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November 17, 1947

Rabbi Herbert Friedman
Temple Emanuel
Denver, Colorado

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

I am enclosing an interesting
clipping from the November 6 issue of the Washington
Times-Herald for your information.

Sincerely yours,

Lou
Louis E. Sidman
Executive Director

Enclosure

LES:db

To eliminate defamation of the Jews and to counteract un-American and anti-democratic propaganda through a broad educational program; to advance good-will and proper understanding between American groups; to preserve and to translate into greater effectiveness the ideals of American democracy.

THE SCORE

IT is interesting and may even be worth while to pause once in a while and add up a series of separate, though related, news items to see what the total score shows. Here are a few related incidents of recent date:

1. In Poland, the head of the only political opposition to communism flees for his life and his party announces it is withdrawing any further opposition to the Reds. That's the case of Mikolaczuk.

2. In Romania, the head of the "Peasant party" opposing the Communists is up before a Communist court-martial on charges of "high treason." His name is Iuliu Maniu. Romania does not have a death penalty law, so they're only asking life imprisonment for him.

3. In Bulgaria, they don't have any such delicate manners. The fellow who was head of the opposition to the Communists has just been taken out and shot.

4. In Finland, the political upheavals to come are forecast in the news that the Finnish prime minister and several members of his cabinet have now jumped over to Moscow to talk things over. Molotov was down at the station to meet them, and Molotov doesn't run down town to greet anybody except for a reason that serves his side.

5. In Czechoslovakia, Prime Minister Klement Gottwald has just opened up in support of the Communists to demand the Reds be given "more power"—they already have control.

And just to make sure nobody misunderstands, the Communist-dominated unions have announced that unless the shake-down works at once there will be a general strike.

Europe is supposed to be starving from lack of food and lack of production in factories. So the Communists announce a general strike if they are not given super power over a nation.

6. In Vienna the Russian high commissioner for Austria, Gen. Kurasov, announced that any nation that goes to war with Russia will be "smashed just like Germany and Japan." He spoke before an audience of American, French, and British control officials and Austrian functionaries. He was talking about the U.S.A.

7. In Korea, the Russians accuse the U.S.A. of "terror" and are now preparing to put us on the spot in a big way. For two years they have been arming and training a native Communist army. Now they are about to withdraw just over the border into Manchuria and let the Korean Reds loose on the country.

If we use our troops to stop the civil war, what can we expect the Russians to do? They are not going to sit by and let their crowd be licked and you can bet on it.

8. Late yesterday word was flashed from Vienna that the leader of the Hungarian anti-Communist party has also joined the big parade. His

By FRANK C. WALDROP

name is Zoltan Pfeiffer, and he got out of Hungary just as the parliament, Communist dominated, took up the proposition of lifting his ticket and locking him up.

9. Most interesting of all, from London comes the word that Dr. Hewlett Johnson, the dean of Canterbury, had canceled his announced plan to come to the U.S.A. this month for a three-weeks "lecture tour."

That is a very significant thing.

The dean of Canterbury is no ordinary preacher. He is one of the world's most forthright advocates of Soviet Russia.

He says that the Communists are operating the most civilized and advanced government in the world and that all the rest will come to it.

In 1945 this peculiar old party, who is known all around Britain as the Red dean, came over to the U.S.A. on one of his sales campaigns for communism and got a tremendous reception from people who ought to have known better.

WHEN he spoke at Madison Square Garden he had Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson, ex-Ambassador Joe Davies, and others of that stripe up on the platform with him. Telegrams of greeting were read to him—signed Harry S. Truman, President of the United States, Dwight D. Eisenhower, chief of staff, Army of the United States, Ernest J. King, chief of naval operations, etc., etc.

Enough to make your flesh creep, eh?

Well, he was all set to come over here again this year. All of a sudden, he gets laid up with neuralgia, at a time when the behavior of Russia as above noted puts every American in a position of having to show his colors.

People who would undertake to platform and telegram with old Hewlett Johnson this year would be pretty well exposed, wouldn't they?

And at a strategically poor moment in the war against civilization. So the dean gets sick at just the right—and last—moment.

These Communists and fellow-travelers over here in America are some double-dealing bunch.

IT is obvious that the Russians weren't kidding when they said they were going to challenge Truman and Marshall right out in public on the control of Europe. All these recent knockings off, jailings, and so forth in Communist-dominated regions are just preliminary rounds to show their muscle.

The real battling hasn't even begun, yet.

When it DOES, remember that in the U.S.A. it is absolutely essential to keep spotting and exposing the Red agents, dupes, and fellow-travelers. They are all diving for cover now.

But when Moscow beckons they'll dive out again. Our job is to keep them publicly exposed, tagged, and identified all the time.

April 2, 1948

Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship,
667 South Downing Street,
Denver 9, Colorado.

Gentlemen:

I have just returned to Denver after an absence in New York, and have found your latest bulletin, with the notation that my dues for membership have not been paid, and asking that I indicate my intentions in regard to future membership.

I have decided not to continue my membership in the Council of American-Soviet Friendship, and am taking this opportunity of so notifying you.

I would appreciate it very much if you would remove my name at this time from the Executive Board and from the membership rolls of the organization.

Thanking you for this consideration,
I am

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

HAF:EW

MEMO

**Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith
220 Empire Bldg., Denver 2, Colorado, MA. 6209**

To: Rabbi Herbert Freedman

LOUIS E. SIDMAN



GIVE
+
RED CROSS
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AMERICAN JEWISH
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Anti Defamation League
Empire Building,
Denver.



Anit Defamation League,

Why is it

that the Rabbi of Temple Emanuel, Herbert
Freidman, can belong to the Council of Soviet
American Friendship, and have his name in the
Denver Post on Thursday, Feb 26th, as having
"No Comment" on the heck question, when that
organization is known by Congressional Invest
igation to be SUBVERSIVE ?????



NEWS

from AMERICAN BIROBIDJAN COMMITTEE

(Ambijan)

103 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-8895-6-7

Organizational Newsletter

Vol. II, No. 2, March 1948

THE TRUTH ABOUT ACTUAL CONDITIONS IN BIROBIDJAN

An Answer to the Allegations of the Anonymous "Observer"
Published in the New York Times, February 15, 1948.

The article on Birobidjan of Mr. C. L. Sulzberger, reporting allegations of an anonymous "observer" on conditions in Birobidjan, which appeared in the New York Times of February 15, 1948, under the title, "Soviet Jews' Area Reported in Decay," is surprisingly out of accord with the facts. Mr. Sulzberger quite naturally does not assume any responsibility for the story; nor does he vouch for the reliability of the anonymous "observer" who allegedly, "recently spent considerable time in Birobidjan." We are not informed exactly when, and how long, the "observer" stayed in Birobidjan. Quite apparently Mr. Sulzberger did not take the trouble to check on the information of the "observer," for upon investigation the report of the "observer" would easily be discovered to have no relationship to the actual situation.

Two Cities and 11 Towns: The "observer" claimed that the region of Birobidjan, "consisted of only a few villages in addition to the town of Birobidjan, in which lived about 30,000 inhabitants, somewhat less than a third of the Oblast's (Region's) population." Aside from the absurdity of the "observer's" suggestion that in Birobidjan over 60,000 people live in a few villages, the simple fact is that the Jewish Autonomous Region really consists of two cities-- Birobidjan City and Obluchie, a number of towns such as Birokan, Londoko, Biro, Izvestkovaia, Khingan, Smidovich, Kuldur, Kimkan, Inn, Teplovo-Ozero, Stalinsk, and numerous villages.

22 Groups of Villages: The 1946 Government decree concerning the arrangements for the election of deputies to the Council of Nationalities from Birobidjan enumerates for the inclusion in the various election districts of the Region, the following 22 groups of villages: Leninsker, Bakhstover, Lazariever, Churkiner, Voskresensker, Ivanover, Kinkaner, Ashikaner, Pashkover, Radevsker, Storozhever, Sutarer, Ventselever, Mai-Troitser, Preobrazhensker, Urkaner, Bashmaker, Kirover, Kvashner, Dezhnever, Novinsker and Kukelever.

The "observer's" report that the total population is some 90,000 and that the number of Jews is allegedly, "less than a fourth of the total," is equally a mere product of a biased imagination.

Population over 180,000: In May 1944, the people of Birobidjan sent a message of greetings to Premier Stalin on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Jewish Autonomous Region. That message, published in the Soviet Press, was signed by 70,142 gainfully employed residents of the Region. At the same time, over 35,000 people of this Region, according to Army records served in the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union, and practically all of them were then at the various fronts, far away from Birobidjan. The above indisputable figures show that the adult population alone of Birobidjan-- gainfully employed plus members of the Armed Forces-- was considerably greater than the total of some 90,000 reported by the "observer." Even making every allowance for the rigors of mobilization during the war, it is patently clear that the total population of the Jewish Autonomous Region in May 1944 could not have been less than 180,000, and since then it has further increased.

Jews - Majority of Population: About the population of Birobidjan City and the number of Jews in the Region, we have more direct data. An article by G. Zhitz on, "The Birobidjan Region" in the INFORMATION BULLETIN published by the Embassy of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in Washington, May 1947, states that at that time (1946) the population of Birobidjan was, "more than 40,000." (Page 27). Later data indicates that by the end of 1947, the population of Birobidjan City reached nearly 50,000. As to the share of the Jews in the total population, the same

INFORMATION BULLETIN, dated January 12, 1946, in an unsigned article, "Birobidjan-Pearl of the East", (page 28) contains the following statement, "Most of the Soviet Republics have Jewish citizens, living in friendship and equality with the peoples of the predominating nationalities. But in Birobidjan, the Jewish people are in the majority." (underscoring ours). The entire history of the development of Birobidjan makes certain that they make up the majority of the total population.

In 1928 when Birobidjan was designated for preferred settlement by Jews, the Region was undeveloped, and its population did not exceed some 5,000 families of aboriginals, cossacks who had been exiled and drifted there at the time of Catherine the Great, mordvins, etc. Since 1928, the only organized migration into Birobidjan from other parts of the Soviet Union, encouraged, subsidized and supported by the Soviet government, consisted exclusively of Jewish people, and the Region is too distant from the densely populated sections of the U.S.S.R. (4,000 to 6,000 miles) to allow for any substantial, unorganized and unsupported immigration by individuals, especially since the people of other nationalities would have no particular motive to seek settlement in a Jewish Autonomous Region. The increase of the population of non-Jewish nationalities in Birobidjan since 1928 was by natural growth only. During the 20 years since 1928, the aboriginal population of some 25,000 to 30,000 could not have increased by natural growth and perhaps by a few occasional non-Jewish new settlers who drifted in on their own, by more than two to two and one-half times, and certainly cannot exceed at present some 75,000.

48 of the Total of 73 Municipal Council Members of Birobidjan City are Jews: There is just a hardly disguised anti-Semitic note in the "observer's" allegation that, though Birobidjan's, "Jewish population is less than one-fourth of the total... the Jews nevertheless held many of the administrative positions, including the local party secretaryship." That would seem to imply that Jewish rule is imposed on an unwilling majority. The figures and facts quoted above show that this reflection is entirely baseless, since the Jews are the majority of the population. As a result, the Jews naturally hold most of both the administrative and elective offices. In the elections to the local councils all citizens eighteen years of age and over have a right to vote. We have just received the report of the elections to the Municipal Council of the City of Birobidjan held in December 1947. Of the total number of 73 elected deputies, 45 are Jews and 28 are non-Jews representing the various other nationalities living in the capital city. This reflects fairly, the national distribution of the population of Birobidjan City.

"Observer's" Biased Imagination: The extremely biased imagination of the "observer" plays some amazing tricks on him. Aiming not merely to belittle Birobidjan, but to show, "that the Soviet government has lost interest in that area," and has permitted it, "to fall into decay," the "observer" all by himself endowed the city of Birobidjan with a pipe plant, simultaneously insisting that, "although Birobidjan has a pipe factory, it has no sewers." For greater emphasis he repeats, "the town (of Birobidjan) has no sewerage system or water supply," claiming that, "to obtain water the inhabitants often have to travel two or three miles in communal trucks." Fortunately however, ^{both} parts of his frightening story are a sheer fabrication.

In the first place, Birobidjan City, of course, has no pipe factory. The production of pipe demands a highly developed steel industry. While Birobidjan has abundant deposits of iron ore, coking coal, dolomite, graphite, manganese, lime, and all other necessary raw materials for the development of an iron and steel industry, and while the plans for the exploitation of these resources have already been made, World War II interfered, and so far the development of ferrous metallurgy in Birobidjan is still in the planning stage. This story of the "observer" tends to show that he really did not visit Birobidjan at all, at least not "recently." He must have culled his information from some old reports in the Yiddish press, and probably confused the term "raeder (wheels) with "raeren" (pipe), since Birobidjan does have a wagon and wheel plant (Wagonen and Raeder).

Birobidjan City has Water Supply and Sewerage System: In the second place, since 1946 Birobidjan does have a sewerage and water system. (See INFORMATION BULLETIN of the Embassy of the U.S.S.R. May 14, 1947, page 27). Let us add that even as far back as 1935 when the writer visited Birobidjan, when the city really had no sewerage system or water supply, no one had to travel for miles to obtain water. Water was supplied by communal water wagons, and the sanitary conditions were on a rather high level. In fact, there is no recorded case of any epidemic disease in Birobidjan City.

At present, Birobidjan is a beautiful city with many fine buildings, paved streets, asphalt sidewalks, substantial industries, producers' cooperatives, nurseries, kindergartens, schools, colleges, theatres, radio broadcasting stations, libraries, bookstore, a beautiful Park of Culture and Rest, a modern railroad station, an airport, two hotels, electric street lights, modern hospital, department stores, mechanized bakery, etc. The well-known Jewish writer, S. Gordon, in the summer of 1946 visited Birobidjan after an absence of ten years. He described his impressions in two articles in NALEBN, the Yiddish publication of our organization.

Capital of Birobidjan - A Big City "I was unable to recognize it," says Mr. Gordon. "Birobidjan is at present a term designating excellent highways, asphalted sidewalks, big buildings, water supply, sewerage, squares and streets lined with trees and shrubs." He describes the various streets starting from the great brick railroad station, one of the most beautiful in the entire Far East, on the October Street-- "an exceptionally beautiful street, with two and three-story brick buildings, and with tree-lined asphalt sidewalks." Then, passing to Kalininsk and Waldheim Streets where the major public institutions are concentrated, such as the Birobidjan Machine Tractor Station, the Music school, the Radio Broadcasting station, the Medical school, the Normal school, the College for Railroad Technicians, the buildings of the Regional and County governments, the Moving Picture house at the central square, and starting from there, the Sholem Aleichem Street, and the Lenin Street with its furniture plant, wagon and wheel plant, the four-story building of the newspaper, BIROBIDJAN SHTERN, the Jewish State theatre, the large building of the Ten-year school, the hotel with telephone service in each room and a central heating system, and the side streets with their factories including the plywood factory, the tile plant, the machine shop, the several brick plants, the saw and lumber mill and the plant for the production of doors, windows and other prefabricated parts for houses, the large clothing factory employing over 1,000 people, the department stores, the "gastronom" (grocery, delicatessen store), numerous other stores, the Park of Culture and Rest with its stadium for sports, the numerous small factories and cooperatives, enterprises producing kitchenware, food products, soft drinks, etc. All of this made the impression upon Mr. Gordon, "of a big city."

"The more I walk the streets of Birobidjan, the more I have the feeling," says Mr. Gordon, "that I am not in the Far East but somewhere in the South. The center of the city, with its brightly-lit brick buildings and thickly-treed lanes is very similar to that of the center of Evpatoria, Feodosia, and Jankoy. You have the feeling that these streets will bring you to the seashore."

The alleged "dilapidation" has no relationship whatever to the actual condition of the thriving and beautiful city of Birobidjan, unless it reflects the state of the imagination of the "Observer."

