

49A

Cross Reference.

Subject: DIMITROV.

Date: 27.9.34. (0650).

(No.10, dated 9.7.34.).

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9 ). 6a. Vol.2. S.R. Box 46.

NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.

50A

Cross Reference.

Subject: DIMITROV.

Date: 29.9.34. (0661).

(No. 15, dated 13.7.34.).

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9 ). Vol.2, 6a. S.R. Box 46.

NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.

57A

Cross Reference.

**Subject:** DIMITROV.

**Date:** 11.10.34. (0776/U.K.)

(No. 140, dated 22.4.34.).

**Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9). Vol.2, 11a. S.R. Box 46.**

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

522

MOST SECRET.

No.: 0854/A.  
Date.: 22nd October, 1934.

From: MOSCOW.

To: VIENNA.

No.: 359.

Date: 10th October, 1934.

FLI--MANN must send her things to the MOSCOW  
customs for GEORG DIMITROFF.

Visa for ROSY and also ARTUR, have been sent to  
PRAGUE.

Shall we have ARTUR's sent on to VIENNA.  
DIMITROFF will instruct him as to his journey here.  
Wire reply.

A. in PF 41, 718 DIMITROFF  
Orig. in SF 413-4-16  
Vol. 1. Serial - Receipt Date 22.10.34

C1004

✓

• Spare at back of file

52A

Route MARCONI. Serial No. 58. No. of words 117. Copied by 30.10.34.

From MOSCOW.

To GERMAN RELIEF COMMITTEE 1 LITCHFIELD STREET CHARING  
CROSS ROAD LONDON W.C.2.

Date 26.10.34.

No. \_\_\_\_\_

PA. Dimitrov 1141718

+ fact 20

3/11/34

S.H.S.  
P.R.E.

AT MOMENT WHEN ATTEMPT BEING MADE REDUCE SIGNIFICANCE  
RELIEF COMMITTEE HAMPER ITS ACTIVITY AND INDUCE FORMER  
FAITHFUL HELPERS WITHDRAW FROM THIS WORK OF LIVE PROLE-  
TARIAN SOLIDARITY UNDER PRETEXT FORMAL QUOTE PARTY  
DISCIPLINE UNQUOTE EYE FEEL MOVED STRESS NECESSITY  
STRENGTHENING EXTENDING HITHERTO SO SUCCESSFUL COMMITTEES  
ACTION STOP ~~XXXX~~ TERROR IN GERMANY NOT SLACKENED BUT  
INTENSIFIED STOP NUMBER VICTIMS INCREASES STOP SITUATION  
IMPRISONED WORSENER STOP DANGER FOR LIFE THAELMANN  
NEUBAUER MIERENDORF OSSIETZKY THOUSANDS OTHERS GREATER  
THAN EVER STOP EYE APPEAL TO ALL MEMBERS HELPERS COMMITTEE  
FOR GREATER ACTIVITY AM CONVINCED ALL FRIENDS PROLETARIAN  
SOLIDARITY ALL ENGLISH MEN WOMEN LOATH FASCISM HITLERS  
BROWN TERROR INCREASINGLY SUPPORT COMMITTEE DESPITE  
ATTEMPTS OBSTRUCT IT.

GEORGE DIMITROV.

P.F. 41718

538

CROSS-REFERENCE.Subject:— DIMITROV

2.11.34 CX/1178/V from S.I.S on Communist activities in Bulgaria, based on various sources of information, from their Representative in Bulgaria.

This stated that in future propaganda will be carried out by well-trained natives of the country concerned, a course which should not arouse suspicion of interference by Russia, since activities can be explained as the spontaneous work of the local Communist Party. The Comintern has instructed the Communist parties in Europe to send their young members in selected batches to Russia, to be trained there under DIMITROV. Since the middle of the summer, several boats with young communists secretly left Varna for Soviet Russia.

Original in.....S.F. 411/Bulgaria..40a.....dated.....as above.....

M.R.P.H.  
16.11.34.

S. Form 81

*Spare at back*

*54A*

Route MARCONI. Serial No. 99. No. of words 113. Copied by 27.11.34.

From G.DIMITROFF MOSCOU.

To DIMITROFF COMMITTEE FEATHERSTONE BUILDINGS HIGH HOLBORN  
LONDON W.C.1.

Date 23.11.34.

No. \_\_\_\_\_

I VERY ANXIOUSLY CALL THROUGH YOU UPON WORLD PUBLIC  
OPINION TO RAISE STORM OF PROTEST AGAINST VILE MURDER BY  
BULGARIAN GEORGIEFF GOVERNMENT OF ANTI FASCIST SOLDIER  
NATSCHO LAZAROFF STOP NEW EXECUTIONS PERPETRATED STOP  
BULGARIAN COURT OF APPEAL ALREADY CONFIRMED FORTYTHREE  
DEATH SENTENCES AGAINST SOLDIERS SAILORS OTHER ANTI-  
FASCISTS STOP STIRUP WORLD CONSCIENCE SAVE THE FORTYTHREE  
AND MANY OTHERS FROM GALLOWES STOP LAZAROFF WAS EXTRADITED  
AS POLITICAL REFUGEE BY GREEK GOVERNMENT LIKEWISE FAMOUS  
ANTIFASCIST WRITER STOYANOFF STOP PREVENT PERPETRATED  
EXTRADITIONS BULGARIAN POLITICAL EMIGRANTS BY PROTESTS TO  
THE GREEK GOVERNMENT STOP RALLY ALL BESTFORCES COMPEL  
BULGARIAN AND GRECIAN GOVERNMENTS LOOSE HOLD OF VICTIMS.

G.DIMITROFF.

*41718.*

*S.10. B*  
*30.11.34*  
*part*  
*28/11/34*  
*30*  
*2 P.A.*

54B-

P.F. 41718.

CROSS-REFERENCE.Subject:— DIMITROFF, Georgi.

Under dated 28.11.34. S.I.S. forwarded a copy of "Notes on Macedonian Organisations" which was circulated under of 5.8.32. the information that the "U" I.M.R.O. derives its resources almost entirely from Moscow, which subsidises "La Federation Balkanique" and the "Makedonsko Delo", and has as its liason officer with the "U" I.M.R.O. the well-known Bulgarian Communist Georgi DIMITROFF.

