

SOVIET
"ANTI-SEMITISM"

The Big Lie!

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Soviet "Anti-Semitism"—THE BIG LIE!

Drums are beating and women are wailing. The primitive tribe of the Bhars is in trouble. An epidemic of cholera has broken out. Man after man is stricken with the dread disease. Sanitation and medical science are totally lacking. The only cause for pestilence known to the Bhars is the anger of evil demons, and something must be done to get rid of them.

The priests swing into action. They parade the streets, chanting prayers in weird minor tunes. . . . Then the priests cast lots with small white sticks and choose a young water buffalo. They daub it with red paint. The buffalo is driven through the village. The people rush out of their houses carrying lighted torches and making a tremendous din, screaming, beating pans and drums, to frighten the cholera demons into the body of the unfortunate victim. Finally, the terrified animal is pelted with sticks and stones, driven into the jungle, and never allowed to return. The village plunges into an orgy of rejoicing, convinced that the plague has been carried bodily away.

KENNETH GOULD

WHEN WE READ stories like this, we usually smile and think how naive and uncivilized primitive tribal life was. We "civilized" people wouldn't fall for stuff like that.

Wouldn't we? Don't we?

The story that follows in these pages will serve to wipe out any notions of our modern superiority. It is the story of one of the dirties hoaxes ever perpetrated.

The incantations of ancient sorcerers had a purpose—to drive out evil spirits. The job of the modern votaries of Wall Street's Imperialism is to destroy reason and sanity, to divide people from one another and to create hobgoblins to divert their attention from the real enemy.

This is the story of the latest and foulest of the big lies to be spewed forth by the hate and venom distorted

minds. It is the story of the malicious campaign to poison men's minds with the absurd notion that the Soviet Union, which outlawed anti-Semitism and race hatred on the very day it took power, has now embarked on an official anti-Semitic campaign.

The main purpose of this vicious campaign is to prepare men's minds to accept the "cold war" and to add to the confusion, fear and distrust necessary to fan the flames of a talking war into the actual shooting war that Wall Street wants. To gain these ends, the Jewish masses, above all, must be lured away from the respect and sympathy they have come to feel for the Soviet Union because of its consistent struggle against racism and anti-Semitism over the years and, more recently, because of its magnificent role in the fight for the creation and maintenance of a free and independent Israel.

This is not a new campaign. It has been used every time the world situation became critical, every time relations between the major powers became strained. That the large portion of the American press jumped whole heartedly into the mess, distorting facts, lying about sources, reprinting fabrications in spite of and after being forced to print repudiations of their own stories, is not new, either. More shocking, however, is the fact that a number of Jewish organizations, consciously aiding the press and even originating their own slanders, is also not new.

This Is the Lie

Let's take this big lie apart and see of what it is made.

It turned up first in *Newsweek* on April 4. "A widespread official and anti-Semitic campaign clearly emerged for the first time last week as one of the chief reasons for the current Soviet 'cultural' offensive against Western 'decadence' and 'cosmopolitanism'. . . . A campaign to eliminate Jewish intellectuals from cultural life is now under way in the Soviet Union."

Newsweek went on to prove its contention by showing

that a number of Jewish intellectuals had been attacked in the campaign against cosmopolitanism, adding, "Where the Jewish origin of the accused is obscured by an adopted Russian name, the original Jewish name is quoted by the Soviet press in parenthesis. This is unprecedented in a country where anti-Semitism is a criminal offense."

Newsweek had a field day, citing names outside and inside parentheses and the criticisms made of those named. Nor did the writer forget to take into account the incredibility of the charge of anti-Semitism being leveled at the Soviet Union. Undaunted by the obvious contradiction with the first paragraph of his story, he added, "Western observers in Moscow hesitate to assume that the present campaign is deliberately designed to arouse this latent anti-Semitism. But they feel it may be intended as a stern warning that only by strict adherence to the precepts of the Soviet state can the Jew hope to survive."

So, from "a widespread official anti-Semitic campaign" in the beginning of the article, the matter became "a stern warning" at the end.

The Pack Starts

The first to climb on the bandwagon was the *New York Post*, that great, liberal newspaper, from which editor T. O. Thackrey was forced to resign recently because he dared disapprove of America's foreign policy. On April 6th, George Fielding Eliot wept bitterly over the "deadly peril" of the Jews in Eastern Europe. "Once more," mourned Eliot, "the handwriting appears on the wall — the ancient, terrible wall, stained with Jewish blood through the centuries." On May 3rd, the *Post* got permission to reprint the *Newsweek* article in full.

The *New York Times* joined the pack next. A certain Harry Schwartz broke out with stories that anti-Semitism was appearing in the Soviet Union and that the anti-Zionist stand of the Soviet Union was one aspect of this



Here is reproduced the Krokodil cartoon as it appeared in Newsweek. Observe that the "Andre" has been blocked out, and only the "Zhid" is visible.



This reproduction is from the original as it appeared in the March 20 issue of Krokodil. The arrow clearly shows the name "Andre Zhid," which is the Russian transliteration for Andre Gide, French writer.

anti-Semitic campaign. On April 20th, Schwartz wrote, "Meanwhile observers of the Soviet press have noted that the cartoon campaign against 'cosmopolitanism' in *Krokodil*, the lavishly illustrated Soviet humor publication, has been marked by the use of hooked noses on the figures used to represent 'cosmopolitanism.' One cartoon on the front page of *Krokodil* juxtaposes the name Lippman — which is usually Jewish in the Soviet Union — with the word 'Zhid,' a derisive Russian term for Jews used by Russian-speaking anti-Semites."

Who fired the opening gun on this campaign of slander? On April 1st, 1949, the Library of Jewish Information of the American Jewish Committee issued a document called "Jews Behind the Iron Curtain." This document produced by the organization of America's wealthiest Jews was supposed to be the final word and up-to-the-minute proof that anti-Semitism is now an official weapon of the Soviet Union and the new democracies. From the way in which the material in this document has been used, it is evident that if the American Jewish Committee did not actually help initiate this disgusting and dangerous campaign, it has certainly done all it can to keep it going. Frederick Woltman, starting a scurrilous series in the *World-Telegram* on May 16th, wrote, "This incredible development in a nation where discrimination is supposed to be a state crime — was established in a survey by the *World-Telegram*, based chiefly on Jewish sources. One of them, the American Jewish Committee, terms the campaign against Soviet Jews both 'violent' and 'official.' " Throughout his series, Woltman refers constantly to statements made by the American Jewish Committee, either in the document above or in the *Committee Reporter*.

Case of the "Herald Tribune"

Evidence that another Jewish organization is involved in this psychopathic slander campaign came to light in a

