

# MASTERS OF DECEIT

## Bosses Control Red Rank & File

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the FBI since 1924, emphasizes that the danger to the United States from master Red plotters is as great as ever. In this week's installment of his book, "Masters of Deceit," Hoover explains how the leadership of the Communist Party in the United States is organized to control the apparatus of organized deception and to keep the rank-and-file members mental slaves.

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INSTALLMENT EIGHT

The Communist Party's organizational structure in the United States may be likened to layers forming a pyramid.

In the first level below the peak there are the Party's policy-making organs: (1) National Committee; (2) National Executive Committee; (3) National Administrative Committee.

The designations given these committees here are those current as this is written. They may be changed any day, for there is no hesitancy in the Party's top echelon about reshuffling the top administrative bodies, or changing the size of memberships of the committees.

For many years the Party had specially designated national officers: a National Chairman, William Z. Foster; a General Secretary, first Earl Browder, later Eugene Dennis. The power always has remained in the control of a small group.

THE SECOND or middle level is made up of the administrative apparatus that implement the decisions of the inner hierarchy: (1) various commissions and departments; (2) special organizations; and (3) "front" groups.

The bottom of third level consists of all the subordinate regional and local units in the Party; that is, district organizations, and, in turn, various state, county, city, section and club setups. This level has its base stretching across the entire nation.

### American Kremlin In New York City

At the time of writing this, national headquarters were still located in a three-story, twenty-foot-wide, brownstone building at

23 West 26th Street, New York City, just off Broadway. It is a pigmy amid Manhattan's skyscrapers.

With iron bars shielding the bottom-floor windows, this American Kremlin is a symbol of communist power in our country. Here meetings are held and important decisions made.

The national office occupies the third floor and penthouse; the New York State branch of the Communist Party is on the first and second floors.

However, the 1937 Party convention authorized shifting national offices to Chicago.

The real power in the Party is maintained and used through the National Committee, which is "elected" by the national and state conventions.

The latest constitution of the Party says that "Between National Conventions, the National Committee is the highest authority of the Party, representing the Party as a whole, and as such has the authority to make decisions and take actions necessary

and incidental to the good and welfare of the entire Party."

This United States Politburo forms a base for dictatorship by a few leaders in typical communist fashion. Their control is strengthened by clever manipulation.

The current National Committee of some sixty members, "elected" in 1937, in turn "elected" a twenty-member (later two more members added) National Executive Committee. This group then selected administrative officials (seven of whom form the National Administrative Committee). This latter is the group making the day-by-day decisions. Although membership of the National Committee is spread throughout the country, the comrades at national headquarters monopolize control of the Party affairs.

### Red Boss Spurns Local Members

Almost unlimited authority often produces a repugnant type of person. Many of the top leaders of the Communist Party are haughty, swaggering, overbearing. They show they feel that they are better than "little" comrades.

WILLIAM Z. FOSTER went to Seattle, Washington, to make a speech. "We're glad you've come," the welcoming local official commented. "Many of our comrades are looking forward to meeting you."

"Not so fast," Foster warned. "I'm not going to see any of them. I'm too busy. These little Party people just sit down and pour out their personal problems. It wears me out. You can't get rid of them."

"But," protested the local organizer, "they've been busy for weeks, working to make the meeting a success. They want..."

"Nonsense," snapped Foster. "You decide which ones are worth my time and I'll see them. Make appointments. I can't solve everybody's problems."

Later the local leader told Foster that the comrades wanted to give him a present, perhaps a traveling bag.

"Oh, no," Foster interrupted. "I've already looked at traveling bags, and I didn't find any costing less than seventy-five dollars which would be suitable. I don't think the members want to spend that much."

Right he was. The organizer had twenty to thirty dollars collected "voluntarily."

"What about a watch?" inquired the local leader, intent on pleasing the high-ranking visitor.

"I already have one," Foster replied. "It cost a hundred and twenty-five dollars. I don't think it's advisable to buy a more expensive one, and I wouldn't wear a cheaper one."

This was the "proletarian" leader,



### Cornerstone For Greece Convent

Father Daniel B. O'Rourke, pastor of Mother of Sorrows Church, seals the cornerstone of the new convent nearing completion in the Greece parish. Ceremony followed a solemn Mass celebrated Memorial Day morning by Rev. Raymond F. Moore.

er, the "champion of the poor and downtrodden."

### Propaganda Tailored To Fit

The attack forces of the Communist Party are contained in the middle layer, the commissions and departments delegated to carry out the decisions of the inner clique.

Communist leaders never view the United States population as a vast, uniform whole but as a series of different segments each of which is open to some particular appeal. There are, for instance, farmers with their special problems, trade-union members, and groups with special interests related to nationality, youth, and race.

Communists realize that a single program, addressed to all groups at once will not be effective. Communist propaganda must be tailored to a group's dissatisfactions and desires.

The fact that programs designed for different groups are often mutually contradictory makes no difference to communists, for their purpose is to stir up discontent among as many different groups as possible.

These are the tasks of commissions and departments such as Veterans' Commission, Women's Commission, Education De-

partment, Cultural Commission, Negro Commission, Labor Department, Nationality Groups Commission, Youth, Commission.

