

# THE INFAMOUS YEARS

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by Andy White

ED. NOTE: In an article which appeared in this newspaper during the fall, the author expressed the view that the widely-touted and, at the time much-credited 'Sino-Soviet Split' was more apparent than real, that its greatest dangers were not to the Soviet Union and its giant stepchild, but to the West which could easily be lulled into relaxing its guard as a result of that overly optimistic interpretation of events which seems to be an occupational hazard to Western statesmen, and that events, where the Communist movements are concerned are very seldom as they seem on the surface. We should now like to present another article concerning the behavior of International Communism since it first usurped power in Russia, and let the reader judge whose point is more realistic, and more congruent with fact.

During the past year and a little, immediately following the Cuban crisis, the world has been treated to yet another apparent detente between the Western Powers, and their sworn enemies ("We will bury you") of the Communist Bloc. This sort of thing is hardly new to the student of contemporary history, nor is it even particularly inexplicable. The only part of this re-occurring event which is at all difficult to understand is the way that each successive "easing of tensions" is eagerly seized upon by statesman and layman alike, and accepted all too readily at face value. As soon as the immediate reason for the smiles and vague expressions of friendship is a matter of history, and the familiar scowl returns to the face of the Red Colossus, there is the usual flurry of moans, groans and recriminations, only to dissolve and resolve itself into a new but into the infinitely more dangerous characteristic of gullibility the next time some exigency arises wherein the forces of world Communism require aid from some outside source. Since the West obviously has the most to offer, all the way from chalk to cheese, it is obviously these countries to which the Reds usually turn.

### LENIN THE PHILOSOPHER

And, once again, there is nothing in strict Marxism-Leninism that forbids this. Was it not Lenin himself, who said; "If you are not willing to crawl on your belly in the mud from time to time you are no true revolutionary (Communist!) but merely a windbag." This aid from the West has taken forms, from advice about matters financial in the early '20's to diplomatic recognition of the Soviet regime in the '30's to outright aid in the '40's when the "Paradise Proletariat" was in very straightened circumstances indeed. The latest requirement was actually three-fold; the necessity of sugaring the Cuban pill, the need to quiet American public opinion following the Soviet demarche over the blockade, and, last but hardly least, the necessity of convincing certain governments in the West with more agricultural products than brains that the Communist block was, after all, as good a trading partner as any one. Needless to say, each of these periodic "easing of tensions" was accompanied by panegyrics of praise for the ideals of brotherhood and "co-existence" from the Comrades in the Kremlin, fervently echoed by "liberal" (the quotations and the small 'l' ex-

clude, per se, the statement that the Canadian Liberal Party or any of its members necessarily have been involved in any of this." thinkers, writers and others of an even more dubious political hue in the West. In every case, they have been followed by a return to the same old tactics and techniques intended to secure the domination of the world by Communism, always assuming, of course, that the cause of the detente, be it threatening financial chaos on one hand, an assault by what was at the time, undoubtedly, the finest army in the world, or an agricultural crisis brought on by the well-nigh unbelievable inefficiency which is concomitant with Communism in almost all its forms, and endeavors, has been resolved.

### SOVIETS INDICTED

The above statements are indeed sweeping, amounting as they do to an outright indictment of the Soviet Union and the system which it serves, and many of the more credulous will demand concrete evidence that this sort of thing is not just one more outpouring of what has been described as "The Lunatic Fringe", and this request deserves a positive answer.

Perhaps it would be as well to start with one of the earlier acts of the Soviet Union, carried out while that country was still involved in the throes of an exceptionally bloody civil war. At this time, hard pressed from all sides, Lenin, no doubt feeling that such a gesture would impress politically naive groups in the U.S. which at that time exercised great influence indeed in that country, granted full independence to the Republic of Georgia. Like most of the promises of this sort that Lenin made, he had little intention at the time of honoring it, but would have guaranteed the moon had anyone asked him for it. Less than a year later in Feb. 1921, at the close of the civil war, Communist Russian armies restored Georgia to her former position as a Muscovite satrapy. Needless to say, many of the Georgian leaders suddenly and mysteriously died of "old age" (brought on by a dose of lead poisoning) and other causes.

### BALTIC STATES NEXT

In 1928 the Soviet Union signed a treaty of non-aggression with Lithuania. Later, in 1939, the Soviet signed a pact in which the Russians solemnly declared that they would respect the sovereign rights of Lithuania. On June 15, 1940, the Red Army scored yet another glorious victory as they rolled across the frontier of this tiny country, and, except for a short interval during the German campaign in Russia, this act of international piracy remains until this day.

