

# NEW MASSES

Vol. 2 2022 A Marxist Cultural Journal



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## **NEW MASSES**

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GILSON

# Bertolt Brecht's *Song of the United Front*



Em B7<sup>b9</sup> B7 Em

Und weil der Mensch ein Mensch ist, drum braucht er was zum Essen, bitte sehr! Es

G G# Am F#7 B+ Em Am

macht ihn ein Ge-schwätz nicht satt, das schafft kein Es-sen her. Drum

Em7 Am7 B7 Em G G# Am

links, zwei, drei! Drum links, zwei, drei! Wo dein Platz, Ge-nosse, ist! Reih dich

C<sup>b7</sup> Am E Em C7 B B7 Em

ein in die Ar-bei-ter-ein-heitsfront, weil du auch ein Ar-bei-ter bist.

## German

Und weil der Mensch ein Mensch ist,  
drum braucht er was zum Essen, bitte sehr!

Es macht ihn ein Geschwätz nicht satt,  
das schafft kein Essen her.

### Refrain:

Drum links, zwei, drei!

Drum links, zwei, drei!

Wo dein Platz, Genosse, ist!

Reih dich ein in die Arbeitereinheitsfront,  
weil du auch ein Arbeiter bist.

Und weil der Mensch ein Mensch ist,  
drum braucht er auch noch Kleider und  
Schuh!

Es macht ihn ein Geschwätz nicht warm  
und auch kein Trommeln dazu.

### Refrain

Und weil der Mensch ein Mensch ist,  
drum hat er Stiefel im Gesicht nicht gern!  
Er will unter sich keinen Sklaven seh'n  
und über sich keinen Herr'n.

### Refrain

Und weil der Prolet ein Prolet ist,  
drum wird ihn kein anderer befrei'n.  
Es kann die Befreiung der Arbeiter nur  
das Werk der Arbeiter sein.

### Refrain

## English translation

And because a person is a person,  
he'll need something to eat, please!

He gets tired of prattle  
for it does not give him food.

### Refrain:

So left, two, three!

So left, two, three!

To where your place is, comrade!  
Join up with the workers' United Front,  
for you are a worker too!

And because a person is a person,  
he will need clothes and shoes!  
Prattle will not keep him warm,  
and neither will the drums [of war].

### Refrain

And because a person is a person,  
he doesn't need a boot to the face!  
He wants no slaves under him,  
and no masters above!

### Refrain

And because a prole is a prole,  
no one else will free him.  
The liberation of the working class can only  
be  
the job of workers.

### Refrain



Artwork by Antoine Lourdin

# "Everywhere the Youth is Singing Freedom's Song" - History of the Hymn of the World Federation of Democratic Youth

By Kamryn Stringfield

Upon the smoldering ashes and rubble of the Second World War, the **World Federation of Democratic Youth** was founded in London on November 10th, 1945 by anti-fascists from all over the world. It was at the 1st World Youth Conference that 63 nations, representing around 30,000,000 youth, gathered and formed the World Federation of Democratic Youth. At the final session of this conference, a Message to the Youth of the World was adopted. The end of this document read

"The doors of our World Federation are wide open to the freedom loving youth who uphold the United Nations - who are pledged seriously and selflessly to fight for lasting peace. The future lies before us - the world must be rebuilt. We pledge ourselves to carry on the fight to free those youth who have not yet the liberty for which we fought. In war we were united - in peace we must remain united. We want a world as you do, free from war and suffering. AND WE WILL HAVE IT!"

The anthem of the World

Federation of Democratic Youth was written by a renowned Soviet composer, **Anatoly Novikov**. Novikov had already composed well known Soviet hits like "Vasya-vasilyok" in 1941, "Smuglyanka" in '43, "Rossiya" in '46, "Dorogi"/"Roads" in '46 as well. Novikov was awarded two Stalin prizes in the late 40's (awards for arts, math, science etc that benefits the USSR and the cause of socialism) and later was awarded with the title of the "People's Artist of the USSR" in 1970's, as well as the Hero of Socialist Labour and Order of Lenin commendations.

On July 25th, 1947, he performed the new "**Song of Democratic Youth**" (**Hymn of the WFDY**) at the 1st World Festival of Youth and Students in the capital city of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Prague. Lyrics were read by Soviet poet and Stalin prize winner Lev Oshanin. For the next 4 weeks the festival lasted, as youth and students from across the planet competed in athletics and stood in solidarity with each other under the blue flag with the WFDY emblem upon it.

## History of the Hymn of the World Federation of Democratic Youth

The festival itself was partially in remembrance of the uprisings of the Czech people when the Nazis invaded in the late 1930's. It was only 2 years after the evil, barbaric Nazi regime was put to death by the USSR with the help of allies and partisans alike. So many people from so many nations suffered and died fighting the onslaught of fascism, either from Nazi Germany or the other Axis powers and fascist organizations. **20-27 million Soviets died in the war.** 15-20 million Chinese. About 6



Left: Emblem for the 1st WFYS. Right: Bulgarian youth march the streets of Prague. [Source: Bundesarchiv, Bild 183-L0602-0335 / CC-BY-SA 3.0]

million Poles. Around 300,000 Czechs died. Even an astounding ~420,000 Americans died. Grief was heavy, but there was now a gratification for winning the war and preventing fascism from ever rising again and stomping it out where it was. They wanted to remain united in the pursuit of peace

The Song of Democratic Youth **reflects the zeal and resilience of the youth**, and their **absolute determination to not let what happened from 1939-1945 ever**

**"With no revolutionary theory, there can be no revolutionary movement"**

**- V. I. Lenin**



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**occur again.** Much like the Internationale, the WFDY was translated to and composed in a myriad of different languages so as to unite the youth of every continent in harmony for peace, anti-fascism and anti-imperialism.

The lyrics showcase a **shared experience in the second major global conflict of the 20th century.** They bring together Manchurian peasants who suffered at the hands of the Japanese Empire with the German Jews who survived the unfathomable horrors of the Nazi concentration camps. They bring the Italian partisan who hid from Mussolini's beasts in caves together with the Algerian villagers, the lands of which were occupied by Vichy France. **The cadence and rhythm then brings out the camaraderie between these peoples.**

Even in the face of the beginning of the Cold War & being derided as a communist front organization by western imperialists, the WFDY stayed strong and still exists today.

**(Verse 1)**

**One great vision unites us  
Though remote be the lands of our  
birth.**

**Foes may threaten and smite us,  
Still we live to bring peace to the  
earth.**

**Every country and nation,  
Stirs with youth's inspiration —  
Young folks are singing,  
Happiness bringing  
Friendship to all the world.**

**(Chorus)**

**Everywhere the youth is singing  
freedom's song, freedom's song,  
freedom's song.**

**We rejoice to show the world that  
we are strong, we are strong, we  
are strong.**

**We are the youth, and the world  
acclaims our song of truth.**

**Everywhere the youth is singing  
freedom's song, freedom's song,  
freedom's song.**

**(Verse 2)**

**We remember the battle,  
And the heroes who fell on the  
field,  
Sacred blood running crimson,  
Our invincible friendship has  
sealed.**

**All who cherish the vision,  
Make the final decision,  
Struggle for justice, peace and  
good will**

## **Lyrics for the Song of Democratic Youth**



Anatoly Novikov, Composer

**For peoples throughout the world.**

**(Chorus)**

**(Verse 3)**

**Solemnly our young voices  
Take the vow to be true to our  
cause.**

**We are proud of our choices,  
We are serving humanity's laws.**

**Still the forces of evil  
lead the world to upheaval.**

**Down with their lying!  
End useless dying,  
Live for a happy world.**

**(Chorus)**

**(End)**



Emblem of the WFDY



Artwork by Antoine Lourdin



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# Pages from Our Past:

## Wall Street's Fascist Conspiracy - 1/29/35

by John L. Spivak

**A**N ORGANIZED conspiracy exists to seize the government by a fascist coup. The Congressional Committee appointed to investigate just such activities has not only failed to follow the trail of evidence to its fountain head—Wall Street—but has deliberately suppressed evidence pointing in that direction.

In these articles the reality of Wall Street's fascist conspiracy will be made clear; the lineup of financial interests back of the conspiracy will be set forth; and the real role of the Dickstein Committee, which suppressed this evidence, will be revealed.

A suggestion of the existence of Wall Street's fascist conspiracy was made public in November. The Dickstein Committee then was forced to call Gen. Smedley D. Butler, one of those who made the charges, to testify. And that was the end of the Committee's interest in proving the charges.

