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Since F.D.R.† Some not so Ancient History

By FRANK A. CAPPEL

The revolution now in progress in America has reached a stage where even the most uninformed and apathetic citizen has begun to realize that something is seriously wrong. Bombing and other acts of sabotage, the murder of our police officers and undermining of law enforcement and the Armed Forces, the kidnapping and assassination of public officials—all have combined to make the man in the street wonder how it all began. And, more important, why it wasn't stopped before it reached such dangerous proportions.

Informed conservatives know the answers to those questions. Many other Americans, though equally concerned about what is happening to their country, do not. It is for the latter that we attempt this cursory survey. We propose it not as a study of contemporary history, but as an invitation to study; not as a call to action, but as background for those who, having determined the facts for themselves, still have the courage to fight for American liberty.

Although the International Communist Conspiracy had been operating in our country for many years, the overt political phase of this struggle began in 1933, when the U.S. Government recognized as legitimate the small gang of criminals which had seized control of Russia and announced themselves its rulers. The United States thus entered into diplomatic relations with an illegal régime which had already murdered millions of Russia's native population, and which had openly set as its goal the conquest of the world in the name of the International Communist Conspiracy.

Before the election of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, anarchists, Communists, and other revolutionaries were dealt with by the local police under state laws. They were prosecuted to the full extent of the law and often deported. But, with the arrival of the New Deal, Communists were permitted to move into key positions in the U.S. Government and began to help shape our national policies and programs. They had been given a new "respectability."

The Communist Party began to recruit large numbers of adherents, being especially successful in the colleges and universities. From the colleges came a small army of talented young Marxists, urged by their radical professors to move into government, the communications media, and other areas where they could be of service to the planners of the new world. Simultaneously, hundreds of Communist Fronts were established to further Bolshevik programs and influence national policy.

So sophisticated were the Communists even at this stage that secret Soviet agents Lauchlin Currie and David K. Niles were placed as top advisors to the President himself. Running

the Treasury Department were Communists Harry Dexter White and Virginius Frank Coe. In the State Department were Alger Hiss, his brother Donald, and many others later identified as Communists. The *New York Daily News* reported from Washington on August 3, 1948, that Louis Budenz, a top Communist who broke with the Party in 1945, "told a Senate investigatory committee today that he estimated that *thousands* of Reds have infiltrated the Federal Government and that 'there have been several hundred in relatively important places.'" Budenz, a former confidant of Communist General Secretary Earl Browder and Managing Editor of the *Daily World* until 1944, was certainly in a position to know. He had regularly attended the secret meetings of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party, U.S.A.

The questions arise as to why President Roosevelt permitted such infiltration; why he allowed the placement of Communists in key government posts including the White House itself. No one, to our knowledge, has accused Franklin Roosevelt of being a Communist. Be assured that we do not intend to do so. But the activities and associations of F.D.R.'s wife, Eleanor, have long produced informed speculation about whether *she* was, indeed, a Communist. Certainly Mrs. Roosevelt was a close friend and associate of Communist Party boss Earl Browder long before her husband became President. And she amassed a record of affiliation with so many officially cited Communist Fronts that it is impossible to believe that she was not fully aware of what she was doing.*

(continued on page 3)

*Among Mrs. Roosevelt's six-score formal affiliations with cited Communist Fronts and subversive organizations one finds her as a sponsor for the American Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born (*Daily Worker*, 10/21/41), cited as "Communist and subversive"; a donor to the China Aid Council (*Daily Worker*, 3/21/38), cited as "Communist and subversive"; honorary chairman of the Yugoslav Relief (*Daily Worker*, 12/21/45), cited as "Communist and subversive"; a member of the National Council for the American Youth Congress (*New York Herald Tribune*, 1/26/36), cited as "Communist and subversive"; a chief patron of the Communist World Youth Conference (at Vassar, 8/16/38); supporter of the Communists' American Committee for Spanish Freedom (*Daily Worker*, 11/23/45); speaker for the Communist Front National Negro Congress (*Daily Worker*, 2/12/38); sender of "warm personal greetings" to the Soviet women on International Women's Day, on behalf of the Communist Front National Council of American-Soviet Friendship (*Daily Worker*, 4/4/46); speaker for the Communist Front Workers Alliance (*New York Sun*, 6/7/39); and, on and on. A full listing, in ten-point type, runs to eighteen pages.

