

BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN

Soviet Satellites Use Propaganda To Discredit West's Democracies

The often ridiculous propaganda charges made by Russian satellites from behind the Iron Curtain have provided the American people with a number of chuckles in this time of world crisis. But there are other items of news that are not so amusing and give a true indication of how the people are fed a constant diet of propaganda.

Letters from Poland, for instance, smuggled into this country via Austria, report the growing prestige and popularity of Gen. Douglas MacArthur among the Poles. Many still remember the general's visit to Poland prior to World War II. His role in the Korean war has aroused a wave of enthusiasm and admiration which the Communist press tries to counteract by denunciations of the famous American.

Among the methods used to discredit him is to charge him with reactionary and fascist tendencies, cowardly behavior, and a policy of personal enrichment in the Philippines. He has also been accused of leniency toward Japanese war criminals and especially Emperor Hirohito.

Solidarity Preached

In Hungary the press is preaching solidarity with North Korea. The Szabad Nep, published in Budapest, said in July that there was no special, made-to-order peace for that country. The newspaper said: "If houses are ablaze in Korea, then our homes are endangered, too. And if a neighbor's house is on fire, it is our duty to help him."

"The Korean people have shown that the eastern border of our peace camp can withstand any onslaught victoriously. A solidarity which has burst into flames in the fire of battle is sweeping all strata of our people. We will and shall take up our stand on the western border of the peace camp. . . ."

Another article in the same newspaper reported "the name of the FBI creates a feeling of fear and horror in every average American."

"No one is sure," the article continued, "when he might be seized by the secret police at his work, in his home, or even in the street. There is no protection against the FBI. Its charges are based on secret information, anonymous letters and denunciations."

"In the American 'democracy' a man has only to utter a careless remark, some criticism of the Marshall Plan to his neighbor, and he will be pounced upon by the FBI, his colleagues and his boss questioned; he will be smeared, accused, fired from his job and only too often ruined. . . ."

The Hungarian press also reported: "Pope Pius XII has acquired the agency for Coca Cola in Italy. This beverage is harmful but yields great profit to those who sell it. It seems indeed that it has been especially invented for the Vatican."

Another of the ridiculous items of Communist propaganda originates in Czechoslovakia. On June 28, 1950, the Czech government published a proclamation announcing that vast parts of Bohemia had been infested with Colorado beetles dropped by American airplanes.

On July 11, 1950, the ministry of foreign affairs presented two notes to the U. S. embassy, one protesting against alleged flights of American aircraft over Czechoslovak territory, the other reading: "It has been irrefutably ascertained . . . that American planes have dropped large amounts of Colorado beetles on territories of the German democratic republic. An increasing number of the authorized flights of U. S. airplanes from the U. S. zone of Germany into Czechoslovakia shows clearly that the spreading of the Colorado beetles in this country is due to the same cause."

Tito Scorns West

A great many Americans seem to believe that because Soviet and Yugoslavia relations are somewhat strained we have a friend in Marshal Tito. But this is what Tito believes and preaches about western democracy:

"Where do we find true democracy? In Yugoslavia or in western countries? In Yugoslavia, democracy serves the large masses of the working people. The west is accusing us of not having true democracy, of being a police state, of living in misery."

"Indeed, we live in need of many goods and materials. Yet the essential difference between our democracy and the western way of life is that we aim at creating a high economic standard of living for everybody, not for a small minority as is the case in the west."

"What good is it to the man in the western countries that the warehouses are bulging with goods? All he gets is desire for their possession. But they are not for him. They are

available only to a group of 'chosen' people who form the ruling class. The large masses of working men and women have to live without any of these goods.

"There is a democracy of a minority. The workers live in dependency on this minority, they earn so little that they can never provide for even the essentials; or they are jobless and unable to assert democratic rights. The western countries are good for the rich 'upper-class' only, the working masses of the people exist merely to produce and supply wealth and prosperity for a few."

That doesn't sound like a friend to western democracy.