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Original in... S.F. 75/Balkan States/3. V.3. 149a. dated... As Above.....

P.K. 17.10.35.

S. Form 81

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3 (4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958. JULY 2003



41718.

55A

CROSS-REFERENCE.

Subject:— DIMITROV.

20.12.34. S.I.S. report CX 5978 re Comintern.

DIMITROV is at present one of the members of the Political Commission.

055

Original in..... S.F. 41103 ..... 16a. .... dated..... 3.12.34.

He  
2/1/35

S. Form 81

mc

556

PP41718  
(DIMITROFF)

Photograph from AIZ: Sondernummer 1934.



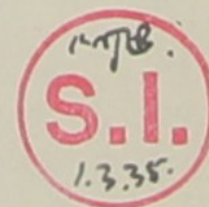
Dimitroff, dessen Freilassung der Protest der Antifaschisten in aller Welt erzwungen hatte, bei Stalin, Woroschilow und Manuilski in der roten Hauptstadt seines neuen Vaterlandes.

55c

Georgi DIMITROV.

In 1934 the Co-operative Publishing Society of Foreign Workers in the U.S.S.R. published a book entitled "DIMITROV: a Biography" by <sup>PP 118,385</sup> Stella D. BLAGOEVA.

A copy of this publication is held in the Library.



56A

## Cross Reference.

Subject: DIMITROV

Date: 22.1.35

No. 2038/UK

Real date 27.6.34

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9 ). Vol.4, 81a S.R. Box 46.

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NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.

57a

P.F.41718

CROSS-REFERENCE.

**Subject:**— DIMITROV, Georges

CX/5926, dated 31.1.35.  
V.

S.I.S. report re "Unsere Zeit" stated that among the principal collaborators was Georges DIMITROV.

Original in S.F. 416/18 (10a) ..... dated as above

D.W.H.  
5.2.35.

S. Form 81

57b

P.F. 41718

CROSS-REFERENCE.

Subject:—

DIMITROV

9.3.35

According to Table of Contents, English Edition of Inprecor, 1934, Georgi DIMITROV contributed articles in the following issues:-

16, 19, 29, 46, 59, 60, 63.

Original in.....S.F. 416/4 Vol.5, 274a.....dated.....as above

S. Form 81

M.R.P.H.  
28.9.35.

**TOP SECRET**

58a

PFR.1555  
PF.41,718 ✓  
PF.122,919

EXTRACT

(MANUILSKI)  
(DIMITROV) ✓  
(ABRAMOV)

Extract for File No. : ..... Name : .....

Original in File No. : SF.413-4-10 ..... Vol. : 4 ..... Serial : 147a ..... Receipt Date : N.R.D.

Original from : MASK MATERIAL ..... Under Ref. : V.P.152 ..... Dated : 12.4.35.

Extracted on : 17th July, 1972 ..... by : L.K.S. .... Section : K.3.Z/1.

Extract from MASK MATERIAL re Communist telegrams:  
MOSCOW - OTHER THAN LONDON

FROM: MOSCOW  
TO: BASEL

NO:  
DATE: 4.4.35.

\*If the original is in the file of an individual include the name of the file owner

For various reasons we remind you that in telegrams and letters, even if they are in cypher, it is categorically forbidden to use the names of our Russian comrades. Instead of MANUILSKI use MARMOR, for WASSILIEW use VASE, for DIMITROW use DIAMANT, for ABRAMOW use DOKTOR. In case an unforeseen new name turns up, replace it by another with a corresponding note.

Note: This message was also sent to COPENHAGEN and STOCKHOLM.

2824/S.

*Cypho also in SF413-4-11, Vol. 2, 2824 - 11.4.35 (4.4.35)*

**WARNING**  
**MASK. NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN**  
**ON THIS MATERIAL WITHOUT PRIOR**  
**REFERENCE TO SECRETARIAT.**

**TOP SECRET**

*K32/US  
17-7-72*

592

PRESS CUTTING.

NEWS CHRONICLE.

Date..... 25 APR 1935

# DIMITROFF, FIRE TRIAL HERO, ILL

## ANXIETY FOR HIS LIFE

### EFFECT OF GAOL ORDEAL

THE "News Chronicle" understands that there is great anxiety in Moscow over the condition of Georgi Dimitroff, the Bulgarian whose heroic defence in the Reichstag Fire Trial excited the admiration of the whole world and who after his acquittal went to Moscow as an honoured refugee.

Dimitroff has been working energetically in the organisation of the Communist International.

He never fully recovered, however, from his experiences in the Nazi prison, where he was kept for five months in chains.

#### SOVIET CONSIDERATION

Repeated illness has sapped his resources of nervous strength, and this winter he has suffered a good deal.

He arranged two weeks ago to meet Mr. A. J. Cummings, who was in Russia on behalf of the "News Chronicle," but he was again taken ill in his flat in the Red Square, and the meeting had to be cancelled.

The Soviet Government is showing him every consideration, and he is receiving skilled medical attention.



DIMITROFF

PF.  
41718

PA



P.F.41718. 59 bCROSS-REFERENCE.**Subject:—**DIMITROV.

July-Aug. 1935.

DIMITROV was an outstanding figure at the 7th World Congress of the Comintern in Moscow, & was elected a member of the Presidium, & General Secretary of the World Communist Organisation. His report at the Congress is given in Imprecor no.34 Vol.15, dated 10.8.35; discussion on the report in Imprecor no.36, dated 17.8.35; & concluding speech by DIMITROV in Imprecor no.39, dated 24.8.35.

(These are filed in S.F.411/4:-51b, 55a,59b).

Further references to DIMITROV at the Congress are in S.F.411/4:- 47a,50b,50c,56a,57a,58a,58b, & 59a.

Original in..... S.F.411/4 ..... dated as above.....

F.H.M.  
4.9.35.

S. Form 81

S. Form 39

PA  
607  
~~59 July~~  
~~5/10~~

**PRESS CUTTING.**

DAILY TELEGRAPH.

Date..... 7 AUG 1935

~~ASS~~  
DAB  
B.  
W. H. W.  
9/8/35

**DIMITROFF'S CALL  
TO BRITISH REDS  
PLAN FOR GENERAL  
ELECTION**

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT  
MOSCOW, Tuesday.

