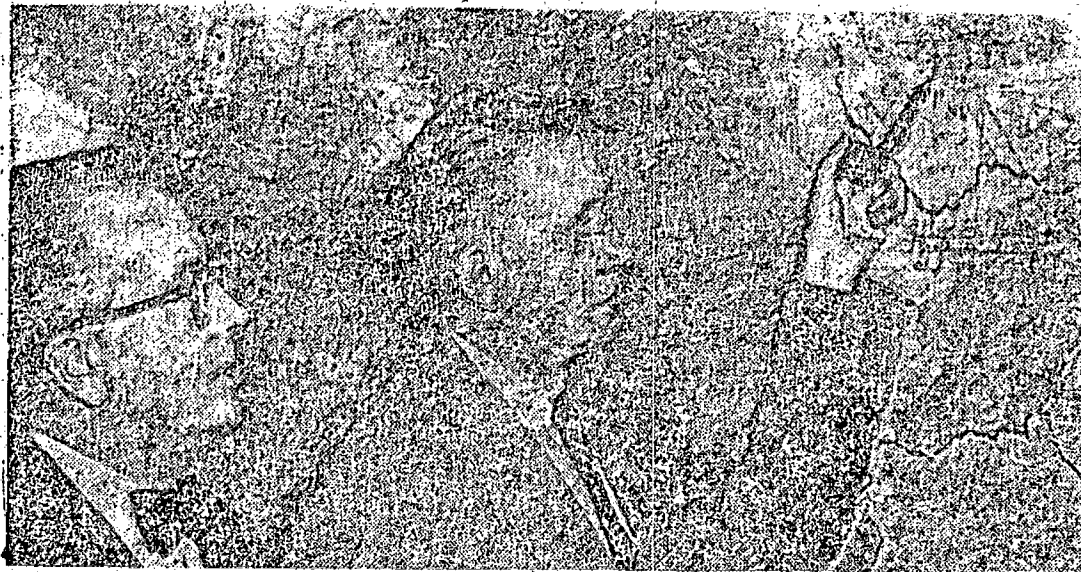


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'RADIO FREE EUROPE' director, William J. Egan (left), and the Chief of Czechoslovak desk, Ferdinand Peroutka, discuss strategy of broadcasting campaign to Communist-dominated Czechoslovakia.

Defectors Riddle 'RFE'

By FULTON LEWIS, JR.

CAPITAL REPORT

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6.—For the past two years there has been a sinister parade of defectors to Red Czechoslovakia from the supposedly anti-Communist staff of Radio Free Europe in Munich (financed by your "Truth Dollars" and by Allen Dulles' Central Intelligence Agency).

The facts have been effectively hushed up, here at home by the private enterprise organization which sponsors and operates RFE under the pontifical title, "Crusade for Freedom."

I have documentation, however, on at least 10 specific RFE staff members—editors, broadcasters, writers, propagandists—who turned coat to the Communist government in Prague.

One, for example, was Oldrich Kucera, alias Hornik, who was editor in charge of the "Workers' Program" and another entitled "We Are Called the Communist Party of the CSR" (Czechoslovakian Republic).

THE LATTER TITLE turned out to be something of a mockery. After Kucera disappeared and turned up in a plush administrative job near Prague, it was established that his broadcasts contained secret messages to the Communist Intelligence Service, which could be deciphered on the basis of sentence structure.

At the time he got his job with RFE in 1952, he was a secret intelligence agent for the

Czechoslovakian Ministry of the Interior.

Also, there is Ladislav Zapletal, script writer and secretary of the Association of Free Czechoslovakian Refugees. As such, he was custodian of all records, files and information obtained from refugees, including much material about the Czech underground at home.

When he left, he took everything with him. He presently is in Prague, in a top position in the pre-military training organization, "Svazarm."

KAREL FOLTA: Worker on the editorial desk, preparing skits and scripts for the Youth Hour, and also assisted in preparing political and economic propaganda broadcasts for beaming to Slovakia.

He defected quietly after complaints about his material put him under suspicion. He is now in Bratislava in charge of a large Communist industrial operation and an advisor to the Communist youth organization.

Karel Molin: Was chief of the RFE Citizen Service department in Salzburg, with access to all files and records of that operation and all refugees in contact with it.

He disappeared in late 1955 and so did the files and records. He now is employed by the communal service of the city of Osrava.

Marie Dvorakova: Expert lin-

guist, who served as liaison between American administrative personnel and foreign language employes, and thus had particular access to the Americans. A very beautiful woman, she was married to a Russian who had been part of the Nazi military government in Paris during World War II. She did much work in refugee camps and was collecting information ostensibly for RFE files.

In late 1955 she pretended to take a vacation and got permission to take certain pieces of work from the office to complete them while she was away.

Actually, she took the material back to the Red government in Prague, deserting her husband, and she now is employed by the Czech National Bank in Prague, "na Prikopech."

Jiri Kalas: Was administrative assistant to the head of the Refugee Department at RFE in Munich, and interrogated witnesses at the Valka-Nuremberg camp.

HIS STATEMENTS led to the arrest of a number of anti-Communist employes of RFE on charges later proven to be false. He disappeared behind the Iron Curtain in late 1956, taking extensive records with him, with the result that Red police made immediate mass arrests in the vicinity of the Czech border of citizens who had helped her to escape.

These are samples, but they are typical "Crusaders for Freedom."
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