

**LAUNCH BUS BOYCOTT
IN CAPETOWN, S. AFRICA**

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THE MILITANT

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STALIN'S ANTI-SEMITIC BLOOD PURGES ADMITTED BY JEWISH PAPER IN POLAND

The Whole Kremlin Bureaucracy Stands Guilty Before History

An Editorial

We address the following lines to the masses of Jewish and class conscious workers who are devoted partisans of the Soviet Union and thought that Stalinism was the true expression of Communism:

We know you are stunned and sickened by the news contained in the Polish Jewish paper, *Folksstimme*, entitled "Our Anguish and Our Consolation."

Many of you must be asking: "Can it be that everything we have lived by for over three decades is nothing but a pack of perfidious lies? Can it be that Stalin, who was represented to us as the personification of the revolution and socialism itself, was not merely guilty of 'incorrect methods of work' and building the 'cult of the individual' as Foster said recently in the *Daily Worker*, but was rather the organizer of monstrous frame-ups, the extractor of 'confessions' through torture, the murderer of countless devoted revolutionists and a blood-stained anti-semitic butcher?"

Surely none of you believe the astonishing "explanation" repeated in the *Folksstimme*, *Freiheit* and *Daily Worker* that all this was the work of Beria! It is enough to point out that Beria had not yet been brought in by Stalin during the decimation of the leaders of Soviet Jewry in the Thirties for this "explanation" to fall apart. Who was responsible for the anti-semitic purges of the Thirties? The secret police chiefs who preceded Beria? Yezhov? Yagoda?

But Stalin with his dictatorial power handpicked all three of these police chiefs. There is no escaping the fact that Stalin was chief organizer of the historic crimes against the working class.

Who Was Stalin?

For revolutionary workers, however, this does not close the question; it only opens the way to consideration of the real problem: Who was Stalin?

Isn't it clear that in disclaiming full responsibility for partnership with Stalin in all his crimes the present Kremlin leadership is following the very method of individual cultism it is supposed to be discarding? They are depicting Stalin as a super-human power who was capable of single-handedly terrorizing a nation born in a great socialist revolution.

No, comrades, it doesn't make sense. Not from the point of view of Marxism. Obviously Stalin was the hideous product of an entire social strata, the bureaucratic caste which lifted him to power and entrusted its drive for privilege, power, prestige and revenue to one super-bureaucrat.

Stalin was the Russian equivalent of a Dave Beck or a George Meany — with state power in his hands. He arose out of the bureaucracy of a workers' state, isolated for long decades by the delay of the world socialist revolution. This Soviet bureaucracy, like all labor bureaucracies, is the expression of world capitalist pressure on the first workers' state in history. It usurped power by destroying Lenin's Bolshevik party and slaughtering the vanguard of the Russian revolutionary working class.

The *Folksstimme* editors explain why they "kept silent despite the fact that we saw and painfully felt the tragic results of Beria's rule." They say, "We were convinced that the Leninist party would sooner or later uncover the whole truth and would determinedly and energetically reveal it to all the people." This is not the answer of revolutionists, but of frightened bureaucrats.

What was this party that would "sooner or later" uncover the truth, while in the meantime the best representatives of the working class and the flower of Soviet Jewish culture was drowned in blood? Were they not a part of this party? Wasn't it their duty to fight within the party against the bureaucratic marauders?