Georgi Dimitroff, who became famous in the Reichstag fire trial, and is now the chief mouthpiece of the Moscow Comintern, has issued a call to British Communists to ally themselves with their former foes, the British Labour party, and smash the National Government in the coming General Election.

Addressing the world Communist Congress, Dimitroff said this combination must also fight Mr. Lloyd George, who was trying "in his own peculiar way," to get the masses to follow him against their own interests and in the interest of the British bourgeoisie.

This, he explained, was the only correct way to bring about a Soviet régime in Britain.

**THE LESSON OF TROY**

"You all know the ancient legend of the siege of Troy," added Dimitroff. "Troy was protected from the attacking army by impregnable walls. Despite huge losses, the besieging force failed to secure victory until with their famous wooden horse they got inside those walls.

"I believe that we revolutionary workers must not feel shy about using similar tactics against our Fascist enemies who protect themselves against the people with a live wall of cutthroats."

5185  
CP & Communist  
United Front

MF 41718

~~Tell Joseph~~  
Done  
13/8

✓  
MTB  
14/8/35

60 B

P.F. 41718

CROSS-REFERENCE.

Subject:— DIMITROV, Georgi.

"International Press Correspondence" (English Edition)  
Vol. 15, no. 37, (Special Number), dated 20th August, 1935  
contained the full text of DIMITROV's report at the  
Seventh World Congress of the Communist International.

Original in S.F. 411/4 vol. 2. 56b ..... dated 20th Aug. 1935.

D.M.  
9.10.35.

S. Form 81

VSD  
9/10/35

60c

1935. AUG 21

MOSCOU YM90 23 21 2222.

= PRESS = REUTER LDN

= REPORTS EMANATING GERMAN AND RIGA SOURCES

ALLEGING ATTEMPT MADE UPON DIMITROVS LIFE MOSCOW

CONSTITUTE OBVIOUS FABRICATION DEVOID ANY

FOUNDATION = TASSAGENCE +

Seen by S.9.

P.A.

✓  
M763  
28/8/35

S. FORM 39.

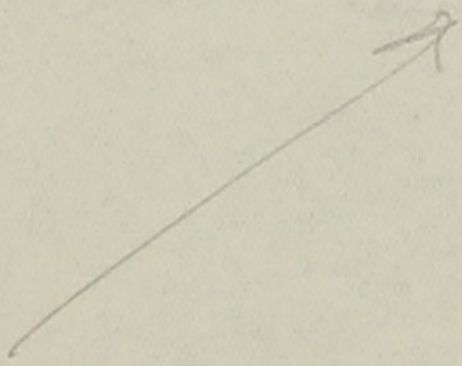
HY 61a

PRESS CUTTING.

MORNING POST.

Date..... 22 AUG 1935

PF 4718



Dimitroff Not Shot

MOSCOW DENIES A REPORT

MOSCOW.

The report that the Bulgarian Communist Dimitroff, has been shot and seriously wounded is declared by the Foreign Office to be a fabrication.— Reuter.

Reports were circulating in Oslo, Copenhagen and Berlin last night that Dimitroff, one of the Bulgarians acquitted in the Reichstag fire trial, had been shot outside the Kremlin by a Red Army lieutenant, whose name was reported as Shoboljoneff.

A later Reuter message states that Dimitroff has been unanimously elected General Secretary of the Executive of the Communist International.

616

P.F. 41718.

CROSS-REFERENCE.

Subject:— DIMITROV.

Present at the Sixth Conference of the Young Communist  
International, Moscow, September 1935.

Original in ..... O.F. 25/1, Vol:2.....62b.....dated.....5.10.35.....

S. Form 81

vs-D.

26.10.35

6/c

P.F.41718. DIMITROV.

CROSS-REFERENCE.

Subject:— DIMITROV.

15.10.35. In C.C.Portsmouth's report of 16.10.35. a booklet was forwarded entitled "The Working Class Against Fascism" being DIMITROV'S speech in reply to the discussion at the Seventh World Congress Communist International.

The booklet was on sale in the Trades Hall, Fratton Road, Portsmouth, where a communist meeting was held on 13.10.35. C.C.Portsmouth report. 16.10.35.

ref. 16144/Sp.

(Booklet held by Press Section.)

The same speech by DIMITROV was reprinted in German in pamphlet form by the Co-operative Publishing Society of Foreign Workers in the U.S.S.R. One copy of this pamphlet is held in the Library.

S.F.460/. Portsmouth /1. V.3. 107a.  
Original in.....dated.....

M.D.P. 18.10.35.

S. Form 81

M.D.P.  
18/10/35  
S.I.

PF 41718

62a

## Cross Reference.

**Subject:** DIMITROV

**Date:** 18.10.35 3974/UK

Real date:- 3.10.35

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9 ). Vol.9, 257a S.R. Box 46.

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**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

M.R.P.H.  
22.10.35.



S. Form 89

~~59~~ 63a

PRESS CUTTING.

DAILY TELEGRAPH.

Date..... 11 NOV 1935 .....

**DIMITROFF RUMOURS**  
 PRAGUE, Sunday.  
 Rumours are current here to-night, emanating from Leningrad, that an attempt has been made on the life of Dimitroff, who was the principal figure in the Reichstag fire trial, and is now general secretary of the World Comintern Congress and Stalin's chief lieutenant.  
 It is stated that he is severely wounded.  
 Exchange.

+ PR - 41718

S 220

✓  
S.D.  
18.11.35

PF 41718

66a

Cross Reference.

Subject: DIMITROV

Date: 20.11.35 4279/UK

Real date 13.11.35

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9 ). Vol.10, 286a S.R. Box 46.

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NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.

M.R.P.H.  
22.11.35.

S.D. ✓  
23.11.35

S. Form 81/B.P./5000/4.45

EXTRACT.

64B  
This Date

Extract for File No.: P.F. 41718 Name: DIMITROV

Original in File No.: S.F. 427/1 v.7 Serial: 287x Receipt Date: 3.12.35

Original from: Source report Under Ref.: - Dated: 3.12.35

Extracted on: 5.7.45 by: VT Section: R4

Extract from Report in French on the 'Conference Interparlementaire  
Pour la Defense des droits du Peuple et de ses Elus ' held on  
23 11.35



.....  
The following gave their support to the meeting:-

.....  
Pays Balkaniques: ..... DIMITROFF, Bulgares.....  
.....

