communists know that the way to get the biggest compromise is to bargain hard, talk suspiciously, and exert pressure.

J Raymond Walsh, pro-Soviet radio commentator, also made a revealing interpretation. (At the time of Amerasia espionage case, Walsh spoke on the radio in behalf of the defendants. Referring to one of them he said: "His arrest brought some exceedingly powerful people within the Govt to his defense.") When Truman announced Acheson would become Sec'y of State, Walsh said on Station WMCA, New York: "There's more to this than a mere shift of officeholders....Jay Franklin is not just a writer"...he was close to Roosevelt and has been close to Truman, said Walsh. And Acheson is "a genuine cosmopolitan....He's against hysteria. He's a tolerant man." By this Walsh implied that Acheson has a "tolerant" attitude toward Stalin Russia.

Here's another significant thing. The newspaper PM, which now calls itself NYStar, has repeatedly cartooned Marshall as a silly 19th century general, with a huge sword and grotesque epaulettes, and wearing a fool's cap. This newspaper greeted Acheson's appointment with satisfaction. Jennings Perry, a smooth columnist on this paper who has campaigned cleverly for appeasement, declared "there would have been general and genuine disappointment if Marshall had not resigned."

What does all this add up to? Not a DIRECT form of appeasement. Acheson will GUIDE Truman, not try to outrun him. He'll yes him as much as necessary. The U S will still talk firmly to Stalin, will still resist him. Yet all signs point toward an attempt to make a real & permanent agreement with him...a new settlement, with give & take on both sides.

But no settlement with Stalin can be permanent. The world is changing. We're letting Asia slip into Communist control. Stalin's Fifth Column in every country will continue to operate. If Stalin agrees to a settlement, it will only be to stall while Soviet strength increases and America's declines...till we're about as weak as Britain is now. There's no safety for America in such a policy. Safest thing is a policy of "containing" Stalin Russia...holding it back...squeezing it...weakening it more and

more until in the end we force an internal change that will overthrow the Communist regime. That's the ONLY alternative to a shooting war.

The indicated Truman-Acheson policy would gradually but surely turn the cold war into a phony peace...lull the American people to sleep...and finally bring on a shooting war when the odds were against us.

Counterattack hopes that this forecast of the Truman-Acheson policy will prove to be wrong. Best way of making it come wrong is by insisting that the President of the United States and the Secretary of State and both houses of Congress stand firm against Stalin Russia.

Let there be no appeasement, direct or indirect! Make this demand heard throughout the land. Otherwise America may be finished.

SLAVIC COUNCIL OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, a Communist front, had a radio program for five years on Station KXLA, Los Angeles, promoting Communist policies, especially with reference to Communist regimes of Slavic countries. Lately the station cracked down on this propaganda. So the Slavic Council is off the air...but it has started a magazine, the Slavic American News, to push the same line. Moscow is now emphasizing Slavic propaganda in U S.

BEAUTIFUL WHITEWASHING OF PAUL DRAPER & LARRY ADLER has been administered by Greenwich Community Concert Assn, of Greenwich, Conn. This organization has arranged for Tap Dancer Draper & Harmonica Player Adler to give one of their concerts, Jan 21. Objections arose because of the many Communist-front connections of these men. The board of the association held a meeting and questioned Draper & Adler, who gave the usual pat answers. So the board announced it was convinced that Draper's & Adler's "activities are not subversive in character" but "are based on the American pattern".

American pattern? Let's see. Draper & Adler don't admit they're Communist Party members. (Draper's mother, Muriel Draper, is a Communist Party member...she's Executive V-P of Congress of American Women, big Communist front.) Draper & Adler continually push Communist projects...they're favorites of the Daily Worker. Among Draper's connections are these:

New Masses, Communist Party's former weekly...he entertained at a concert for its benefit, along with Paul Robeson...and later Daily Worker published a picture of Draper being sketched by a New Masses artist...Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, big front & racket...May Day parade committee, 1946...Citizens Committee of Upper West Side...Communists' Third Party.

And a few of Larry Adler's Communist-front connections are: Civil Rights Congress...American Labor Party...American Committee of Jewish Writers, Artists & Scientists (denounced by American Jewish League Against Communism)...Progressive Citizens of America...Communists' Third Party.

The country is still asleep. Whitewashing of Draper & Adler in Greenwich, Conn, is one of many examples. Communists & fellow-travelers appear at concerts and on lecture platforms all over U S. They're clean & neat. No Bolshevik whiskers. So they can't be Communists. "Let's not have a witch-hunt"...that's the prevailing attitude...especially in prosperous, "sophisticated" communities. In other words, "it can't happen here!"

Yours faithfully,

January 14, 1949

Counterattack