Trotsky Was Not Silent

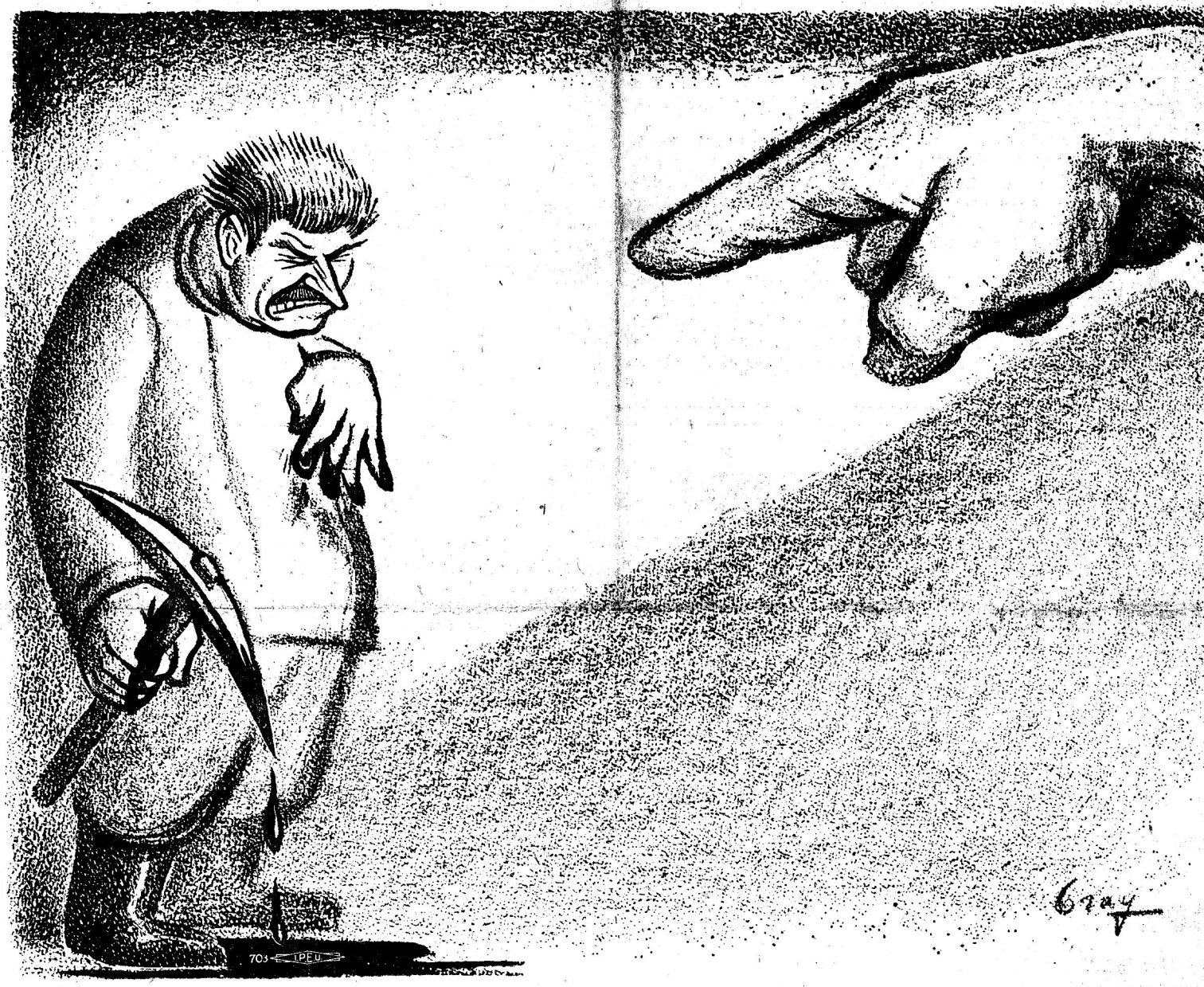
Remember, comrades, that's what Leon Trotsky did! Together with Lenin, as proven in Lenin's last testament, he fought Stalinism from its inception as a mortal danger to the defense of the Soviet Union and the world socialist revolution. For this he was expelled, exiled and then murdered by a Stalinist pick-axe assassin. And for this struggle against Stalinism tens of thousands of Bolshevik-Leninist workers and youth perished in Stalin's dungeons.

You have been taught to revile Trotsky and Trotskyism. But who taught you this? Isn't the author of the struggle against Trotskyism the master executioner of revolutionists — Joseph Stalin?

