

**"Daily Worker" Silent About GPU Exposure**

**Communist Party Mum Following Disclosure By Budenz Of How Stalin Murdered Trotsky**

NEW YORK, Mar. 11 — Almost a week has passed since *The Militant* reported Louis F. Budenz's disclosures that leaders of the American Communist Party participated, together with Stalin's secret police agents, in preparing the assassination of Leon Trotsky in Mexico City in August 1940. But the CP and the *Daily Worker* have maintained a total silence on the damning charges.

The Stalinists will not be able to keep silent much longer, however. For Budenz's revelations fully refute the GPU version of the murder of Trotsky printed in the *Daily Worker* in 1940 and repeated in the book, *The Great Conspiracy*, which the Stalinists are currently distributing in great numbers.

The GPU version is that the assassin, "Frank Jackson," was a disillusioned sympathizer of the Trotskyists. But in his book, *This Is My Story*, which will be released by Whittlesey House next week, Budenz admits how, under the instructions of top CP leaders, he cooperated with GPU agents in New York in preparing the way for Jackson to worm his way into Trotsky's home.

**BUDENZ KNEW A LOT**

Budenz, a leader of the CP and managing editor of the *Daily Worker* until 1945 when he quit to join the Catholic Church, was ordered to meet with a GPU agent, "Richards," by Jack Stachel in the presence of a member of the CP Control Commission in 1936. He was told that co-operation with "Richards" took precedence over his other work in the party.

Budenz, who knew a lot about the Trotskyists and had always fought against them, was given the job of collecting all possible information about them for the GPU. For many months he kept at this work, even when "Richards" was replaced by another GPU agent named "Roberts."

He checked on photographs, names and addresses and was consulted in the selection of agents to join the Trotskyist ranks.

**PERFORMED HER JOB**

In 1937 "Roberts" got Budenz to introduce him to Ruby Weil, a Stalinist friend of Budenz, who was then drawn into the plot, although she claimed later she did not know its ultimate aim. Her job was to cultivate Sylvia Ageloff, a Trotskyist, and she did it successfully. The following year they went to Paris together. Here Ruby Weil completed her part of the work by introducing to Sylvia Ageloff a man she asserted was a friend of hers — "Jacques Mornard," who later took the name of "Frank Jackson."

"Jackson" came to be accepted as Ageloff's husband and through her was able to gain access to Trotsky's home in 1940, when he assassinated the great Marxist leader.

The testimony of Budenz is important not only because it confirms the identity of Stalin as Jackson's employer, which was already established in 1940, but also because for the first time it brings to light conclusive evidence that the top American Stalinist leaders were involved in this crime. It is now plain that their efforts to cover up Jackson's tracks are intended to protect themselves as well as Stalin and the GPU.

Silence will not suffice under these conditions. The leaders of the Communist Party must and will be made to answer the charges about their own complicity in this crime.

**Monarchists In Greece Hail Wall Street's Aid**

Washington's decision to take over for British imperialism in Greece has been greeted with jubilation by all the reactionary supporters of the despotic Glucksburg dynasty. The State Department agreement to move into Greece means American financial support for the 16,000 British bayonets supporting the throne.

In addition, this move of Wall Street imperialism means a flood of good hard American dollars for the former Nazi-collaborators put in office by the Allies against the will of the Greek people. The Greek ship-owners are rubbing their hands over the ships built at the expense of the American taxpayers which will be turned over to them as part of the deal. And the Greek generals, certain of increased military supplies from the depots of the American armed forces, are going ahead with plans for new repressive moves against the masses.

**PREDICT COLLAPSE**

The Washington correspondent of the *Christian Science Monitor*, evidently referring to information released by the State Department, declared March 5: "Without aid — and aid soon — sources here were predicting a collapse of the Greek regime before the month is out."

This estimate is confirmed by Secretary of State Marshall's statement that the economic condition of Greece has "deteriorated to the verge of collapse."

Since their defeat under the onslaught of British armed force in the civil war two years ago, the Greek people have been recuperating their forces. They refuse to accept the Allied puppet government. They want to choose their own form of government.

To block this upsurge, the Greek monarch is preparing a new blood-letting. The London

correspondent of the *Monitor* reports a sinister "spring house-cleaning by which the Greek Government plans to utilize its full army resources in an effort to wipe out the guerrillas — at a convenient interval after the United Nations Commission has left Greece." The *Monitor* adds: "This period of showdown will present the maximum peril of the left-wing uprising. By summer the British expect to have a fair idea of how well the Greek Army, using British and it is hoped United States arms, can control the situation in the event of final departure of British troops."

