

SECRET

**INTELLIGENCE
BULLETIN**

**ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE
HEADQUARTERS, OTTAWA**

**WEEKLY SUMMARY
APRIL 29, 1940**

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War Series

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EDITORIAL

The Sickle-Swastika

We are today in mortal combat with two powerful enemies. Although with one only it is a "declared" war with military action on land and sea, the other is supporting its ally with everything but fighting forces in their common ambition to destroy first the British Empire and eventually democracy throughout the world.

While this unholy alliance between former bitter enemies is kept hidden as far as possible innumerable symptoms of its presence keep coming to light. From the day that the Hitler-Stalin pact was signed the verbal assaults on one another ceased. Shortly afterwards the Moscow directed propaganda throughout the Communist world launched a peace-at-any-price campaign—on Hitler's terms. Here in Canada Nazis and Reds have pooled their hates against "the imperialist war" and in many instances have begun to fraternize. Our secret reports contain references to this friendship, and quote such Communist assertions as "Russia and Germany will one day make a military alliance and will divide Europe".

These signs are not peculiar to Canada. They crop up everywhere. Ed-

mund Stevens, writing from Sweden for the Christian Science Monitor, reports:

A strange sidelight of the present situation in Oslo is the attitude of the Communist party toward the German occupation. The Communist newspaper *Arbeideren* continues to appear unhindered. Editorially it calls resistance to the Germans a "provocation" and appeals to the workers to co-operate with discipline with the German command. This contrasts with the other papers which, while they submit to the censorship, refrain from any editorial exhortations of this type.

The Communist Party's manifesto issued at Oslo puts full blame on the Allies for violation of Norwegian neutrality and demands that the Germans be left in peaceful occupation.[1]

To quote in part:

German troops have occupied several important points in our country, including Oslo. The German military authorities declare that the aim of the occupation is defense of the country and to prevent the possibility of its becoming transformed into a theatre of military operation.

The situation created in this connection depends on the strivings of the Anglo-French military bloc to extend the imperialist war and also to disarm Scandinavia—strivings the clearest expression of which is England's violation of Norwegian neutrality by the laying of mines along the Norwegian coast.

The Norwegian people, who never entertained hostile feelings towards other people, do not entertain them today, but are filled with an ardent desire to live and work in peace and freedom and do not want to be drawn into war.

From "Memorandum of Information on Foreign Affairs," published in London, is quoted the following significant remarks:

"The evidence before us has always shown that the signature of the Russo-German non-aggression pact marked the conclusion of a full and complete alliance secretly negotiated between April and August, 1939. A number of recent reports have gone far to confirm its existence. Refusal to recognise it is the height of folly and may prove dangerous. It would be as foolish as for Germany to refuse to recognise an alliance between Great Britain and France. Indeed, without recognition of the Russo-German alliance we shall find it hard, if not impossible, to plan our strategy....

One of the most significant events has been the transfer to Vienna of the European headquarters of the Comintern, which Germany is using for subversive work throughout the world, and especially in France. It is not only used for undermining morale, but also for espionage. Many people realize how deplorable it is for us to be in

diplomatic relationship with the Soviet, which is at present engaged in the deliberate extermination of a [2] harmless people in Scandinavia, but too few yet recognise the practical dangers of this unhappy connection. Communist parties throughout the world receive their money and directions from the Russian missions abroad. There is scarcely an industry, a trade union or an even moderately left wing political party which is free of a Communist agent or member (whether they know it or not), who in turn has a connection direct or indirect with the regional Comintern organization. The Russian Government is consequently one of the best-informed in the world. Its diplomatic missions in many cases know every detail of labour organizations in the countries to which they are accredited, together with the productive capacity of key industries and many other details of supreme interest to a nation at war. At present Germany is deriving a very great deal of her extraordinarily accurate information about the position of the Allies through these sources and it is for this reason, amongst others, that the old Communism is proving such a useful instrument of policy and that Herr Hitler is only too pleased to have the Comintern at his disposal.

Not less important, however, is the birth of the new political creed to which we have referred. At present its importance is confined first to the development of relations between Russia and Germany, and, secondly, for internal propaganda purposes in both these countries. Very soon, however, it may have a wider significance and greater international importance."