This series of articles will go deeply into the whole situation, of which only a hint trickled through to the public. The suppression of evidence by the Dickstein Committee reveals the Committee's real character: With an ostensible mission to uncover fascist activities, the Committee actually turned out to be a close collaborator with the would-be fascist rulers of the country; it covered up the conspiracy by suppressing evidence which led too high up in those financial and industrial groups which run Congress, "advise" the President, and dominate the country.

It will be shown that financial and economic class considerations rise above every other kind, including racial and religious ones. The anti-semitic character of Nazism has been abundantly demonstrated in these pages; nevertheless this article, and succeeding ones, will reveal Jewish financiers working with fascist groups which, if successful, would unquestionably heighten the wave of Hate-the-Jew propaganda.

The class basis of social forces is nowhere more clearly revealed than in this situation—capitalists, including Jews, making common cause with anti-semitic fascist and potentially fascist organizations, in an effort to crush labor. The ultimate aim of course is the true fascist one of a "totalitarian state," with all cultural, educational, and political activities inimical to capitalism suppressed. The imme-

diated path to this objective is the destruction of the labor movement and particularly the militant vanguard represented by the Communist Party.

The Dickstein Committee has deliberately suppressed testimony of fascist activities which it had in its possession. This evidence was suppressed because financial powers behind the committee are among the supporters of fascist organizations.

Throughout its investigation of Nazi, fascist and Communist activities the Committee has been careful not to involve certain financial interests—such as J. P. Morgan and Co., Kuhn, Loeb and Co., etc. Felix Warburg, head of the Kuhn, Loeb banking house virtually dominates it as well as the American Jewish Committee, a powerful organization active in fighting the spread of anti-semitism. The American Jewish Committee is controlled by wealthy Jews. However, it has a large following among lower and middle-class Jews who are not aware of the maneuverings of the leadership for its own economic interests. The zeal of the leaders in fighting anti-semitism is tempered by the financial interests of some of them—in the United States and in Nazi Germany—and by the active participation of some of them in fascist organizations in this country.

Shortly after the Dickstein Committee was empowered by Congress to investigate "subversive" activities, leaders of the American Jewish Committee began to steer the Congressional Committee's investigations. In the course of this steering, information was suppressed which reflected upon leading bankers, as well as information of fascist organizations in which they were interested.

Instead of actually seeking evidence of fascist organizations and who are behind them, the Congressional Committee ignored Fascism until its menace here was thrust upon them; and then suppressed vital evidence regarding it. The reason: Wall Street interests such as Morgan's were involved which are tied up with the Warburg interests—which dominate the American Jewish Committee without the knowledge of the overwhelming majority of its membership.

In the course of these articles I shall show:

1. That the Dickstein Committee refuses to explain why it suppressed evidence of fas-

cist organizations and of fascist movements.

2. That the Dickstein Committee knew of the offer made to Gen. Smedley Butler to organize a fascist army of 500,000 men, but ignored this information until it was forced to call Butler.

3. That having called him, the Committee issued a garbled statement of what he said and not until the national furore died down did it issue even *parts* of his testimony.

4. That Gen. Butler named a fascist organization in which some leaders of the American Jewish Committee are active—and that this testimony was suppressed.

5. That a Nazi agent worked in Warburg's Bank of Manhattan and that Felix Warburg was never called upon to explain how he got there.

6. That the Warburg financial interests have heavy investments in Nazi Germany. The American Jewish Committee has steadfastly opposed the boycott of German goods.

7. That the most powerful fascist organizations are controlled by financiers whose interests are controlled by J. P. Morgan's interests.

8. That the Warburg financial interests are tied up with Morgan and consequently work with Morgan men.

9. That Grayson M-P Murphy, involved in the plot to organize a fascist army, is a Morgan man and one of those who originally financed the starting of the American Legion for "Big Business" and who supports disseminators of anti-semitic propaganda; and that knowing all this the Dickstein Committee never called Murphy to explain his activities.

10. That a Hearst man tied up with Morgan interests captured control of the American Legion, which Butler was asked to lead as a fascist army; and that this man, summoned to appear before the Dickstein Committee, was never questioned after he had had a secret conference with President Roosevelt.

11. That the American Liberty League was named by Butler and this fact suppressed by the Dickstein Committee. The League is controlled by Morgan-du Pont interests as well as having Warburg representation on it.

12. That the Remington Arms Co., controlled by Morgan-du Pont, was named as the body which would supply arms and equip-

ment to the fascist army and that this testimony was suppressed by the Congressional Committee.

13. That Max Warburg, brother of Felix, and directors of the steel trust of Germany, which originally financed Hitler, are in the United States trying to get credits for Hitler's government in copper purchases.

14. That Hearst copper interests were among those being considered at the time Hearst opened his anti-red campaign.

Let us first consider Butler's testimony that he was offered \$3,000,000 to organize a fascist army with a promise of \$300,000,000 more if it became necessary. I shall review it very briefly to refresh the reader's mind.

Gen. Smedley Butler testified that he was approached by Gerald C. MacGuire, a "\$100 a week bond salesman," with an offer of \$18,000 in one thousand dollar bills to go to the American Legion convention in Chicago in 1933 to make a speech in favor of the gold standard; it was after this connection was established that MacGuire suggested organizing the fascist army. MacGuire at that time said he was working for Robert S. Clark, who inherited millions of the Singer Sewing Machine fortune. While working for Clark, MacGuire was kept on the payroll of Grayson M-P Murphy, a "Wall Street broker." During the period when these negotiations were going on, MacGuire, who had never owned more than a few thousand dollars, suddenly began to handle large sums of money, depositing and withdrawing amounts running far beyond \$100,000. The Dickstein Committee, in examining him, found that he could not account for \$65,000 which were spent during the trip to the American Legion convention and that he lied repeatedly about what he had done with certain large sums.

So much for the Butler story; what is not known is that long before General Butler testified, the Congressional Committee investigators knew about it. Nevertheless they did not call Butler, though one of the things they were supposed to investigate was "subversive" activities, including Fascism. The Dickstein Committee called Butler only when it learned that The New York Post and the Philadelphia Record were about to publish the story anyway, which they had learned through their reporter Paul Comley French, a friend of the General's.

The national furore aroused by the story was so great that the Committee had to issue a statement after getting the testimony in secret session. When the excitement died down the Congressional Committee issued a summary of the Butler testimony for the press, Butler having been cautioned not to divulge what happened behind the committee's closed doors, according to the General.

During the course of my investigation into fascist activities in the United States, I persistently asked for the Butler testimony. I was told that "the summation tells the whole story."

"But why can't I see the whole testimony?"

*General Smedley Butler quoting Robert S. Clark, who sent Gerald C. MacGuire with proposals for a fascist army (the suppressed testimony is in italics):*

### **The Published Testimony:**

He (Roosevelt) has either got to get more money out of us or he has got to change the method of financing the Government and we are going to see to it that he does not change that method. He will not change it.

I said, "The idea of this group of soldiers then, is to sort of frighten him, is it?"

"No, no, no, not to frighten him. This is to sustain him when others assault him."

I said, "Well, I do not know about that. How would the President explain it?"

### **What Butler Really Said:**

He (Roosevelt) has either got to get more money out of us, or has got to change the method of financing the Government, and we are going to see to it that he does not change the methods. He will not change it. *He is with us now.*"

I said, "The idea of this great group of soldiers, then, is to sort of frighten him, is it?"

"No, no, no; not to frighten him. This is to sustain him when others assault him."

*He said, "You know, the President is weak. He will come right along with us. He was born in this class. He was raised in this class, and he will come back. He will run true to form. In the end he will come around. But we have got to be prepared to sustain him when he does."*

I said, "Well, I do not know about that. How would the President explain it?"

What is there in it which you do not want me to see?"

"Nothing has been left out, except some hearsay evidence," I was assured. "A few names were mentioned which have nothing to do with the case."

After my persistence had made it clear that my suspicions were growing, I was handed a copy of the hastily published Butler testimony, marked "extracts." At the end of the 125 page record was a note in bold face type:

The Chairman: In making public the foregoing evidence, which was taken in executive session in New York City November 20 to 24, inclusive, the Committee has ordered stricken therefrom certain immaterial and incompetent evidence, or evidence which was not pertinent to the inquiry, and which would not have been received during a public hearing.

The printed question-and-answer testimony gave more information than the summation originally issued by the Committee. I was still curious to know just what "evidence" the Committee considered "immaterial," my curiosity being heightened when I was told by a person in a position to know and who had never told me anything unfounded, that the request to suppress certain parts of Butler's testimony had come from Henry Morgenthau, Secretary of the Treasury. I could not prove it but I had enough faith in my informant to believe it.