*[Handwritten signature]*  
6/7/45

VI/R4 5.7.45

COPY

W2621

No. 66

No. 66

International Press Correspondence

1637

For: P.F. 41718 DIMITROV  
S.F. 427/1 v.7 292a

Original filed in:

Article from 'International Press Correspondence' English Edition

Vol. 15 No. 66 dated 7.12.35

R. Form 4

## Fight Against Fascism

# Dimitrov's Cross-Examination of Goering

By J. Bepalov

*The Leipzig trial has its place in history as a testimony of the baseness and impotence of fascism and as a splendid example of the courageous struggle of the Bolsheviks for their ideas. November 4, 1933, is one of the most important dates of the trial, Goering appearing in the witness-box as witness for the prosecution. There they stood, face to face: Georgi Dimitrov, one of the foremost representatives of world Communism, and Hermann Goering, one of the leaders of German fascism. The author of this article was present at the trial as correspondent of the Soviet Press.*

—THE EDITOR.

The venue of the trial, which had begun on September 21 in Leipzig, was transferred to the Reichstag building in Berlin. There was a tremendous crowd of spectators, Defence Corps and Storm Troop men, officers of the same bodies, police officers, fascist journalists. In the middle of the hall long tables were set for the correspondents of foreign newspapers. The fascists naturally attempted to exclude the Soviet journalists, and it was only after the intervention of the Soviet government that the matter was settled. The day on which Goering gave evidence was the first day on which the Soviet correspondents were present in court.

From the very beginning of the trial Dimitrov had shown that he was not prepared to content himself with the part assigned to him by the stage-managers of the whole affair; he assumed the role of prosecutor. From the dock he attacked the Public Prosecutor's office and the German government behind it. With well-placed blows he smashed the case of the prosecution, following relentlessly on its heels when it tried to retreat and immediately taking the offensive whenever the Public Prosecutor tried to force him into the defensive. The trial, intended as a decisive blow at international Communism, was triumphantly turned by Dimitrov into a demonstration of the superiority of Communism over fascism.

When the position of the court was particularly difficult, Goering came forward to save the situation as an irrefutable witness.

That great man kept the court waiting. The session began an hour late. Goering entered the court with his escort, self-confident and self-satisfied. The fascist spectators greeted him with the Hitler salute. Goering stopped opposite the bench, a heavy, clumsy man standing with his short, fat legs wide apart. His broad, round back and the shapeless neck were turned to the public as if to shield their owner against the curious gaze of those who wished to see his face.

Herr Bünger, the judge, looked at the witness with high hopes and undisguised servility. Greater still were the hopes set on the illustrious person of the fascist leader by Herr Werner, Chief Public Prosecutor of the Third Reich. This gentleman is not distinguished either by courage, or a keen intelligence or special rhetorical gifts.

Silence reigned in the court room when Goering took the oath. He repeated the usual formula and swore to tell the truth, swore it in the name of God. Then the question arose whether the witness would give evidence in the form of a statement or in the form of answers to the questions of the court. The judge asked the witness for his advice. Naturally Goering preferred to make a statement. He spoke without a break for an hour and a half. It

was a complete indictment, a directive for the speech of the Public Prosecutor and an instruction for the decision of the court.

The same method was employed several times during the course of the trial. After Goering it was Goebbels who made a speech for the prosecution, and after him Heller, a high official of the political police, and countless court officials and police chiefs from the provinces, until finally two counsel for the prosecution made their official speeches. Naturally counsel for the defence did not content themselves with their usual functions either, but led off with accusations against the Communists and anti-fascists, continued with a defence of the German government and the Public Prosecutor's office, and only at the very last had something to say about their own clients.

Goering and the other German fascists repeated in their speeches the hackneyed and absurd attacks against the Communists. They were very anxious to prove the ridiculous theory that the Communists were "Barbarians" and that Goering had saved Germany and the whole world from a Bolshevik revolution.

Everything seemed to be going on splendidly. His Excellency the Prime Minister of Prussia was discoursing on his favourite subject and repeated extensively what he had often said before. But the nearer he came to the end of his speech the more uneasy seemed the look and the attitude of the judge. He was looking all the time at the prisoners in the dock, among whom Dimitrov occupied the end seat nearest the bench. Dimitrov listened to Goering's speech with the utmost attention and an ominous gleam in his eye. This prisoner was a continual source of surprise to the judge. One could never guess the sort of questions he would ask, the sort of replies he would presume to give and the attitude he, the judge, should take in face of them.

Finally, Goering finished his speech. The court asked him a few harmless questions and then Dimitrov intimated that he wished to speak. The judge hesitated, looked questioningly at the witness, fidgeted in his chair. Dimitrov stood up. The journalists made ready their notebooks and the public craned forward in order to hear every word.

Satisfied with his speech, Goering stood calmly and confidently facing Dimitrov. But the very first question put to him by the latter made him prick up his ears. The first question was followed by a number of others. Dimitrov interrogated the omnipotent Minister: what did Goering do as Home Secretary in order to clear up all the connections of van der Lubbe and all the circumstances of the Reichstag fire; on the strength of what actual facts did Goering assert that the Reichstag had been set on fire by Communists; had not the statement made by Goering himself at the very beginning of the inquiry to the effect that the Communists were guilty of firing the Reichstag influenced the whole further course of that inquiry? On what grounds had Goering stated that a membership card of the Dutch Communist Party had been found on van der Lubbe, although the inquiry had shown that van der Lubbe had never been in possession of such a card? Each question contained an increasing dose of deadly irony and searing truth. The mighty Minister was reduced to repeating stock phrases instead of quoting facts. The nature and form of the questions made them into a well-defined accusation. Dimitrov accused Goering of giving

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nd fascism,  
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lgeria, who  
tary-fascist  
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orship, the  
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untrue statements to the press, of having failed to take measures to secure the arrest of the real incendiaries, of having deliberately directed the whole inquiry against persons who were completely innocent of the crimes with which they were charged. Dimitrov accused Goering of having used the Reichstag fire as a weapon in the struggle against the working class and its party.