†From *American Opinion*, March, 1971.

The Social Crediter

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THE SOCIAL CREDIT SECRETARIAT

Personnel—Chairman: Dr. B. W. Monahan, 4 Torres Street, Red Hill, Canberra, Australia 2603. Deputy Chairman: British Isles: Dr. Basil L. Steele, Penrhyn Lodge, Gloucester Gate, London, N.W.1. Telephone: 01-387 3893. Liaison Officer for Canada: Monsieur Louis Even, Maison Saint-Michel, Rougement, P.Q. General Deputy Chairman and Secretary: H. A. Scouler, Box 3266, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W. 2001.

From Week to Week

Anyone who has given proper study to Douglas's article *The Great Betrayal* and who cannot see that the attempt to 'take' Britain into the Common Market is the virtual culmination of the conspiracy outlined by Douglas, probably by now deserves the fate which, it now appears, must inevitably befall him in common with those of us who for several decades have been ringing the warning bells. During the Wilson Administration, there did appear a reasonable prospect that the patriotic and truly conservative remnants of national Great Britain would heed the alarm, highlighted by the destruction of the Home Defence Forces. But by tacitly approving the Socialist Government's policies, while condemning merely their maladministration, the Conservative Party has ensured its own demise. By taking over the administration of Socialism's policies, every member of the present British Government must be considered, in Douglas's words, as either the dupe of a national enemy (many of whom, of course, reside within the country); or otherwise as a traitor, who should be dealt with according to his merits. But who is left, and with what means, to deal with traitors?

It is quite likely that some members of the Government, not being traitors, are becoming aware of having been duped; they simply find that the election promises in which they believed *cannot* be fulfilled in the existing circumstances; but one of the hardest admissions to make is of having been duped. Nevertheless, such an admission, made with the maximum publicity available, coupled with a denunciation of such traitors as are identifiable, would appear to offer the last remaining hope.

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By C. H. DOUGLAS

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Hungry Sheep

I noted recently an Anglican complaint that despite all the well advertised sincerity of Bishops Huddleston, Robinson, Sheppard, Montefiore, the Rev. P. Oestreicher and all, the hungry sheep were not being fed. A still stronger complaint appeared in *Human Events* (Washington, D.C.), Nov. 7, 1970, when Dr. Max Rafferty wrote that "after more than half a century I have lost my church". A narrow majority of the "Episcopalian Establishment" voted several hundred thousand dollars to "certain activist groups", and Dr. Rafferty objected to having his Sunday contribution used to "underwrite insurrection". He needed his church, he said, 'to commune with my God . . . and how can I find Him any longer in a church which has become a mere transmission belt for the things which are Caesar's?'

I have seen a letter that a lady wrote to a colleague saying that she never went to church these days owing to the type of preaching often delivered, but that if she lived nearer him, he would see her now and then in his congregation. And the Roman Catholics experience the same evil. Mrs. Prendergast wrote (*Sunday Times*, Dec. 6, 1970) to defend Cardinal Ottaviani, "sick and blind and surrounded by 'progressives' he almost alone represents the traditionalist voice". Most bishops, she continues, have "jumped on the bandwagon regardless of the needs of their flocks".