Birobidjan City is a Great Industrial Center, not merely for the Jewish Autonomous Region but for the entire Far East. The furniture produced in Birobidjan City finds a market not merely in the Far East, but even in Moscow. (See report of Alexander Kendrick in PM of January 22, 1947), and so does the marble of the town of Birokan. There are more than 2,000 Stakhanovite*workers in the various industrial enterprises of Birobidjan. But Birobidjan City is not the only industrial center in the Jewish Autonomous Region. There are in the Region, sixty substantial industrial enterprises, not counting the numerous cooperative enterprises. In the lumber and woodworking industries alone there are ten cooperative enterprises, producing lumber, wood articles, tar, barrels, etc. The city of Obluchie, and the towns, Izvestkovaya, Teploye-Ozero, Londoko, Khingan, Kimkan, Birokan, Inn, Stalinsk and Biro are also important industrial centers.

Obluchie has great railroad shops; it is the center for the nearby Sutari Gold Works has a school for locomotive engineers, several high schools, a theatre, several clubs, libraries, hospitals, a Park for Culture and Rest, a sports stadium, motion picture theatre, etc.

Londoko is the center of the lime industry. The lime plant has a capacity of 80,000 tons a year.

Khingan is the center of the recently discovered rich tin deposits; it is a boom-town planned for about 30,000 workers to be employed in the tin mines and smelters.

Teploye-Ozero is the center of the cement industry with the biggest cement plant in the entire Far East.

* See Note on last page of this Newsletter

Birokan is the center of the marble and paper industries. The marble produced in Birokan is of green-red colors, among the best in the U.S.S.R., and was used for the construction of the beautiful Bielorussian station of the Moscow subway. In 1947, there was put into operation in Birokan, the first paper mill of the Region.

Not far from Birokan is the famous resort town of Kuldur with its hot springs, known for their curative effects for rheumatism and digestive troubles, with its modern hospital buildings. The town of Irkutsk is the center of locomotive repair shops and auxiliary industries, and also the center for training railroad transportation workers and technicians. Practically all towns have producers' cooperatives in the lumber and woodworking industries, the production of tar, fishing and canning, etc. The town of Stalinsk is distinguished by its modern Agricultural College with its Experimental Research Stations that are supplying the Region with an increasing number of scientific agriculturists.

No Privileges and No Discrimination: As to the government allegedly having lost interest in Birobidjan, and treating it, "on a parity with other remote parts of the Soviet Union and no longer as a dream project," it is a little surprising that such an experienced newspaperman as Mr. Sulzberger could let a statement so contradictory in its terms as, "losing interest" and, "treating on a parity", pass without challenge. The Jews are not and have never been interested in receiving privileged treatment. All they want is to be treated on a par with the rest of the population. It is just because the Jews in the Soviet Union enjoy such equality with all other citizens, that they feel there no longer is any Jewish problem in the U.S.S.R. The Soviet government has never lost interest in its autonomous regions. It is well-known that since its establishment, it has devoted every effort to the development of just these remote regions which suffered neglect and discrimination under the Czarist regime. This is true of Birobidjan, just as it is true of the Arctic Regions of the U.S.S.R., of the Caucasian Republics, of the Central Asiatic Republics, etc. Nor has Birobidjan ever been considered a "dream project."

From the very first day of its designation for preferred settlement by Jews, Birobidjan was meant to be, and is, a very realistic project aiming to enable the Soviet Jews to develop a state of their own within the multi-national structure of the Soviet Union so that they may enjoy full equality as a nationality, having the actual opportunity to develop their own national culture in a self-governing community, on the same basis as is already enjoyed by all other nationalities such as the Bielorussian, Georgian, Uzbek, Khosar, Karelo-Finn, etc. This program has been carried out consistently, systematically, and with a greater measure of success than history records for any similar colonization project. Even during the war, the progress of Birobidjan on its way to becoming a Jewish Republic has not been interrupted, though it certainly was handicapped and retarded. Since the conclusion of the war, the project is being pursued with renewed vigor.

Great Expansion Decided upon by Soviet Government: On January 27, 1946, the Council of Ministers of the R.S.F.S.R. issued a decree taking more than two printed pages, providing for the further development of Birobidjan. It instructs the various Ministries to cooperate and supply the necessary resources for the establishment in Birobidjan of many new industries, including factories for the production of shingles, pencils, shoes, felt-boots, toys, confectionery, cement, paper, a group of textile plants and knitting mills, additional saw and lumber mills, and for the construction of several railroad branch lines connecting mines and plants with the Trans-Siberian Railroad, for carrying out geological exploration, for the construction of a group of factories for the production of prefabricated houses, and for supplying the Region with additional teachers, medical personnel, printing facilities and transportation facilities, and for the opening of numerous additional stores. The same decree also allocated a Federal subsidy of 1,500,000 rubles for the improvement of the City of Birobidjan.

Of the plants provided for by this decree, there have already been constructed and put into operation in 1947, the paper mill, the first group of plants of the textile and knitting combine, the shoe and felt-boot factories, and the confectionery plant. The others are still under construction.

Jewish Migration into Birobidjan: The migration of Jews from other parts of the U.S.S.R. into Birobidjan was increasing all the time up to the beginning of the war. In the initial stages of the settlement of Birobidjan, during the years 1928-1932, due to the early hardships of pioneering, there was a substantial flow-back from the Region to nearby industrial centers, however this had entirely ceased by 1933-1934. When the writer visited Birobidjan in the fall of 1935, there was no

flow-back from the Region, and the number of new arrivals kept on increasing in a progressive ratio. Even the war did not stop the migration though it was retarded. Soon after the conclusion of the war, as soon as transportation facilities were restored, migration of Jews to Birobidjan rapidly increased.

The total destruction wrought by the Nazis in most of the Jewish settlements of the Ukraine, Rielorussia, Crimea, etc. had the effect of intensifying the aspirations to go to Birobidjan. It should be remembered that the Jews of these old centers of Jewish concentration, had been evacuated in order to save their lives. Upon return to their old settlements after the war, they found everything in ruins and discovered that they would have to start life anew. Under these conditions, their desire to develop their Jewish statehood and culture received free play and was no longer held back by natural attachment to, and reluctance to leave their native towns. Another factor intensifying the migration is the fact that the pioneering difficulties which had been faced by the early settlers in Birobidjan have long since been overcome. Birobidjan did not suffer any war invasion or war destruction. Its rich, natural resources and thriving young industry and agriculture provide promising opportunities for becoming self-sustaining in a short time, while helping to develop their self-governing Jewish community and Jewish culture. Hence, the rapidly increasing migration of new settlers into Birobidjan.

The "observer" attempts to belittle this movement of new settlers into Birobidjan by claiming that it is "especially (Jewish) intellectuals from Russia proper" who "are still emigrating to Birobidjan," and that they allegedly do so merely "because they feel uncomfortable in conditions which the anti-Semitism engendered during the war has not died out." The emphasis of the "observer" is that they are "still" emigrating, suggesting that presumably this migration is decreasing and will soon cease. The other allegation is that whatever emigration there is, is caused by anti-Semitism in Russia proper. The figures and facts of the actual migration belie these allegations.

Great Numbers of New Jewish Settlers Arriving in Birobidjan: In 1946, 600 Jewish families arrived in Birobidjan from other parts of the U.S.S.R. In 1947, 1,500 Jewish families arrived in Birobidjan in six large contingents, in addition to hundreds of Jewish war orphans and numerous Jewish families who arrived in small groups. During the winter month of December, three additional contingents of new Jewish settlers left for Birobidjan; on December 6th, 255 Jewish families from Crimea left the city of Yevpatoria for Birobidjan; on December 14th, 248 Jewish families left Kherson, and on December 28th, 114 Jewish families left the city of Nikolaiev for the same destination, making a total of 617 families in the month of December alone. The latest report of the new Governor, just elected by the Legislature of the Region, M. Levitin, dated February 10, 1948, states that in the month of January 1948 alone, the number of new Jewish arrivals into Birobidjan reached 2000.

No Anti-Semitism in the U.S.S.R.: As to alleged anti-Semitism, we have not seen any recorded public expressions of anti-Semitism in the U.S.S.R. The members of the Landsmanshaften organizations (Americans who either themselves, or whose forebears came to the U.S.A. from the respective parts of Russia) cooperating with our organization, receive hundreds of letters from their relatives and friends in the Soviet Union. We never heard of any reference in such letters to any anti-Semitism whatever. Representatives of Russian War Relief recently visited the U.S.S.R. as did several competent journalists, many of them Jews who had the widest opportunities to mix with the local Jewish population. All of these experienced observers unanimously reported that there is no anti-Semitism in the U.S.S.R.

Mr. B. Z. Goldberg, an editor of the Jewish daily paper, THE DAY, spent several months in 1946 visiting most of the centers of Jewish population in the U.S.S.R. and reported his observations and conclusions in a series of articles in that newspaper, later reprinted in a pamphlet (in Yiddish).

"There is no anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union,"

concludes Mr. Goldberg as the result of his observations, "neither in the economic life of the country, in the process of securing employment, or advancing to a higher position, nor in the political life, in gaining office or leadership, in unions, the party, etc.; nor in the social or cultural life-- in securing admission to the schools of higher learning, or in becoming a professor; nor in the daily life of the community, in the factories or the clubs, in residential districts-- the Jew does not feel differently and he has no occasion to feel differently than the other

(cont'd)

nationalities of the Soviet population because he is a Jew. It is the only country on earth where the Jew does feel really free and equal, on a par with all other people of his country." (See, SOVIET UNION, - FRIEND OR FOE?, by B. Z. Goldberg, Yiddish, New York 1947, page 26).

A similar report was brought back by Mr. Louis Levine, Chairman of the Jewish Council for Russian War Relief, and at present, Chairman of the National Council of Organizations of the Yeshiva College, New York. Many similar reports can be quoted from equally competent observers.

For some obscure reason, the "observer" wishes to convince us that it is especially the intellectuals. Jews who are still emigrating to Birobidjan, though on the face of it, the thousands of families going to Birobidjan cannot possibly all be intellectuals. The facts tell a different story.

Composition of New Jewish Settlers: The report of the Secretary of the Region, A. Bakhmutsky, gives the following distribution of the 550 families of the first Vinnitsa contingent who arrived in Birobidjan in June 1947. About 200 families expressed their desire to work in agriculture as farmers or as workers in the Machine Tractor Stations; some 50 families will settle in rural communities and towns working at their specialties, as smiths, tailors, shoemakers, etc. Over 100 families will join the various producers' cooperatives or will be employed by enterprises of local industries: 100 families will be employed on the construction of the great cement plant at Teploye-Ozero; 100 families will be employed on the construction of the textile combine, the shingle factory and the new modern brick plant. Similarly the report on the contingent that left Nikolaiev for Birobidjan in December 1947, signed by two of the settlers, A. Haldes and K. Nodel, states that 80 percent of all the gainfully employable people in that contingent consisted "of skilled industrial workers. Among the settlers from Crimea, who left on December 6th, there are farmers, factory and mill workers, carpenters, textile workers, electricians, grinders, smiths, tinsmiths, automobile repair mechanics, with a slight admixture of teachers, medical workers and economists."

New Settlers Receive 650 lbs. of Flour per Family: A major reason for the continually increasing migration to Birobidjan are the letters sent by the recent arrivals into Birobidjan to their friends in other parts of the U.S.S.R. Here, for instance, is a letter sent by Itzik Felberg, a member of the contingent that arrived in Birobidjan in June 1947, and who became a collective farmer there, to his friend, Petie Bublik, in Vinnitsa. "For a week now I have been in the Molotov Collective Farm. It is rather far from Birobidjan City, but that is not as bad as it sounds because when you have to go to town, the Chairman gives you a horse and wagon and you travel like a prince...The State decreed that every new settlers' family should receive 18 poods of flour (a pood is 36 lbs). As for a cow, a regulation has been issued that we should receive the privilege due to all settlers, i.e., we will be given loans to buy cows and these loans will be payable in five years...so far I have been doing various kinds of work in the field, but the harvest season will begin soon, and then I will take care of a combine...You are interested in your trade, so I must tell you that typesetters are badly needed here. So my advice is, come here. You won't be lost. Farber, if you recall, came before me. He works in a printing shop and says he earns no less than 2,000 rubles a month, and aren't you just as good a typesetter as Farber?"

Skilled Workers Earn 2,000 Rubles a Month: A typical skilled worker, a Mr. Ehrlichman, who is employed as a tinsmith and produces some 25 to 30 tin pails a day, reports that his earnings exceed 2,000 rubles a month, while his wife earns 1,000 rubles a month. Skilled workers in Birobidjan earn 2,000 rubles a month and more, while 1,000 rubles a month is the common rate. The story of the "observer" about "one engineer feeding his wife and children by working 19 hours a day", is clearly an absurd and malicious invention.

Birobidjan Produces Surplus of Grain: This equally applies to his tale about "most of the population subsists mainly on locally grown potatoes and vegetables." The simple fact is that the major crops of Birobidjan are wheat, oats, rice, rye, soybeans, maize, honey, potatoes, cabbages, tomatoes, all other common vegetables, berries, melons and fruits. Birobidjan produces a surplus of grain. Since 1937-8, Birobidjan has always produced enough grain, not only to support the local population, but also to provide substantial quantities for export to other provinces of the U.S.S.R. in exchange for industrial products. During the war Birobidjan exported

(over)

carloads of grains as gifts to the Red Army. In 1946 Birobidjan over-fulfilled its planned deliveries of grain by 100,000 poods (see report of Chairman Levitin of February 10, 1948). This enabled the Region to provide from its surplus stocks of grain 18 poods of flour (648 lbs.) for each family of new settlers to help carry them over until the new crop is harvested.

1947 Budget of Birobidjan is 52.2 million Rubles - 29% greater than in 1946: Some of the residents in cities and towns may have gardens of their own because ample land is available and because during the war a supreme effort was made to raise the greatest possible amount of food stuffs. But on the whole, the urban economy is a money economy and the cities and towns purchase their food supplies from the country, just as farmers purchase their industrial products from the city.

The people of Birobidjan live on their money earnings. They are in a position to support the substantial budget of the Region which is raised from local taxation and also to accumulate substantial savings. The budgetary income of the Jewish Autonomous Region was originally estimated for 1946 at 43,152,000 rubles. But actually it reached 43,555,000 rubles. The estimated expenditure at 40,456,000 rubles actually amounted to 41,452,000. The budgetary appropriations for 1947 are 52,266,000 rubles, an increase of 29% as against 1946. The savings of the residents of Birobidjan were, besides, large enough to enable them to purchase Soviet State Bonds of the May Loan to the amount of 18,373,000 rubles.

Flimsy Attempt to Sow Enmity will not Mislead American People: The above factual information disposes of the report of the anonymous "Observer" proving conclusively that he could not possibly have been in Birobidjan in recent years, and that the alleged facts reported by him are contrary to the actual situation. But the "Observer" also volunteers the expression of some opinions alleging that the function of the secret police in Birobidjan is "said to be to prevent disillusioned pioneers from departing" and claiming that the "British contentions of Communist Jews many of whom spoke Russian, had migrated to Palestine" are justified.

In his over-eagerness to cast reflection on the Soviet Union, this anonymous "Observer" fails to notice how flagrantly he contradicts himself. In the name of elementary common sense, why should the Soviet State, that according to the "Observer", "had lost interest" in Birobidjan, put the secret police on the job to prevent the departure of pioneers from that Region, especially when we know the Soviet Union is suffering everywhere from an acute shortage of labor. The only answer is that that both his opinions about the alleged loss of interest and about the secret police are equally products of a biased and malicious imagination.