Each question was a sure and unavoidable blow. The Minister was obviously and unmistakably losing his nerve. He grew excited and confused. He could not find any convincing and satisfactory arguments. The questions flustered him, and with each fresh effort to collect his wits he lost his temper more and more.

Two men faced each other in that court. One of them, one of the greatest leaders of German fascism, the Prussian Prime Minister, appeared in court protected by his escort, by his adherents, by the court, by the prosecution.

Opposite him stood Dimitrov, being tried for his life and threatened by death at the hands of the executioner, surrounded by men who were prepared to tear him limb from limb at the first word of command, cut off from his friends, exhausted by long imprisonment in chains and under the most inhuman conditions. But strength, self-control, calm, will power and endurance were all on the side of Dimitrov, proof of the courage of this Bolshevik, of the superiority of his revolutionary convictions, of the heroic steeling of his character acquired in the ranks of his party.

Completely disconcerted, Goering stammered something about the "criminal philosophy" of the Bolsheviks. Dimitrov immediately accepted the challenge. He put a question which was a counter-challenge to Goering:—

"Is the Prime Minister aware that the party which adheres to this 'criminal philosophy' now victoriously rules one-sixth of the globe, the Soviet Union, the happiest land on earth?"

Goering, oblivious of his high office and his duties, answered in a low voice: "unfortunately, yes."

"Is the Prime Minister aware" continued Dimitrov, "that Germany is entertaining diplomatic relations with that country and that the Soviet Union, by its orders, is giving hundreds of thousands of German workers employment and bread?"

Goering cannot refrain from a vulgar attack on the Soviet Union: "The Bolsheviks would have done better to pay their debt."

This was a palpable lie and on the next day it was officially stated the Soviet Union had fulfilled and was fulfilling her obligations to the letter and to the minute. Thus a statement made by Goering on his oath was repudiated as a statement contrary to the truth.

In order to save the situation and the witness' face, the judge at this point shouted at Dimitrov "to stop this Communist propaganda." Flushed and with every symptom of an unhinged mind, Goering turned to Dimitrov, took a step in his direction, lifted his clenched fists and roared hysterically:

"I did not come here to let you question me as if you were a judge!"

Then he completely loses control of himself and begins to shout: "You scoundrel, you crook, you ought to be on the gallows!"

He is as red as a beetroot, he is trembling in futile rage. The foreign journalists exchange embarrassed glances. They are inured to all sorts of strange antics on the part of the new rulers of the Third Reich, but this was too much even for them.

The judge begins to understand that the whole stage-management of the confrontation has irretrievably miscarried. He is no less embarrassed than the witness. Turning to Dimitrov he said:

"Prisoner, you see that you have made the witness lose his patience by your propagandist questions."

Dimitrov answers calmly, with a deadly sarcasm in his voice: "I am very satisfied with the answers given by the Prime Minister." The court-room was petrified in expectation and craned to listen. Goering, furious, his body leaning forward as if he were about to hurl himself at his victim, roared that Dimitrov was to be removed from court. Police agents grasp Dimitrov and drag him from the hall. Near the door Dimitrov turned round and shouted: "You seem to be afraid of my questions, Mr. Minister"?

Losing the last shreds of self-control, Goering spat back the last argument he could think of:

"You will yet come into my hands, once you are out of the jurisdiction of this court"!

According to his habit of saying everything that wiser men keep to themselves, Goering thus openly announced his intentions to the public of the whole world. He threatened Dimitrov with reprisals independently of the decision of the court. Later, when the prisoner had been acquitted by the Leipzig court, Goering attempted to carry out his threat. Without giving any reason and without any reason at all he kept Dimitrov and his fellow-prisoners captive in the dungeons of the Secret Police even after their formal acquittal by the court. They were threatened with the very real danger of a bloody reckoning. Only the international working class, the wave of protest which embraced the world, and the Soviet Government, which accorded Soviet citizenship to the accused Bulgarian Communists, saved them from the hands of the German fascists.

Goering came to court as a representative of the ruling power and made his speech as an accuser. He left the court a defeated man. Even the fascist adherents were depressed by his scandalous behaviour in court. The entire press of the world described Goering's attitude as a shameful defeat. Dimitrov won another splendid victory.

Two years have gone by since the Leipzig trial.

The working class has good grounds not to forget the crimes committed by the fascists. Comrade Thaelmann, leader of the Communist Party of Germany, is still languishing in a fascist prison. Somewhere in the deepest secrecy, fresh murders and fresh provocations are being prepared and they may cost the working class many victims.

At the Leipzig trial the representatives of two worlds, of two classes faced each other. On one side stood the entire machinery of the state, mobilised by the imperialist bourgeoisie, its courts of law, its Cabinet Ministers, its police officers, its police spies, its lackeys and agents. On the other side stood international Communism which the German fascists attempted to saddle with the crime of arson in the Reichstag building. Fascism, armed to the teeth failed to disarm Communism and put it in the dock. Comrade Dimitrov and the German working class came out victorious from the struggle which they are courageously continuing against German fascism.

J. Bepalov  
7.7.45

64e

~~Dunbar~~  
18/2/25

65a

P.F. 41718.

# CROSS-REFERENCE.

**Subject:**—DIMITROV.

12.12.35. Report of Dimitrov's closing speech at the Seventh  
World Congress.

**Original in**..... S.F. 411/4. Vol: 3. 82a. .... **dated**..... 12.12.35.

S. Form 81

Cross Reference.

65B

Subject: DIMITROV. @ DISRAELI.

Date: 20.12.35.

No. 4624/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9 ). v.11. 289a. S.R. Box 46.

NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.

SECRET

116a

PF.41718/B.4b

20th April, 1938.

Dear Holderness,

Would you please refer to my letter, dated 18th July, 1934, regarding George DIMITROV, born Radomir, Bulgaria, 18.6.1882, Secretary General of the Comintern.

We have reason to believe that DIMITROV has recently been paying surreptitious visits to France, and it is possible that he might attempt to visit the United Kingdom during the course of one of his journeys.

Yours sincerely,

*Handwritten initials*

*D.W.*

Sir E. W. E. Holderness, Bt.,  
Home Office.

✓  
MSB.  
21/4/38



PF 41718.

117a

CROSS - REFERENCE.

SUBJECT:- George DIMITROV.