More requests for the uncensored stenographic notes of Butler's testimony met with refusals. The "immaterial evidence" was a carefully guarded secret. Eventually I did obtain these suppressed stenographic notes. With the notes in my possession as well as

knowledge of the financial interests within and behind the American Jewish Committee, the leaders of which were steering the Congressional Committee, I called upon the chairman, Congressman John W. McCormack. I had prepared a series of questions for the interview which he had agreed to give me. When I got to the sixth question which probed a little deeper into the suppression of evidence by his Committee, the Congressman became a little nervous.

"Oh, somebody's been telling you things," he said.

"No, no one has been telling me things. I have the stenographic notes."

"Those are executive minutes," he exclaimed. "I can't imagine how they got in your possession. I must find out."

The knowledge that I had the suppressed testimony obviously upset him. The interview had been progressing in a friendly manner until I got to the stage where it seemed that a Congressional investigating committee was being investigated. Suddenly he said abruptly:

"I don't have to answer your questions."

"That's right," I assured him, "you don't."

"And I don't have to give you an interview."

"That's right, too."

"Well then, cancel this interview."

"Okay, I'll cancel it. But don't you think you had better answer the questions?"

"I will not answer any more questions. It is obvious to me that they are cleverly arranged—all leading to one point—you want to hang me."

"No, I don't want to hang you. I think your committee has hanged itself."

"I'll take your notes and the questions and answer such of them as I wish. I want to think them over."

"That's okay," I agreed, handing him the questions.

Some of the brief questions I asked him follow:

Will you define what you mean by Nazism, Fascism, Communism?

Did you ever look into the potential fascist groups like the American Liberty League, Father Coughlin's organization, the Crusaders, etc.?

Did you ever investigate why the American Legion passed the gold resolution while MacGuire was in Chicago with a lot of money?

Why wasn't John Taylor called regarding Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars activities? Why didn't you investigate the educators' charges that Hearst was carrying on fascist propaganda?

What relationship has your Committee with the American Jewish Committee?

When THE NEW MASSES published evidence that Ralph Easley of the National Civic Federation was secretly reporting to George Sylvester Viereck, the Nazi agent, while the former was distributing *Communism in Germany*, why weren't Easley's finances looked into?

The Jewish-controlled concerns in Chicago who contributed to Harry A. Jung's organization and the money used to disseminate anti-semitic propaganda were known to you. Why wasn't that evidence made public?

Why wasn't the relationship between Kuhn, Loeb and Max Warburg established to determine why a Nazi agent found his way into Warburg's Bank of Manhattan? Why wasn't Felix Warburg questioned about it?

Did you ever investigate the financial tie-ups of bankers and industrialists to determine the motivation in supporting potential fascist groups?

Did you ever investigate Assistant Secretary of War Woodring's statement that the C.C.C. boys would be "economic storm troops" against "social disorders"?

Did you ever investigate why organizations which started out for monetary reform like the Committee for the Nation ended up by carrying on anti-labor propaganda?

Did you ever question Under-Secretary of State Phillips why he met with Easley to try to stop the boycott of German goods and thus give economic aid to the Nazis?

Did you ever get to the bottom of the report that John W. Davis wrote the gold speech passed at the Chicago convention?

I agreed not to use the statements he had made before he cancelled the interview and I gave him the questions with my notes on them. He promised to give me written answers to "those he wanted to answer" within three days. On the day he promised his answer I got it. I read it over five or six times. I still don't know what he is talking about. For the reader's benefit I give his answers. I think they show the state the chairman is in:

My dear Mr. Spivak:

On Saturday last you called into my office for an interview, as a result of which you left with me a number of questions which you intended to ask me. I told you that I would consider them and write you on or before the following Tuesday. I am complying with what I told you, to write you on or before Tuesday Jan. 15.

Pending the report of the committee to the House of Representatives I have discussed only in a limited way with representatives of the press my opinion of the value of some evidence ob-

*Gen. Smedley Butler quoting MacGuire, who, the General testified, came to him with an offer to lead a fascist army (the suppressed testimony is in italics):*

**The Published Testimony:**

I said, "Is there anything stirring about it yet."

"Yes," he says; "you watch; in two or three weeks you will see it come out in the paper. There will be big fellows in it. This is to be the background of it. These are to be the villagers in the opera. The papers will come out with it." He did not give me the name of it, but he said it would all be made public; a society to maintain the Constitution, and so forth. They had a lot of talk this time about maintaining the Constitution. I said, "I do not see that the Constitution is in any danger," and I asked him again, "Why are you doing this thing?"

We might have an assistant President, somebody to take the blame; and if things do not work out, he can drop him.



General Smedley Butler

tained, and the probable recommendations that impressed me personally. The final report and recommendations will be determined later by the full committee.

Assuming the premises upon which they are predicated are correct, and it is plain to me that they are not, some of the questions that you intended to ask relate to matters beyond the jurisdiction of the committee, and its powers of investigation. I, therefore, ignore them.

There are some questions which you intended to ask which I would have no hesitancy in answering if asked by other representatives of the press, and while I am not in sympathy with the policies, associations or affiliations of the publication which you represent, naturally, I would accord you the courtesy and consideration I would extend to others.

You were particularly anxious to find out if the Nazi movement in this country is as active today as it was when the investigation started. As a result of the investigation, and the disclosures made, this movement has been stopped, and is practically broken up. There is no question but what some of the leaders are attempting to carry-on, but they can make no headway. Public opinion, as a result of the disclosures of the investigation is aroused.

The breaking-up of any intolerant movement, the objective of which is to group Americans against Americans, or persons against persons, because of race, color or creed, is beneficial to the country and the people as a whole. The same opinion applies to a movement dedicated to the overthrow of government by legal or illegal means, or a combination of both, employ-

**What Butler Really Said:**

I said, "Is there anything stirring about it yet."

"Yes," he says; "you watch; in two or three weeks you will see it come out in the paper. There will be big fellows in it. This is to be the background of it. These are to be the villagers in the opera. The papers will come out with it," and in about two weeks the *American Liberty League* appeared, which was just about what he described it to be. That is the reason I tied it up with this other thing about Al Smith and some of these other people, because of the name that appeared in connection with this *Liberty League*. He did not give me the name of it, but he said that it would all be made public. . . .

We might have an assistant President, somebody to take the blame; and if things do not work out, he can drop him. He said, "That is what he was building up Hugh Johnson for. Hugh Johnson talked too damn much and got him into a hole, and he is going to fire him in the next three or four weeks."

I said, "How do you know all this?"

"Oh," he said, "we are in with him all the time. We know what is going to happen."

ing force and violence, if necessary to obtain the desired objective. The use of lawful or legal means is a right which every person or movement possesses to change, in whole, or in part, our government, even though one may not agree with the methods employed, or the purposes and objectives of such a movement. No person or movement has a right to resort to illegal means to accomplish this end. When such methods are employed, the resort to violence and force, to try and obtain the overthrow of government, whether or not it is or can be accomplished, it is beyond the pale of the Constitution, and of rights guaranteed thereunder.

The reason for certain portions of General Butler's testimony in executive session being deleted from the public record has been clearly stated in the printed public record.

Very truly yours,  
John W. McCormack.

All I can say regarding this is that I hope the Committee's report to the Congress will be clearer.

Still searching for the Committee's explanation of why it suppressed testimony of Fascism and fascist organizations, I called upon Congressman Samuel Dickstein, vice-chairman of the Committee on "un-American" activities. Like many others, I refer to this Congressional body as the "Dickstein Committee," chiefly because Dickstein first introduced the bill for the investigation; but calling it the "Dickstein Committee" is a misnomer and a

grave injustice to the Congressman. It is not his committee. The financial powers in the American Jewish Committee, which directed the Congressional body, simply played circles around the bewildered Congressman. Dickstein never knew, and I doubt if he knows now, just what happened and why certain specific evidence was suppressed. Throughout the whole investigation he kept blundering into things which shouldn't have been blundered into and he could never understand why those steering the Committee opposed probing along lines which would lead to the Warburg-Morgan interests. When I talked with him and pointed out the financial hook-ups he looked sad.

"I wish you had told me that while the Committee was in session," he said plaintively. "I'd have called Murphy and Morgan and Warburg and anyone else involved."

Dickstein's activities in the Committee—such questions as he persisted in asking—were chiefly confined to the Nazis. Communism was really dragged into this investigation; and the financial powers behind the Congressional Committee certainly had no intention of investigating Wall Street's fascist conspiracy until the threat of breaking the Butler story in the press forced them to make a gesture in that direction. The investigation into Communism was steered by the leaders of the American Jewish Committee, Felix Warburg and his non-Jewish Wall Street colleagues, for three reasons:

1. The growing interest in and sympathy with the Communist movement in industries where these financial powers had investments; if the Communist Party could be outlawed it would be of tremendous advantage to the financiers and industrialists guiding the work of the Committee.