It is even harder to understand why the libelous "British contentions about Communist Jews, many of whom spoke Russian migrating into Palestine," a contention clearly meant to undermine the decision of the United Nations should be brought into an alleged report on Birobidjan. The falsity of that contention has been adequately shown in the public press by the Jewish Agency for Palestine. However, it supplies additional proof, if any were needed, that the alleged "Observer" was not really concerned with the facts, but rather with an attempt to mislead public opinion and cast reflection on one of the most promising developments of Jewish history, the establishment of a Jewish self-governing State within the Soviet Union-- all in order to sow enmity between this country and the U.S.S.R.

"Aims of Ambijan Must Inevitably Appeal to All Americans." The American people will not be misled by such flimsy fabrications. Americans of good-will will continue to lend their support to the joint efforts of the Jewish Autonomous Region and the American Birobidjan Committee for postwar Jewish rehabilitation, for the upbuilding of Birobidjan as a Jewish state and the development of Jewish culture. In the words of our Hon. President, Prof. Albert Einstein, "At this time, when the international horizon is clouded with doubt and hostility", the work of Ambijan "helps to draw together our country and the Soviet Union, and by creating additional bonds of friendship between us, helps establish the accord without which world peace is not possible." All people of good-will will agree with Professor Einstein that, "The purposes of the American Birobidjan Committee are such that they must inevitably appeal to all Americans, both Jews and non-Jews, in all walks of life and of all political opinions."

J. M. BUDISH, Executive Vice President

*Note to page 3: "Stakhanovites" is the designation for the most highly skillful and productive workers, who make up but a few percent of the total number of industrial workers.

* * * * *



February 22, 1948

PROMINENT JEWISH LEADER CONTRADICTS NEW YORK TIMES

The NEW YORK TIMES recently featured two articles in which it conveyed the impression that anti-Semitism was "mounting" in the Soviet Union and that the situation of Soviet Jews was rapidly deteriorating. The articles were written by two well-known New York Times correspondents who spent some time in the Soviet Union but who are not there now. They wrote their dispatches from London and Paris respectively. Mr. Drew Middleton, who left the Soviet Union in May of last year and who is now in London expressed surprise that "such wide-spread anti-Semitism" should exist in "a country that boasts of its lack of racial prejudice." Mr. Cyril L. Salzberger, writing from Paris, quoted an unnamed "observer" as his source for a report on the "decay" of the Jewish autonomous region of Birobidjan.

In order to ascertain the facts of the situation we interviewed an expert on Jewish affairs, Mr. B.Z. Goldberg, President of the American Committee of Jewish Writers, Artists and Scientists, of which Professor Albert Einstein is Honorary President. Mr. Goldberg, for many years managing editor of the Jewish Day, writes a daily column for this Yiddish-language newspaper. Before joining the Jewish Day, Mr. Goldberg was editor of the Jewish Digest. He made several trips to the Soviet Union where he made it a special point to contact the Jewish communities in different towns and cities. He returned from his last visit to the USSR in the summer of 1946.

NO COMPLAINTS OF ANTI-SEMITISM HEARD ANYWHERE IN USSR

Mr. Goldberg told us that he visited most of the major cities that have a large Jewish population. There are more than 350,000 Jews in Moscow today, he said, 110,000 in Odessa, 100,000 in Kiev. He traveled from Riga to Vilna, down to Lwov. In all the cities and towns along the road he met with the Jewish communities, he went to their synagogues, he even addressed the congregation during a service in the synagogue in Kiev. Wherever he went he soon established a friendly and familiar relationship with the people of the Jewish communities.

(cont'd)

"In none of these cities, towns and villages I visited did I hear any complaints of anti-Semitism or of any discrimination against Jews in any field whatever," Mr. Goldberg states. He added that he met a number of Jewish families whose boys were studying at the High Military Academies throughout the USSR. As an example he mentioned that the son-in-law of the famous Jewish writer David Bergelson was studying at the Frunze Academy in Moscow, the most important military academy in the Soviet Union.

Mr. Goldberg took issue with Mr. Middleton's assertion that "it appears to be government policy to reduce the number of Jews in positions of influence in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs," and that "Jews are barred from joining the Ministry even in the most subsidiary positions."

"I could name a great number of young Jewish people studying at the Soviet School for Diplomatic Service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs," he declared. "In the Foreign Offices of the Byelorussian and the Ukrainian Republics, as well as in the Moscow office of Solomon Abramovitch Lozovski (himself a Jew), who at the time was Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, I met high-ranking officials who were Jews and with whom I could converse in Yiddish."

WAR-TIME NAZI-FOSTERED ANTI-SEMITISM ELIMINATED

Jews in the Soviet Union told Mr. Goldberg that the Nazi occupation authorities during the war instigated and fostered a resurgence of anti-Semitism in those parts of the USSR they occupied. "But as soon as those sections of the Soviet Union were liberated by the Red Army the Soviet Government sent in what might be called public relations men to counter-act this Nazi propaganda against the Jews."

According to Mr. Goldberg, the Jews in those areas told him that the Soviet Government took immediate steps to eliminate this Nazi-fostered anti-Semitic attitude. Comparatively long terms of imprisonment were meted out to those who were unrelenting and tried to continue the propagation of the Nazi line.

"The impression I received from Mr. Middleton's article," Mr. Goldberg told us, "is that he swallowed whole some of the very stale anti-Soviet propaganda which has been discredited many years ago -- like connecting the trials of the middle thirties with anti-Jewish sentiment, or like the very ignorant and stupid notion that (Leon) Trotsky was eliminated because of his Jewishness, which, of course, is ridiculous and resembles the kind of thing we read in the Hearst press before the war."

(over)

BIROBIDJAN A GROWING LAND

We then asked Mr. Goldberg whether he had any facts on the autonomous region of Birobidjan, the subject dealt with in Mr. Sulzberger's article. The last time Mr. Goldberg was in Birobidjan was in 1934, the year when this territory was made an Autonomous Jewish Region, enjoying full local self-government and representation in the Council of Nationalities of the Supreme Soviet by a delegation of its own choosing. At that time, however, Birobidjan was still fairly undeveloped, just like the Western states of the United States in the days of the pioneers. Since then, however, Mr. Goldberg, during his last stay in Moscow, in 1946, met with Moishe Silberstein, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Council of the Jewish Autonomous Region, and A. Bachmutsky, Secretary of the Communist Party of the Region, discussed conditions in Birobidjan.

These are the facts he was able to report to us, as told him by these two prominent Jewish leaders: The population of the region today is approximately 160,000 of which about 45 or 50% are Jews. When the new census is taken next year, the exact figures will be made public. Under the first post-war five-year plan for the Soviet Union, new plans for the development of Birobidjan along with general plans for Far Eastern development have been worked out. The plans provide for increased Jewish immigration to make the Jewish population in the region a majority instead of a plurality which it is today.

YIDDISH STATE UNIVERSITY PLANNED

"One of the most interesting developments in the Jewish phase of the Autonomous Region," Mr. Goldberg pointed out, "is the plan for the establishment of a full-fledged Yiddish State University in Birobidjan, the first and only university in the entire region."

He also told us that Mr. Bachmutsky was at the moment busy lining up Yiddish-speaking Jewish professors in other Soviet Universities for the Birobidjan university project.

Today, Birobidjan is practically the only place in the world where all cultural activities including the public school system are being conducted in Yiddish. "All high-school graduates in the Autonomous Region," Mr. Goldberg explained, "must pass the Yiddish-language test, no matter what the students' nationality and although they may have received their education in the tongue of another nationality."

"Mr. Sulzberger's anonymous informant on Birobidjan," Mr. Goldberg declared, "must have visited the place -- if indeed he has seen it all -- some ten or fifteen

years ago, because he refers to the city of Birobidjan as a town built entirely of wood, except for a few brick buildings, whereas anybody who has seen photographs of Birobidjan knows that there are whole long asphalted streets with rows of brick buildings. Or, for instance, he talks of the population subsisting 'mainly on locally grown potatoes and vegetables,' whereas the region produces a very large wheat crop, enough to export to other parts of the Soviet Union."

Incidentally, Mr. Goldberg explained to us that the growing of wheat in the Region was, at first, a problem, only a very special kind of wheat seed -- a cross of different varieties of wheat seed -- would grow there. However, he said that the Soviet Government solved this problem successfully about ten years ago.

Returning to Mr. Sulzberger's article, Mr. Goldberg very emphatically denied the statement that "one of the main functions" of the secret police in Birobidjan was "to prevent disillusioned pioneers from departing." This, he said, "is the most ridiculous statement since anybody in Birobidjan can go to the railroad station and buy a ticket to Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, Irkutsk, or any other place, without any trouble whatever."

"As a matter of fact," Mr. Goldberg continued, "if the government applied any pressure on the Jewish population to go to Birobidjan, or to prevent them from leaving Birobidjan, the Jewish population there today would be very much larger than it is. Today, Birobidjan is going through a process of development and civilization similar to that of our north western regions before they became states, or that of Alaska today. Pioneers come and go, but the bulk of them remains to develop their new country. The establishment of Birobidjan as an Autonomous Jewish Region and a prospective Jewish Republic has nothing to do with anti-Semitism or with a Jewish problem in the Soviet Union. The intention is to afford the Jews Statehood, to give them the same opportunity to develop their own national life and culture as is possessed by all the other nationalities in the Soviet Union. As many of the Jews who so desire, may concentrate and form the majority of the population in the Jewish Autonomous Region of Birobidjan -- a sparsely populated territory of some 15,000 square miles on the Amur River. The region contains most of the basic natural resources necessary for industrial development, such as coal, iron manganese, etc."

As far as the climate of Birobidjan is concerned, Mr. Goldberg found it cold but dry and healthy when he was there in early winter. "Much like Alberta or Manitoba in Western Canada," he said. He added that the agricultural produce of the Region also resembled very much that of Western Canada.

"I think," Mr. Goldberg stated, "Mr. Sulzberger's informant gave himself away in the last paragraph of Mr. Sulzberger's dispatch, connecting this fictitious anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union with the 'British contention that Communist Jews, many of whom spoke Russian, had migrated to Palestine.' That is the line of the Arab League and other anti-Soviet and anti-Semitic propagandists. Of course, many of the Jews reaching Palestine today speak Russian, as do hundreds of thousands who were born in Russia but who are not 'Communist Jews', and who are now seeking to migrate to Palestine from other European countries." Mr. Goldberg added that "Soviet Jews, Communist or non-Communist, have too much work to do in the reconstruction of their own country to think of emigrating to Palestine. They are also much too busy to get themselves involved in the British intrigues in the Middle East."

NEW YORK TIMES INDULGES IN UNFAIR PROPAGANDA

We think it most unfair that the NEW YORK TIMES, at this moment of artificially created tension between the United States and the Soviet Union, at this stage of the "cold war," should go out of its way to propagandize slanderous statements about anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union. It would have been more constructive, had the TIMES recalled to the minds of its readers the fact that during the war, when six million Jews were exterminated by the Nazis all over Europe, it was the Soviet Union who saved one and a half million Jews from that fate by evacuating them to protected regions, out of the grasp of the invading Nazis at a time of its own greatest emergency. However, the propaganda spread by the NEW YORK TIMES will not make the American people forget that the Soviet Union eliminated anti-Semitism within its borders -- on one sixth of the earth -- and that it has given and guaranteed the Jews equal citizenship rights under the law.

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c.i.o.

April 1, 1948

Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship,
667 South Downing Street,
Denver 9, Colorado.

Gentlemen:

I have just returned to Denver after an absence in New York, and have found your latest bulletin, with the notation that my dues for membership have not been paid, and asking that I indicate my intentions in regard to future membership.

I have decided not to continue my membership in the Council of American-Soviet Friendship, and am taking this opportunity of so notifying you.

I would appreciate it very much if you would remove my name at this time from the Executive Board and from the membership rolls of the organization.

Thanking you for this consideration,
I am,

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

RAF:EW

Department of Justice
Office of the Assistant to the Attorney General
Washington

March 29, 1948.

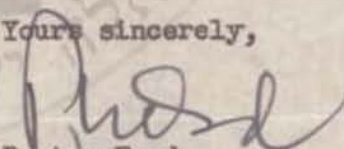
Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
Congregation Emanuel
East Sixteenth Avenue at Pearl Street
Denver 5, Colorado

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

Your letter of March 9, 1948, to the President, following our previous correspondence, has been referred to this Department for reply.

You will appreciate, of course, that both the office of the President and this Department are parts of the executive branch of the government and neither will require information obtained in the course of official business to be disclosed for other than official purposes. In the circumstances, as you have been advised previously, this Department is unable to be of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



Peyton Ford

The Assistant to the Attorney General

Post Office Department
OFFICIAL BUSINESS



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Street and Number,
or Post Office Box.

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
(NAME OF DONOR)
Temple Emanuel

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No.

DENVER,

COLORADO.

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(Signature or name of addressee)

By

J. R. Smith

(Signature of addressee's agent—Agent should enter addressee's name on line ONE above)

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Form 8806-S

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March 9, 1948

Honorable Harry S. Truman,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Attached are copies of an exchange of correspondence between myself and the Attorney General's office, concerning the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship.

As can be seen, the Attorney General indicated that his office was limited to giving information to the executive branch of the government, and that it was beyond the scope of the Department of Justice to furnish the information requested.

I therefore address this request to the executive branch of the government in my search for further elucidation. Obviously, no citizen expects any department to divulge information in which a problem of security might be involved. If the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship is under surveillance for treasonable activity, I would certainly not expect the government to release any information which might hamper it in its efforts to track down such activities.

On the other hand, however, the procedure of the Department of Justice in labeling an organization as "subversive" without defining the criteria by which that term is applied, leaves me in a quandary.

I would resign from the Council immediately, if I were told that its leadership was Communist Party card-holders or that its purpose was to overthrow our government. As it is, however, no such, or no similar definition of terms has been offered.

Honorable Harry S. Truman

-2-

March 9, 1948

I realize that my personal dilemma is of small consequence in great affairs of state, and yet I have been taught and have preached to others that under a democracy the government has the responsibility of explaining its actions to the most inconsequential citizen.

May I therefore humbly submit this request for any elaboration of the subversive nature of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, within the limitations which security requirements will permit.

Respectfully and sincerely yours,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

HAF:EW
ENC.

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES



C
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December 9, 1947

Hon. Tom Clark,
Attorney-General of the United States,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

As a result of the recent announcement from your office, listing the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship as being a "subversive" organization, I find myself in a dilemma, which necessitates my coming to you for advice.

As a Rabbi and teacher, with the responsibility for leading my congregation along those lines which would make the members the most useful kind of citizens, I have devoted myself and my teaching to the broad principles of social justice, as expounded by the Prophets.

Translated into modern economic and political terms, that means I have supported most of the progressive social legislation of the past fourteen years, and also most of the efforts to obtain additional social legislation; such as broader social security, a federal FEPC bill, an anti-poll tax law, etc. This attitude on my part, inspired by a religious idealism, places me, I suppose, in the camp of the "liberals".

On international questions, I have followed the same philosophy. Thus, in 1943, I joined the National Council for American-Soviet Friendship, since I felt that it was vitally important for the two leading nations of the world to learn as much as possible about each other, in order to learn how to live peacefully together. My sentiments were identical with those expressed by General Eisenhower, whose statement appears on the letterhead of the organization.

I have but recently returned to the United States after serving for almost two years in the Army of Occupation in Germany, and find that the attitude of the American people toward Russia has altered drastically in the interim. There seems to be a mood of distrust and suspicion which I find difficult to understand, perhaps because I was absent from the country while it was crystallizing.

My name still appears on the Executive Committee of the Denver chapter of the American-Soviet Friendship Group, and I earnestly seek advice from your office, in order to determine a pattern of future action. If your office has seen fit to question the loyalty of this group, I naturally would not care to be associated with it any longer. And yet, equally naturally, I do not wish to make such a decision without having the maximum amount of information at my disposal.