9.5.38. INTERNATIONAL PRESS CORRESPONDENCE, No. 18, Vol. 23, dated 7.5.38, HUMANITE of 5.5.38, and the DAILY WORKER of 5, 6 and 9.5.38, published George DIMITROV's article entitled - "Unity the Guarantee of Victory".

Original in..... S.F. 411/1, 60a.61a.62a.63a. .... dated..... as above.

S. Form 81.

D.G.  
11.5.38.

118a

PF.41718

C R O S S - R E F E R E N C E .

SUBJECT:- DIMITROV.

The "Catholic Herald" of 29.7.38, stated that Moscow has appointed a new secretariat for the Comintern, of which one of the members is DIMITROV.

A copy of this cutting from the "Catholic Herald" was forwarded to S.I.S. on 4.8.38.

SF.411/3, v.3. 88a.89a.

as above.

Original in.....dated.....

8<sup>D.G.</sup>8.38.

S. Form 81.

PF 41718. 119a

CROSS-REFERENCE.

SUBJECT:- DIMITROV. G.

On, 12.11.38., World News and Views, published an article by DIMITROV, entitled UNITED FRONT AGAINST FASCISM", which had previously been published in "PRAVDA" on November 7th, 1938.

Original in.....SF 411/1. vol. 1. 71a.....dated.....12.11.38.  
B.D.  
22.11.38.

S. Form 81.

PF.41718

119B-

CROSS-REFERENCE.

SUBJECT:- DIMITROV.

21.11.38.

The following is an extract from a report on Communist activities in the West Indies, received from Mr. Griffiths of Trinidad Leaseholds Ltd., on 21.11.38.:-

".....The following is an accurate extract from an Executive Committee Communist International memo. received this week by the Communist Party of Great Britain, and initialled by DIMITROV. It was on the thin brown paper used for secret communications.:

'The position in Jamaica shows how deeply the armour of British Imperialism has been pierced. No effort must be spared in linking up the agrarian and industrial demands of the natives. The demand for equal status with white people must be conceded in our propaganda. The Party must strengthen its cells in factories and in agricultural areas. No effort is too small and no channel of work must be neglected.

'The illegal side must be hurried forward in case of Government action against the Party and its followers. The first responsibility for the work will rest upon the Communist Party of America. Our British Party will act in a directive and consultative capacity.'....."

SF.411/West Indies, v.4. 130b. 21.11.38.  
Original in.....dated.....  
DG.  
21.12.38.

S. Form 81.

S. Form 89

120A  
~~Ref~~

PRESS CUTTING.

29 NOV 1938  
Date.....

DAILY MAIL.

**Dmitrov in Paris**  
*From Daily Mail Correspondent*  
 RIGA, Latvia, Monday.  
**M**OSCOW, headquarters of the Communist International, reports that Dmitrov, its general secretary, has arrived secretly in Paris to take an active part in directing the general strike.

121A.

SECRET

PF.41718/B.4b.

6th December, 1938.

Dear Major Vivian,

You will no doubt have seen in the "Daily Mail" of 29.11.38, a paragraph from their correspondent in Riga, alleging that DIMITROV has arrived secretly in Paris to take an active part in directing the general strike.

I have seen no mention of this in any other paper, and should be interested to know whether you have heard of DIMITROV or any other emissary of the Comintern having visited France at the time of the strike. It seems hardly likely that so important and conspicuous a figure as DIMITROV would have risked visiting France at that moment.

I should also be very interested to hear in due course the views of your representative on the extent to which the Communist Party was responsible for the strike. The Party has not, of course, attempted to conceal its support of the strike: but my present impression is that there were many non-communist elements in the C.G.T. who shared the communist view - without whose assistance the Communist Party could not have persuaded the leadership of the C.G.T. to recommend strike action.

Yours sincerely,

R.H.F.

Major V. Vivian, C.B.E.,  
S.I.S.

Copy in P.F.P.P-108 (C.G.T.)  
of 411/ France.

✓  
M.T.B.  
15/12/38

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3 (4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958. JUL 20 1958

115a

Secret.

In reply, state NUMBER and DATE.

dated 19.4.38.

M.I.5. (Mr. White)

Reference correspondence ending with our \_\_\_\_\_ of  
17.12.37., regarding the movements of Georgi DIMITROV:

We have now received information from an informant  
that DIMITROV is making frequent journeys from the  
U.S.S.R. to Europe. He travels by Soviet boats, which put  
him ashore at Havre, Cherbourg, or, sometimes, at some desert-  
ed point on the coast. The French Communist Deputy, Jacques  
DUCLOS, is stated to make the necessary preparations for  
DIMITROV's visits. It is further stated that DIMITROV was,  
early in March, at Mulhouse, where he expressed Moscow's  
dissatisfaction with the French Communist Party's work in  
Spain and in internal politics.

The above is sent you in case DIMITROV should attempt to  
visit the U.K. on one of his periodical journeys to France.

for V.V.

of social virtues, in order to stand a better chance at the coming elections to the Confidential Councils in March, but the workers and employees (of which last one quarter are now earning only 50 to 100 marks a month) will nevertheless recognise the capitalist wolf. They will point out the balance sheets just cited, and hundreds of others; they will expose the new rationalisation offensive and render ineffective the social demagoguery with which Ley emphasises the expropriation of the Jewish owner of the Suhl arms factory. They will expose the shabby propaganda regarding the benefits of the Winter Relief and the "Strength through Joy" organisations, and show that they realise that they, the toiling masses, have had to pay for the whole of this and receive back only a fraction. They will reply to the howls about the "community of the people" which fascism claims to have created, by pointing out the silent and yet eloquent figures of the robbery of milliards in wages and salaries.

The swastika bosses are endeavouring to exploit for their own ends the momentary improvement in the fat supplies. But the toiling masses will speedily realise that this improvement is only very temporary. For some weeks they have experienced a fresh wave of high prices (fruit, and above all vegetables; greens, for instance, have doubled in price since December). The example set by the workers of two Chemnitz works, in stopping work for a demand for a fat allowance, will be followed elsewhere. And when the fascist rulers put forward their last and apparently their most important argument, the assertion that National Socialism has made Germany free in the field of foreign politics, a million voices will reply, pointing out that fascism has replaced the foreign yoke of Versailles by a yoke a thousand times worse and more bloody, that of its own dictatorship.