However, (*The Times*, Oct. 28, 1970) a new Roman Catholic lay organisation, Pro Fide has been launched "supporting the traditional doctrines of the Church", with Patrick Wall M.P. as chairman. And (*The Times*, Dec. 31, 1970) the Roman Catholic bishops of England and Wales have issued a statement which sets "moral guidelines" on such questions as Abortion ("categorically condemned"), Youth, etc., which one trusts may have reassured Mrs. Prendergast. She said that they had "deprived us (and our children) of all that made the Catholic faith not only beautiful and spiritually and psychologically satisfying—but simply convincing".

In Anglican circles, the Archbishop of Canterbury has said, (*Church Times*, Jan. 8, 1971) "the World Council of Churches has, in my view, been very ill-advised in recent policies . . . and things like the grants to the freedom fighter organisations may cause the W.C.C. to lose authority". The same issue reports that the Bishop of Blackburn had marched to his cathedral beside the Chief Constable of Lancashire together with eight thousand men from the diocese as an act of witness to the Christian belief in God and in the dignity of man, together with Christian standards which are "both being challenged and flouted". The time had come, he said, "to fight manfully against all that is evil".

And significantly enough, Nigel Lawson (*Sunday Times*, Jan. 10, 1971) attacked the band wagon itself, when he ascribed the "fashionable obsession with 'race'" to the New Left which looks to "the black proletariat as the agent of world revolution", while the Old Left wishes "to deflect criticism of Soviet-style communism". He further believes that it does matter that intellectual fashion has exaggerated beyond belief the importance of 'racialism'; for the greatest problem is "the growing tendency to justify any evil if used ostensibly in a good cause . . . nothing is more dangerous than letting obsession with a specific evil override our resistance to evil itself". Accepting "at its absurdly exaggerated face value the fashionable preoccupation" with the white racialism problem does just that.

Since F.D.R. (continued from page 1)

Mrs. Roosevelt regularly expressed her approval of Comrade Stalin and Communists. Typical is her column in the *New York Telegram* for June 22, 1945:

I want to make it absolutely clear that my whole desire in writing this column on the American Communists was to show how it is possible to work with the USSR and the people of that great country, and why we need have no fear of them. Those of us who take the trouble to understand it know what Communism in Russia is. We also know that any leader, no matter how powerful, has to listen to the people with whom he works. While for obvious reasons [sic] the people of Russia are still largely dictated to by their leaders, they have objectives and opportunities for growth in freedom, just as we had when we wrote our Constitution.

It was at Eleanor's personal urging that Harry Hopkins was brought into the Administration, rising to be top Special Assistant to the President. Next to Franklin D. Roosevelt, himself, Hopkins became the most powerful figure in the Administration, and one of the most devoted to Communist interests. A registered Socialist, he was named head of W.P.A. and appointed notorious Communists to run its projects. Named to direct Lend-Lease to Russia, he continued to send millions of dollars in military equipment to the U.S.S.R. even after the War, and personally authorized delivery to the Soviets of tons of materials for manufacture of atomic bombs. Documentary proof of the latter appears in George Racey Jordan's *From Major Jordan's Diaries* (Harcourt, Brace, New York, 1952). With the atomic materials went a note reading: "Had a hell of a time getting these away from [General Leslie] Groves." The order for shipment was given personally to Jordan by Harry Hopkins.

Eleanor promoted the careers of a number of her male friends. Her personal friendship and support of Earl Browder, and her influence on her husband, actually led to Browder—General Secretary of the Communist Party of the United States—being provided with an office in the White House from which he kept track of what the government was doing and helped to guide its course.

This wasn't a secret. John J. O'Connor, former Chairman of the House Rules Committee, is quoted in a 1949 Report of the Senate Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization as observing: "During the years 1933-39, when I often visited the White House, as a Member of Congress, and later as Chairman of the Rules Committee, I saw Browder there on several occasions. In fact, during the President's 'purge' of 1938, Browder directed purge operations from the White House, from which he telephoned instructions, from time to time." Chairman O'Connor noted that this Communist Party candidate for President in both 1936 and 1940 was so important to the Roosevelts that "he could enter the White House, at anytime, and through any door and without any invitation."