There are related organs dealing with the internal administration of the Party. For example, the National Organization Department handles the placement of Party officials throughout the nation, while the National Review (Control) Commission (also known as the Appeals Commission) is in charge of security and disciplinary matters.

The commissions and departments comprising the task forces work out the practical details of implementing the Party line through men and women trained in special fields.

There are experts of all kinds, on both local and national levels; waterfront organizers specializing in seamen's groups; labor organizers interested in penetrating labor unions; organizers in virtually every other field, such as aircraft, mining, steel, agriculture, youth, nationality groups. Then there are fund raisers, recruiters, Marxist teachers.

If a Party district is planning, let us say, a special organizing drive, an expert from national headquarters or another district may arrive to assume charge. He may deal with top officials or descend to club levels. He may stay a few hours, a week or even months.

John Williamson for many years was considered one of the Party's top labor infiltration ex-

pers. Henry Winston was an authority on organizational problems. Both Williamson and Winston were convicted under the Smith Act of conspiracy to overthrow the United States government by force and violence. Williamson later accepted voluntary deportation to Great Britain, and has since been reported to have served as liaison between the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Party in the United States.

The task forces are not desk-bound organizations operating only through letters, telegrams, and phone calls. They are fast, hard-hitting, mobile organizations, operating primarily through personal contacts, with officials traveling thousands of miles a year by auto, train, and air to carry on subversive activities.

### Reds Strongest In U.S. Northeast

The Party has divided the United States into districts, some of which comprise more than one state. The Ohio State Communist Party, directed principally from Cleveland, Ohio, for example, includes the states of Ohio and Kentucky and West Virginia's four northern "panhandle" counties.

Communist membership is strongest in the Northeast section. The largest concentration of Communist Party members is in the area of New York City.

Other states having considerable numbers of communists are California, Illinois, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Washington, Connecticut, Michigan, and Massachusetts. Relatively speaking, few members reside in Southern and Rocky Mountain states.

The district (or state) organizations hold periodic conventions, "elect" state committees, and have officers. Hence there is a Chairman, New York State Communist Party, or Secretary, Ohio State Communist Party.

Many states and districts have open headquarters. Formerly most were closed, but the Party realized that an open headquarters was essential in carrying out its day-to-day agitational work.

These Party offices are usually located downtown in a room or suite in an old building. A typewriter and Mimeograph machine (the good right arm of the Party) are standard equipment. An old-time communist, usually a woman, will "triple" as receptionist, stenographer, and Mimeograph operator. Knowing all the members, she's a good "lookout."

### 'Cells' Now Called Clubs

The basic unit, at the bottom of the whole structure, is the club, formerly known as the cell.

Clubs are of various types:

community clubs, comprising members who live in a certain geographical area; shop clubs composed of members who work at a certain company; industrial clubs, which include members employed in the same basic industry, such as steel, automobile, aluminum, though working for different industrial firms, and specialized clubs, for members of a profession, such as teachers, doctors, or lawyers.

A definite chain of command is always in effect. Everybody knows his relative position; who are his Party "inferiors" and Party "boss." In the event of an emergency a commanding officer is always available.

Communist clubs are often named after famous historical figures, such as Tom Paine, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, Walt Whitman. Other clubs bear the names of Communist "heroes" such as John Reed.

This is a complicated structure, but it does work, generally efficiently, effectively, and all too often to the detriment of this nation. For the whole Party organization, regardless of its structural shape, is based on strict discipline, a rigid hierarchy and a unified structure.

THE CEMENT that holds it together is a principle called democratic centralism. It is a contradiction in terms; but communists like fancy phrases to fool their opponents and, perhaps, to satisfy themselves.

Communist spokesmen contend Party members have a right to participate in formulating policy and electing officers. Members may be encouraged to express opinions and there may be different points of view. But a decision is made by the leader.

clique. From that moment, "democratic" takes over and "democratic" falls away.

The tyranny and dictatorship that are part and parcel of the Communist Party are laid down by the rule: all lower Party organizations are subordinated to the higher bodies, and the highest of all are the Congresses of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, which are run by the masters of the Kremlin.

A practical demonstration of democratic centralism at work occurred in 1937 in New York City. A campaign was launched for signatures for a petition to put Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, a member of the National Committee, on the ballot as candidate for the New York City Council.

Although the 1937 National Convention of the Party emphasized that Party members could dissent from official Party policy, William Winston, another member of the National Committee, issued the order that "Those members who may not agree with this campaign should nevertheless understand that it is their duty to participate in signature getting."

We in the FBI, through confidential sources of information, know what goes on in hundreds of these communist meetings at all levels. We know who the speakers are, what they say (and don't say), what decisions are made. The "free discussions" are under carefully designed thought control.

NEXT WEEK—How Communist control daily lives of members.

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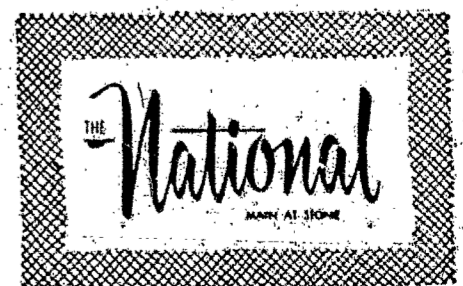
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