

U. S. REDS CALLED PUPPETS OF SOVIET

Clark, Resigning Party and Daily Worker Post, Sees No Hope of Ending Ties

By HARRY SCHWARTZ

There is no hope that the American Communist party will cease being subservient to Soviet foreign policy or will really break with Stalinist tactics. These are among the charges leveled by The Daily Worker's foreign editor, Joseph Clark, in a statement resigning from that post and from Communist party membership.

Mr. Clark's statement, made available by him yesterday, was scheduled to be published in The Daily Worker today. It appears to be one of the most illuminating documents on the state of the American Communist party made public in recent years.

The statement says that the Communist party's membership in this country has declined by at least 7,000 from the 17,000 members reported last year. It says that about 60,000 members dropped out in the preceding decade, "including the great majority of its working class and Negro members, active trade unionists, as well as writers, scientists, professionals and also party organizers, Smith Act prisoners, Daily Worker editors and reporters."

Still Favors Marxism

Making clear that he still believes in socialism and Marxism, Mr. Clark declares, "Socialism can be served only by a complete break with Stalinism." The American Communist party, Mr. Clark writes, "has become a hindrance rather than a means for advancing socialism," because it has increasingly tried to impose its dogma upon American reality.

In a separate statement to The New York Times, Mr. Clark denied certain statements attributed to him by friends. In particular, he denied that he knew from his own observation in the Soviet Union, while a Daily Worker correspondent there from 1950 to 1953, that Stalinist terror and crimes were greater than those reported by Nikita S. Khrushchev in February, 1956. He also denied having made a statement that included: "Khrushchev is the bloodiest of the Soviet tyrants."

Mr. Clark in his statement of resignation tells of his fruitless struggle to have the Communist party here deny explicitly the notion that it must always agree with the foreign policy of the Soviet Union. He recalls that the demand for such agreement was put forward by Jacques Duclos, French Communist leader, in a letter sent to American Communists shortly before their national convention last February.

Convention Failure Cited

Mr. Clark writes:

"The essence of the Duclos letter was rejected by the convention. But unfortunately it was not argued or specifically refuted in a way which would establish beyond a shadow of doubt the independence of the American Communist party and demolish the slanders of J. Edgar Hoover [head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation]."

"There is no prospect that party leaders will rebuff the Duclos argument [that American Communists must always maintain solidarity with Soviet foreign policy]."

"All efforts that I made to get a specific refutation of the Duclos statement were rebuffed. Therefore, to remain in the party tends to lend support to the disastrously un-Marxist policy which has time and again isolated us from the American workers, as in 1939."

Mr. Clark argues that the Communist party should have supported the war against Hitler in 1939 rather than the "shameful neutrality" it did support. He argues, too, that American Communists should have shown "solidarity with the Hungarian workers opposing Soviet intervention" in the Hungarian revolution last year.

The immediate cause for Mr. Clark's resignation apparently arose from currents set in motion earlier this summer when the Soviet Communist party purged Georgi M. Malenkov,

Vyacheslav M. Molotov and Lazar M. Kaganovich. Mr. Clark caused a storm in Communist ranks here by writing a column, published last July 10, expressing great skepticism about the official Soviet explanation for the purge.

Mr. Clark asserts that at the meeting of the American Communists' national committee last July 27 and 28, he was denounced by dozens of speakers and the committee registered "its disagreement with the line of The Daily Worker foreign editor." The committee then decided not to remove him from that post, Mr. Clark quotes it as saying, because of the party's "relations to outside forces at the present time, when we are still in this difficult, weak stage."

Mr. Clark, 44, said yesterday that having broken with the Communist party after twenty-eight years of association with it and eleven years of association with The Daily Worker, he would begin looking for a new job today. He said he had received the Silver Star for gallantry in action during World War II while a staff sergeant in Europe with the 100th Infantry Division. He is married and has two children.