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Monday, June 11, 1951

What Imperialists Fight For

Washington's biggest lie is its claim that this country is warring in Korea and preparing to fight everywhere else in order to halt "aggression" and "totalitarianism." There is but one reason for U. S. intervention in Korea and preparations for still greater war: To defend the capitalist private profit system.

industry which British capitalists had managed to grab. This was not a matter of "communist aggression." It was simply an act by a sovereign government to retain possession of the valuable resources of its own country. But Washington has intervened with threats and pressure to halt the nationalization.

Their Lies About Formosa

The American people are being told by both the MacArthurites and the administration that Formosa is absolutely vital for "U. S. defense," that to safeguard peace it is necessary to safeguard Formosa, that under no circumstances can Formosa be "given up," etc. Not so long ago, for almost two years—from October 1948 to June 1950—the American people and the whole world were told just the reverse.

Intervention was ruled out on several counts, among them because this would: "B. Involve the U. S. in long-term venture producing at best a new area of bustling stalemate, and at worst possible involvement in open warfare;

Book Review

Two Views on Titoism

By Milton Matthews
Balkan Caesar, By Leigh White, Scribners, 1951, 240 pages, \$2.75
Tito and Goliath, By Hamilton Fish Armstrong, MacMillan, 1951, 312 pages, \$3.50

First there is the position that would overlook at this time the fact that Yugoslavia remains dedicated to a socialist future and has withdrawn its land area from imperialist exploitation. This school of imperialists would deal with the Yugoslavs, hoping to use the strength and solidarity of the people as an expendable pawn in their coming war with the Soviet Union.

The Case that Set Precedent

Stalinists Help Tighten Noose On Own Necks

The Stalinists themselves share blame for the heavy blow struck at the rights of the American people by the Supreme Court decision in the case of the 11 Communist Party leaders convicted under the Smith "Gag" Act.

OKs Smith Act



U. S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Vinson who wrote the majority opinion which up-held the Smith "Gag" Act and legalizes thought-control in the United States.

FIRST USE OF SMITH ACT AGAINST LABOR WAS IN MINNEAPOLIS TRIAL

The first convictions under the Smith "Gag" Law of 1940, under which the 11 Stalinist leaders have been railroaded, were those of the 18 leaders of the Socialist Workers Party in Dec. 1941.

Although the 18 were indicted under two laws, first, under the Alien and Sedition Act of 1861, which makes it a crime actually to conspire to forcibly overthrow the government, and second, under the Smith "Gag" Act, which outlaws the mere "advocacy" of socialist ideas.

upon which our democracy stands. . . I would like to add my strong protest against the refusal of the Supreme Court of the United States to hear a case where the elements of freedom of speech are involved.

They aggressively opposed and tried actively to sabotage the campaign of the Civil Rights Defense Committee that won the support of unions representing five million members to the defense of the 18 Trotskyists imprisoned in 1944 under the Smith Act.

section of the Smith Act used to convict the Trotskyists, the Worker published a lengthy "letter" to liberals trying to show that the two cases are "not parallel" and to "equate" them would "damage" the case of the 11 Stalinists.

The Civil Rights Defense Committee, organized to defend the 18, appealed the conviction to the Supreme Court three times; and each time the court refused to review the constitutionality of the Smith Act.

The Negro Struggle

NAACP Parley And the Issue Of Political Action

By J. Blake

A major problem for consideration of the delegates to the 42nd convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, when they meet in Atlanta the last week of this month, is what to do next in the struggle for fair employment practices legislation.

Even as the noose of this infamous witch-hunt law was closing around their own throats in the Foley Square prosecution of 1949, the Stalinists continued to oppose civil rights for Trotskyists and all other working-class opponents of Stalinism.

This outraged labor and liberal sentiment and provided a pretext for many to refuse to support the Stalinist case of the 11. Thus, the Stalinists helped pave the way for their own convictions at Foley Square and undermined genuine united front struggle against the Smith Act.

The government also indicted leaders of Minneapolis Teamsters Local 544-CIO, who had broken with the AFL Teamsters in order to establish a democratic union free of the domination of Dictator Daniel Tobin, head of the AFL Teamsters.

Although the defense of civil rights for all labor is involved in their case, the Stalinists' position on civil rights for their political opponents in the labor movement helped to alienate many labor and liberal leaders and organizations from their defense.

SWP Flays Supreme Court Ruling, Asks Repeal of Smith 'Gag' Act

NEW YORK, June 4.—James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, one of the first working class leaders imprisoned under the Smith "Gag" Act in 1941, today issued the following statement:

A RARE ARTICLE BY LEON TROTSKY IN LATEST ISSUE OF THE "F. I."

By Joseph Hansen
When the editors of Fourth International make up an issue of the magazine, they put the most timely stuff in the front; then work back toward the "Arsenal of Marxism" where they print rare and precious material from the vast archives of socialist thought.

forces of the class struggle. A new article by Trotsky in this field is a rare treat. So I started reading "Tolstoy, Poet and Rebel" which is the piece published this month in the back of Fourth International in the "Arsenal of Marxism."

best way of life in these troubled times, then let me recommend this article most highly. Next I turned to a short page and a half by George Breitman on "Yugoslavia and the Shahtmanites." The length I suppose is a tribute to the importance of this political current.

There's just one thing that makes capitalist politicians sit up and take notice — a strong political force. The only partial gains made for Negro political representation this year were in a number of localities where a concentrated Negro population threw its weight behind Negro candidates.