**ARREST LEFTISTS**

What is in store can be judged from the following incident: On March 4, while the American capitalist press was discussing the implications of Washington taking over Britain's "policing" role, the Greek puppet government arrested 571 "leftists." They were charged with "aiding guerrillas in the North."

On the following day 556 of them were shipped to the Island of Nicaria, condemned to a year's sentence in the notorious penal colony. The press did not bother to mention what kind of trial was given them.

The possibility of renewed strife in Greece gives substance to the declaration of Senator Carl A. Hatch that American troops might be required in Greece to maintain the monarchy. As N. Y. *Times* correspondent C. L. Sulzberger points out: "It has been evident for months... that the Greek Army itself is not strong enough to insure stability and maintain order."

**SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS JUDICIAL STRIKEBREAKING**

**Soaring Prices Hit 27-Year Record High**

**Escalator Contracts Offer Best Protection**

Spurting wholesale prices, forecast of the prices you will soon pay at retail stores, hit a 27-year high last week and the end is not yet in sight, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The index of wholesale commodity prices for the week ending March 1 recorded a one-month leap of 4.3% — marking a stratospheric climb of 36% in the past 12 months. These are the government's own conservative admissions.

On March 9, the Associated Press reported a nationwide survey on bread prices showing new hikes of from one to three cents a loaf either already in effect or pending in major cities. Meat prices, despite plentiful supplies, have passed the black market levels during the days of OPA ceilings. Predictions of \$1-a-pound pork chops are being made as hog prices in Chicago pass \$30 a hundredweight — nearly SIX TIMES the price in Jan. 1941. H. M. Conway, market analyst for the National Association of Livestock Producers Assn., warns that beef prices will follow the trend of pork.

When will prices break? Maybe sometime next fall, or winter, or the spring of '48, say government economists. Meanwhile, American workers are taking a terrific slice in their purchasing power, with more cuts to follow.