The sooner this secret alliance is brought from under cover and understood as simply a part of a world-wide conspiracy against everything we hold dear the sooner we can take adequate measure to cope with it.[3]

COMMUNISM

LOYAL UKRAINIANS CONDEMN TEMPLE ASSOCIATION (Toronto)

Since the Toronto branch of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association were threatened with cancellation of their hall licence the Association have put on an outward semblance of respectability and are treading lightly from coast to coast.

In Vancouver, where they were fortunate enough to obtain a full page "approval" in the "Daily Province", they have shipped all doubtful books from their library to private homes for safe keeping and have even removed the pictures of Marx and Lenin from the walls. Seemingly that is all they think required to prove that there are no Communist ties to their organization.

Meanwhile, adding to the abundance of evidence already on hand against this organization, 22 Ukrainian lay and church groups repre-

sending 10,000 Ukrainians in Toronto, issued a brief to the press to show that "at least some of the supporters and apologists of the U.L.F.T.A. had to go a little out of their way to say what they did before the Police Commission and in their statements made to the Press."

The brief states that "most of the Ukrainians of Toronto do not (and they never did) regard the Association in question or the hall it controls as their cultural centre." It continues:

"The Ukrainians have found out by bitter experience that toleration by Moscow of the Ukrainian language, songs, dances, plays, concerts and costumes to a greater degree in Canada than it permits such things in the Ukraine is not out of any love or respect for Ukrainian culture or tradition, but simply because those things have been found a convenient means for attaining Moscow's ends.

"It is known, however, that even those innocent looking cultural things in Canada are spiced and flavoured in such a way that they are nothing else but a piece of Moscow [4] propaganda and a means of getting a grip upon the Canadians of Ukrainian descent.....

"For anybody to come out with a statement that the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association of Toronto has no connection with Communism or Soviet Russia is just as futile and absurd as if they tried to prove that black is not black or white is not white."

It might be well for our "public spirited" citizens to take to heart the concluding remarks of the statement of these Ukrainian Canadians who are truly Canadian when, condemning Moscow control of the U.L.F.T.A., they say:

"Such food and fibre is not, to our understanding, the stuff desirable for building up a strong civilization or a Canadian nation, and no responsible Ukrainians in Canada, co-operating as they are with the Allies striving to win the war and to free the nations of Europe, including the Ukrainian people, will subscribe to the remote control work of the kind in this Dominion."

FINNS NEED COUNTER-PROPAGANDA

(Port Arthur, Ont.)

"The Finnish people are faced with a constant barrage of Left wing propaganda and I am of the opinion that if they could be divorced from this and instead given wholesome literature, economic, religious, and political, this kindly people would soon (with a little understanding), become a worthy Canadian people. The Finnish co-operatives sponsored among these people is an attempt to cultivate inter-communal life among themselves and to protect their economic standing as much as possible. The Finnish people are hungry for literature in their own language. This covers the Finnish people whose headquarters are at Port Arthur (Bush Workers, etc.)"

(From a confidential report on the Industrial Workers of the World).[5]

LAKE SHIPPING STRIKE TEMPORARILY LIFTED

The membership of the Canadian Seamen's Union on April 20 voted in favour of returning to work on the understanding that a \$7.50 increase in wages was to become immediately effective and other points of the 1940 demands were to be arbitrated on.

With the strike temporarily lifted pending further arbitration, the men are determined to keep the picket lines intact, merely moving them from the docks on the ships, thereby enabling them to "work on" the non-union members employed by some of the shipping companies, at close quarters. Organizer Chapman of the Union instructed that action of this kind must be undertaken in such a way as not to cast a shadow on the Union. He added that it was, of course, unnecessary for him to tell the men how to take care of the "scabs".

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LARGEST TRADE UNION EXPELS REDS (Toronto)

After having expelled the C.I.O. locals from their ranks, the members of the Toronto District Trades and Labour Council, by a vote of 122 to 58, have moved to expel the entire Communist element.

In introducing the motion to oust the Communists, John Conlin of the Machinists' Movement read excerpts from the constitution of the Communist Party of Canada. He pointed out that this constitution ordered "Red" workers to work their way into trades and labour organizations and to endeavour to swing them over to the Communist Party.

This expulsion of the Communists means that the largest trade union body will be without Communist representation.

An amendment to the constitution was adopted with the object of preventing the Communists from getting back into the Council. In future all prospective members must take oath that they are not members of the Communist Party.