According to the propaganda handed out by countries behind the Iron Curtain their industries are models of efficiency. A recent report on conditions in the Iron and Steel Works at Jesenice in Yugoslavia would indicate otherwise.

Industry Has Problems

The report said the chief problem of "this industry is the accumulation of finished goods in the warehouses and the resulting immobilization of the working capital of the enterprise. Furthermore there is too much top-level personnel in relation to too few workers."

The report continued: "The problem of accumulated finished products existed in 1947, but the situation has worsened since. Whole sections of the plant were at times stuffed with finished goods. The consequent disorder and waste are incredible."

"Another cause of the present plight is shortage of manpower which stems mostly from inadequate housing provided for workers. The discipline among the workers leaves much to be desired, too. The workers come late and leave early, thus creating a loss of at least one work hour per day per man."

In the state owned mines at Velenje, miners had to perform 60 per cent of overtime work to make up for unjustified absenteeism among the rest of the mining crews.

And of the state owned farms, figures are just as disappointing in agricultural production.

Romania Prepares for War

Private reports from Greece, by reliable Romanians who recently left their country, convey the impression that Romania is getting ready for armed emergencies.

One report said: "All summer leaves for officers in the forces have been cancelled. Many reserve officers were recently called up. Allocation of freight cars for railway transportation of goods and agricultural products is subject to authorization of the general staff."

Romania is also concentrating on propaganda telling of alleged preparations for bacteriological warfare in the United States. One recent broadcast gave a good many details of names and places supposed to be engaged in preparing bacteriological weapons.

The broadcast announced that a central bacteriological station was situated at Camp Letwich in Maryland where the army maintained gigantic laboratories for testing typhus, plague and cholera germs. Other laboratories were asserted to be situated in Mississippi, Utah and Indiana.

One of the major dislikes of Communist countries is the Marshall Plan. The Polish press said recently:

"The Marshall Plan will expire in the spring of 1952, and Washington is looking for new ways of keeping the western European countries in a state of dependency. The plan itself has fallen so far into disrepute that it cannot be continued in its present form. Therefore it will be succeeded by the so-called 'plan XX of integral defense' for the Atlantic treaty countries."

The Polish press is also down XX on the labor government of Great Britain. A recent article stated: "The labor government has now definitely proved to be no different from the warmongering policies of Winston Churchill."

These are but a few of the propaganda themes and methods of the countries behind the Iron Curtain.



SOVIET DELEGATION TAKES IT ON THE LAM. . . Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Vishinsky (right) leads chief soviet delegate to security council, Jacob Malik (second from right), and other members of the Russian delegation from the banquet hall of the Waldorf-Astoria hotel after New York's governor blasted Russia for keeping 10 to 15 million people living under imperialist slavery. The city of New York was giving a dinner honoring the incoming and outgoing presidents of the United Nations general assembly. As Dewey's blast began, Vishinsky arose, looked around the room and headed for the door.



SOUTH KOREAN WELCOME . . . Towns and townspeople everywhere in liberated South Korea have welcomed the victorious U.S. marines and the rest of the United Nations forces as they drove the Reds northward or bottled them up in bayonet-lined military traps. One town, as soon as it heard of the U.S. and South Korean beachhead being established at Inchon, voiced its welcome by hanging a sign across the main street leading into the village.



GENTLE RIB AT COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF . . . The United States marines have proved on many occasions that they can take it, and they also have proved they can dish it out. This marine amtrack on the Seoul front displays various signs including: "Machine, Just Propaganda" and "Truman Police Force," all good, clean fun and a tongue-in-cheek attitude toward President Truman for his letter labelling the marines a police force of the navy and claiming they have a propaganda machine equal to Stalin's.



WAR TROPHY . . . P.F.C. Luther R. Leguire, Tampa, Fla., shows North Korean flag he found flying from flagpole at former residence of John J. Muccio, ambassador to Korea, at Seoul. Flag had been run up by North Korean Communist troops.