Similar treaties were signed with Estonia and Latvia in 1932 and 1939. Needless to say what followed was identical with the above. On December 12, 1943, the Soviet Union signed yet another treaty with the Czechoslovakian government in exile, pledging respect for sovereignty, friendly collaboration, and non-intervention in internal affairs. In February, 1949, Russian-directed Communist seized power, while Soviet forces massed on the frontier to make sure there were no slips between the Czechoslovakian cup and the Russian lip.

### THE HUNGARIAN AFFAIR

In October 1956 the Soviet Government announced that it would

withdraw all forces from Hungary, in order to prevent further incidents. Less than a week later, the Red Army launched a well-documented, typically brutal attack on Budapest, with results that are well-known but nowadays very poorly publicized. The list of pledges and deliberate contemptuous breaches of same goes on and on. Truly can it be said that Soviet promises, like those of many women, are written on water and in the wind.

Had these occupations been carried out with a modicum of restraint, and had the regimes thus established behaved with even the most basic standards of accepted human decency, this would have been bad enough. Had the acts of cruelty and political repression been carried on with at least some selection, this would have been hateful and repugnant to minds of all decent people. But even these small mercies were not vouchsafed to the unfortunate inhabitants of the countries in question. Instead, an arm and barbarized horde was turned loose to murder, to loot and to rape. Behind them, somewhat more selectively, labored the "goon squads" of the NKVD (Soviet Secret Police).

### BEHAVIOR OF RED ARMY PREDICTABLE

As far as the behavior of the Red Army is concerned, this, too, should come as no surprise to the student of history, or more particularly, military history. Russian Armies, of no matter whose command have always tended toward this sort of thing. One of the facets of the Russian character, at once the hardest to understand, at once the least lovable, is its well-recognized ability to transform itself suddenly from an easy going hospitality to an almost inhuman barbarism which is almost completely uncontrollable, for the simple reason that many of those responsible for maintaining order and discipline are swept along with the wave.

In the final analysis, then, the question seems to boil down to a very straightforward moral argument. Is it right to turn the other eye to such a regime in such a country? Has the West not the right, nay the duty to write "paid" on the account of this bloody hand?

But it is not only in these countries that the Soviets have played their deadly game. All of central Europe lies beneath the control of the Men of Moscow. Khrushchev rules an Empire today that was beyond the wildest dreams of a Peter the Great, stretching as it does from the Elbe to the Pacific. Of course, there are troubles and weaknesses. In Central Germany, for instance, the presence of a large number of Russian military units is a constant necessity. In fact, it could probably be said that the greatest single contingent of the Red Army is so employed. Germans and Slavs of no matter what national group or religious persuasion have never lived happily together for any length of time, particularly when the political power in one of these uneasy unions is held by the Slavs. The Reds look with apprehension toward the Federal Republic, always fearing that perhaps someday . . . .

As long as over 15,000,000 Germans are forced to live under Soviet rule or that of one of the satellite regimes, there will never be any true security in Central Europe. Actually after all

the pious platitudes about national self-determination of people, if the German government, at some future date, should consider the taking of matters into their own hands, who could blame them?

### CHICOMS BLOODY RECORD

In the East, too, the march of Communism has taken its toll. The Communist Chinese described by one naive soul back in the days just preceding the completion of their take-over of mainland China as simple "Agerian Reformers" with a "vaguely pink tinge, capped the copstone of their revolution with a few "liquidations". Only 16,000,000 to 20,000,000 people were murdered, truly a mere nothing, and certainly no consideration to be permitted to impede the establishment of the "Worker's Paradise"! The fact that a large percentage of the slain were just that was not considered to be worth a second thought.

Yet in the West what do we find? We find large numbers of simple souls whole-heartedly supporting what they refer to as a "sane" policy toward the sys-

tem, and in most cases, the very perpetrators of these beastly atrocities. We in Canada find the lure of money to be a sufficiently strong motivation for turning a blind eye to the above, and bailing the Red regimes out of yet another potentially disastrous predicament.

### LENIN, THE HYPOCRITE

Truly Lenin knew whereof he spoke when he said "When the time comes for us to hang the Capitalists, they will try to outbid one another to sell us the hemp." It is just such shortsightedness which saved the Soviet Union in her hour of greatest need during the Second World War, and which will, if great care is not exercised, and a trend of long standing in these countries, lead to the final undoing of the West in what amounts to the Third. Hot or cold, war is war; and the allure of the West to resolve this situation in its favor can only lead to incalculable results, among which must stand the inception a period of the most diabolical tyranny ever to pollute the face of the earth.

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