2. There was a great deal of publicity in the press and propaganda by Nazi agents that "a Communist is a Jew and a Jew is a Communist."

3. A federal law ostensibly directed at Communists as "subversive elements" could be used to keep labor from doing a great many things, whether labor was affiliated with left-wing organizations or conservative ones like the American Federation of Labor.

Even William Green, president of the A. F. of L., realized that. I was present at the hearing in Washington when Green testified and it was really one of the funniest shows I ever saw. There is nothing that Green would like better than to see the Communist Party outlawed, but Green realized that any such procedure would be directed at all labor, and would eventually endanger his own position. Dickstein and McCormack, neither having a fraction of the knowledge of the labor movement that Green has, tried in a dozen different ways to get Green to say that a bill outlawing the Communist Party would be a good thing—and Green persistently assured them that any such move would react against the A.F. of L. and would be fought.

It was a very depressing hearing for both McCormack and Dickstein (who had com-

*Paul Comley French, reporter for the New York Post, telling of his conversations with Gerald MacGuire (the suppressed testimony is in italics):*

### The Published Testimony:

At first he (MacGuire) suggested that the General organize this outfit himself and ask a dollar a year dues from everybody. We discussed that, and then he came around to the point of getting outside financial funds, and he said that it would not be any trouble to raise a million dollars.

### What French Really Said:

At first he (MacGuire) suggested that the General organize this outfit himself and ask a dollar a year dues from everybody. We discussed that, and then he came around to the point of getting outside financial funds, and he said that it would not be any trouble to raise a million dollars. *He said that he could go to John W. Davis or Perkins of the National City Bank, and any number of persons and get it.*

*Of course, that may or may not mean anything. That is, his reference to John W. Davis and Perkins of the National City Bank.*

*During my conversation with him I did not of course, commit the General to anything. I was just feeling him along. Later we discussed the question of arms and equipment, and he suggested that they could be obtained from the Remington Arms Co., on credit through the du Ponts. I do not think at that time he mentioned the connections of du Pont with the American Liberty League, but he skirted all around it. That is, I do not think he mentioned the Liberty League, but he skirted all around the idea that that was the back door, and that this was the front door; one of the du Ponts is on the board of directors of the American Liberty League and they own a controlling interest in the Remington Arms Co. In other words he suggested that Roosevelt would be in sympathy with us and proposed the idea that Butler would be named as the head of the C.G.C. camps by the President as a means of building up this organization. He would then have 300,000 men. Then he said that if that did not work the General would not have any trouble enlisting 500,000 men.*



Paul Comley French

peted with one another for the most publicity during the life of the investigation). The two Congressmen had issued statements that they intended to outlaw the Communist Party months before the Committee had finished its investigation!

A good idea of the stature of Dickstein can be had by his answers to some of the questions I asked him.

"Congressman, just what do you mean by Nazism?" I asked.

"Well, Nazism is—you see—you know I'd rather you'd get the definition I gave of it in my last speech."

"Okay. How about Fascism?"

"That's in there, too."

I tried again.

"Do you think Fascism is the last stand of capitalism?"

"Certainly," he said. "Powerful wealth is concentrating for its own preservation."

"And your committee was supposed to investigate Fascism?"

"Yes, Fascism. All subversive, un-American movements."

"A real investigation of Fascism or fascist movements in this country would have to take in a study of powerful financial groups and their motivations?"

He looked at me warily, as though fearful of a trap, and nodded solemnly.

"Then why didn't the Committee investigate the financial tie-ups to determine the motives behind such groups as the American Liberty League?"

"Well, we didn't have the time or the money, or we would have."

"What was left out of the Butler story?"

"We confined our activities to evidence permissible in a court. We didn't go into the details because it was hearsay."

"But your published records are full of hearsay evidence."

He looked at me, startled.

"They are?"

"Well, why wasn't Grayson M-P Murphy called? Your committee knew that Murphy's men are in the anti-semitic espionage Order of '76; it knew that Murphy was supporting Edmondson in sending out his anti-semitic news releases; it knew that Murphy and Clark were hooked up for years selling bonds together—why wasn't Murphy called?"

"We didn't have the time. We'd have taken care of the whole Wall Street group if we had had the time. I would have no hesitation in going after the Morgans."

"Did you ever go into the fascist—or potentially fascist—groups like the American Liberty League, the Crusaders, etc?"

"No, we went a little into the Black Shirts—it's an organization like the Nazis but it didn't amount to anything. We had no time," he repeated.

"You had Frank Belgrano, commander of the American Legion, listed for testimony. Why wasn't he examined?"

"I don't know," he said. "Maybe you can get Mr. McCormack to explain that. I had nothing to do with it."

"Why didn't you call Easley after THE NEW MASSES had published his secret reports to George Sylvester Viereck, the Nazi agent, and find out about Easley's finances?"

"To the best of my recollection, Easley was called into executive session. He testified

about Communism."

"I don't doubt it. But I'm interested in why his finances were not examined since he was distributing an anti-semitic book imported into this country by Viereck."

"I don't know."

"Why weren't the names of the Jewish concerns whose money went to Harry A. Jung in Chicago and which was used for anti-semitic propaganda, made public?"

"I never saw them," he said. "We have so much stuff I haven't had a chance to read all the reports. I wasn't at the Chicago hearing."

"And McCormack wasn't at the Chicago hearing. Then who issued orders not to make those names public?"

"I don't know."

"Why wasn't Edward A. Rumely questioned regarding the Committee for the Nation activities which benefited Nazi Germany and on whose committee Lessing Rosenwald of the American Jewish Committee was active?"

"I couldn't answer that. You'd have to ask McCormack about it."

"Okay. Why wasn't Felix Warburg questioned as to how the Nazi agent F. X. Mittmeier got a job in the Warburg-controlled Bank of Manhattan?"

"I don't know."

"Fascism came at the last moment," he said, switching the subject. "I knew of only one fascist group—the Black Shirts—and they weren't important."

"Didn't Assistant Secretary of War Woodring's statement that the C.C.C. boys would be used as 'economic storm troops against social disorders' sound like Hitler Fascism? Why wasn't Woodring questioned about it?"

"There was no time," the Congressman said dazedly.

"But Woodring is in Washington. And so were you."

"Maybe the Committee felt there was no evidence—maybe."

It was obvious to me that Dickstein simply did not know what was going on around him; when I pointed out the financial tie-ups of the Warburg interests with Morgan interests which Murphy represents and the Warburg group with the American Jewish Committee leadership which was steering the Congressional Committee he was utterly dazed. These tie-ups will be explained in detail in the next article.

In the meantime I offer the suppressed testimony.

The Congressional Committee had Gen. Butler behind closed doors in a secret session. It did not know what Butler might say and it wanted to be in a position to suppress testimony given under oath if this proved necessary. And it was, for Butler named persons whom the Committee should have called to check various angles—persons high in the political and financial world. There is no need of my repeating much of the General's testimony. I shall offer only what the published report by the Congressional Committee says he said and what the carefully guarded stenographic notes show he really said.

Gen. Butler was telling the story of Murphy's man, (MacGuire's) talk with him. In the left column is what the Committee published. In the right column is what Butler actually said—the suppressed testimony being printed in italics.

### **The Published Testimony:**

Then MacGuire said that he was the chairman of the distinguished-guest committee of the American Legion, on Louis Johnson's staff; that Louis Johnson had, at MacGuire's suggestion, put my name down to be invited as a distinguished guest of the Chicago convention.

I thought I smelled a rat, right away—that they were trying to get me mad—to get my goat. I said nothing.

"He (Murphy) is on our side, though. He wants to see the soldiers cared for."

### **What Butler Really Said:**

Then MacGuire said that he was the chairman of the distinguished-guest committee of the American Legion, on Louis Johnson's staff; that Louis Johnson had, at MacGuire's suggestion, put my name down to be invited as a distinguished guest of the Chicago convention; *that Johnson had then taken this list, presented by MacGuire, of distinguished guests, to the White House for approval; that Louis Howe, one of the secretaries to the President, had crossed my name off and said that I was not to be invited—that the President would not have it.*

I thought I smelled a rat, right away—that they were trying to get me mad—to get my goat. I said nothing.

"He (Murphy) is on our side, though. He wants to see the soldiers cared for."