The dictatorship is taking precautions: The results of the elections to the Confidential Councils, it has already been announced, may not be published. The fascist commanders, armed to the teeth as they are, prepared to commit any terrorist action, and in a position to crush all free voting, are nevertheless driven to this precaution: a confession of their defeat even before the election has taken place.

## Dimitrov's Reply to Herr Ribbentrop

Moscow, January 8.

On December 18, the Nazi official paper, "**Voelkischer Beobachter**," published a letter from von Ribbentrop, Hitler's ambassador-at-large, to Lord Allen of Hurtwood.

Lord Allen had forwarded to Hitler a demand by British lawyers for the liberation of the German lawyer, Hans Litten.

Ribbentrop, in his letter, puts forward a number of theses: **First**, that the present German regime represents a special legal system corresponding to the "spirit" and the "natural instincts" of the German people; **second**, that the seizure of power by the German fascists on January 30, 1933, represented a "revolution"; **third**, that it is the historical mission of German fascism to "save civilisation" and **fourth**, and last, that he, Ribbentrop, was instrumental in securing Dimitrov's release, a fact which he now bitterly repents.

Ribbentrop expresses his regret for the "magnanimity" which the German government displayed in releasing Dimitrov. Regarding Dimitrov's report at the Seventh World Congress of the Communist International, which he distorts in the most shameful manner, Herr Ribbentrop writes: "This precious programme is the result of Dimitrov's release, that is to say, the result of British liberal outlook and of German kind-heartedness and magnanimity."

Below we give Dimitrov's replies to the questions put to him in this matter by representatives of the press:

**Question:** "What is your opinion of the letter written by Hitler's diplomat, Ribbentrop, to Lord Allen, and published in the official organ of the German government, '**Voelkischer Beobachter**,' on December 18, in answer to the demand for the liberation of the German lawyer, Litten, addressed by English lawyers to Hitler personally?"

**Dimitrov:** "Herr Ribbentrop is not giving his individual opinion alone," Dimitrov answered. Indeed, his personal opinions are of very little value. His letter can only be regarded as an official statement from the German government attempting to justify monstrous crimes which have led to protests throughout the civilised world.

Ribbentrop writes as the mouthpiece of German fascism, which has no scruples and is attempting to win the support of public

opinion in England, both for the repression of its political opponents and the war adventures which it is planning.

Is it by chance that this letter appeared at the same time as the dastardly execution of the German Communist Klaus has filled all honest people throughout the world with indignation; and when, faced with the results of their policy—the catastrophe of starvation for the working people of Germany—the Nazis are greatly intensifying terror throughout the country?

By speaking openly in defence of the executioners, this accomplice in a diplomat's kid gloves virtually throws a challenge to world public opinion.

**Question:** "What do you think of Ribbentrop's statement that the present German regime represents a special legal system corresponding to the 'spirit and natural instincts of the German people'?"

**Dimitrov:** Ribbentrop's statement is a most gross insult to the German people.

What cynicism and Nietzschean scorn does Ribbentrop show towards the people to whom he addresses his letter when he makes such a statement. Fascism and a legal system are absolutely incompatible. Fascism is the negation of any kind of legal system. In essence Fascism is pure arbitrary rule.

It is the arbitrary rule of an armed gang of hirelings of big capital who enslave the vast majority of people in the interests not only of an exploiting minority but precisely in the interests of the most rapacious exploiters.

What kind of legal system is it which claims to correspond to the "spirit and natural instincts of the German people," and has deprived nine-tenths of this people of elementary political rights?

What kind of legal system is it that is destroying the flower of the German people in prisons and concentration camps? What kind of a legal system is it which, as Ribbentrop himself says, keeps in confinement people like Litten, who are absolutely innocent, simply because they have a different "spiritual viewpoint" from that of Ribbentrop?

Ribbentrop's justification for the annulment of the old system in Germany is, as he says, "Adolf Hitler could also be tried by the same clauses" of the criminal code as any other mortal.

But a system under which any fascist murderer does not come before a court or any clause of the law for his criminal acts is an arbitrary system. It is a regime of criminals in power.

It would be no exaggeration to say that the "special legal system" of Ribbentrop stands closer to the "system" of American gangsters who terrorise the population of the United States of America than to any other existing legal system.

Under what legal system, for example, can we include the provocative burning of the Reichstag by German fascists? Let the incorporated German Academy of Law, whose material Herr Ribbentrop so obligingly promises to send to Lord Allen, try to justify from the viewpoint of any legal system this provocative act which served, as its initiators planned, as a pretext for a series of Saint Bartholemew's nights.

By no "legal system" will the Ribbentrops be able to justify such a step as the arrest of people who had nothing whatever to do with the affair and their trial on the charge of burning the Reichstag, when the whole world knows that the Reichstag was fired at the orders and under the leadership of the fascist rulers.

Let the German Academy of Law try to give legal justification to the assassinations so frequently practised by fascists or the numerous cases of murder during so-called "attempts to escape," or death sentences on anti-fascists on the basis of forged documents and false witnesses.

Let it try to justify the system of tortures and inquisition to which fascist hangmen subject imprisoned Communists, Social-Democrats, and other anti-fascists. Let Herr Ribbentrop explain what standards of a legal system will embrace such actions as the murder by fascists of the German, Professor Lessing, on Czechoslovakian territory, as the bloody slaughter of June 30, as the murder of General Schleicher and his wife, as the shooting of scores of Storm Troopers. And what about anti-Semitic pogroms and the persecution of Catholics, which recall the worst pages from the times of the inquisition, the times of the persecution of the Huguenots? And then sterilisation? Under what legal system can such vile acts be permissible? Or the Bacchanalia which accompanied the public



burning of immortal productions of human thought and human genius?

True, such a "special legal system" had its precursor in history, in the dark ages. It still arouses horror among those who study history to read of tortures like the stake, the burning of heretics, the execution of Giordano Bruno, the brutal racks upon which unfortunate people were stretched in the time of Ivan the Terrible. At that time also there were headsman with axes at the place of execution cutting off heads, at that time also there were Ribbentrops who lauded this "special legal system."

But we know that the peoples utterly destroyed this system and ruthlessly drove out those who created it.