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Hon. Tom Clark

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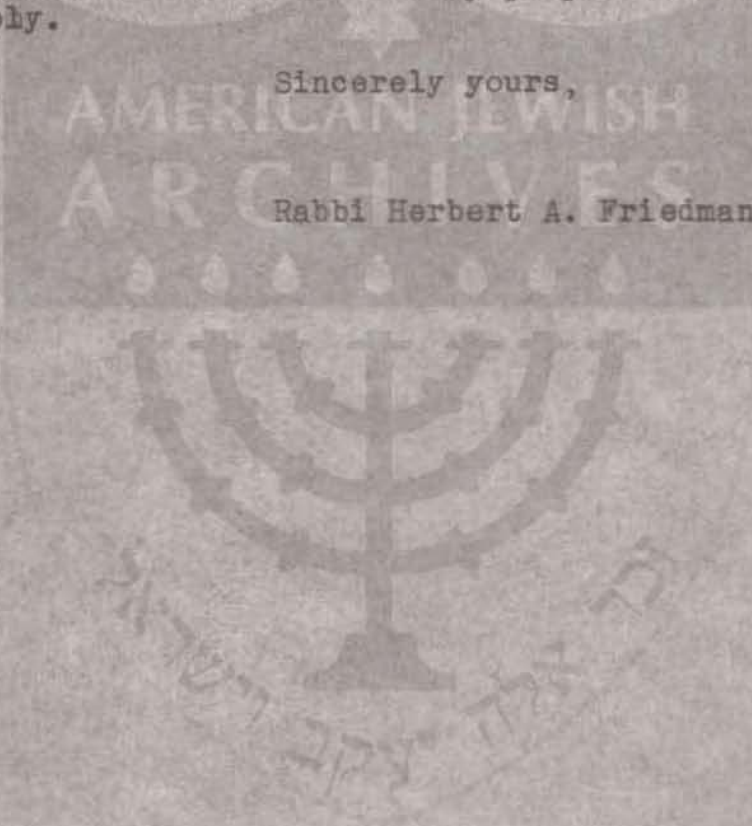
December 9, 1947

Therefore, in all sincerity and soul-searching, I respectfully submit this request for a detailed account of any facts, unearthed in your investigations, which led your office to its conclusions. It is extremely difficult for a private citizen to have a total perspective of any situation. Nothing in the literature of this organization; nothing in the comments or attitudes of its local leaders; nothing which it has done locally has ever given me cause to question its loyalty to America. If your investigations on a national level have divulged information not available to me locally, I would certainly be grateful for elucidation. I am frankly perplexed and eagerly await your reply.

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

HAF:EW



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December 9, 1947

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Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

HAF:EW

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

TVQ:WEF:lr

149-1022

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



December 17, 1947

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
Congregation Emanuel
East Sixteenth Avenue at Pearl Street
Denver 5, Colorado

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of December 9, 1947, addressed to the Attorney General, in which you request information concerning the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship.

The Attorney General is limited to giving information and advice to the executive departments and agencies of the Government. Thus, in compliance with an Executive Order he recently furnished a list of organizations deemed subversive within the scope of that Order to the Loyalty Review Board and, as you know, National Council of American-Soviet Friendship was included in that list.

To furnish you with the information you request would be beyond the scope of this Department's power and, in the circumstances, you will appreciate that I am unable to comply with your request.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "T. Vincent Quinn".

T. VINCENT QUINN,
Assistant Attorney General

December 17, 1947

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Congregation Emanuel
East Sixteenth Avenue at Pearl Street
Denver 5, Colorado

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Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

T. VINCENT QUINN,
Assistant Attorney General

C
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Y
Address's Reply to
"The Attorney General"
and refer to
Initials and number

TVQ:WEF:lr

149-1022

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Washington 25, D.C.

December 17, 1947

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
Congregation Emanuel
East Sixteenth Avenue at Pearl Street
Denver 5, Colorado

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of December 9, 1947, addressed to the Attorney General, in which you request information concerning the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship.

The Attorney General is limited to giving information and advice to the executive departments and agencies of the Government. Thus, in compliance with an Executive Order he recently furnished a list of organizations deemed subversive within the scope of that Order to the Loyalty Review Board and, as you know, National Council of American-Soviet Friendship was included in that list.

To furnish you with the information you request would be beyond the scope of this Department's power and, in the circumstances, you will appreciate that I am unable to comply with your request.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

(Signed) T. VINCENT QUINN,
Assistant Attorney General

Special NEWS

December 1947

from

Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship
667 SOUTH DOWNING ST. • DENVER 9, COLORADO • RAce 3311

NEWS OF THE MOMENT DEMANDS YOUR ATTENTION

This bulletin was about to be mailed when the newspapers hurled their attack upon the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship. We have rewritten this first page in order to make comment and send you the official statements enclosed. Indeed these are times to try men's souls. When war-mad leaders and fanatical hysteria abound, when public servants make outright false public statements, one indeed wonders what will happen next.

FULL TEXT OF NATIONAL COUNCIL LETTER TO ATTORNEY GENERAL IS ENCLOSED

This is urgent, important reading, be SURE to see the special pages enclosed.

WOULD YOU LIKE A COPY OF OUR LOCAL CONSTITUTION?

We will gladly sent it, if you are confused about our objects, our affiliations or the fact that we are a completely independent organization with our executive board being the exclusive governing body. We have copies also of the National Council constitution which anyone is free to see and read. If the Attorney General, or any power on earth can deduce 'subversive' or 'unamerican' from these, we stand ready to be shown. It is strange how enemies of TRUTH can distort actuality.

TO ALL WHO HELPED NOV. 19th, OUR THANKS

Dozens of friends worked hard to make the City Auditorium meeting the great success that it was. Our tests prove that MUCH good was accomplished by that meeting. Warm appreciation is extended for your cooperation. It required great team work to do that job....In spite of a snowstorm, a change in the entire original program, and of almost unknown-to-Denver-before speakers we had a large audience of over 1000 people. The strong voices of three courageous men who are dedicating their lives to a sane program which calls for cooperation between America, England and the Soviet Union were heard. If you were there you heard facts which made clear the suicidal folly of the present war hysteria and its accompanying smokescreen of red-baiting. Our speakers gave a penetrating analysis and reported fact after fact which could not be refuted.

SOME TICKET MONEY IS STILL OUT!! please please get it in. BILLS MUST BE PAID.

A GREAT CHURCHMAN, DR. HARRY WARD, WILL BE IN DENVER IN JANUARY

Dr. Harry F. Ward, writer, pioneer of social ethics, and courageous religious leader will come to Denver early in January. He will speak before a number of organizations. Plans for Council friends to hear him at a special meeting are not yet formulated but we hope to arrange a special conference. There will be more detailed information later. If you have a chance to hear Dr. Ward, do not fail to go. Dr. Ward is another of the great men of our times, a man who dares to speak forthrightly for peace and friendship with the Soviet Union.

TO HELP ARM YOU WITH MORE FACTS, SEE THE BOOK OFFERS ENCLOSED

We urge the reading of two important recent books:

"Soviet Russia Since the War" by Dean of Canterbury (just published)

"Mirror of the Past" by Konni Zilliacus, M.P.

If you buy these from us in combination, we offer a most attractive price. See enclosed.

HON. D. M. PRITT, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, THROWS BOMBSHELLS IN NEW YORK

Read parts of this dynamic speech on the next page, and all of it in Dec. "Soviet Russia."

"WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS, WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU JOIN WITH US

Every Council officer would like to say personally the above words to the large group of new members who joined with us last month. Memberships are foundation stones; the more we have, the more effective we become in making known the intelligent program for which we stand. New and old members are urged to interest friends to join the Council. No work is more vital than what we are doing. In addition to our members, this bulletin is being sent to a few others who we believe should join us NOW. To you, please sign and send the lower left corner of the enclosed program (which was used Nov. 19th).

Every Issue of "Soviet Russia Today" Brings Essential Reading

We thought the November issue could not be better, but, December is filled with things as good. The Schuman article, "The Devil and Jimmy Byrnes" is a startling expose of the book "Speaking Frankly" by former Secretary of State Byrnes. Remember that \$5.00 Council memberships include a year's subscription to this fine magazine devoted to TRUTH and FACTS about the Soviet Union.

There are ambitious plans ahead

Upon recovery, or early in spring, we hope to bring to Denver that famed churchman and statesman, Rev. Dr. Hewlett Johnson, Dean of Canterbury. Judging by the eagerness to hear him which manifested itself when first it was announced that he would be here Nov. 19th, we anticipate a great event when he does come. At such time we hope to carry through the original program which we scheduled for Nov. 19th.

Other groups than the Council are attacked by the UnAmerican Activities Committee In the fight for a just peace we stand side by side with dozens of other organizations and individuals who have been viciously attacked by the press and the UnAmerican Activities Committee of Congress. Hollywood has been the latest on the list. You will be interested in comments of Bartley C. Crum (Republican) and our own Congressman John Carroll (Democrat). Crum is one of the outstanding lawyers defending those being attacked in Hollywood. Speaking of the hearings in Washington, Crum says in part:

"Every safeguard known to Anglo-Saxon law was disregarded. The vilest kind of vituperation, abuse, hearsay and bias was permitted to be entered into the records of Congress --- and no challenge was permitted. Hearsay testimony, photostatic copies of alleged documents, unidentified, were all permitted to go into the records without challenge."

Carroll in voting with sixteen others against the contempt citations says in part:

"I will not stand silent when I believe the basic principles of the constitution are being placed in jeopardy."

Once Again we direct your attention to our recent distinguished guests.

The pungent wit, keen perception and brilliant mind of Konni Zilliacus, Member of Parliament, made immediate Denver friends for him. Likewise the clear reporting, the charm and almost shyness of young Soviet Vice Consul Fedosimov, the courage, sincerity, and excellent delivery of Rev. William Melish, Chairman of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, attracted instant command and appreciation.

Yes, that trio was a real inspiration. The impact of their being with us is exceedingly good. The Council should be in position to bring more such men and minds to this area. Will you do YOUR share in making such things possible? -- How?

by getting new members

by paying your dues if in arrears (an X marked on first sheet indicates due membership)

by sending your membership if you are not a member

by getting friends to attend our functions

by distributing our factual literature

by keeping yourself unbiased and informed about American-Soviet relations.

The following is quoted from the New York speech of H. N. Pritt, British M.P.

"When you reflect on these simple, sturdy, human people, when you know their friendliness and their love of peace as I do, you just cannot understand how there could be a quarrel with such people. But if you read what the press says of them you get a different impression. If what the press says is right, they must have changed mysteriously since the war. I say they haven't changed at all.

One useful test on this is to ask, when did the atmosphere begin to change? When did the Western powers grow less cordial towards the allies who had fought so well? In my country, at any rate, it began to change at the end of 1944, the moment the reactionaries felt that their skins were safe. That was a time when the Russians showed no change. I remember then a shrewd observer saying to me, 'Within two years they will be hollering for war against the Soviet Union.' I told him he was mad. Now I know he was sane. The atmosphere changed to a much worse one, of course, when the Americans and British informed their ally, who was still bleeding to save their skins, that in order to make peace secure the secret of the atom bomb would be shared with Dupont, but not with Stalin.

Has the Soviet Union changed indeed? No, she has not! And when you read the press remember it doesn't always tell the truth. It reminds me sometimes of the Irishman who said of another Irishman, 'The man is such a liar that you cannot even believe the opposite of what he says.'

Of course, for a good many reasons, it is not surprising that some people worked to break down the unity we built in the war. There were many in high places who didn't welcome the idea of an apparently invincible and indestructible Socialist state. President Roosevelt knew the difficulties ahead when at Casablanca in January 1943 he said, 'The unity we have made for war is nothing to the unity we will have to build for peace. After the war -- that is when the cry will come that our unity is no longer necessary. That is when the job will begin -- in earnest.'

They will tell you in the press that the Soviet Union is aggressive, expansionist, imperialist, that she is communizing half Europe.

Aggressive? She is a socialist country that wants peace. Only capitalist countries need to be aggressive. That is why we have had two world wars, to deal with the aggression of capitalist Germany.

Expansionist? To expand into other people's countries and markets is again a capitalist habit. The history of my country carries a certain amount of evidence on that. But all the expansion the Soviet Union wants to do she can do at home. Her country is so large that a train takes ten days to get through it. She's got plenty of room.

Imperialist? She has freed almost more subject races than Britain every subjected. She has shown a shining example of how not to be imperialist.

And if you think of imperialism in terms of military expenditure, think of this country for a moment. Who threatens the United States? Surely no one. But the United States expended on military purposes in 1946 more dollars than she spent for military purposes since her foundation, if you leave out just the actual fighting years of the Civil War and the two world wars. According to one calculation, the United States in 1946 spent 70 cents on the dollar of her revenue on military preparation. If you leave out some debatable items we can get it down to 45 cents on the dollar. And no one is threatening her. The Soviet Union, who does seem to be threatened, is spending 23 kopeks on the ruble, 23 cents on the dollar. And she'd like to get it down to 3 cents.

As to communizing half of Europe, remember two things: first, that if she were foolish enough to imagine that you could make countries Communist or Socialist from outside, she could have forced one country after another to become -- superficially -- Communist in a week; but she knows things don't work that way. And, second that there isn't a country West of the Soviet Union that has become a Communist country. In every one of them there is a popular front government which has a large or small Communist element, a large or small Socialist element, and generally some Liberals. (The right wing is hardly in the picture, for always it collaborated with the Nazis.)

I have seen these coalition governments at work; they work pretty well; and when and as far as some programme the Communists suggest is adopted, it is because all the elements agree it is a good one.

All the Soviet Union does take care about is to be sure there are not in these countries governments hostile to Russia. Such governments would be Fascist, and she has every right to protect herself against such possibilities; these countries were all used as bases against her in the war." ***** And, in conclusion, Mr. Pritt said

"If we get rid of red-baiting and try honestly to deal with the Soviet Union, and put our points, and let them put theirs, and argue them out, we will have gone a long way to restoring peace. There will still be problems; but they will be problems we can solve..... There is an alternative - a real honorable alternative - to getting tough with the Russians. We can be friends with them. We can stop lying about them. We can stop being fearful of them or fearful of our own future. We can make up our minds that the world can live in peace, that we can make a reality of the United Nations by pooling the great ideals which we both can contribute

We can not let misunderstanding and misrepresentation lead to an incessant line-up against the Soviet Union. We are not dismayed by the temporary swelling of the tide of reaction. We know it will end. If we keep fighting unflinchingly for the cause of peace and friendship, all the difficulties will shrink. Steffens saw the future; we are on its threshold. The future is with the progressive people. Let us never cease working for it. If we keep the peace all our children will be the happiest people in history."

Read the whole speech in December "Soviet Russia Today".

MERRY CHRISTMAS! and don't forget to do some of your Christmas shopping this year with us, remember the Dean's great book, and other good things offered at special prices, on the sheet enclosed.

HAPPY NEW YEAR ! and don't forget to do your share to make the Harry Ward lecture and conference a real success -- remember the time, early in January.

PEACE ON EARTH ! and don't forget to do your share in making "peace on earth" a reality. Remember that an ACTION program is needed to bring sanity and peace to the earth. Your giving of money to support the Council means adding much strength to that program.

PROGRAM

A WORLD AT PEACE!!

Sponsored by Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship

WEDNESDAY

NOVEMBER 19th

8:15 P.M.

