

DAILY WORLD

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WILL THE SOVIET UNION SURVIVE UNTIL 1984? By Andrei Amalrik. Harper & Row, publishers. New York. \$4.95

By ERIK BERT

Imagine a pamphlet, written and published during the recent General Electric strike, by a GE worker, a member of the International Union of Electrical Workers. The pamphlet attacks the union and the striking workers, and praises General Electric as the giver of life.

The pamphlet looks gleefully to the day when the IUE and the other unions of GE workers will be destroyed. The author and his wife picket against the Black Panthers, and praise the Lord for stoolpigeons and agents provocateurs.

The pamphlet is blessed with a "preface" by GE's public relations department, by a "commentary" from a hireling of the National Association of Manufacturers, and concludes with "notes" by an anonymous anti-labor editor. This imaginary pamphlet is entitled: "Will the Union Survive Until 1974?"

Having imagined all that you can have a notion of what "Will Soviet Union Survive Until 1984?" is all about.

The scene now, however, is world wide; the issues are capitalism vs. socialism, exploitation vs. liberation, U.S. capitalism vs. the Soviet Union.

The author is Andrei Alexeivich Amalrik who lives in Moscow. The political goal of the book is the destruction of the Soviet Union, and of the socialist system in the other socialist countries.

It is a new edition of the wildest dreams of Hitler, brought up to date with LSD.

Perhaps even more baneful than Amalrik's are the contributions of Henry Kamm, New York Times reporter, who provides the preface; Sidney Monas, chairman of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature at the University of Texas at Austin, who contributes the commentary, and the anonymous author of the dust jacket.

The latter describes Amalrik's CIA-Nazism as the "free, skepti-

cal, visionary voice" of a "daring patriot who still believes that truth liberates." Kamm hails Amalrik's "free conscience," and his "organic revulsion against untruths." Kamm would have the reader believe that Amalrik, the enemy of peace and socialism, is a "man struggling for his integrity, his soul, his own truth."

Monas tries to sell Amalrik as "brave and unblinking," "proud of not being a member of the herd." Monas sees the "human beauty and heroism" in Amalrik's "character."

Amalrik will "not give up his right to an independent existence," Monas proclaims.

Amalrik's 'Independence' puts him in the camp of U.S. imperialism. He is waiting to be a "witness to the end" of the Soviet Union. He hopes for "large-scale strikes" in Soviet factories.

The Soviet regime is "on the defense" he calls to its enemies.

He evokes, for all enemies of socialism and the Soviet Union, the inevitability of its "forthcoming cataclysm." He urges not only

U.S. capitalism but the Chinese leadership to take advantage of the situation. The Soviet Union, he tells the Chinese leaders, is a "treacherous foe." He opposes peaceful coexistence between the U.S. and the Soviet Union, telling the U.S. imperialists that only the overthrow of the Soviet system offers the basis for "rapprochement."

He looks forward anxiously to a China-Soviet war and hopes that "West Germany, in order to hasten this process, will extend support in some form or another to China."

As a result of such a war Germany will be united under West German capitalism. Socialism will be destroyed in the other East European countries, he says, which will be restored to their "pre-Communist regimes" — to their former capitalist rulers.

The Soviet Union itself will be encroached on from without by the restored capitalist regimes, and disrupted from within by nationalism.

In Amalrik's world there are

neither 'American imperialists' nor 'anti-Soviet elements' — he refers to them in quotation marks. They are the inventions of the Soviet regime. The blood-drenched ground of Vietnam does not exist for him.

Amalrik, inevitably, lines himself up in opposition to the viewpoint of the peace, student and black liberation movements in the U.S. For him, the U.S. is "democratic America," based on "idealism," and devoid of racism.

He agrees with Nixon that the Soviet Union is the source of international tension.

Amalrik's book is the filthiest anti-peace, anti-socialist, anti-Soviet material to appear on the American scene since Collier's magazine in October 1951 predicted the conquest of the U.S.S.R. by the U.S.A. in 1960.

Collier's Hitlerite program coincided with McCarthy's attack on American liberties.

Amalrik's coincides with the aggressive, militarist, racist and repressive outlook of the Nixon-Agnew regime.