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LABOUR SQUELCHES MAY DAY AGITATION (Vancouver)

Early plans of the C.P. of C. for elaborate parades on May Day have fallen through in most of the large cities of the Dominion. With the exception of Vancouver, May Day activities will be confined to the holding of mass meetings. In Vancouver the city authorities and the Parks Board have granted permission for the holding of the annual May Day parade

and a meeting to be held at Lumberman's Arch in Stanley [9] Park as usual. The Committee in charge have issued a notice to the effect that Mayor Lyle Telford will be the main speaker at the meeting. Other speakers will be local trade union leaders.

May Day meetings will be based on agendas built up on criticism of the War Measures Act, wage levels, taxation and conscription.

Many trade union groups have flatly refused to enter into May Day activities unless they support Canada's war effort in their conduct. This unexpected turn of events is largely responsible for the abandoning of original Communist Party plans regarding the celebrations.

NAZI-COMMUNIST PLOT IN MEXICO

In conjunction with particulars of an investigation into a Nazi and Communist plot to foment an uprising in Mexico, released by the Dies Committee on un-American activities in the United States, a similar situation is found to exist in this country.

Reportedly started in Toronto, an organization has been set up to recruit Spanish War Veterans (former members of the McKenzie-Papineau Battalion) by the Communist Party of Canada. Recruiting officers are endeavouring to contact all former members with a view to dispatching them, early in May, to the United States. We are advised that Los Angeles is to be the focal point from where these veterans will proceed direct to Mexico.

Very few particulars concerning this matter are presently available but investigations are continuing and the situation is being closely watched. [10]

FASCISM

ROME CONTROLS ITALIAN VETERANS IN CANADA

Considerable pressure has been brought to bear recently upon the non-Fascist Italian War Veterans in Canada with a view to bringing them within the orbit of the Fascio. This pressure emanated from Rome and is consistent with a decree formulated by Signor Mussolini on December 8, 1939 which says, in effect, that all members of the National War Veterans' Association both in Italy and Abroad must join the ranks of the Fascist Party. This decree was published in the "Foglio di disposizioni", No. 29, December 8, 1939. The "Bollettino Italo Canadese" (Toronto) in its issue of December 8, 1939 featured the decree in the following terms: "The Duce has ordered that all war veterans be enrolled in the National Fascist Party".

In conformity with the wishes of Mussolini, special application forms were received by the Secretariat of the Fascio in this country. These forms fall into two categories; one, printed on pink paper, is intended for veterans who are already members of the Fascio and the other, printed on white paper, is meant for veterans who hold no membership in the Fascio and who had been called upon to enroll if they wished to retain their member-

ship in the "Associazione Nazionale Combattenti" (National War Veterans' Association).

Thus, for instance, the forms referred to were distributed to members of the War Veterans' Association assembled in meeting at the Casa d'Italia at Montreal on April 14. It transpired that all those attending were already members, with the exception of six. The latter were finally persuaded to fill in the forms and it is reported that as far as Montreal is concerned, almost the entire membership of the Veterans' Association is now enrolled in the Fascio.

The membership cards of the National War Veterans' Association, also sometimes referred to in Canada as the "Associazione Nazionale ex-Combattenti", come direct from Rome, each counter-signed by three members of the National directorate. Leaders of the Fascio have intimated [11] that unless the War Veterans join the Fascio they will be deprived of their standing as veterans and all the rights connected therewith, including pension privileges. The Italian War Veterans' Association of Canada must now be looked upon as an instrument of the Fascio controlled and directed from Rome through the Italian Consulate in Canada. The members of the Organization must, therefore, be regarded as "fighting soldiers" of Italian Fascism.

Italian Fascist activities, although conducted very secretly have become intensified. Agents of the O.V.R.A. (Opere Volontarie Repressione Anti-Fascisto) are known to be moved about the country contacting the Fascist leaders in the various localities. They move about very secretly. A meeting of O.V.R.A. leaders, presided over by the Royal Italian Consul at Montreal, Signor de Simone, took place in that city recently shrouded in utmost secrecy at which the International situation was discussed. It is known that two of the agents left Montreal immediately after the meeting and visited Ottawa, Toronto and other places in Ontario. The meeting in Montreal is said to have been attended by a special envoy from New York, whose visit has been kept a strict secret, even among the better informed members of the Fascio.

That Italy will become involved in conflict with Great Britain is looked upon in Fascist circles as inevitable. Recent information received from reliable sources would indicate that a number of the more prominent Fascist leaders are already preparing to flee the country should war break out.[12]