CITY AUDITORIUM

The National Anthem of the United States of America

OPENING WELCOME

1. **REV. WILLIAM HOWARD MELISH**, Rector Church of the Holy Trinity, Brooklyn, N. Y. Chairman, National Council of American-Soviet Friendship.
2. THE FIGHT FOR PEACE REQUIRES MONEY

The National Anthem of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

3. **JACOB M. LOMAKIN**, Consul General of the USSR, in New York

The National Anthem of the United Kingdom

4. **KONNI ZILLIACUS**, Member of Parliament, Great Britain

* * * ARCHIVES * * *

The Denver Council of
American-Soviet Friendship **BELIEVES**

that the USA and the USSR CAN and MUST get along in mutual respect of each other;

that the peace of mankind and future world security rest upon cooperation between the USA and the USSR;

that friendship and understanding through education (factual and fair) can find expression in a national foreign policy which stands

against hostility to Russia and
for full cooperation with Russia

so that ultimate world peace is attained;

that all facets of Russian foreign policy as well as American need careful, critical examination (we do not maintain that either policy is always right, hence our desire for cooperation within the framework of the United Nations).

that our leaders and representatives MUST preserve the American traditional good name, resolving difficulties by compromise, not by threats of armed force.

that America must repudiate in deeds (not words) the serious Soviet charges that our leaders have allowed warmongering and preparation for war to go unchecked.



**Are YOU Courageous enough
to ACT for peace?**

Statesmanship and patriotism of a high order are required in the battle for peace. **The times call for bold action.** Not only must we educate but we must ACT to demand that our leaders stand for all policies which encourage American-Soviet cooperation.

Will YOU work with us?

Our program of promoting public meetings to extend knowledge about the Soviet Union . . . of circulating factual literature . . . of publicizing for sanity in American-Soviet relations requires money and people. We urge your liberal financial support; we invite your membership (\$2, \$5, \$10, \$25 a year).

Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship
Box 4174 South Denver Station
RA 3311

The Dean of Canterbury's new book; just off the press
"SOVIET RUSSIA SINCE THE WAR"

This book, which millions the world over have been waiting for, is a masterpiece of reporting skill. The Dean is a political observer of authority; while not entirely uncritical of the Soviet Union, he answers explicitly and straightforwardly many vital questions being asked by people today. As a scientist and former engineer, the Dean describes the purposes and scientific accomplishments of the reconstruction of the war devastation. As a theologian and sociologist he reports the effects of social planning upon the Russian people. This book is authentic and exciting; written in the Dean's own unique style it may well become a classic of personal observation. Every person interested in world affairs will want to read this book.

Price \$3.00 postpaid

(For special attractive prices in combination with other items see below.)

The keen analysis of world affairs written recently by Konni Zilliacus, M. P.
"MIRRORS OF THE PAST" (A History of Secret Diplomacy.)

Those in Denver who heard Konni Zilliacus, England's dynamic member of Parliament, were made aware of his keen perception and acute analysis of world affairs, as well as of his pungent wit. His important work, "Mirrors of the Past", published last year, is a sensational documented expose of secret diplomacy during and after the first world war. In it he reveals who made the 2nd World War inevitable. History does not repeat itself exactly, but Max Lerner, in his introduction, also a masterpiece of reading, remarks about the appalling repetition today of, "...the same kind of forces functioning in a new but parallel context."

Price \$3.75 postpaid

BOTH ABOVE BOOKS
 SPECIAL COMBINATION PRICE

You save \$1.75
 \$5.00 postpaid

We make this unusual bargain combination offer only to members and friends. It may be of help with Christmas shopping.

63

Use the beautiful kit of photographs for explaining and teaching
"LET'S LOOK AT THE SOVIET PEOPLE"

This is the title of a portfolio of 28 carefully selected handsome photographs of the people of the Soviet Union, boys and girls at school and play, men and women from the farthest corners of the Soviet Union. Printed on deluxe board paper, each sheet is 15 1/2" x 14", suitable for framing or for use as your own miniature exhibit folio. This picture treasure introduces Americans to their Soviet friends. The accompanying explanatory pages with the pictures are helpful and portray important factual information. They make visual education exciting. Originally priced at \$5.50 a set we are in position, because of a large special purchase, to offer the folio at the bargain price of only \$1.50 a set postpaid.

ADDITIONAL COMBINATION PRICE OFFERS

The BIG THREE Special.....You save \$4.25

"Soviet Russia Since the War" (\$3.00)

"Mirrors of the Past" (\$3.75)

"Let's look at the Soviet People" (\$3.50)

All three for only
 \$6.00 postpaid

"Soviet Russia Since the War" (\$3.00)

"Let's Look at the Soviet People" (\$3.50)

The two for only
 \$4.00 postpaid

"Mirrors of the Past" (\$3.75)

"Let's Look at the Soviet People" (\$3.50)

The two for only
 \$4.75 postpaid

Mail orders today

Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship
 667 S. Downing St., Denver 9, Colo.

Full text of letter from National Council of American-Soviet Friendship to Attorney General Clark

December 6, 1947

The Honorable Tom C. Clark
Attorney General of the U. S.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

We vigorously protest your arbitrary inclusion of the name of our organization in the list of "subversive" groups as submitted by you to the Loyalty Review Board and as published in the press on December 4, 1947.

This unprecedented action is as shocking an usurpation of judicial powers as it is a denial of the due process of law. Our organization was not served with any notice of investigation by your Department nor were we given a chance to reply to any imputations of disloyalty. We consider your action on a par with the unconstitutional actions of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

We demand that you serve us with a bill of particulars upon which you base your conclusion concerning our organization. We demand a public hearing to refute the unfounded charges and are reserving our right to test in the courts your authority to defame our organization.

We insist that it is our right to work for American-Soviet friendship, so essential to the preservation of the peace of America, without being hampered by unwarranted public accusations.

Respectfully yours,

The National Council of
American-Soviet Friendship

(signed) William Howard Molish

National Chairman

December 8, 1947

STATEMENT TO THE DENVER POST from the DENVER COUNCIL OF
AMERICAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP

"American-Soviet Friendship is one of the cornerstones on which the edifice of peace should be built." So said General Dwight D. Eisenhower in November, 1945. He wished the Council "the utmost success in the worthy work it has undertaken."

"The simple fact is that war is no longer a resolution of our problems. Let us, in all sanity, not forget this fact." So writes Dr. Walter Orr Roberts in the DENVER POST of December 7, the anniversary of our entry into the World War."

These statements are IMPORTANT. Relatively unimportant is the branding as subversive of an organization whose very basic policy is just this: building peace and understanding on the foundation indicated by General Eisenhower. Relatively unimportant is the intimidation of a few of our Denver sponsors by the Denver Post, and the fear engendered by this intimidation.

But a very important principle is involved. The Attorney General received the dictatorial power of declaring persons and associations, such as ours, "subversive" from the President by Executive Order of March 22 last. We, who have been labelled, have no access to the evidence supposedly in the hands of the Attorney General; we are denied the right of hearing; there is no appeal from such dictum. Never in history, we believe, has one man - the Attorney General, an appointed official, - been given such power to intimidate the thought and freedom-of-association guaranteed Americans in the Bill of Rights.

We advise every citizen who values his freedom to write to President Truman urging him to withdraw his order of March 22. Americans still have the right to speak out in protest against being deprived of the foundations of Americanism. Let us use that right -- while time remains.

We need not point out that the word "subversive" cannot possibly be applied to spreading factual information and to urging cooperation between the two nations who hold World Peace in their hands. Every reasonable American knows that. To label "goodwill" as subversive sounds like branding the Christmas message itself.

Every reasonable American resents intimidation, such as was used by the Post in telephoning our sponsors and officers with suggestions of resignation. The desire was apparent to destroy the organization which we, in honesty of purpose and in the hope of peace, have built.

The Denver Council has no undercover purpose or intent. We have no "dangerous propaganda" to sell. We have nothing to conceal. We are a strictly autonomous body, following policies that are of our own making. Our membership is thoroughly democratic, and open to all Americans who sincerely favor cooperation with the USSR on a basis of justice for all.

We are proud of our accomplishments in the past four years; we have given truthful and factual information, so largely denied by many sources. We insist on trying to stop lies about the Russians. We can and do implore our fellow citizens to speak out in protest against policies and methods in America aimed to intimidate honest, loyal organizations.

We, with millions of other good Americans, are working for a sane foreign policy of American-Soviet cooperation within the framework of the United Nations. We work against a war of annihilation.

"Who are those who are really disloyal? Those who for selfish and private purposes stir up national antagonisms and expose the world to the ruin of war." (Henry Steele Commager of Columbia University, in Harper's Magazine, September 1947.)

American-Soviet
Friendship

PRELATE DISAVOWS CANTERBURY DEAN

Archbishop Asserts Church Is
Not Responsible for the Pro-
Soviet Utterances

By HERBERT L. MATTHEWS

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES

LONDON, Dec. 16—The Very Rev. Hewlett Johnson, Dean of Canterbury Cathedral, who has been known for years as "the Red Dean," was rebuked today by the Most Rev. Geoffrey Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury. The Archbishop dissociated himself and the cathedral from the pro-Soviet, pro-Communist opinions of Dr. Johnson.

The dean came back with a reply that may cause controversy in the Church of England and in the Government, for he links his appointment and his activity to Socialist politics. Moreover, he indicates that it would be better if the Church of England were disestablished, separated from the state.

Stronger Than 1937 Rebuke

Dr. Johnson was rebuked in 1937 by the late Lord Lang, then Archbishop of Canterbury, for some things he said against Generalissimo Francisco Franco and the bombing of Guernica by Germans in the Spanish civil war. Today's repudiation by Dr. Fisher is even stronger. It reads:

"It is unfortunately the case that recent actions and utterances of the dean of Canterbury have given rise to widespread misunderstandings and misconceptions, both on the Continent and in the United States, that are liable to affect the relations of the Church of England with foreign churches or countries.

"It has been supposed that a dean of Canterbury must necessarily be acting on instructions of the Archbishop of Canterbury and representing his views. I find it necessary, therefore, to repeat the warning given by Archbishop Lang in 1937.

"The dean's office and jurisdiction in this country does not extend beyond the confines of the cathedral body, of which he is the head. Outside those limits he speaks and acts only for himself. The Archbishop of Canterbury has neither responsibility for what the dean may say or do nor power to control it.

"In view of the special and world-wide associations which surround the name of Canterbury it is necessary to make the position quite clear."

Dr. Johnson's Reply

Dr. Johnson in his reply welcomes the clarification about his ecclesiastical jurisdiction, with which he agrees.

"There is, however, another side to this question," adds the dean, "and it is important to remember that I was appointed successively to two dignified positions in the Anglican Church, first as Dean of Manchester and then as Dean of Canterbury, by a Socialist Prime Minister and was appointed precisely because I had long urged that socialism was, in my view, not only scientific but the logical consequence in our age of Christian morality.

"I thus, naturally, became a Christian spokesman within the

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CAN JEWISH
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Anglican Church for the great mass of English opinion in the mines, factories and fields, which had elected as Socialist Prime Minister the man who appointed me Dean of Canterbury.

"That Christian spokesmanship, placed at this heart of English-speaking Christendom, was the Socialist Prime Minister's deliberate intention. That was also my desire. That is my right. That is my responsibility.

"I am justified in the discharge of that responsibility to use all the weight that the honored name of Canterbury lends."

The dean goes on to say that he intends to maintain his right to give his views.

"The rights of the common man relative to a national church are sometimes overlooked," he states in conclusion. "Were the Church of England disestablished, the position would be wholly different."

Dr. Johnson in his statement plunges full force into a controversy that has divided leaders of the Church of England for many years. Archbishops, Bishops and some deans of cathedrals, who are heads of Cathedral chapters composed of canons, are appointed nominally by the King but in practice by the Prime Minister.

Dr. Johnson was appointed Dean of Canterbury in 1931 by Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald.

The Most Rev. Cyril Garbett,

Archbishop of York, in a recent book, "The Claims of the Church of England," deplored the appointment procedure.

"In principle it is impossible to defend the appointment of the chief spiritual officers of the church by a layman who may be neither a churchman nor even a Christian," he wrote. "There is also the danger that political factors may have undue weight."

That is exactly what Dr. Johnson says happened in his case. He began praising the Soviet Union after his first visit in 1938 and has never stopped. A few months ago he visited most of the countries of eastern Europe and on his return in October called them "the new democracies" and said he was going to write a book about his trip.

Iran to Have New Premier

TEHERAN, Iran, Dec. 16 (AP)—Reza Hekmat Sardar Fakher, President of the Iranian Parliament, said tonight after two days of study that he would accept the Premiership, succeeding Ahmed Ghavam.

You can train for the job you like best, with tax-free pay, in the United States Coast Guard. Apply now to your nearest Coast Guard recruiting office.

REMEMBER THE NEEDIEST!

FACTS ON RUSSIA
and
SPECIAL

NEWS

January 1948

from Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship

FACTS which demonstrate how American-Soviet cooperation may be assured and how world peace may be guaranteed continue to pour in. They demonstrate the destruction which will engulf us if the current resurrection of Hitler's hysterical "Hate Russia" is not checked.... This news letter will bring you some of these facts. Additional data (on the London Conference - Soviet proposals to that gathering - Its Breakdown - , Palestine, Revaluation of the Ruble, etc.) is on file in our office and Council members are free to use it. Limitations of staff and finances prevent us from keeping you more fully and frequently informed. Yet never in our country's history has it been more urgent that citizens have full access to reliable information so that an intelligent understanding of ALL sides of important issues can be reached.

DR. AND MRS. HARRY WARD -- world famous religious leaders -- COME TO DENVER

These good people are devoting their lives to counteracting the hysterical outpouring of untruths and hate against the Soviet Union. For the ultimate welfare of us all, we must help provide the Wards with good audiences in Denver. They will be speaking to different groups during the week; try to attend one or more of these gatherings. The Council's especial privilege will be the morning, luncheon and afternoon conferences on Saturday, January 10th, to be held at the Manhattan. Each conference is \$.50 and the luncheon is \$1.00 (including tax and tip). Reservations must be made in advance. For students and veterans there will be only a half price admission charge for the conference.

WALTER WINCHELL, WARMONGER. The Chicago Council of American-Soviet Friendship in their November bulletin published a careful documentation of Winchell's warmongering propaganda. Excerpts follow. Note particularly what you may do to help remedy matters.

Every Sunday evening since October 12 Walter Winchell has used nearly all his time on the Jergens program to stir up hate and fear of Soviet Russia. In a semi-hysterical style well calculated to play on the nerves of his listeners he spews out a machine-gun staccato of misinformation and lies. He wants his listeners to believe that Russia is about to overwhelm us in war and that we have to strike first to protect ourselves. Both his style and his technique are stolen from Hitler.

His technique is Hitler's: to tell over and over the "big lie" of "Communist encirclement". (Hitler wrote in Mein Kampf that ordinary people were used to little lies but wouldn't detect a big lie repeated again and again.) His style is Hitler's: ranting, high-pitched, rapid fire. Like Hitler he picks a scapegoat: for Hitler in 1939 it was Benes; for Winchell now it is Vyshinsky. Like Hitler this self-martyred demagogue complains querulously of the personal sacrifices he has to make trying to convince blockheads that the country is in danger. Now that the United Nations has taken a stand against warmongering, Winchell is complaining about and threatening the UN much as Hitler used to scold the League of Nations.

To analyse Winchell's warmongering propaganda, the Chicago Council secured a transcript of his broadcast of October 12. To expose every falsification in this transcript would take a book. Here there is space for only a few quotations -----

FALSE: "The Communists have germ warfare already.... The cholera plague in Egypt is suspected abroad of being Soviet experiments."

!FACTS: As pointed out by Dr. G. Chisholm, general secretary of the UN World Health Organization, "To give utterance to such a tale is vicious folly. Military research has already demonstrated conclusively that the means of propagating cholera make it absolutely unfit as a weapon of bacterial warfare."

!FACTS: The New York Times reported a week before October 12 that the Soviet government had sent a million units of anti-cholera serum to Egypt to help fight the plague.

!FACTS: The Soviet government has shown consistent sympathy with the desire of the Egyptians to get British troops out of Egypt. The responsibility for present conditions of dirt and disease in Egypt, insofar as it belongs to any outside nation, belongs to Britain.