'SINGS' OF MILLION-DOLLAR PAYOFF . . . Contact man for bookie Harry Gross in the million-dollar payoff for protection to New York city police, Arthur (Artie) Karp (right), is ushered into county court after breaking the Brooklyn gambling probe wide open by giving the grand jury names of police whom he allegedly bribed. The prosecutor refused to reveal whether any of those named by Karp were high officials. Karp surrendered to the district attorney.



G.O.P. WOMEN'S SPOKESMAN . . . Mrs. Gifford Mayes, Kellogg, Idaho, is assistant chairman of the Republican national committee and spokesman and leader of more than two million Republican women.

AROUND THE HOUSE

Instead of tying the two ends of a broken shoelace together to make it do until you can get a new one, take a little extra time to lap the broken ends over each other and sew them together. A "fix" like that will last longer and look better than a knot.

To dye white shoes black, try using quick-drying black enamel paint. It often wears better than liquid or paste dyes and doesn't rub off so easily.

You can brush out the cuffs on men's trousers easily if you take out the stitches holding the cuff and replace them with metal snaps. From then on, unsnap the snaps, brush, then snap the snaps.

When shoe polish gets hard and dry, you can soften it up by pouring a few drops of turpentine in it.

Advertisement for Smith Brothers Wild Cherry Cough Drops. It features a box of the product and text: 'Got a Cough? GET DELICIOUS COUGH RELIEF! SMITH BROTHERS WILD CHERRY COUGH DROPS. World's best-tasting Cough Medication! You can brush out the cuffs on men's trousers easily if you take out the stitches holding the cuff and replace them with metal snaps. From then on, unsnap the snaps, brush, then snap the snaps.'

NEW! IMPROVED! 3 WAYS BETTER

Advertisement for Fleischmann's New Improved Active Dry Yeast. It shows a box of yeast and text: '... say prize-winning cooks! FLEISCHMANN'S NEW IMPROVED Active DRY YEAST - EASIER TO USE! - FASTER TO DISSOLVE! - FASTER RISING!'



"Easier to use" says Mrs. W. O. Widdows, Salem, Oregon, winner of over 30 prizes at the State Fair. "There's no time wasted, no special directions to follow. I've never used any yeast that I liked better."

"Faster dissolving" says Miss Marie Dickman, Penrose, Colorado, 1949 State 4-H Champion in Food. "You just can't beat it for speed. All you do is combine it with water, stir well and it's ready to use!"

"Faster rising" says Mrs. Gertrude Quigley, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Kootenai County Fair prize winner. "It's more active than ever. New Improved Fleischmann's cuts down rising time and gives me perfect results."

PRIZE COOKS PREFER FLEISCHMANN'S YEAST

Advertisement for Auto-Lite Sta-Ful Battery. It features a large image of the battery and text: 'AUTO-LITE STA-FUL BATTERY ... needs water only 3 times a year in normal car use. 70% longer average life! Sta-ful Battery Saves Time and Money. The amazing new Auto-Lite Sta-ful Battery has greater liquid reserve than ordinary batteries—needs water only 3 times a year. In addition, "Sta-ful" Batteries have Fibre-glass mats for longer battery life. Money cannot buy a better battery. See your neighborhood Auto-Lite Battery Dealer. Toledo 1 AUTO-LITE BATTERY CORPORATION Ohio. *According to tests conducted in accordance with S.A.E. life cycle standards.'

Advertisement for Sano Cigarettes. It features a pack of Sano cigarettes and text: 'SHOULD A MAN OVER 40 STOP SMOKING? Change to SANO—the Safer Cigarette with 51.6% LESS NICOTINE. Not a Substitute—Not Medicared. Sano's scientific process cuts nicotine content to half that of ordinary cigarettes. Yet skillful blending makes every puff a pleasure. FLEMING-HALL TOBACCO CO., INC., N. Y. *Average based on continuing tests of popular brands. ASK YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT SANO CIGARETTES.'

Illustration of an airplane flying over a landscape. Below the airplane, text reads: 'IRON CURTAIN COUNTRIES. POTATO BUGS . . . Just one ridiculous propaganda theme.'