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SOVIET ACTIVE MEASURES

HEARINGS
BEFORE THE
PERMANENT
SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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"On 20 March 1968, the affair of the writer Berthold Jacob, kidnapped from Switzerland by agents of the Hitlerite Secret Service, resounded throughout the world.

"Jacob at that time was writing much on the German Army, in a state of rearrangement. He was able to reveal all the organizational details of the fascist army in a small book. The book gave short biographic information on 108 Hitlerite generals, the disposition of many divisions was revealed and so on.

"When the kidnapped Jacob was brought for interrogation to Walter Nikolay, the Chief of the fascist secret service, he proved that he had borrowed all his information for this book from the open German press, from journals, and papers. So, for example, the basis of the assertion that General Haines commands the 17th Division billeted at Nuremberg was taken from an obituary notice in a Nuremberg paper which said that the Commander of the 17th Division, recently transferred to Nuremberg was present at the funeral. In an item paper he turned attention to the description of the marriage ceremony of a Major Stemmermann at which Colonel Virov, Commander of the 36th Regiment of the 26th Division was present. Evidently, in order to give the wedding a more solemn character, the local journalists had mentioned that the Commander of this Division himself, General Hhaller, was at the wedding. For what sort of wedding is it without a General! And so, patiently, Jacob had collected information on 108 Generals and on what they are doing."

This method of obtaining classified information through the collection of unclassified and declassified information has become a standard Soviet procedure. The Soviet writer, interested only in describing the procedure, did not reveal the rest of the story of Berthold Jacob. The Nazis were forced to free him as a result of mass protests in Switzerland and the demands of the Swiss government. In 1961 Jacob was in Portugal, also a neutral country, when he was again kidnapped by Gestapo agents and in 1964 died in a Gestapo prison.

Mr. Young. The only public Soviet use of the term "active measures" that our staff could find in its research was in a 1981 report of the Soviet Union to the United Nations on its role in the anti-apartheid campaign.

Can you tell us what active measures have been conducted in the United States in regard to this campaign?

Mr. O'MALLEY. Yes, sir.

This report that you referred to was given to the U.N. General Assembly International Conference on Sanctions Against South Africa in May of 1981. It is the only example we know of where the Soviets openly used the term "active measures" in a public document. (See ex. XX, pg. 312.)

In this report the Soviet Union talks about its role in publicizing the fight against apartheid in southern Africa. It states, "active measures in this direction have been carried out by Soviet social organizations, including the all-union Central Council of Trade Unions of Soviet-Afro-Asian Countries Solidarity Committee" and a number of other organizations. Each of these, except for the last, which is the Union of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, is a Soviet constituent organization of an international Soviet front. In the United States, two members of the World Peace Council organized a conference in solidarity with the liberation struggle for the people of South Africa in October of 1981 in New York City.

The organizers served as Chair of the Preparatory Committee Secretariat and Conference Coordinator, respectively. According to their own public documents, the conference organized support for the Soviet position in South Africa, including support for the movements operating against the government of South Africa, the African National Congress, and the Southwest African People's Organization. (See ex. XXI, pg. 313b.)

The CPUSA, in a letter dated August 19, 1981, to all districts from Thomas Dennis, the chairman of the Communist Party Nationality Department, instructed CPUSA members to organize for the October conference. It instructed them to get a broad delegation from various areas in the United States to attend this conference. (See ex. XXI, pg. 327.)

The CPUSA newspaper, the Daily World, has conducted an extensive propaganda program against the apartheid in South Africa.

So there have been substantial efforts in this country against apartheid in South Africa.

Mr. Young. At this point I am going to submit for the record excerpts from the Soviet U.N. report we have just discussed. In addition I will submit the current list of WPC members which was released by the WPC (ex. XXV retained in Committee files) and Excerpts from document captured at a terrorist safe house in El Salvador. This document was a trip report prepared by Farid Handel, brother of Shafiq Handel, the head of the El Salvador Communist Party, Farid Handel described his trip to the United States in 1980 for the purpose of organizing support for the insurgency in El Salvador. He described the help he received from the Cuban U.N. mission, the Communist Party U.S.A. and the United States Peace Council. The latter two aided him in forming the U.S. Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador, the group which published the forged "dissent paper" which Mr. O'Malley described. (ex. XVIII and XIX)

[The information referred to follows:]

EXCERPTS FROM REPORT ON TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES BY FARID HANDEL

Route: San Jose-Mexico-New York-Chicago-San Francisco-Los Angeles-New York-Washington-New York-Mexico-San Jose.

New York: 1. Interview with members of the Cuban Mission to the United Nations. This took place in the house of Alfredo Garcia Almeida.

With regard to my stay in the USA and the work which I would accomplish there, they recommended that I should carry out work of an informational nature about the situation in El Salvador with progressive Congressmen for the purpose of making the rest of my work appear more natural. And in that way, to protect my visa.

They offered to facilitate contacts in Washington. And they did that.

2. Interview with members of the Directorate of the CPUSA. At their invitation, in spite of the fact that I insisted that I did not represent the CPS, they insisted that they needed to meet with me, because they wanted information.

Attended: Secretary of Education of the CC of the CPUSA Person Responsible for Press for the CC (Dominican from the CC of the CPD, (Communist Party of the Dominican Republic); Person Responsible for the U.S. Peace Council; Sandy Polak, (Pollack) member of the CC of the CPUSA.

Meeting with Sandy Polak, (Pollack) Solidarity Coordinator for the U.S. Peace Council.

Sandy proposed a national conference under the auspices of the U.S. Peace Council, the National Council of Churches, Amnesty International, WOLA, and unions, the most important ones in the U.S. The objective of the conference is to establish a support mechanism for the solidarity committees and to help create solidarity committees in those states where they do not exist yet.

Note - Translators parentheses.

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