FALSE: "Every resource in Communist dominated territory has been converted to the manufacture of war."

!FACTS: Nearly the whole energy of the peoples of Eastern Europe is taken up with the struggle to rebuild their war-shattered cities and get enough food to keep body and soul together during the dark months ahead.

FALSE: "The Marshall Plan simply means bread, and bread quickly for our allies."

FACTS: At the opening of Congress, Marshall called for stop-gap aid to France, Italy and Austria alone (two of them ex-enemy nations) and disclosed that the Army would ask an additional \$300 million for Germany. The Marshall Plan does not now and never did contemplate giving food to former allies in Eastern Europe. Marshall announced in the beginning that his plan was based upon the Truman Doctrine; in his message to Congress he reaffirmed the statement. But the Truman Doctrine is supposed to "contain" communism in Europe and therefore does not contemplate giving aid to nations having friendly ties with the Soviet Union except as a means of winning them away from their friendship.

FACTS: The long-range aspects of the Marshall Plan involve monetary reforms, production plans, and tariff and trade policies which must be O.K.'d by the United States. Relief based on political and economic conditions replaced a policy of relief based on the human needs of our allies when the U.S. refused to continue support to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA).

FALSE: "If American newspapermen can't work in Russia...."

FACTS: American newspapermen can and do work in Russia and have worked there ever since the Revolution of 1917 without a break. The Chicago Sun's Alexander Kendrick is there now; the Chicago Times' Irving Pflaum returned only a few weeks ago; the Chicago Daily News' reporters during the war years included Leland Stowe, David Nichol and two or three others.

FACTS: A series of Irving Pflaum's dispatches from Moscow during the Conference of Foreign Ministers last spring was recently published by the Chicago Times under the title, "Three Months Behind the Iron Curtain." Pflaum reported interviewing many Russians and visiting many places without surveillance. Though he did not get every interview he sought with important officials and though the ones he saw were not accessible as most officials in the United States, it is clear from his reports that there is plenty of news to be found in Moscow by newspapermen who are willing to do legwork and get out of their hotel and Embassy circles.

FACTS: Leland Stowe, now New York Post correspondent, after four months in Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Romania labels "iron curtain" a "seriously misleading catch phrase." He asserts that much of the important news in these countries "isn't regarded as news by the editors or directors of U.S. news services which have the largest circulation." He reports that the news agencies (AP, UP, INS) chiefly employ local journalists rather than permanent American correspondents and that the American employees are largely confined to their offices superintending the distribution of U.S. News reports and photos to Austrian and Czech newspapers. "What we

need," concludes Stowe, "is much less curtail talk and much more American reporting."

The few falsifications from Winchell's speech here exposed are no more than a sample. The whole speech is crammed with alarmist statements, unfounded rumors and lying innuendos. ("You and your families will die in your sleep;" "The government at Moscow has sworn to destroy us.")

Winchell's basic theory is that Communist Russia threatens us now just as Nazi Germany did in the 30's. He ignores the fact that Hitler turned Germany over to a war economy to pull it out of a depression, whereas the Soviet Union has no depressions and plans its economy for peaceful progress.

The Soviet peoples and their leaders have been working with might and main to recover from wartime losses. They know it will take them fifteen years or more to equal the 1940 U.S. Production of coal, oil, and steel. Coal, oil and steel are equally basic to war and to peace. If even the fanatical Hitler did not dare attack Russia until he controlled an industrial potential (the whole of Europe) twice that of the Soviet Union, it would be fantastic to suppose that the cool-headed and realistic Soviet leaders could even consider attacking the U.S., which is now able to produce twice what it could in 1940.

And this is to say nothing of the feelings of the Soviet people. For every U.S. soldier and sailor killed in the war, the Soviets lost thirty. Even a feeble imagination would tell us that the mere thought of another war would make the Russians sick at heart.

No, Winchell's "lotions of hate" are no description of Soviet policy or intention. His speeches are meant to have just one effect: to make the American public fearful, jittery, and trigger-happy -- to persuade us that we'd better be the first ones to drop a bomb (atomic, of course), before the Russians have enough bombs to reply in kind.

To such a coldblooded, hateful and murderous proposal the American people in their right minds would never agree. Hence Winchell's frenzy to drive us out of our right minds.

The law offers us no protection from the damages Winchell does weekly to our prospects for peace. The law, apparently, does not even require the American Broadcasting Company to give equal time to the opposite point of view. Winchell's commercial sponsors apparently do not care what happens as long as they sell Jergens Lotion. But Winchell, the ABC, and the Andrew Jergens Co., Cincinnati, Ohio, jointly bear responsibility for these vicious broadcasts and should hear from all Winchell's listeners who retain their mental balance and good sense.

SUBVERSIVE? Please read the following Memorandum of Dec. 15th from our National Council:

You have been concerned, we know, with the publication of the name of the National Council in a list of so-called "subversive" groups by the Attorney General pursuant to the President's Executive Order 9835. This is, of course, an entirely unwarranted public accusation which carries imputation of disloyalty to the United States on the part of our organization which we most vigorously resent and protest. Moreover, we count the work of the National Council to be in the interests of the American people for whom we covet security and peace through cooperation between our nation and the Soviet Union.

We are pleased to enclose copy of a letter sent to all of our sponsors in this connection, which will serve at this point to provide you with the following information:

1. We have made formal protest to the Attorney General, the substance of which you will find in paragraph 2 of the letter.
2. Mr. Malish, our National Chairman, has also addressed a letter to President Truman inasmuch as it was pursuant to his Executive Order that the list was prepared. In our letter to the sponsors, you will note we have outlined briefly our communication to the President. We call your attention particularly to the quotations from that letter making a constructive statement concerning our purposes and program.

You will note that we have requested opportunity for the officers of the National Council to meet with the President in order to explain further the character of our work to the end that this organization's name will be removed from any such listing.

3. We have written the sponsors for the reason that Mr. Frederick Wolfman of the New York World Telegram in two articles last Wednesday and Thursday again attacked a number of our sponsors for their identification with this organization. It was our desire again to inform the sponsors that the nature of our work has not changed and that we count our job to be in line with the best interests of our nation. We are confident that having spoken to them in advance, the sponsors will surely resist any approaches which may be made to them to withdraw their association with our organization.

COPY OF LETTER SENT BY NATIONAL COUNCIL TO ITS SPONSORS: December 13, 1947

We have cause for gratification in these trying times for the staunch support of many friends. With practically no defections, our sponsors and members continue to support our nation-wide efforts for the achievement of amicable relations with the Soviet Union. Ours is a movement in the best interests of the United States and stands in no need of apology or defense. Understandably, therefore, our friends are shocked by the inclusion of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship in the list recently submitted by the Attorney General to the Loyalty Review Board, bearing imputations of disloyalty to the United States.

As in the past, we come directly to our sponsors with the story. You will wish to know that we have protested formally to the Attorney General. We termed his action a usurpation of judicial powers and a denial of due process of law, since we were not served with notice of investigation nor were we given chance to reply. We have demanded a bill of particulars and a public hearing to refute the unfounded charges.

You will also be interested in a letter which, as Chairman of the National Council, I have directed to the President of the United States. You will recall that the list of so-called subversive groups was promulgated by the Attorney General in pursuance of the President's Executive Order 9835. I am glad to present in brief the important points in our letter to the President.

We called the attention of Mr. Truman to the fact that during the war period the public meetings organized by the Council had received the open and direct support of the Administration. Since the end of the war, although our organization has in no way shifted its aims or changed its policies, we have not enjoyed the continuation of Administration support. Admittedly, there have been points at which our organization has criticized certain elements in the Administration's foreign policy, but we said to Mr. Truman:

".... surely this is the right of American citizens under the Constitution - indeed, it may even be their patriotic responsibility to do so when, in good conscience, they believe such elements to be detrimental to the interests of our people."

The heart of our message to Mr. Truman is contained in the following quotation from the letter:

"Whatever sharp differences there may exist, and undoubtedly do exist, in our relations with the Soviet Union at the present time with which your Administration is properly concerned, there is surely still a place for those who would continue to maintain as an end to be achieved the idea of amity and cooperation.

"Is it not a good thing to set before both parties, even in the midst of difficult diplomatic processes, a constant reminder that multitudes of people crave the achievement of that relationship which will ensure peace and the relaxation of tension and fear among the peoples of the world?"

It is our hope that the President will give us opportunity further to state the purposes of our organization and the character of our work and that, as the result, our name will be removed from any such listing as that put forward by the Attorney General.

As has happened on occasion before, certain irresponsible writers have renewed in the press their vicious attacks upon American leaders who have continued to lend encouragement to organized educational efforts to accomplish increased understanding of the Soviet Union and the return to a policy of co-operation with our former ally as necessary to the preservation of the peace of America. One writer, Mr. Frederick Woltman of the New York World Telegram, has revived a one-man campaign to disaffect the sponsors of the National Council. His first attempt, launched just over a year ago, we can honestly report, brought meagre results.

We have confidence that you and all our sponsors will continue steadfast in support of this organization and its purposes in line with our letter to the President of the United States. We need and bespeak your faithfulness; you may count on us to be respectful of your association.

Our work for peace based on American-Soviet cooperation must and will go on. We welcome your inquiry about any aspect of our work, more, we covet your constructive suggestions about its conduct.

Faithfully yours,

Rev. William Howard Melish,
Chairman.

MEMBERSHIPS AND RENEWALS Please hurry them in to the office. Every minute and every penny count as never before. Funds at the moment are urgently needed to pay the following bills:

Paper, postage, and mimeographing costs of this News Letter
Telephone for November, December, and January
Necessary part time of several weeks of paid secretarial
expense (\$10.00 a week)

Except for such costs, all of us are giving our services. But those of us who give our services, do need funds to pay these functional operating costs.

Clip and send to
Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship
Box 4174, South Denver Station, Denver, Colo.

Enclosed please find \$_____ for membership
\$_____ for contribution.

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Address _____ Zone _____

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"American-Soviet friendship is one of the cornerstones on which the edifice of peace should be built. To achieve this friendship nothing is more important than mutual understanding on the part of each of the institutions, traditions and customs of the other." "As an American soldier and lover of peace, I wish your Council the utmost success in the worthy work it has undertaken."

GENERAL DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship

667 SOUTH DOWNING STREET

DENVER 9, COLORADO

Telephone RAce 3311

December 5, 1947

Rabbi Herbert Friedman,
3001 Forest,
Denver, Colo.

Dear Rabbi Friedman:-

The Denver Post has again phoned us for the names of our sponsors, again with the apparent intent of red-baiting and intimidation.

The Attorney General has branded the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship and 77 other organizations "subversive" under authority granted him by President Truman's executive order of March 22, 1947. The President's order gives unprecedented power to the Attorney General. It prescribes no definition, no standard by which he is to judge what is "subversive" or "totalitarian." Under the terms of the order one has no right to a hearing before being condemned; there is no way of reviewing the Attorney General's action; there is no appeal from his determination. Never since the infamous sedition laws of 1798, we believe, has such a blow been struck against the individual liberties of every citizen, nor have such dictatorial powers been given to one man to control the thoughts and limit the freedom of association of all Americans.

On November 23, 1946 we wrote you the letter attached. We have not changed our policy. The Denver Council and the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship have nothing to conceal and we are proud of our accomplishments in giving factual information about the Soviet Union. To label as subversive an organization whose basic policy is one dedicated to keeping America and the world out of war is unfair, un-American, and dangerous to the future.

Please note the recent statement of the Council printed on the program enclosed. Also enclosed is an example of some typical red-baiting which was directed against us recently. It is hard to interpret this instance as other than premeditated.

Thank you for the support you have given us; we assure you of our appreciation and of our continued efforts to serve our country by standing for Freedom of thought, and Freedom of association guaranteed us by our Bill of Rights.

Sincerely,

M. Walter Pesman
YKV

M. Walter Pesman
Chairman.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICAN - SOVIET FRIENDSHIP, INC.

114 East 32nd Street, New York 16, N. Y. • Murray Hill 3-2082

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November 23, 1946

We have decided in executive counsel that our sponsors should be advised of the possibility of inquiry, or even possible denouncement. For instance, the Denver Post has asked for, and been given, a full list of our sponsors.

For this reason we write to reassure you that the Council is NOT political, NOT sectarian, that we have no undercover purpose or intent, and finally, that we are entirely autonomous, following policies which are of our own making, with membership open to the public.

Be assured that we have only one service to render -- to disseminate factual information about the Soviet Union in the interest of building permanent peace upon a structure of sound friendship between the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. We have no "dangerous propaganda" to sell, as enemies of world peace would have you believe.

Sincerely,

W. Walter Posman,
Chairman.

PROGRAM

A WORLD AT PEACE!!

Sponsored by Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship

WEDNESDAY

NOVEMBER 19th

8:15 P.M.

CITY AUDITORIUM

The National Anthem of the United States of America

OPENING WELCOME

1. **REV. WILLIAM HOWARD MELISH**, Rector Church of the Holy Trinity, Brooklyn, N. Y. Chairman, National Council of American-Soviet Friendship.
2. THE FIGHT FOR PEACE REQUIRES MONEY

The National Anthem of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

3. **JACOB M. LOMAKIN**, Consul General of the USSR, in New York

The National Anthem of the United Kingdom

4. **KONNI ZILLIACUS**, Member of Parliament, Great Britain

* * * ARCHIVES * * *

The Denver Council of
American-Soviet Friendship **BELIEVES**

that the USA and the USSR CAN and MUST get along in mutual respect of each other;

that the peace of mankind and future world security rest upon cooperation between the USA and the USSR;

that friendship and understanding through education (factual and fair) can find expression in a national foreign policy which stands

against hostility to Russia and
for full cooperation with Russia

so that ultimate world peace is attained;

that all facets of Russian foreign policy as well as American need careful, critical examination (we do not maintain that either policy is always right, hence our desire for cooperation within the framework of the United Nations).

that our leaders and representatives MUST preserve the American traditional good name, resolving difficulties by compromise, not by threats of armed force.

that America must repudiate in deeds (not words) the serious Soviet charges that our leaders have allowed warmongering and preparation for war to go unchecked.



**Are YOU Courageous enough
to ACT for peace?**

Statesmanship and patriotism of a high order are required in the battle for peace. **The times call for bold action.** Not only must we educate but we must ACT to demand that our leaders stand for all policies which encourage American-Soviet cooperation.

Will YOU work with us?

Our program of promoting public meetings to extend knowledge about the Soviet Union . . . of circulating factual literature . . . of publicizing for sanity in American-Soviet relations requires money and people. We urge your liberal financial support; we invite your membership (\$2, \$5, \$10, \$25 a year).

Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship
Box 4174 South Denver Station
RA 3311

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"American-Soviet friendship is one of the cornerstones on which the edifice of peace should be built. To achieve this friendship nothing is more important than mutual understanding on the part of each of the institutions, traditions and customs of the other." "As an American soldier and lover of peace, I wish your Council the utmost success in the worthy work it has undertaken."

GENERAL DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship

667 SOUTH DOWNING STREET

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Telephone RAce 3311

A local example of how the press misrepresents and falsifies to its readers. When the Denver Post wrote the original story they knew who were the members of the executive board of the Council. They also knew that Kleinboard was NOT a member (actually he is not a member of the Council and was entirely unknown to the secretary). Yet the Post wrote the story as it appears below..... After a strong protest pointing out that this was a case of libel, a correction was made; BUT the original story had had its effect.

DENVERITES GIVE VARYING VIEWS ON U. S.-SOVIET ROW

By ROBERT STAPP.

Denver Post Staff Writer.

Members of the executive board of the Denver Council of American Soviet-Friendship expressed varying reactions Thursday to recent developments in the United Nations general assembly presaging a showdown between the United States and Russia.

Comments included:

Charles A. Graham, attorney: "It is difficult to say whether Russia has abused the veto power. She has used it frequently, but whether more frequently than the United States would have used it had the tables been turned is a matter for conjecture."