*"Is he responsible, too, for making the Legion a strike-breaking outfit?"*

*"No, no. He does not control anything in the Legion now."*

*I said: "You know very well that it is nothing but a strike-breaking outfit used by capital for that purpose and that is the reason they have all those big club-houses and that is the reason I pulled out from it. They have been using these dumb soldiers to break strikes."*

*He said: "Murphy hasn't anything to do with that. He is a very fine fellow."*

*I said, "I do not doubt that, but there is some reason for his putting \$125,000 into this."*

Well, that was the end of that conversation.

Well, that was the end of that conversation.

He said, "When I was in Paris, my headquarters were Morgan & Hodges (Harjes). We had a meeting over there. I might as well tell you that our group is for you, for the head of this organization. Morgan & Hodges (Harjes) are against you. The Morgan interests say that you cannot be trusted, that you are too radical, and so forth, that you are too much on the side of the little fellow; you cannot be trusted. They do not want you. But our group tells them that you are the only fellow in America who can get the soldiers together. They say, 'Yes, but he will get them together and to the wrong way.' That is what they say if you take charge of them."

body else. He could say that he was above such routine matters and let the other fellow take care of it and then get rid of him if necessary. That was the idea. He said that they had this money to spend on it, and he wanted to know again if I would head it, and I said, "No, I was interested in it, but I would not head it."

He said, "When I was in Paris, my headquarters were Morgan & Hodges (Harjes). We had a meeting over there. I might as well tell you that our group is for you, for the head of this organization. Morgan & Hodges (Harjes) are against you. The Morgan interests say that you cannot be trusted, that you are too radical, and so forth, that you are too much on the side of the little fellow; you cannot be trusted. *They are for Douglas MacArthur as the head of it. Douglas MacArthur's term expires in November, and if he is not reappointed it is to be presumed that he will be disappointed and sore and they are for getting him to head it.*"

*I said, "I do not think that you will get the soldiers to follow him, Jerry. He is in bad odor, because he put on a uniform with medals to march down the street in Washington. I know the soldiers."*

*"Well, then, we will get Hanford MacNider. They want either MacArthur or MacNider. They do not want you. But our group tells them that you are the only fellow in America who can get the soldiers together. They say, 'Yes, but he will get them together and go the wrong way'. That is what they say if you take charge of them."*

*I said, "MacNider won't do either. He will not get the soldiers to follow him, because he has been opposed to the bonus."*

*"Yes, but we will have him in charge (charge?)"*

*And it is interesting to note that three weeks later after this conversation MacNider changed and turned around for the bonus. It is interesting to note that.*

*He said, "There is going to be a big quarrel over the reappointment of MacArthur" and he said, "you watch the President reappoint him. He is going to go right and if he does not reappoint him, he is going to go left."*

*I have been watching with a great deal of interest this quarrel over his reappointment to see how it comes out. He said, "You know as well as I do that MacArthur is Stotesbury's son-in-law in Philadelphia—Morgan's representative in Philadelphia. You just see how it goes and if I am not telling you the truth."*

*I noticed that MacNider turned around for the bonus, and that there is a row over the reappointment of MacArthur. So he left me saying, "I am going down to Miami. . . ."*

So he left me saying, "I am going down to Miami. . . ."

There are other portions of the suppressed testimony such as Butler's story of the conversation he had in Indianapolis with a man named Flagg who knew all about the fascist plot to organize an army directed by Wall Street financiers. I have been unable to locate a man by that name who is an Indianapolis publisher, as he was introduced to Butler, and I am inclined to think that he was masquerading under a different name and had been sent there to feel out Butler. Because of my inability to locate any such person I am not quoting the testimony.

The most significant part of all this suppressed evidence is that the Dickstein Committee dropped it like a hot coal though there was plenty of evidence of a fascist-militarist

plot. Nevertheless, when the Congressional Committee had MacGuire on the stand repeatedly, it questioned him about his finances but not one single question was directed at him regarding the American Liberty League, controlled by the du Pont interests (which are tied up with Morgan interests and Morgan interests are tied up with Warburg interests and Warburg interests control the American Jewish Committee which in turn guided this Congressional body) nor of the discussion sworn to under oath about the Remington Arms Co. supplying arms and equipment for the fascist army.

Not a single question was directed at MacGuire regarding the conversation testified to by Paul Comley French. Not a single du

Pont or Remington Arms official was called. No—not a single official of the Liberty League on whose body are members of the American Jewish Committee, such as former Judge Joseph M. Proskauer.

If the Congress of the United States really wants to investigate fascist activities why does it not ask this Committee why this testimony was suppressed?

*Next week John L. Spivak will present details of how the Warburg-Morgan interests are tied up; and how the Warburg interests control the American Jewish Committee, leaders of which guided this Congressional Committee in suppressing the evidence of the fascist conspiracy by Wall Street financiers.—THE EDITORS.*



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# Pablo Picasso

## A New Masses Interview

Interview with Jerome Seckler, 1945, published in 1972.

Picasso then asked if I were a writer. I told him the truth-I was not a writer, had never written before. That by vocation I worked in lumber. I was a painter too, but only by avocation, because I had to make a living. Picasso laughed and said, "Yes, I understand." Then I asked if I had his consent to write an article about him. "Yes," he said, and then added, "For which paper?"

I told him the New Masses. He smiled and answered, "Yes, I know it."

He looked at the open door. There were several people waiting for him. "Let's go upstairs to the studio for a moment," he said. So we climbed the stairs to the large studio where he actually does his painting. The room was neat and clean. It didn't have the dusty, helter-skelter appearance of the room downstairs. I told Picasso that many people were saying that now, with his new political affiliations, he had become a leader in culture and politics for the people, that his influence for progress could be tremendous. Picasso nodded seriously and said, "Yes, I realize it." I

mentioned how we had often discussed him back in New York, especially the Guernica mural (now on loan to the Museum of Modern Art in New York. I talked about the significance of the bull, the horse, the hands with the lifelines, etc., and the origin of the symbols in Spanish mythology. Picasso kept nodding his head as I spoke. "Yes," he said, the bull there represents brutality, the horse the people. Yes, there I used symbolism, but not in the others."

I explained my interpretation of two of his paintings at the exhibition, one of a bull, a lamp, palette and book. The bull, I said, must represent fascism, the lamp by its powerful glow, the palette and the book all represented culture and freedom - the things we're fighting for - the painting showing the fierce struggle between the two.

"No," said Picasso "the bull is not fascism but it is brutality and darkness"

I mentioned that now we look forward to a more simple and clearly and perhaps changed and understood symbolism with his work.

"My work is not symbolic" he answered "Only the Guernica mural is symbolic. But in the case of the mural that is allegoric. That's the reason I've used the horse, the bull and so on. The mural is for the definite expression and solution of a problem and that is why I used symbolism.

...



"Well," he continued, "it's the same with the bull, the palette and lamp." He looked earnest at me and went on, "If I were a chemist, Communist or fascist--if I obtain in my mixture a red liquid, it doesn't mean that I am expressing communist propaganda does it?" If I paint a hammer and sickle people may think its a representation of Communism, but to me it is just a hammer and sickle. I just want to reproduce the objects for what they are and not what they mean. If you give a meaning to certain things in my painting it might be true, but it was not my idea to convey this meaning. What ideas and conclusions you have got I obtained too, but instinctively, unconsciously.

I make a painting for the painting. I paint the objects for what they are. It's in my subconscious. When people look at it each person gets a different meaning from it, from what each sees in it. I don't think of trying to get any particular meaning across. There is no deliberate sense of propaganda in my painting."

"Except in the Guernica," I suggested. "Yes," he replied, "except in the Guernica. In that there is a deliberate appeal to people, a deliberate sense of propaganda."

I pulled out my cigarettes and we lit up, Picasso smoking his in the ever-present cigarette holder. He took a few puffs meditatively as though waiting for me to say something, then said quietly and simply, "I am a Communist and my painting is Communist painting." He paused for a moment, then went on. "But if I were a shoemaker, Royalist or Communist or anything else, I would not necessarily hammer my shoes in a special way to show my politics."