As revelation after revelation brings to light the criminal course of the entire bureaucratic gang that was headed by Stalin, we are confident that you will ask yourselves the most important question of all: Wasn't Trotsky right in fighting the bureaucratic caste throughout the dark years of Stalinist reaction?

Khrushchev Tells How Stalin Got "Confessions" for Moscow Trials

Guilty of Frame-Ups, Murder and Pogroms



Strike Wave in Spain Tells Franco's Doom

By John Black

Spanish workers, showing utter disregard for the oppressive laws and the dire threats of Franco's fascist regime, have succeeded in winning wage increases by a wave of massive strikes in the north of Spain.

Starting in the backward and generally conservative province of Navarra, where they tied up the capital city of Pamplona in a general strike, workers' insurgency spread throughout the traditionally anti-fascist Basque province, affecting among many others the Babcock & Wilcox Company steel plant in Bilbao, and then leaped over to Barcelona.

These strikes are by their very nature directed against the Franco regime. All economic decisions are made by the Cabinet in Madrid, and workers are fully aware that they can win no permanent concessions except through a struggle vigorous enough to force the men around Franco to accede to their demands.

The workers of Pamplona who organized picnics on the banks of the river Arga during working hours were moved to act by economic motives. Raging inflation has driven them to desperate action. Living costs in Spain have risen three-and-one-half times over the 1940 index. When even the government-sponsored National Syndicate Organization — Franco's fake trade unions — demanded wage increases, the Madrid Cabinet decreed a 16% wage increase designed to offset the spiraling cost of living. What really infuriated the workers were the sudden price increases

in basic commodities immediately following the April 1 wage adjustment.

The fascist regime, which has boasted of being the most stable capitalist government in Europe, has now suffered its second social eruption within the short span of three months.

The re-emergence of the Spanish working class on the European scene as a powerful, militant factor was ushered in by student demonstrations on the campus of the large University of Madrid and street fighting between stu-

dents and the Falangist shock-troops of Franco. The student unrest revealed that a wide gap had developed between the narrow circle of immediate beneficiaries of continued fascist rule and almost all other strata of society.

Student unrest receded with the wave of arrests and repressions that followed the outbreaks. But although the Madrid newspapers carried no reports on the strike wave which enveloped northern Spain, Madrid students showed their growing political

awareness by promptly issuing a neatly printed leaflet which demanded among other reforms, "freedom for national bodies such as trade unions and universities."

It is clear that the Fascist authorities were taken by surprise when the strikes broke out. This is indicated by the difference in the reaction of provincial governors. In some cities, authorities declared a lockout in all struck plants. In others, substantial wage increases were

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English Text of *Folksstimme* Article

[We publish herewith a translation of the full available text of an article, "Our Anguish and Our Consolation," printed in the April 4 Warsaw (Poland) *Folksstimme* — a Stalinist Jewish-language newspaper. The text first appeared in the U.S. in the April 10 Morning *Freiheit*, a New York Stalinist newspaper as an "authoritative declaration on the very important matter: Jewish culture and Jewish social life in the Soviet Union and the fate of a number of writers and personalities." — Ed.]

TUMOR ON HEALTHY BODY

The historic meaning of the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union consists among other things in this, that it condemned in a decisive and irreversible manner the cult of the individual which caused much crippling of the party and social life of the So-

viet Union for almost two decades. The tumor which had grown up during those years on the healthy body of the first land of socialism, interfered in manifold ways with a natural development of its generally healthy organism, resulting in much suffering and sacrificing of the innocent.

In the situation created by the cult of the individual, a certain crippling of the national policy of the Soviet Union occurred. This enabled the Beria clique to provoke friction between nationalities and cause a certain growth of nationalism and anti-Semitism.

In the atmosphere of the cult of the individual, alien to Marxism-Leninism, it was possible among other things for the fatal decision to be made to dissolve our heroic combative and self-sacrificing party — the Commu-

JEWISH CULTURE FLOURISHED UNDER LENIN'S REGIME

The Leninist national policy in its concrete application to the Jewish people oppressed and persecuted by Czarism, was always an inexhaustible source of inspiration for millions of Jewish people throughout the entire world.