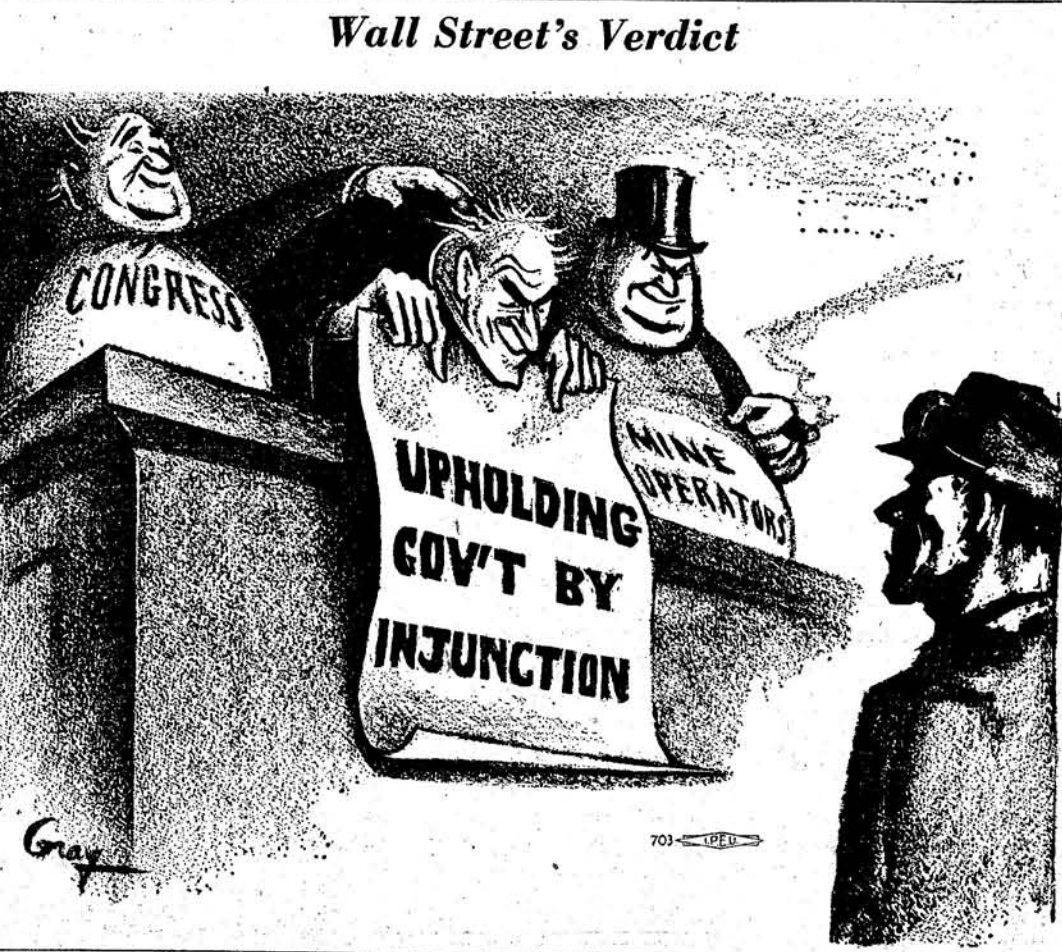
**CAPITALIST HOPE**

The only "hope" put forth by the capitalist spokesmen is the prospect of a "business recession" — when enough workers are fired, then mass purchasing power will decline so drastically that prices will fall.

"Who would have said that the time would come when news of a possible business recession would be welcomed with relief?" Consoling writes the editor of the *Christian Science Monitor* on March 7.

Continued soaring prices give full force to the demand for the sliding scale of wages to meet rising prices, long advocated by *The Militant* and the Socialist Workers Party.

The only way wages can keep abreast of prices is through an escalator clause in all union contracts providing automatic wage increases, above the basic minimum wage rates, in line with rising living costs.



**Millions Of Low-Income Tenants Threatened With 15% Rent Boost**

A general 15% increase in rent ceilings, affecting low-income families numbering 60,000,000 people, was predicted last week by Senator C. Douglas Buck, head of the Rent Subcommittee of the Senate Banking Committee.

This committee has approved a bill for a 10% boost, which "personally I would like to see." But he added that, he thought Congress would "favor" taking the 15% slice from millions of low-income tenants.

While the housing shortage, particularly in the low rental units, becomes more acute every day, Congress threatens to open the door to a gigantic rent steal by the real estate interests, whose profits have doubled in six years.

Nothing can halt this new rent-gouge except direct organized mass action of tenants, workers and veterans, to force Congress to back down from its scheme to let landlords legally pick every tenant's pockets.

A general rent boost is just the preliminary to wrecking of all rent ceilings by complete liquidation of rent controls. The only debate going on in Congress right now is how soon it would be safe to abolish rent control without causing a popular upsurge. The Senate Subcommittee proposes to end all controls by Dec. 31. More cautious elements say June 30, 1948. A powerful bloc is demanding removal of all ceilings by June 30 of this year.

The Senate voted last week to end the OPA Rental Division of the Office of Temporary Controls by June 30. Supplemental appropriations for continuing OPA, according to OTC Director Fleming, are insufficient to continue rent ceiling enforcement after April 30.

Even if some form of rent control is retained for six months or a year after final expiration of OPA, it will be placed in the hands of the courts, whose ties with the propertied interests are well known.

In direct response to the drive of the landlords to abolish rent ceilings, the Administration has already instituted a system of piece-meal rent decontrol by granting landlords rent increases for "hardship." A million such increases had already been granted up to last Jan. 1. Since Feb. 15, the rate of approval of such "hardship" increases has mounted rapidly under the new "liberalized" regulations. It

**Mine Rulings Give Courts Deadly New Anti-Strike Weapon**

**By Art Preis**

Wall Street's Supreme Court has put its seal of approval on government strikebreaking by injunction. It has thereby dealt the American labor movement the deadliest judicial blow in decades.

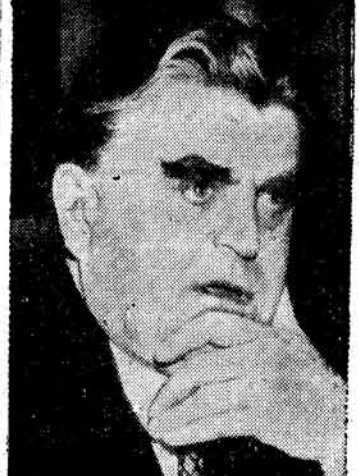
By a five-to-four decision, the U.S. Supreme Court on March 6 upheld the federal district court injunction prohibiting the AFL Mine Workers strike last November. The Supreme Court contended that the government is not bound by the provisions of the Norris-LaGuardia Anti-Injunction Act, which was passed in 1932 specifically to prevent strikebreaking by injunction.

The Court ruled, in effect, that when the government assumes the role of employer, whether actual or merely ostensible, workers on strike no longer have legal protection against judicial bluebooking.

The Big Business government has only to claim the role of employer during a strike against a private employer — as it did in the mine case — and it is free to break the strike by injunction.