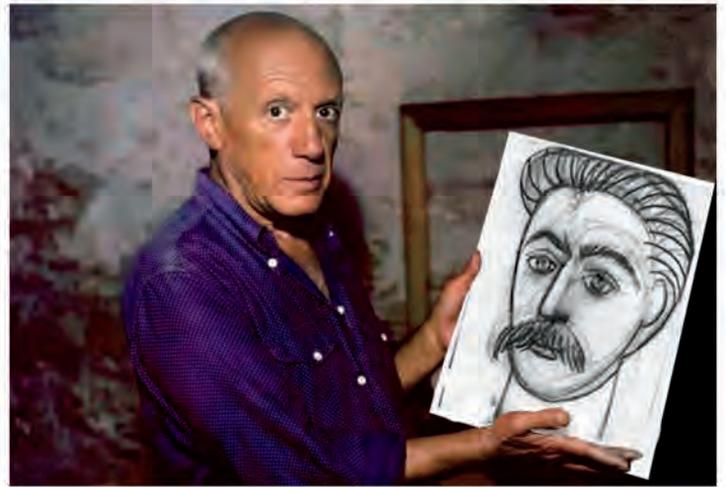
"And yet," I said, "what a man is and thinks can be deduced from his paintings. But it is not necessary for a socially conscious painter, for instance, to show a scene of Nazi horror or destruction, of a person with blood dripping from the mouth, or a soldier shooting a rifle."

### Picasso's Statement of July 1937

(In May 1937, while Picasso was painting the Guernica he declared his feelings in a statement made available two months later at the time of the exhibition of Spanish Republican Posters in New York. It had previously been rumored that he was pro-Franco)

"The Spanish struggle is the fight of reaction against the people, against freedom. My whole life as an artist has been nothing more than a continuous struggle against reaction and the death of art. How could anybody think for a moment that I could be in agreement with reaction and death? When the rebellion began, the legally elected and democratic republican government of Spain appointed me director of the Prado Museum, a post which I immediately accepted. In the panel on which I am working, which I shall call Guernica, and in all my recent works of art, I clearly express my abhorrence of the military caste which has sunk Spain in an ocean of pain and death.

The ridiculous story which the fascist propagandists have circulated throughout the world has been exposed completely many times by the great number of artists and intellectuals who have visited Spain lately. All have agreed on the great respect



*Pablo Picasso's drawing of Stalin*

which the Spanish people in arms have displayed for the artistic treasures and the zeal which it exhibited in saving the great store of pictures, religious paintings and tapestries from fascist incendiary bombs.

Everyone is acquainted with the barbarous bombardment of the Prado Museum by rebel airplanes, and everyone knows how the militiamen succeeded in saving the art treasures at the risk of their lives...

As to the future of Spanish art, this much I may say to my friends in America. The contribution of the people's struggle will be enormous. No one can deny the vitality and the youth which the struggle will bring to Spanish art. Something new and strong which the consciousness of this magnificent epic will sow in the souls of Spanish artists will undoubtedly appear in their works. This contribution of the purest human values to a renascent art will be one of the greatest conquests of the Spanish people."

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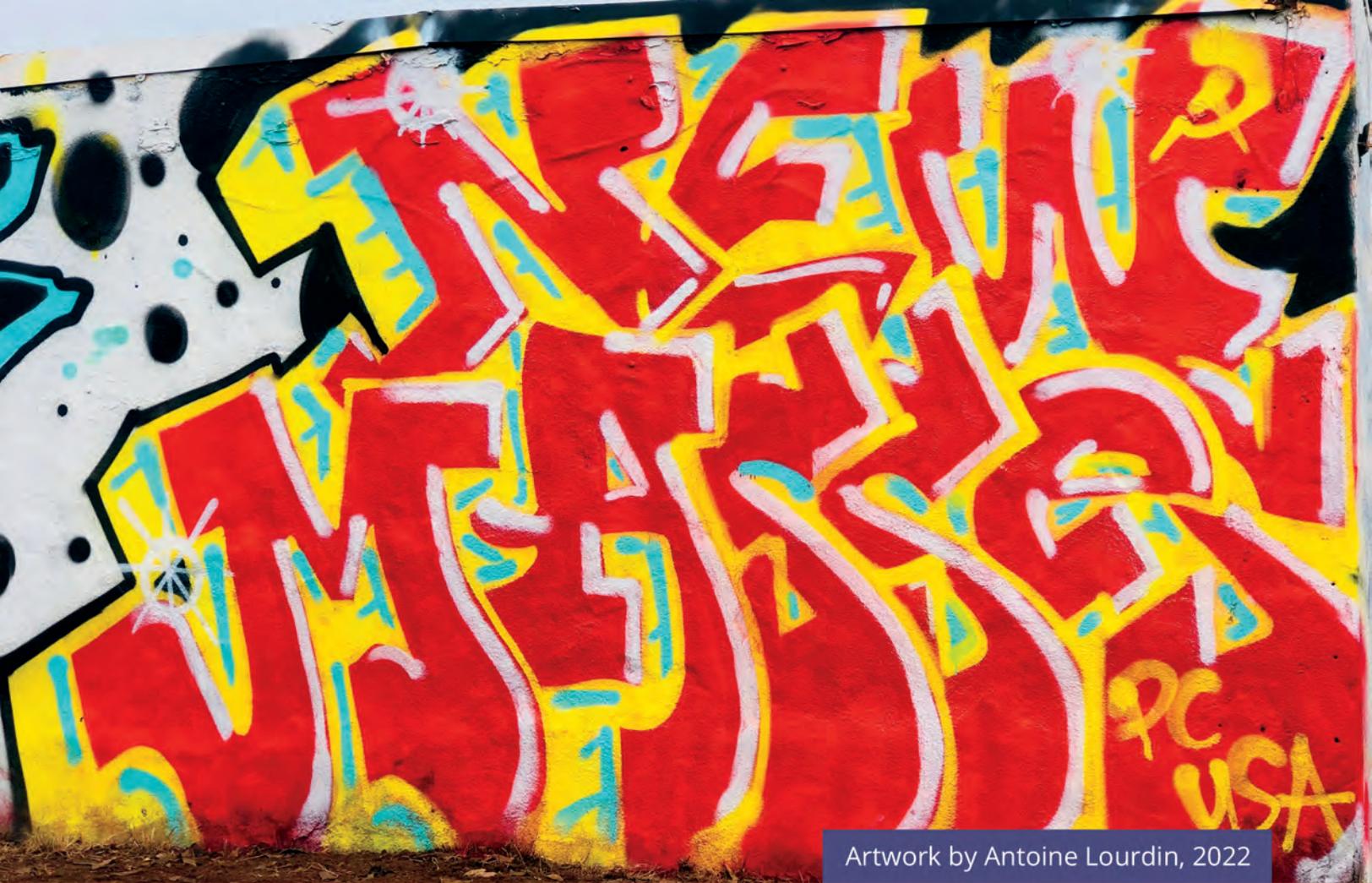


Boriano

## **Nazi Lullaby**

Rockabye my babe and slumber,  
Not a Jew from Alp to Humber,  
Rabbi, Socialist, or priest;  
Not a book from west to east,  
Not a scientist or scholar,  
Not a hamburger below a dollar.  
Safe from democratic dangers,  
Rest and grow to fight with strangers.  
Sleep and rest each little fist,  
Then awake and tug and twist;  
Sturdy leg and arm and shoulder  
You will have when you are older.  
Crawl to strengthen back and chest.  
Hitler guards the German nest.  
Strong of body, strong of limb,  
You will grow to fight for Him,  
Perfect body, white and red—  
But oh, that useless little head.

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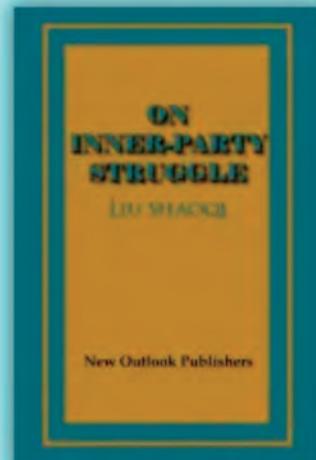
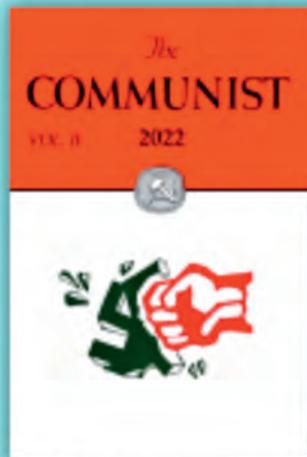
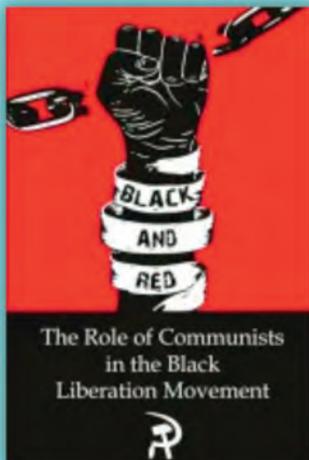


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# The Olympic Games and Communism

By Ryan Poffenbarger

With the success of China in the 2022 winter Olympics, ranking 3rd, the Philadelphia Inquirer published an article entitled **“The Olympics: Where Communism Wins.”** Is this accurate, has the western world failed to win a sports version of the arms race? If so, did this continue after the USSR was dissolved?