"By taking the Greek, Italian and Korean issues to the general assembly and thus nullifying the veto power, we abandon the principle of unanimity, and only by unanimity can we insure peace. If Russia feels she is going to be outvoted on every issue she might well consider withdrawing from the United Nations."

Ben Bezoff, advertising man: "Russia has abused the veto power. I think the general assembly is the most important body in the United Nations, and that, by marshaling public opinion, it can force the security council to act. Unless a threat of actual armed conflict arises, I think that Russia will remain in the United Nations."

Isaac Weiner treasurer of the council: "I don't think that the United States is justified in pushing these issues into the general assembly and thus depriving the Soviet of her veto power. That is one way to destroy the United Nations. The key to harmony among nations is unanimity."

"I wouldn't attempt to say whether or not Russia has abused the veto. I don't think that any unbridgeable rift will develop between the United States and Russia, and I don't think Russia will

ever withdraw from the United Nations. I think the American press has magnified the differences between the two countries out of proportion to their seriousness."

Tillman Erb, vice chairman of the council: "Perhaps Russia has abused the veto power. I think both Russia and the United States have been too uncompromising in their foreign policies. I think that the United States probably intend-

ed that Russia should block some of her proposals, so as to put the Soviet in a bad light."

"I see no reason why these issues should not be aired before the general assembly and in the court of world opinion. I hope that public opinion will force a compromise on both sides, and that the present show-down will lead to a liberalization of the foreign policies of both countries."

Paul Kleinboard, secretary of the Communist party in Denver, said: "Russia has not abused the veto. Whenever she has exercised her veto power she has been justified. For that reason the United States is not justified in abridging the right to veto by bringing these issues into the general assembly. There is more danger of a war between the United States and Britain than between the United States and Russia because the United States and Britain are engaged in an imperialistic scramble for the tottering British Empire. The Soviet will remain in the United Nations and will continue to fight for peace."

KLEINBOARD NOT ON GROUP'S BOARD

Mrs. Herbert D. Ulmer, secretary of the Denver Council of American Soviet Friendship, objected Friday to an implication in Thursday's DENVER POST that Paul Kleinboard, secretary of the Communist party in Denver, was a member of the executive board of the council.

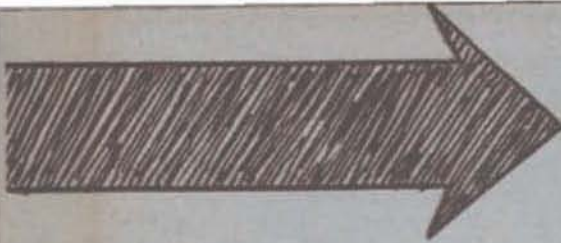
She said Kleinboard does not belong to the council and that the council has no connection with the Communist party.

True efforts for cooperation and understanding are accorded this much space (below). Had

dropping a bomb on Moscow been advocated do you think there would have been blazing front page headlines and columns of space?

'Soviet Friends' Ask Truman-Stalin Meeting

NEW YORK, Oct. 16.—(UP)—The American-Soviet Friendship society released a petition Thursday signed by 100 Americans calling for a meeting between President Truman and Premier Stalin to settle differences in foreign policy.



BECAUSE CONGRESS IS TRYING TO CONVINCE THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE THAT IT IS NO LONGER "AMERICAN" TO STAND UP AND BE
COUNTED FOR BUILDING THE PEACE ON A FIRM BASIS OF
COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION!

IF THE FEDERAL COURT DECLARES RICHARD MORFORD GUILTY, IT WILL MEAN THAT—



No American citizen will be free to express himself
on controversial issues, either domestic or foreign



The Fourth Amendment will no longer be the safeguard
of American civil liberties



The Committee on Un-American Activities will be given
the go-ahead signal for an unprecedented witch hunt
against anything and everything progressive and decent
in American life

WITH *YOUR* HELP, WE CAN WIN THIS FIGHT!



LET US KNOW TODAY THAT WE CAN COUNT ON YOUR SUPPORT !

PLEASE SEND US YOUR CONTRIBUTION NOW !

The National Council of American-Soviet Friendship
114 East 32nd Street, New York 16, New York

I enclose \$ _____ to help carry on the fight for the defense of Richard Morford.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

RICHARD MORFORD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICAN-
SOVIET FRIENDSHIP, HAS BEEN INDICTED
FOR HIS FAILURE TO SUBMIT, AS
DEMANDED BY THE UN-AMERICAN COM-
MITTEE, THE BOOKS OF THE COUNCIL.

Why?

regardless of their political, religious, professional or other affiliations.

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

"The activities of the Council of American-Soviet Friendship, which takes no stand on domestic issues, in disseminating information about the Soviet Union, in holding tremendous public demonstrations of American-Soviet friendship participated in and approved of by the highest Government officials, at all times clearly acted in a field in which no 'remedial' legislation is necessary, or is legally permitted."

-- The Honorable Ellis E. Patterson, former Member of Congress

WHY THEN IS RICHARD MORFORD TO BE TRIED
FOR "CONTEMPT OF CONGRESS" ?



WHY

has Richard Morford not delivered to the Un-American Activities Committee the records and correspondence of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship?

BECAUSE:

This demand is a violation of the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which says that: "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated."

The National Council did make available to the Committee all its pamphlets, speeches, bulletins and other public materials as well as detailed information concerning its activities, but it has not submitted its internal records and correspondence, which are outside the legitimate and constitutional scope of the Committee's powers.

The National Council resists to the utmost any imputation that working, writing or speaking on behalf of understanding and cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union is in any sense un-American or subversive.

The National Council does not engage in un-American propaganda activities; it is not subversive in any sense. It welcomes to its ranks all Americans who sincerely favor cooperation with the Soviet Union, regardless of their political, religious, professional or other affiliations.

"The activities of the Council of American-Soviet Friendship, which takes no stand on domestic issues, in disseminating information about the Soviet Union, in holding tremendous public demonstrations of American-Soviet friendship participated in and approved of by the highest Government officials, at all times clearly acted in a field in which no 'remedial' legislation is necessary, or is legally permitted."

-- The Honorable Ellis E. Patterson, former Member of Congress

WHY THEN IS RICHARD MORFORD TO BE TRIED

FOR "CONTEMPT OF CONGRESS" ?

November 18, 1947

Mr. Charles Graham;
Symes Building,
Denver 2, Colorado.

Dear Charles:

As per your request, I am
sending you the attached letter
which may be read at the Wednesday
evening meeting.

I would appreciate it if it
were read without any additional or
embellishing comments, and that it
stand by itself as a statement of my
views, without any prefatory editorial
remarks.

Hoping the meeting will be a
success and that some good will be
accomplished.

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

HAF:EW

November 18, 1947

Mr. Charles Graham,
Symes Building,
Denver 2, Colorado.

Dear Mr. Graham:

As I have told you, I will be unable to be with you on the evening of November 19, since I must be in Colorado Springs for another meeting.

The question of Soviet-American friendship, which you will be discussing, is one of the most important issues of our day. Peace in the world depends upon friendliness and a sympathetic understanding of each other's problems. Any contribution toward that understanding is at the same time a step toward winning the peace.

Meetings of a general educational nature, so that people may become better informed and better able to make decisions on the basis of fact, rather than hysteria or prejudice, are in the nature of a public service.

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

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"American-Soviet friendship is one of the cornerstones on which the edifice of peace should be built. To achieve this friendship nothing is more important than mutual understanding on the part of each of the institutions, traditions and customs of the other." "As an American soldier and lover of peace, I wish your Council the utmost success in the worthy work it has undertaken."

GENERAL DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship

667 SOUTH DOWNING STREET

DENVER 9, COLORADO

Telephone RAce 3311

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

November 9, 1947

The person who said that this Soviet friendship road would be a tough one to travel surely spoke with profound understanding.

You probably know that by the time we had the Dean of Canterbury meeting well organized, with many commitments made, expenses incurred and contracted, the Dean fell seriously ill!! (for a while the outlook for great success was so good that I was even dreaming we might clear enough money to make it possible to have a fund to maintain as a future executive director Leona Saron, the competent, exceedingly capable girl who worked for the National Council four and a half years and whom we induced, while passing through Denver on a vacation trip, to stay with us for six weeks at \$50 a week to assist in promoting the November 19 meeting and in doing a few of the other urgently needed educational work jobs of the Council).

Trans-Atlantic telephone cables have been busy this past week, believe me. A few of us have burned not only midnight but 5 AM oil!

To turn this serious set-back into a triumph, to allay the people's disappointment (surprisingly enough, masses were getting eager to hear the romantic voice of a 'Dean of Canterbury' even tho he is called the 'Red Dean'), to salvage something financially out of what was already invested, -- to carry on, mainly, speaking with A STRONG VOICE FOR PEACE and sanity in American-Soviet relations -- has been no small task.

But I am sure you will agree we have created a master replacement program, filled with interest and excitement. In 48 hours, we have printed, addressed and mailed 5000 cards like the attached and distributed another 5000.

It goes almost without saying that we have spent every penny we have; frankly, we are seriously involved financially. To do what we do needs a regular consistent large budget, even though a few of us devote full volunteer time to the project.

I write to appeal to you for financial help of any amount that you can send to assist us in this immediate crisis. The need is urgent NOW, and it will persist if we maintain an active program to carry on the Dean of Canterbury's basic belief that "if it is Russia's responsibility to understand us, it is our responsibility to understand Russia". Our November 19 historic meeting shall be one expression of our desire to understand Russia.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Herbert D. Ulmer
Secretary

*You have been
so fine with all this
we DO appreciate
you indeed*

Come! - See! - Hear! - Speakers for . . . **A WORLD AT PEACE!!**

The Dean of Canterbury, one of the world's great exponents of peace, is critically ill in England and cannot come to Denver for his scheduled speech. BUT, fortunately there are other great courageous men who also are dedicating their lives to the idea that WE CAN AND WE MUST GET ALONG WITH RUSSIA. These men will assume the Dean's American speaking tour and bring, in their own impressive eloquent words, the peace message which people the country over eagerly await . . . Denver is honored now to play host to

ENGLAND'S Member of Parliament **KONNI ZILLIACUS**
British Labour Party leader, just returned from Russia and two hour interview with Premier Stalin.

AMERICA'S **REV. WM. HOWARD MELISH**
Rector Church of Holy Trinity, Episcopal, Brooklyn, N. Y., brilliant speaker just returned from Yugoslavia.

RUSSIA'S **HON. JACOB M. LOMAKIN**
N. Y. Consul General of USSR, first appearance in Denver since the war of USSR official.

Tickets now on sale at CITY AUDITORIUM BOXOFFICE (Curtis St.) Daily (Except Sunday)
10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., or by mail from (RA 3311) Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship
Box 4174, South Denver Station. MEETING AT AUDITORIUM, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 8:15 P. M.

Prices: .50, \$1.00 and reserved \$1.50 and \$2.00 seats, tax included. Buy in Advance!

Special NEWS

from



Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship
667 SOUTH DOWNING ST. • DENVER 9, COLORADO • RAce 3311



ADDITIONAL NOTES ON KONNI ZILLIACUS, M.P.

Since his election to Parliament in 1945, Konni Zilliacus has emerged as the most effective spokesman in the House of Commons for the opposition to Foreign Minister Bevin's foreign policy.

Mr. Zilliacus was born in Japan and received his education in England, Sweden, Finland and the United States. He is a graduate of the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University and speaks eight languages. He served in the R.F.C. in World War I and as Intelligence Officer in the British Military Mission to Siberia. He was an official of the League of Nations from 1919 to 1938, spending ten of these years as a member of the Information Section of the League Secretariat. During World War II, he was attached to the British Ministry of Information.

His published works, in addition to pamphlets, newspaper and magazine articles, include: The Road to War; Why We are Losing the Peace; Between Two Wars; Can the Tories Win the Peace? and a number of books on the League of Nations. Mr. Zilliacus' most recent book, published in this country in 1946, is "Mirror of the Past: A History of Secret Diplomacy", a significant, revealing book based on hundreds of secret diplomatic documents to which the author had access.

Mr. Zilliacus headed the group of eight British M.P.'s who have just returned from a visit to Poland, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union. They met many of the Soviet leaders and had a three-hour talk with Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov. From Moscow, they were flown in a special plane to Mr. Stalin's vacation residence at Sochi on the Black Sea, where they had a two-hour interview with the Soviet Premier. Mr. Zilliacus released an account of the interview, widely published in the British and American press. He quoted Mr. Stalin as saying:

"Just as the Soviet Union has always stood for improvement of political and economic relations with all countries, so it now stands for such improvement, beginning with the United States and Great Britain. If these countries wish to improve relations with the Soviet Union, they will be welcomed. We shall be prepared to go forward to meet them, irrespective of what the economic set-up may be in those countries. Cooperation between countries having different economic systems is possible. That already has been proved by experience. If, however, they do not want to improve their relations with the Soviet Union, we shall have to do without them. We shall, nevertheless, be able to carry on.

"We will wait until they regain their reason and understand that cooperation between nations is necessary. We can wait. We are a patient people".

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GENERAL DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship

667 SOUTH DOWNING STREET

DENVER 9, COLORADO

Telephone RAce 3311

November 7, 1947

Dear Friend,

Our ambition is to turn a serious set-back into a triumph. We are saddened that the Dean of Canterbury is painfully ill, and cannot move from his bed, much less to Denver.

But, this unfortunate stroke of fate does not alleviate the need for a STRONG VOICE FOR PEACE to speak against the war hysteria flooding America.

Our meeting of November 19 at the City Auditorium is still scheduled.

The trans-oceanic telephone cables have been busy. The Dean of Canterbury, from his sick bed, has secured for Denver Konni Zilliacus, British Member of Parliament, leader of the Opposition to Foreign Minister Bevin's foreign policy. Zilliacus has returned from the Soviet Union, where he was the head of an eight member British Delegation. His lengthy interview with Stalin made world-wide headlines this summer.

Mr. Zilliacus will share the platform with Reverend William Howard Melish, Rector Church of Holy Trinity (Episcopal) Brooklyn, who has recently returned from an extensive tour of Yugoslavia, in the course of which he interviewed Tito, and Stepanic. We shall have the first appearance in Denver of an official representative of the Soviet Union, the Honorable Jacob M. Lomakin, Consul General of the USSR in New York.

Denver is honored in having three leading statesmen from the three leading nations in the world, the United States, the U. S. S. R. and Great Britain.

We are depending on your continued support, by helping us publicize this expanded and varied program, which will attract the widest interest.

And most important, continue to help us and yourself toward a "World At Peace" by redoubling your efforts to sell tickets for this historic affair, coming only 10 days from now. We must all act fast!

Sincerely,

Dwight Spencer

Dwight Spencer
Vice-Chairman



The Very Reverend HEWLETT JOHNSON — DEAN OF CANTERBURY

Renowned Author and Scholar

Distinguished Churchman

Author of "The Soviet Power" and the forthcoming "Soviet Russia Since the War"

The Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship invites all who hope for a united constructive world to hear the message which this noted churchman and disciple of truth brings.

HARDLY TWO YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE the last terrible war's hostilities ceased.

Peace treaties formally ending this war are still unsigned.

And yet commentators, columnists and politicians in increasing number are vying in their prophecies of war. Reckless threats of atomic devastation of Russia are trumpeted over the air waves. Pleas for international good will and understanding are being pilloried in the press; differences and rivalries between nations are being fanned into flames of hatred.

IT IS NOT YET TOO LATE.

Understanding and co-operation between the USA and USSR can save the world from disaster.

To this understanding, born of the common humanity of all people, the Very Reverend Hewlett Johnson, Dean of Canterbury, is dedicating his life and work. He has visited with the common people as well as the leaders of the nations of Eastern Europe, and he tells of their aspirations for a better life and their desperate hopes for peace. The facts he brings of the situation in Russia and Europe are of vital concern to all of us in America.