Not only documents of the highest principled importance, but daily practice of the Leninist party of the Soviet government was directed towards uprooting to the end every sign of

national discrimination. For the Jewish people of the Soviet Union doors and gates were widely opened to places in governmental and public life. In these openings, their representatives brought with them all the passion of a people who have been fenced off from the world by the ghetto wall.

With all the passion of people who guarded their acquisitions as the apple of their eye, Jewish workers and toilers entered the armed ranks of the Red Guard and the Red Army in order to defend the socialist revolution.

Legendary heroes appeared in their ranks; military leaders, who reached the highest ranks in the Red Army. Never to be forgotten is the epic heroism which in the history of the revolution came to be known as the "Tripoli Tragedy" studied with the immortal names of many Jewish sons from Kiev Podol, with

JEWISH PROBLEM WAS SOLVED

In the hearts of the Soviet Jews was born feelings of the purest patriotism, of love and friendship for the Soviet land. The word of the immortal Lenin who came out in the most decisive manner against every expression of Great Russian chauvinism towards the small and formerly oppressed nationalities, against every expression of anti-Semitism, strengthened among the Jewish masses the assurance

Daily Worker Hastens To Whitewash Stalin's Partners-In-Crime

By Myra Tanner Weiss

Stalinist sources in Poland and New York have now confirmed Leon Trotsky's charge that Stalin's murder-machine in the Soviet Union systematically committed the

most monstrous anti-semitic outrages. The Jewish paper, *Folksstimme*, published in Warsaw, Poland, on April 4 revealed the tragic facts of the mass slaughter of the leaders of Jewish cultural and political activity in the Soviet Union. The Stalinist purge of Jews occurred in two waves: in the Thirties during the infamous Moscow Trials and in the period following World War II up to 1953.

In another development, the Moscow trials of 1934-38, in which all the old leaders of the Bolshevik Party under Lenin were liquidated with Leon Trotsky as the principal accused, were admitted to have been frame-ups with Stalin as the master architect. This admission comes from Khrushchev in his speech at the closed session of the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union last February. Borba, a government paper in Yugoslavia, published extensive excerpts from the Khrushchev report in which it was admitted that Stalin personally directed the purge of old Bolsheviks in the Thirties, fabricated the confessions, obtained "through the crudest kind of pressure... by physical means," and instructed the police how to deal with the accused.

LIST OF CRIMES GROWS

These two new revelations confirm to the hilt the criminal character of the police dictatorship in the Soviet Union; that Trotsky combated since its inception after the death of Lenin. They follow admissions made almost a year ago that the post-war "Titoist-Trotskyist" trials were frame-ups in which Communist leaders in East Europe were liquidated; the revelations this year of the frame-up of Red Army leaders in the purges that prepared the Hitler-Stalin Pact of 1939; and the admission that the alleged plot of Soviet Jewish doctors in 1953 was a frame-up and part of the anti-semitic campaign.

An editorial in the *Freiheit*, Yiddish-language newspaper of the Stalinists in New York, com-



LEON TROTSKY

menting on the *Folksstimme* revelation of anti-semitic purges, described how Jewish culture had flourished in the early years after the Russian Revolution and then "was crushed in a veritable vandalistic manner, almost wiped out as a result of the monstrous crippling and horrible deeds of the conspirators — all of which was made possible... under the 'harmful influence' of the personality cult." (English translation of the *Folksstimme* article appears on this page.)

The list of artists, scientists and anti-fascist fighters who were annihilated in these purges exceeds even the worst fears of class-conscious workers throughout the world. The extermination of Jews included the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee in Moscow which provided leadership to the Jewish people in their heroic contribution to the defense of the Soviet Union against the Nazi invasion. *Folksstimme* reported that this Committee had "suddenly without why or where-

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