The first time a communist country participated in the Olympics was the 1952 Summer Games, where both China and the Soviet Union participated. In these Olympics the Soviets won their first medal, a gold medal by Nina Romashkova in the women’s discus throw. This was followed by 21 other gold medals and 71 total medals throughout that year’s Olympics. China participated in soccer, basketball, and swimming. Disputes between the PRC and ROC within resulted in China following up these games with a hiatus from the Olympics until 1984.

During this hiatus however, there was no shortage of success by Marxist-Leninist counties in the Olympics. In the 1960 Winter Olympics the Soviets had 62 athletes

participate, taking home 21 medals, 7 of them gold. This put them in first place, with the most medals of any country, taking home more than double the second place (and host) country, the United States. Later that year, in the summer games, the Soviet Union continued that success, taking home over 100 medals in total, with 43 gold medals, again more medals than any other country.

In 1964 the Soviets continued their Olympic triumphs, taking home 25 medals, 11 of them gold. Soon after, in the 1964 summer Olympics in Tokyo, Communist nations had their most success thus far, with the Soviet Union and Cuba taking home many medals. Unlike the Soviet Union, Cuba has only participated in Summer Olympics, and the 1964 summer games were a coming out party for post-revolution Cuban athletics, with them taking home their first medal, a silver medal in the men’s 100 meters by Enrique Figuerola. In these 1964 summer games the Soviet Union was awarded the most medals of any country, 96, and finished in second for gold

## The Olympics Games and Communism

medals to the United States, with 30 gold medals for the Soviets. In the 1968 Olympics the Soviets had a down year, taking home second place in both the summer and winter games. In that year's summer games the Cubans increased their medal count from the previous summer games. These 1968 summer Olympics also famously contained the black power salute by athletes Tommy Smith and John Carlos.



In the 1970s communist countries were very dominant in the Olympics. The Soviets took home first place in all 4 games in the decade. Cuba also had a lot of success, taking home their first gold medals post-revolution and drastically increasing their overall medal count. Under the leadership of captains Viktor Kuzkin and Boris Mikhailov the Soviet hockey team swept through the Olympics, going undefeated in the decade. Their goaltender at the time, Vladislav Tretiak remains the only male hockey player to win at least 3 gold medals



"Misha" mascot at Moscow Olympics, 1980 and 1 silver medal in Olympics history.

**Soviet athletes of the 1980s** are most well known in the United States for the "**Miracle on Ice**" in 1980, when the underdog Americans upset the Soviet Hockey team 4-3 in New York. Despite this, the Soviets still took home first place in terms of overall medals in both the summer and winter Olympics that year. Along with this, East Germany finished second place in both sets of 1980 Olympics. In short, that year America won the battle, but the communists won the war. Furthermore, in the 1980 summer games, which were held in Moscow, the Cubans also continued their growth, taking home 8 gold medals.

In the 1984 winter games this success continued with the Soviets finishing in second and East Germany in first place. This was followed by the 1984 summer games in Los Angeles, which were boycotted by the Soviet Union, Cuba, the DPRK and the GDR. Despite this, these were

## The Olympic Games and Communism

the first Olympic Games for China after their hiatus, and they had some success, taking home 15 gold medals, ranking 4th. At the forefront of China's success was Li Ning, a gymnast who took home 6 medals that year, including 3 gold, which earned



**MOCKBA 1980**

him the nickname "the Prince of Gymnasts" in China. In another notable victory China defeated the United States in the women's volleyball final to obtain gold.

For the 1988 games Cuba and the DPRK again did not participate. But, in their Olympic return the Soviets again won first place in both the summer and winter games. Furthermore, second place in both 1988 Olympics was the GDR, highlighted by Christa Rothenburger becoming the only athlete to win medals in both summer and winter Olympics in the same year. So, in their last participated games the Soviets and the GDR absolutely dominated the Olympics.

The 1990s were a down period for communists in the Olympics but they still put up a fight. China finished in

fourth place in both the 1992 and 1996 summer games. Along with this in said 1992 summer games Cuba took home their most gold medals ever, achieving 14 of them. Some of the most stellar performances in this period were from Cuban boxing, a sport they would come to reign over in the Olympics, in both the 1992 and 1996 summer games they took home in gold or silver in every boxing event Cuba participated in and won gold in baseball. Along with this, in the 1992 summer games the DPRK ranked 16th, achieving 4 gold medals, including Choi Chol-su obtaining gold in the men's flyweight boxing event.

In 2000, Cuba won 11 gold medals in the summer games, including 4 in boxing, led by the dominant performance of star boxer Guillermo Rigondeaux. Along with this, in those same 2000 summer games China had their highest ranking to this point, placing third with 28 gold medals. Highlighting this was a near sweep of the diving events, as well as many authoritative wins in badminton. China improved on these numbers moving forward, in the 2002 winter games Yang Yang had 2 commanding gold medal victories in women's speed skating, and China ended up ranking 3rd in the 2004 summer games in Athens. Along with more dominance from Cuban boxing

## The Olympic Games and Communism

and baseball China's performance in the 2004 Olympics was led by the fantastic performances Chinese athletes had in weightlifting, diving, and air rifle shooting. During the 2006 winter Olympics Chinese athlete Han Xiaopeng had a beautiful run in the freestyle skiing event, taking home gold. China was set to host their first Olympic games in 2008.

In those 2008 Olympics China finished in first place with 48 gold medals, led by their domination of the diving, weightlifting, and men's gymnastics. Cuba earned a silver medal in baseball along with four boxing silver medals. The 2010 Olympics had China's most success in the winter games to that point, finishing 7th with 5 gold medals, driven by Wang Meng's stellar performance in speed skating, winning 3 gold medals that year.

China finished 2nd and 3rd respectively in the 2012 and 2016 summer games, but had disappointing results in the 2014 and 2018 winter games. After a down year in 2008 there was a lot of success had by Cuban boxers in the 2010s, winning multiple gold and other medals in the events in both summer Olympics in the 2010s. A similar pattern unfolded in the 2020 summer games where China came in

second and Cuban boxing was dominant. Most recently we have had the Olympics held in China in 2022 and the hosting nation had quite a lot of success, with China taking third place, their highest placement in any winter Olympics. One of the biggest stories of these games was Eileen Gu, a Chinese American competing for China who became the first skier to win 3 medals in one Olympics.



Beijing 2022 Olympics, flag hoisting  
China and Cuba have put up very valiant efforts and had much success of their own since the Soviet Union was dissolved. Seeing how well eastern Europe has been doing in the Olympics as of late, with many of the best players in the world, makes one wonder about what heights a modern Soviet men's Basketball team. Here's hoping for a return of the Soviet Union and being able to see Luka Dončić and Nikola Jokić play on the same team in the Olympics one day.



Artwork by Ash R. and Kamryn Stringfield



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# RED PATRIOT

# Multi-Culturalism of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

By N. Prejean

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) was not one monoculture. Rhetoric from 1917 through the Cold War to today always characterized it as “Russia” or “The East”. Education in western schools talk about the “Russian Revolution” or how “the Russians took Berlin”.

One may wonder if the insistence on framing everything as “Russia” and not as the USSR is intentional in creating a bogeyman other instead of something the ruling class never wanted the workers to know about: A multi-cultural state where multiple ethnicities came together to build the first worker’s state.

The Great October Revolution of 1917 in Russia was not just in the area of the Russian state. A four year civil war began in Ukraine between Soviets and Nationalists, and other Soviet Republics in Belorussia (Belarus) and Trans-Caucasia (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia) were formed. On December 30, 1922, the Soviet Union was formed from a treaty agreement of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic,

Federated Socialist Republic, and the Trans-Caucasian Soviet Republic.

The Constitution of 1936 granted each republic with the USSR the right to secede if they wished, Article 110 stated that judicial proceedings were conducted in the language of that Union Republic or Autonomous region with an interpreter guaranteed available. The people of the USSR had the right to schooling in their native language, and the banner of the USSR had “Proletarians of the World, Unite!” in every language in the USSR.

What were some of the nationalities of the USSR? They were:

- **Russian**
- **Ukrainian**
- **Moldovan**
- **Belorussian**
- **Karelian**
- **Estonian**
- **Latvian**
- **Lithuanian**
- **Georgian**
- **Armenian**
- **Azerbaijani**
- **Kazakhs**
- **Uzbeks**
- **Turkmen**
- **Kyrghyz**
- **Tadjiks**

There were also native nationalities throughout the nation like the **Evenk, Tungus, Ostiak, Dolgan, and Samoed**, many of which have autonomous regions.