Rabbi Herbert Friedman

Presiding

The Very Reverend Paul Roberts

Introducing the Dean of Canterbury

Music by **Roy and Johanna Harris**

ENGLAND'S FAMED DEAN OF CANTERBURY comes to America at the invitation of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship. He has spent recent months traveling in the Soviet Union, Hungary, Yugoslavia, and other European countries. Denver is honored to play host to this eminent personage. He is a critical figure in the world's hope that the present war hysteria be resolved peacefully. Come and hear his observations, experiences and conclusions on the world's most urgent matter—the way to PEACE.

HONORABLE JACOB M. LOMAKIN, CONSUL GENERAL OF THE USSR for New York, also will be one of the honored guests. As November marks the fourteenth anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between the governments of the United States and the Soviet Union, the Honorable Jacob Lomakin will bring official greetings to Denver from his country.

CITY AUDITORIUM — WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19th — 8:15 P.M.

Please post on bulletin board. Avoid disappointment. Buy tickets in advance. See order blank on reverse side.

"American-Soviet friendship is one of the cornerstones on which the edifice of peace should be built."—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower.

"It is now more important than ever that the people of sound judgment take a public stand for honest cooperation with Soviet Russia to stabilize and secure peace."

—Prof. Albert Einstein

"It must be our mutual determination to maintain unity for continued Soviet-American friendship, international cooperation the bulwark for an enduring peace for the world."—Philip Murray.

"I know of nothing more important to the future welfare of humanity than the building of a sound basis for a continued friendship between the Soviet Union and the United States."

—Henry Wallace.

"To build understanding with Soviet Russia is to build peace and safety in the world."

Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

"Peace can be made and kept only by the united determination of peace-loving peoples who are willing to work together, willing to help one another, willing to respect and tolerate and try to understand one another's opinions and feelings."—Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Tickets on Sale at

CITY AUDITORIUM BOX OFFICE (Curtis St.)

Daily except Sunday — 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Starting November 5th

or by mail from

**Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship (RA 3311)
Box 4174 — South Denver Sta.**

Please send me the following tickets for Wednesday, November 19th to hear the Dean of Canterbury:

_____ reserved seats, orchestra @ \$1.50 each,
tax included _____

_____ general admission, first balcony and mezzanine,
@ \$1.00 each, tax included _____

_____ general admission, gallery @ 50c each, tax incl. _____

Enclosed is ☐ check ☐ money order to cover for \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____ Zone _____

Telephone _____ City _____

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES



introducing...

the Very Reverend Hewlett Johnson

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of
CANTERBURY**

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GENERAL DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship

667 SOUTH DOWNING STREET

DENVER 9, COLORADO

Telephone RAce 3311

November 3, 1947

Rabbi Herbert Friedman
3001 - 4th Avenue
Denver, Colo.

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

After that conversation we had on the occasion of one of our planning meetings at the Manhattan Restaurant, I wrote to the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship. I asked whether the Dean of Canterbury discussed the Marshall Plan in his new book and whether the National Council has taken a position on the Plan. The reply, dated October 24, may be of interest to you:

"The Dean does not discuss the Marshall Plan in his book, I am told. The Council has not had occasion to take a position on the Marshall Plan. In deed, do you know what the Marshall Plan is? Mr. Marshall himself said the night before last that it had not reached that stage. It was only an idea for which preliminary data has been collected. The Plan is still to be shaped and then translated into legislation which the Congress will be asked to approve."

We are sending a copy of the enclosed Harper's article "Who is Loyal to America?" to members of our Executive Board. We hope you will find time in your busy schedule to read it.

Mrs. Ulmer has asked me to tell you that she is planning to phone you at home today or tomorrow, and at that time she will take up several other matters with you.

Sincerely,

Leona Saxon
Leona Saxon

P.S. We are so enthusiastic about the new issue of Soviet Russia Today, which just came today, that we are sending a copy of it to you also with this letter.

*"Without Russia, our common victory would have been seriously jeopardized.
Without the cooperation of the Soviet Union, there can be no permanent
and durable peace projected."—HON. JOSEPH E. DAVIES*

Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship

591 SOUTH DOWNING STREET

DENVER 9, COLORADO

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Statement of Policy of

Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship

The Council believes that collaboration between the United States and the Soviet Union is essential to victory, to the establishment of a just peace, and the preservation of that peace.

It is our conviction that the broad aim of both the American and Russian governments--each in its own way--is to further the welfare of their own citizenry. It is our view that the welfare of each country is complementary to that of the other and that the interests of both can better be served through cooperation than through antagonism. We hold that differences in ideology and economic and political organization do not preclude collaboration in the common interest.

The Council believes that friendship is a prerequisite of effective collaboration. It believes that mutual understanding is vital to friendship and that amicable relations between the USA and the USSR will be fostered if each country is versed in and tolerant of the viewpoint and aspirations of the other.

The Council aims to promote acquaintance with the Soviet Union, its people, its culture, its industry. It believes that humanity is enriched by mutual contacts and exchanges. To this end it endeavors to ascertain and to disseminate factual information about the Soviet Union. It adopts a judicial approach to debatable questions and endeavors to present worthy views without distortion or bias.

As an educational organization concerned with international relations, the Council is nonpartisan. It stays out of domestic politics and does not propagandize for any change in the economic or political institutions of the United States.

The Denver Council of American-Soviet Friendship is autonomous: its policies are entirely determined by its own Board of Directors. Membership in the Council is open to the public.

STATE MOTHERS OF AMERICA

AS SELECTED BY THE
GOLDEN RULE FOUNDATION

STATE CHAIRMAN
OF COLORADO

MRS. VALENTINE S. FISCHER
707-12TH ST. BOULDER

COLORADO STATE MOTHERS

1944 MRS. JOHN FRANKLIN SHAFROTH
1945 MRS. LEON LAVINGTON
1946 MRS. HERBERT DAVID ULMER
1947 MRS. WILLIAM H. MOTT

Oct. 6, 1947

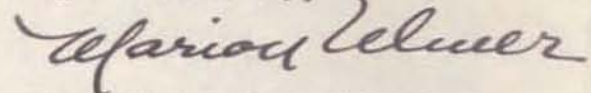
Rabbi Herbert Friedman
% Temple Emanuel
16th & Pearl
Denver, Colo.

Dear Rabbi Friedman,

The National Council of American-Soviet friendship has asked if I would forward the attached letter with its important enclosures to you.

The urgency of this situation surely demands that strong voices for sanity and peace be heard from the Rocky Mountain Region. I hope you will be able to fulfill this request.

Yours Sincerely,



Mrs. Herbert David Ulmer

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP, INC.

114 east 32nd street

• new york 16, n. y. •

murray hill 3-2080

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September 30, 1947

We believe that you and other American leaders are dismayed, as we are, at the serious crisis which has developed in American-Soviet relations. We had hoped that the achievements of our wartime coalition might have grown into a partnership for building the peace. Instead we find a widening gulf separating us today and cooperation becoming practically impossible. If present antagonism is permitted to grow the future is one of ominous danger for both countries and the entire world.

We in the National Council have earnestly considered what contribution could be made at this juncture to meet the clear necessity our nation faces of finding a way out of the present impasse.

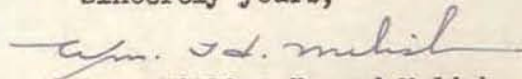
The enclosed statement appeals to us as reasonable and constructive. If its basic principles gain wide acceptance, and if its practical proposal is implemented, we think you will agree that the present unhappy situation can be redeemed, a new start made, and our two nations will find their feet once again set on the road toward peace.

If the recognized leaders in American life will speak out at this time for a return to reason, there is hope of a solution. We feel that a collective appeal for this new start, made public at this time, can bear a strong influence upon the thinking of our people and upon those responsible for the conduct of our foreign policy.

We invite and urge your support of the enclosed statement as a substantial witness for peace. We expect many other representative American leaders to whom we are writing will gladly join you in this statement. The consent for the use of your signature can be given by using the enclosed card and envelope.

You will appreciate the need for quick response. If you reside at a distance from New York we hope you will use airmail return or collect wire, if you think advisable.

Sincerely yours,



Rev. William Howard Melish
Chairman

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enc.

AN APPEAL TO REASON

A Statement on Foreign Policy
prepared by the
National Council of American-Soviet Friendship

October, 1947

Events at the United Nations General Assembly have made it more urgent than ever that Americans stop and think soberly about the path we are following today.

The speeches of the Soviet deputy foreign minister, Andrei Y. Vishinsky, coming after Secretary Marshall's address several days before, have revealed that the gulf between our own country and the Soviet Union has widened. The danger is that this gulf may become unbridgeable. We must not let that happen.

The two greatest nations of our century -- titans of military strength and material power -- have drifted apart more dangerously than anyone could have believed possible two short years ago. And the perspective is a more embittered enmity, the outcome of which no one can foresee. Only one thing is certain. No good can come of it for either of the countries involved or the world.

The times require a return to reason.

A return to reason requires an honest re-examination of the issues between us, and the paths whereby we and the Russians have moved so far apart in so short a time.

Rejection of Vishinsky's charges, which do not rest finally upon the accuracy or inaccuracy of every particular, without a candid study of their merits, or the hysterical self-justification now heard in some quarters, will not help us.

Only the determination to re-examine the premises of our policy can help our people in this hour. Whatever their past judgments and experiences, serious Americans have no greater obligation.

* * * * *

We, the undersigned, do not affirm that every deed or detail of Soviet policy has been justified or wise. There is a difference of opinion among us, for instance, as to whether or not the Soviet Union has used the veto too frequently. But we can well understand that the Soviet leaders, feeling keenly how badly they were treated after Versailles, and feeling even more keenly the burden of the second World War which ravaged their homeland, are proud men today. Understandably, negotiations are not easy. In many respects, they do not understand our ways. We hold no brief for the Soviet system nor do we wish to defend every facet of Soviet policy.

We make this appeal because we believe that America's own interests require long-range peaceable co-existence with the Soviet Union, and because of our great need to preserve our traditional good name. We agree with Secretary General Trygve Lie's stirring appeal that "nations with different social systems and different interests shall strive to live together, side by side in peace. This must find expression in political negotiations which show a willingness to compromise."

* * * * *

Secretary Marshall's speech -- and all the collateral things which have been happening since President Truman's enunciation of his Doctrine last March -- have made one thing plain: it is no longer true that the difficulties in negotiating the peace settlements have contributed to our present policy; rather, that policy itself has become so sweeping and so irreconcilable that it makes the negotiation of individual settlements impossible. What alarms us most is that we have allowed obstacles on specific questions, such as Korea, Germany or the Japanese peace treaty, to become crystallized into an over-all policy of hostility to Russia. If we changed this policy to demonstrate a genuine will for fair agreements, there is little doubt that the peace could be written quickly.

Whatever else one may think of Mr. Vishinsky's bitter broadside at the UN General Assembly, it is clear that the Administration has not succeeded in making the Soviet statesmen any more tractable by its "getting-tough-with Russia" diplomacy. This has been tried in several variants by two secretaries of state, assisted by bi-partisan advisers. What more than the present impasse is needed to underline the failure of our course?

Neither is there the slightest chance of moving the Soviet statesmen by endeavoring to by-pass their interests in the United Nations by seeking to circumvent the Security Council in proposing a "Little Assembly."

The Soviet Union has made clear that she is not leaving the United Nations; neither can she be expected to leave the United Nations to us. It is not surprising that the Soviet Union should reply in kind to our frankly enunciated policy of toughness.

Any sensible person can see that the effort to mobilize the United Nations against the Soviet Union not only strains the Charter and rivets rival blocs on a body which was intended to serve as an arena of harmony -- but, in fact, does not work. It can only lead to increased division and tension.

* * * * *

-more-

Whether our country is indeed preparing for war, or whether the current talk of war is mere political blackmail -- it is plain that war could come from a diplomacy which tries to compromise fundamental American ideals and interests by obstructing democracy in the guise of "containing communism".

For example, the issue between Indonesia and the Netherlands cannot be said to bear on "communism". The necessity of un-seating Franco in Spain (as the General Assembly affirmed nine months ago) cannot be evaded on the excuse that "communism" would profit -- the slogan under which Franco's backers originally put him into power.

A Greek democratic government would not be a Communist government, and when a people freely chooses Communist leaders as in Czechoslovakia, it is not for Americans to deny them this right of self-determination.

To eradicate the vestiges of Japanese imperialism in Korea cannot be neglected, or the issue confused, by supporting the same Koreans who profited from Japanese collaboration. It is not in America's interest to delay independence for a united Korea just because Soviet policy declines to follow our pattern in dealing with the vestiges of Hirohito's regime.

Neither can we in good faith deny the Russians reparations from German production, especially when we propose to use a share of the Ruhr industry, to which they have a legitimate claim, in creating the same kind of German social structure that proved such a terrible menace to the Russians and the world in the last decade.

Nor can we -- in the absence of international confidence to which our own policies have certainly contributed -- exploit this absence to avoid the slightest measures leading toward disarmament, especially in the new atomic weapons. Soviet criticism of our atomic energy control plans may appear to us unfair. But the plain fact is that re-armament in the most terrible weapons of all human history proceeds unchecked in our country, which should be taking the lead in disarmament.

Walter Lippmann, the distinguished commentator, pointed out on September ninth that our present policy of "containing communism" can be implemented "only by recruiting, subsidizing and supporting a heterogeneous array of satellites, clients, dependents and puppets". This is a sad commentary on a policy which should, as an American policy, strive to encourage other nations as equals, and inspire their democratic forces with confidence in democratic traditions. It is especially tragic when such a policy is based on the erroneous assumption that democratic movements of the people in eastern or southeastern Europe signify "Russian expansionism". We credit the Russians with too much. We insult our own

great traditions.

* * * * *

To procrastinate with failure, to pile new devices frantically on previous failures, is not statesmanship.

The moment calls for statesmanship of a higher order.

Our people must be re-educated to the realization that we cannot win objectives by war-like propaganda.

To return to reason is not a measure of appeasing the Soviet Union; it is an elementary act of patriotism in the interests of the moral health, the welfare and future of the nation. To pause at the present abyss, and retrace our road to the unity of the great war time coalition is not a sign of weakness. It is wisdom.

* * * * *

The Soviet spokesmen have made a most serious charge that our leaders have allowed war-mongering and war-preparations to go unchecked. That charge must be repudiated not in words but in deeds. It is not an abuse of freedom, but the exercise and defense of freedom, for a responsible press and responsible governmental leaders to re-affirm before the world our desire for peace. And our words must be fortified with deeds, showing that we, for our part, intend to meet the Soviets half way.

This is clearly the time for the tangled international relationship to be resolved on the highest level among the big powers. The Soviet premier, Joseph Stalin, has several times indicated in the past year that he is prepared for a conference with President Truman. Many responsible Americans, including the American Federation of Labor's executive council, have recently called for a meeting of the two leading world statesmen to clear the atmosphere and make a fresh start.

Now is the time - before our foreign policy becomes subject to the pressures of a fateful election campaign - for President Truman and Premier Stalin to meet.

The times call for bold action.

The present course is moving toward ruin.

In the interests of America's good name, her prosperity and future, we say: "Let Us Return to Reason."

Americans do not want war. We believe that, in the light of the vast achievements resulting from our war-time coalition, there are no problems which cannot be settled now. We can have an honorable, mutually-beneficial peace. Let America show the way.

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Rev. William Howard Melish

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114 EAST 32 STREET, NEW YORK 16, N. Y.



Rev. William Howard Melish, Chairman
National Council of American-Soviet Friendship

I am willing to join other endorsers of the statement on
foreign policy entitled "An Appeal to Reason".

Signature _____

Address _____

Position
or
Organization _____

(for identification only)

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