Browder had been a Communist since his youth, was for years a Communist Party Organizer in China, was General Secretary of the Party in America and Editor of both the *Daily Worker* and *Political Affairs*. On September 15, 1926, he married Raissa Berkman in Moscow. She was an officer in the Red Army, chief judge of a Communist revolutionary

tribunal charged with liquidation of anti-Communist Russians, a member of the Soviet Secret Police, and a high-ranking member of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Hearings before the House Special Committee on Un-American Activities established that she came to the United States illegally, and that when she was to be deported Eleanor Roosevelt personally arranged for her to go to Montreal, from which she was permitted to re-enter the United States on a visa personally cleared by Eleanor Roosevelt.

President Roosevelt, who told Congressman Martin Dies that "Some of my best friends are Communists," gave Earl Browder a full pardon in 1933 on a felony conviction, for which he had served a term in Leavenworth, and in 1940 commuted Browder's four-year sentence for passport irregularity after he had served fourteen months in Atlanta. Yes, some of President Roosevelt's best friends were Communists.

As might be expected, it was on orders from the White House that 100,000 file cards on subversives were destroyed by Naval Intelligence in 1943, removing vital information on known and suspected Communists throughout the nation. The object, apparently, was to protect some of the President's "best friends."

Roosevelt was a dying man when he ran for his unprecedented fourth term in 1944, and it was clear from the start that Vice President Truman would step into the Presidency before the four-year term expired. On April 12, 1945, Harry S. Truman became President of the United States. He inherited an Executive department riddled with Communists, Communist sympathizers, fellow travelers, and a sizable number of actual Soviet agents. Truman made no attempt to change course.

Harry Truman had himself been listed as a Contributor on the masthead of *U.S. Week*, cited as a Communist publication by the House Special Committee on Un-American Activities in its famous *Appendix IX*. Mr. Truman's name appears in that Report, officially called *Investigation of Un-American Propaganda Activities In The United States, Appendix IX*, on Page 1459. Clearly the machine-made Senator from Missouri had more than flirted with the Communists. In his book, *Men Without Faces: The Communist Conspiracy In The U.S.A.*, former top Communist Louis Budenz comments:

As editor of the Daily Worker, in 1944 I reported the formation of the American Committee for Yugoslav Relief. Under this innocent guise, the plan was to help Marshal Tito secure control of that unhappy land. But many persons who are conspicuous [sic] as non-Communists helped it along. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt became honorary chairman, and among the sponsors were Senator (now President) Harry S. Truman. . . . (Page 229.)

Those were the days in which Senator Truman was being openly promoted for the Vice Presidency by the Communist *Daily Worker*. The following is from a *Worker* article, by Adam Lapin, endorsing Truman. It appeared in the Communist *Daily Worker* for July 27, 1944:

Truman has a real understanding of the complex and important problems of reconversion. . . . This will be important . . . during the campaign. . . . He has

been concerned with some of the biggest issues of our times and on many of them he took an advanced position which required courage and vision.

The *Daily Worker* of August 20, 1944, carried an appreciative response from Mr. Truman. Apparently wishing to publicize his friendship with the Communists, Truman addressed his letter to "Mr. Samuel Barron, Public Relations Director, *Daily Worker*, 25 East 12th Street, N.Y." Senator Truman wrote:

Dear Mr. Barron:

Appreciate very much your letter of July 27, enclosing me a copy of an article by Mr. Adam Lapin. I think he has made an excellent analysis of the situation and I appreciate it most highly.

I have been completely snowed under with correspondence—hence the delay in thanking you.

You have my permission to print my comment.

Sincerely yours,
Harry S. Truman.

This is the same Harry S. Truman who said in a radio report to the nation after the disastrous Potsdam Conference in 1945: "It was easy for me to get along in mutual understanding and friendship with Generalissimo Stalin." And it is the same Harry S. Truman who declared: "Personally, I like Old Joe Stalin, but he's a prisoner of the Politburo, which is like our . . . Congress."