The Supreme Court also ruled, by a seven-to-two majority, that the miners union was guilty of "contempt" when it failed to abide by Federal District Judge Goldsborough's injunction to call off the strike.

It imposed the vindictive fine of \$700,000 on the miners, plus \$10,000 on their president John L. Lewis. The union fine will be raised to \$3,500,000, the sum originally levied by Judge Golds-



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borough, if the union fails, within a time to be stipulated by the Court, to withdraw the cancellation of its contract with the government.

In its ruling on the contempt proceedings, the Court held that "the District Court had the power to preserve existing conditions while it was determining its own authority to grant injunctive relief. The defendants, in making their private determination of the law, acted at their peril."

This establishes the principle that regardless of the legality of an anti-strike injunction the union must obey it until and unless the injunction is withdrawn or a higher judicial body rules it illegal. Violation of a judge's (Continued on Page 2)

**Lewis Support Of Court Helped Disarm Miners**

It is reported that many coal miners reacted to the U.S. Supreme Court's vindictive decision against their union with "shock" and "surprise." They clearly did not expect such an anti-labor blow. They believed the Supreme Court is a truly impartial body that would give them justice.

This belief had been nurtured by the man they trusted most, John L. Lewis. He had called interpret it to the best advantage of the capitalist class.

No other agency of the capitalist government is held in such awe. Workers who denounce Congress and the President as tools of Big Business, often hesitate to question the class nature of the Supreme Court.

The capitalists have deliberately given the Supreme Court the character of a "sacred" institution. They have surrounded it with an aura and tradition of indisputable wisdom and impartiality. This is what has given the Court its great influence and authority.

**STANDS REVEALED**

Removed from this concealing sheath, the Supreme Court stands revealed for what it is — American capitalism's sharpest judicial sword, a deadly weapon which Wall Street has swung at the miners and the working class.

Lewis's statement covering up the capitalist class character of the Supreme Court did the miners a great disservice. It helped to disarm and disorient them. Instead of relying on their own organized strength and the aid of the rest of the labor movement, they were led to put their faith in the "justice" of Wall Street's "protector of American liberties." They were cruelly deceived.

The attack on the miners was spearheaded by Truman, supported by Congress and carried through by the courts — especially the Supreme Court. This assault demonstrated once again and most openly the WHOLE government is an instrument of the capitalist class. That is the greatest lesson taught by the miners' struggle.

**HOW TO ANSWER COURT'S RULING**  
An Editorial

The Supreme Court's decision against the miners gives American labor another ominous warning of the determined, ruthless and all-out character of Wall Street's assault against unionism.

This blow is the latest and one of the most damaging in the capitalist government's offensive against the working class. It is an extension and intensification of the Big Business anti-labor drive.

The vindictiveness and class bias openly displayed by the Supreme Court confirms once again that every government agency — executive, legislative and judicial — is allied in a conspiracy to cripple organized labor and to strengthen the power of the American plutocracy.

Wall Street's Supreme Court dares to reveal its class nature so brazenly only because the labor movement appears so weak and ineffectual against the anti-labor drive. The profiteering monopolists, through their Congress and Court, exhibit an open contempt for the verbal pleas of the union leaders.

The capitalists are guided only by their class interests, their profits. They are not moved by appeal to reason or the people's needs. They fight with cold calculation, using every weapon. They rely, in the last resort, only on naked power.

Because they know the meaning of power, they retreat only before greater organized power, wielded just as ruthlessly and determinedly as their own.

Some in labor's ranks claim that the Supreme Court's decision has "set labor back decades." That is false to the core. The decisive factor is labor's organized strength — not legal rulings.

American labor still stands at the peak of its organized strength, 15 million strong. Its ranks are composed of tested, seasoned, loyal fighters. Without these organized workers, not a wheel could turn.

All that is needed to stem the anti-labor drive is for these 15 million workers to be mobilized in a united, militant counter-offensive. That can be done and must be done.

Such a counter-offensive can be launched by a National United Conference of Labor composed of representatives of all union locals, regardless of affiliation.

This conference could map out an effective program of mass pressure on Congress. It could organize nationwide demonstrations, mass delegations, mass meetings and publicity, a labor march on Washington.

It could begin the building of labor's own independent party so that the workers would have their own political weapon. Then labor, representing the majority of the people, could fight for political power, so that ITS Congressmen would write the laws, ITS courts would enforce them.

The job to be done by the local unions is to develop united mass action around an effective program in every community. These local actions must be the spur for similar united action on a national scale through a National United Conference of Labor. Flood the top union leaders with resolutions. Demand militant joint action of all unions NOW!