## Multi-Culturalism of the USSR

There have been accusations of the Soviet Union being an empire or the USSR just being an extension of "Russian imperialism". These accusations are nowhere near the truth of the multiculturalism of the USSR. The Constitution of the USSR, both the 1924 version and the so called "Stalinist constitution" took into account the many ethnicities and nationalities into consideration.



"Through their strong union, workers and peasants destroy oppressors"

The Congress of the Soviets, and in the recesses of the Congress of the Soviets – the Central Executive of the USSR is composed of **the Federal Soviet** (1936 constitution called the **Soviet of the Union**) and the **Soviet of Nationalities**. The Federal Soviet was elected from among the representatives of member republics in proportion to the population of each for a total of 371 members. The Soviet of Nationalities had 5 representatives from each Soviet Republic and one representative



from each autonomous republic or region in the USSR. This body was elected by the Congress of the Soviets.

The 1936 Constitution kept this structure while renaming the Congress of the Soviets to the Supreme Soviet, and changed the formula to 25 deputies from each Soviet Republic, 11 from each autonomous republic, 5 from autonomous region and one deputy from each national area. **The Soviet of Nationalities had equal rights to the Soviet of the Union**, and the chairman could preside over dual sessions of both parties by alternating with the Chairman of the Soviet of the Union. Clearly, from just a reading of the Soviet constitution and structure of the government, there was an emphasis on making sure each ethnicity was represented and valued. Imagine if the founding of the United States had included a separate provision for all the First Nation peoples instead of stealing their land and genociding them.

It was Lenin and the communists that first allowed many of the nationalities and ethnicities under the former Tsarist empire the opportunity to form their own independent states. Before the Revolution, non-Russian ethnicities and nationalities were oppressed and had their own culture and identity suppressed, often with lethal force. With the downfall of the Tsarist empire, there were many that wanted to keep the structure of Tsarist empire. Both the Mensheviks and the Socialist Revolutionaries called for a similar system of autonomy for cultural groups while keeping the Russian State's boundaries and having Russians dominate economic and political affairs.

**It was Lenin and the Bolsheviks that fought for self-determination of all peoples in the Tsarist empire,** and Stalin, in *Marxism and the National Question*, wrote that the right of self-determination and equal rights of nations in all forms are essential elements in the solution to the national question. The Constitution of the USSR written in 1936 reflected this multiculturalism of the Soviet Union. It made its illegal dissolution all the more tragic.



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**Through perseverance, we overcome.**



# Art from the Past



**"América Tropical: Oprimida y Destrozada por los Imperialismos" mural by David Siqueiros, 1932**

*Tropical America: Oppressed and Destroyed by Imperialism* when translated from Spanish, the mural depicts an indigenous American being crucified underneath a bald eagle in front of a Mayan pyramid. Two revolutionaries sit, ready to snipe the bird. This was a clear anti-colonialist and anti-imperialist piece of art directed at the United States, and was controversial when it was painted in Los Angeles and it was covered up until it was unveiled again in 2012.

David Siqueiros was a member of the old Mexican Communist Party and was considered 1 of the big 3 in the Mexican Muralist movement. He died in 1974.

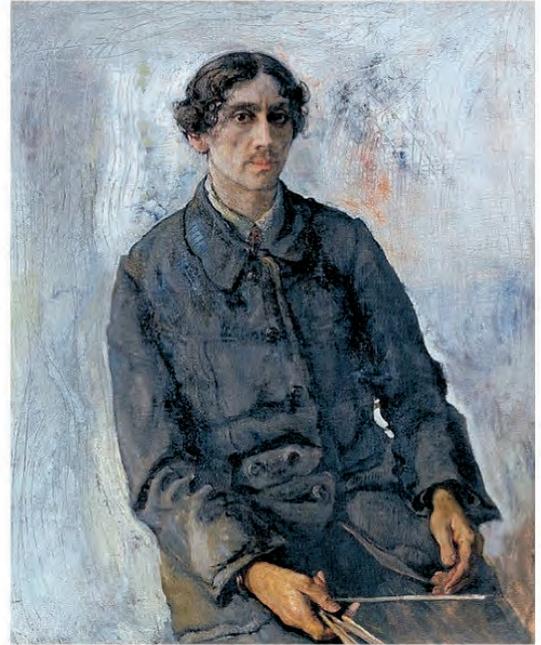


# Isaac Brodsky

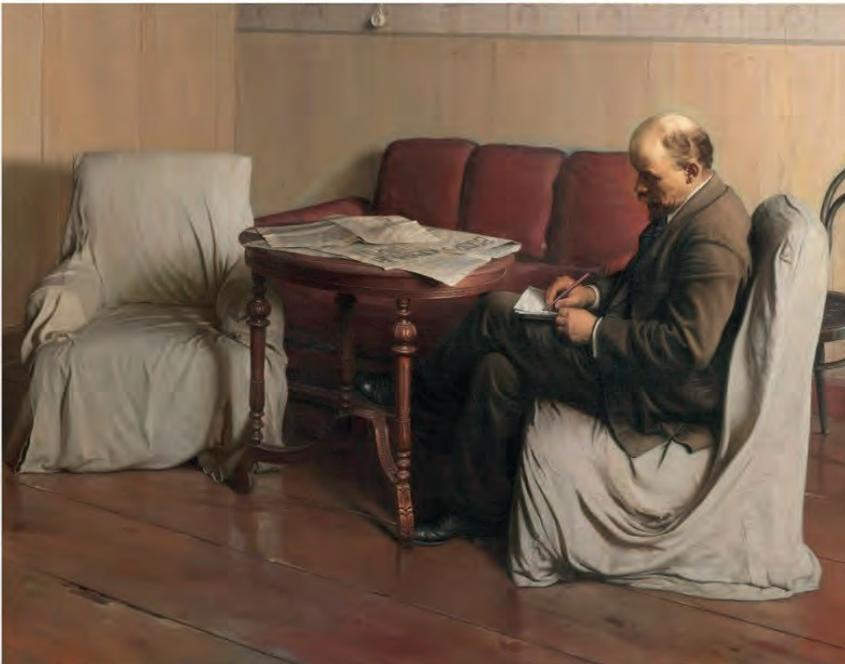
## Icon of Socialist Realism



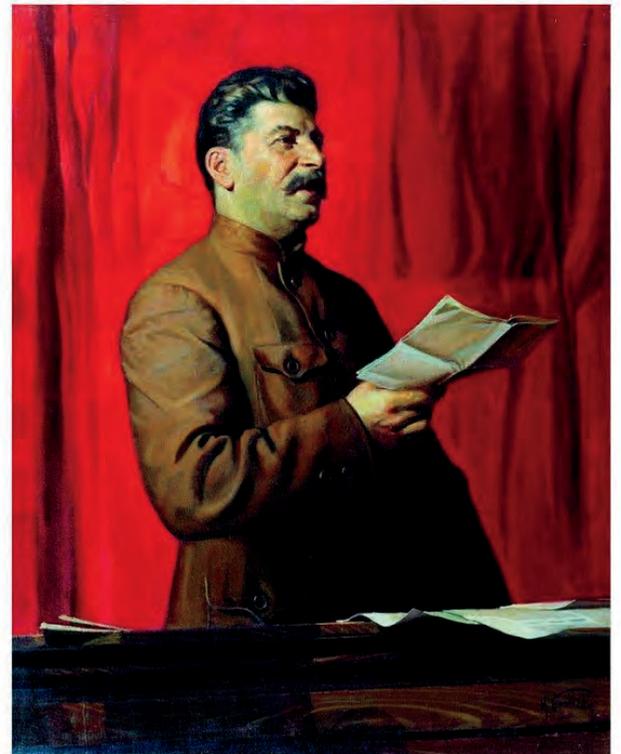
*Day of Constitution, 1930*



Brodsky's self-portrait



*Lenin in Smolny, 1930*



*Portrait of Stalin, 1933*



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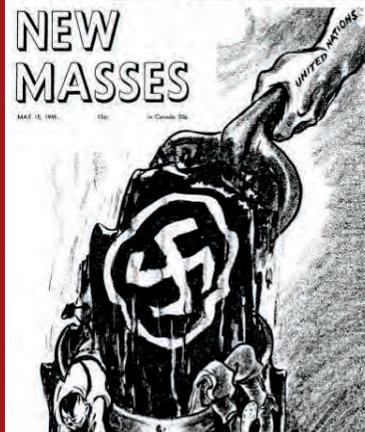
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