Little wonder, then, that President Truman saw the nation's rising anti-Communism as a personal threat. Specifically, Truman saw Congressman J. Parnell Thomas, Chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, as his political executioner. In 1947, Thomas was exposing Communist infiltration of the Hollywood movie industry, had been offered (and had refused) a \$25,000 bribe to soft-pedal the Hollywood investigation, and was preparing to turn his guns on the Administration itself. Truman directed the Justice Department to stop him at all costs. The handle was found in the fact that, like nearly all Congressmen at the time, Thomas accepted small "political contributions" from each of his office employees. These were called "kick-backs" and Thomas was prosecuted. Congressman Dies comments in his book *Martin Dies' Story*:

J. Parnell Thomas (R.-N.J.), Chairman in 1947, went to the penitentiary for a questionable practice that has existed since the beginning of Congress. He took "kick-backs" from his employees, which while it is bad, is not forbidden by law. The Truman Administration dug up an old statute on fraud, which could be made to mean anything, depending on the Administration in power, and on the judge and jury trying the case. Truman knew that this "kick-back" practice was generally and completely ignored.

It certainly was. Both Mrs. Truman and Harry's brother Vivian were for years on his federal payroll at \$5,000 and \$8,500 per year. A sizable portion of their incomes wound up in Harry's pocket. But, as Congressman Dies noted, "Truman was President, Parnell was not. Parnell went to the penitentiary and Harry Truman felt temporarily safe from an investigation of Communists in his Administration."

Certainly Truman was vulnerable. Not only because of his 1944 romance with the *Daily Worker*, but because he had personally chosen as a top Presidential Assistant one Michael Greenberg, identified under oath as a Communist, and member of a Soviet espionage group.* An even more interesting case, about which Parnell Thomas might have had knowledge, was that of Truman's relations with Soviet agent Harry Dexter White. *Current Biography* for February 1954 provides this brief summary:

On November 6, 1953, Attorney General [Herbert] Brownell in a speech before the Executive Club of Chicago cited as an example of "the failure of our predecessors to defend the government from Communist infiltration" the case of Harry Dexter White. "The records of my department show," he said, "that White's spying activities for the Soviet Government were reported in detail by the F.B.I. to the White House . . . in December of 1945. In the face of this information, and incredible though it may seem, President Truman subsequently on January 23, 1946, nominated White, who was then Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, for the even more important position of executive director for the United States in the International Monetary Fund."

The President was thoroughly familiar with the F.B.I. proofs that Harry White was an enemy agent. In fact he consulted in the matter with Secretary of State James Byrnes and Secretary of the Treasury Fred Vinson. Still he refused to so inform the Senate and thereby prevent approval of White's promotion. Communist espionage agent Harry Dexter White thus served a year as head of the International Monetary Fund, arranged with Mr. Truman for Communist Virginius Frank Coe to be put on as Secretary of the Fund, and then retired with an enthusiastically appreciative letter from Harry S. Truman.

It was also President Truman who made Dean Acheson Secretary of State. Acheson had been selected by Roosevelt in 1933 to be Under Secretary of the Treasury on the recommendation of Felix Frankfurter and Louis Brandeis, two of Acheson's close friends. When questioned before the Senate Finance Committee considering his nomination, Acheson proved something less than qualified as the record shows:

SENATOR REED: *Mr. Acheson, what finance experience have you had?*

MR. ACHESON: *I have had practically none, Senator.*

SENATOR REED: *Have you made any study of public finances at all?*

MR. ACHESON: *None at all.*

*See Hearings before the Subcommittee To Investigate The Administration Of The Internal Security Act And Other Internal Security Laws, *Institute Of Public Relations*, 1951; House Committee on Un-American Activities, *The Shameful Years, Thirty Seven Years Of Soviet Espionage In The United States*, 1951.