

FBI Plant Tells How He Tricked Commie Dupes

NEW YORK, May 18.—(AP)—An FBI plant in the Communist Party said Tuesday that he added phony names to a list of recruits whom he converted into Reds.

"I recruited names," John V. Blanc of Euclid, O., testified at the federal conspiracy trial of 11 top Communist leaders.

This puzzled defense attorneys and Blanc explained:

"The people don't actually exist. I turned the names in at a section meeting."

The witness said he paid initiation fees and dues for these non-existent Communists out of his own pocket.

The fictitious names were added to a list of about 35 to 50 "live people" whom Blanc said he recruited.

So sharp did Blanc appear as a recruiter, he testified that he was made dues secretary of Ward Club 32 in Cleveland, O.

He promptly gave the FBI the club's membership list, he added.

With Blanc's testimony out of thin air, Federal Judge Harold R. Medina bent his head away from the jury and put his hand to his face as though stifling a chuckle.

Defense Attorney Harry Sachse objected to Judge Medina's smile.

However, U. S. Attorney John F. X. McGohey said he detected smiles on the faces of the defendants.

Up stood defendant John W. Gates, editor of the Daily Worker, who told the court:

"Let the record show I did not smile."

Earlier, Blanc said a party leader's secretary tried to use newspapermen, writers and other professional people to exploit labor grievances for a Russian-backed revolution.

No Pacific Pact Now, Acheson Announces

WASHINGTON, May 19.—(AP)—Secretary of State Acheson Wednesday said that "there are serious dangers to world peace existing in the situation in Asia."

But he ruled out, at least for the time being, any United States participation in a Pacific defense pact.

Asked at his news conference what specific dangers he sees in Asiatic conditions, Acheson declared he thinks it is plain that the dangers are those which revolve around the present disturbed condition in China.

Acheson began his statement by saying that on several occasions he has emphasized that the United States is not "currently considering" joining any regional defense arrangements other than the North Atlantic Treaty. This obviously includes also speculation on a Mediterranean or Middle Eastern alliance for which Turkey and Greece have worked in recent months.

Truman Appeals For Bond Drive Support

WASHINGTON, May 18.—(AP)—President Truman in a broadcast from the White House Monday appealed to Americans to support their unity and faith by pushing the \$1,040,000,000 Opportunity Bond drive over the top.

The President's talk was part of an opening day program which centered at Independence and Kansas City, Mo. The drive ends June 30.

Mr. Truman said the ability of millions of Americans to buy bonds now was a sharp contrast to the early days of the republic when Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton appealed only to the wealthy to invest in government securities. No one else could afford it.

SALES TAX VOTED

WRANGELL, Alaska, May 18.—(AP)—Wrangell voted a sales tax at a special election Monday, 216 for and 24 against. It is the first Alaska community approving such a levy under a new territorial law allowing a municipal sales tax not exceeding two percent. The tax is effective June 1.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—(AP)—The \$20,000 bonds posted by Communist Gerhart Eisler in two criminal cases Tuesday were declared forfeited by the U. S. District Court here.

At the same time the Court issued a bench warrant for Eisler's arrest, as a person ineligible for further freedom on bail while the cases are pending.

The actions involve contempt of Congress and passport fraud.

The government plans to use the warrant issued Tuesday as a principal exhibit in getting Eisler extradited from England, where he fled as a stowaway on the Polish ship Batory.

U. S. District Judge James W. Morris entered the orders in the local court in response to a series of motions offered by the United States Government through William Hitz, assistant U. S. attorney for the District of Columbia.

Hitz prosecuted Eisler in the two criminal cases in 1947. Judge Morris was the presiding jurist then. The trials resulted in sentences of one year and \$5,000 fine for contempt of Congress and one to three years for falsifying information on an application for an exit visa.

There was discussion, too, of adding a new charge to the series against Eisler: "Departing the court."

Both cases tried in Washington were appealed and the court granted \$20,000 bond pending a final judgment. Hitz said the \$20,000 bonds were supplied in the form of U. S. Treasury bonds by George Marshall of New York City. Hitz said he understood that Marshall had been the head of the Civil Rights Congress.

Eisler is under an additional \$3,500 bond posted in the U. S. District Court in New York City. That bond is in connection with his habeas corpus proceedings of last year in the deportation case pending against him. It was not affected by Tuesday's orders.

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Reporters learned that during the all-day wrangle which preceded the vote, Murray denounced the Communists and pro-Communists to their faces in language as cutting and contemptuous as that which he used at the Portland, Ore., convention last November.

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Thur. May 19, 1949—The News-Review, Roseburg, Ore. 7

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