It needed the spiritual degeneration of capitalist society and all the rottenness of disintegrating capitalism to awaken this system from the dead and bring shame on the country which gave to the world Marx and Engels, Goethe, Schiller, Wagner and Heine. The court of history will not be gentler with those who raised the axe and block as the symbol of modern mediævalism at the time when the five-pointed star with the emblem of the hammer and sickle is already blazing over one-sixth of the globe.

**Question:** "What is your estimate of Ribbentrop's statement that 'revolutions are not decided in courtrooms and in accordance with ordinary legal standards'?"

**Dimitrov:** It is quite true that revolutions are not decided in courtrooms and on the basis of ordinary legal standards. But Herr Ribbentrop, thinking that he has here found the key to the justification of the crimes of German fascism, forgot one "small thing." The whole point is that the coming of the German fascists to power on January 30, 1933, was not a revolution at all.

It is known that every genuine revolution means the passing of power from one class into the hands of another class. But in Germany the bourgeoisie as a class were in power and remained in power. The capitalist system remained untouched. All that changed was that the most reactionary, most chauvinistic and most imperialistic circles of finance-capital became the complete masters, and intensified capitalist exploitation and oppression to the utmost.

This political forgery will not help Ribbentrop. He thinks that when he sticks the label "National Socialist Revolution" on the reactionary fascist maniacs he thus justifies fascist terror. It never occurred to the fascist diplomat that real revolutions, however harsh they may be, do not need justification, because they uplift the people who bring them about and humanity as a whole as a consequence, to a higher stage of human civilisation. But the bloody orgy of fascism cannot be justified in any way, for the very reason that it reduces the great German people to the level of barbarism.

The fascist legend of National Socialist Revolution has hitherto been an article primarily for home consumption, intended to mislead the masses and to take the place of fats, meat and eggs that are not forthcoming. Ribbentrop, Hitler's travelling salesman, attempts to play this rotten hawker's trick on the European market.

He recommends the raging fascist frenzy quite seriously as a "model example" of revolution for all other nations. It is impossible to read without a smile such a statement of Ribbentrop's as that the infamous methods of the National Socialist "revolution" "have nothing resembling them in history," and "are in striking contradiction to the cruel and barbarous methods by which revolutions were carried out among other peoples of the civilised world," that, finally, they serve the cause of "preserving the fundamental ethical and moral principles of the people."

All this is such record-making shameless lying that it does not even need a reply.

It is a truly fascist "model example" of boundless insolence.

**Question:** "What is your attitude to the statement of Ribbentrop that it is the historic mission of German fascism to save civilisation?"

**Dimitrov:** The same as it would be to a statement by American gangsters if they were to attribute to themselves the mission of saving mankind from banditry.

It is well known that German fascists direct their blows against everything which bears the imprint of human progress, free thought and independent creation, against all who are not fascists. It could not be otherwise, because fascism is the most merciless enemy of human progress and civilisation. It is the embodiment of the most savage and unbridled obscurantism.

It directs its blows first and foremost against the Labour movement and particularly against Communism, because Communism represents the vanguard of the international working class movement, because it is the bearer of a new civilisation, because, as the famous French writer, Andre Gide recently correctly expressed it, Communism is "the common cause of the peoples of the whole world."

This role of Communism stands out with particular clearness in the light of those great achievements of Socialist construction which have been brought about in the U.S.S.R. under the wise direction of the greatest man of our epoch, Stalin.

Millions of people—workers, peasants, intellectuals, scientists, engineers, technicians—in the capitalist world are becoming more and more convinced that Socialism in the U.S.S.R. means a mighty growth in productive forces, that it means the continuously increasing welfare of the broadest masses of the people, that it means an unprecedented rise in their cultural level, that it means an all-round development of human personality, that it means the birth of new people, a new life, a new psychology.

Socialism is peace and fraternity of peoples. And for this very reason all that is honest, independent and free among mankind is rallying with the working class, despite all difficulties, in a United Front against fascism, this plague of modern humanity."

**Question:** "What have you to say about Ribbentrop's statement that he was instrumental in securing your liberation?"

**Dimitrov:** In making such a statement, to express it mildly, Ribbentrop exaggerates the role played in history by his own personality. As everybody knows, I was liberated from prison together with my Bulgarian comrades because even the fascist court had no option but to acquit us. It acquitted us because it was proved up to the hilt at the Leipzig trial that the Reichstag was fired not by Communists, but by German fascists. We were liberated because of the wave of indignation which rose so high against the crimes of German fascism throughout the world, and because fascism so disgraced itself and made itself such a laughing stock at Leipzig that nothing was left for it but to expel us from the country.

But where does Ribbentrop's part come in here?—If the Ribbentrops could have torn me in pieces at Leipzig they would have done so with the greatest of pleasure. But they were powerless. A bandit who lets his victim go because people rush to the aid of the victim and holds the robber's arms can boast least of all of his own magnanimity.

Ribbentrop tries to depict the programme of the United Front of struggle against the offensive of capital, of fascism and war, which was developed at the Seventh Congress of the Communist International openly before the whole world, as a world terrorist plot, not only against fascist Germany, but against all Europe and especially against the British Empire.

It would seem that this terrible calamity took place as a result of "British Liberal outlook and German kind-heartedness and magnanimity," which, as Ribbentrop assures us, led to my liberation.

Ribbentrop needs all this lying balderdash to persuade British public opinion not to repeat such a "mistake" as my liberation, in order to give German fascism a free hand to wreak vengeance on Thaelmann and other prisoners in the German dungeons. He deliberately distorts the decisions of the Seventh Congress so as to distract attention from the real conspirators and terrorists who are trying to plunge the world into the catastrophe of a new imperialist war.

The stenographic report of my speech has been published. It has been read by the workers of all countries, and English Lords can read it also.

In my report, in conformity with the programme and tactics of the Communist International, not only did I not speak as a supporter of individual terror, but I fought with all the passion of a fighter for Communism against those who have made the weapon of political, individual terror the chief method of achieving their reactionary aims. I have in mind here, first and foremost, the German fascists.

There is no doubt that serious danger is looming more than ever before over the life of Thaelmann, and tens of thousands of Communists, Social-Democrats and other anti-fascists imprisoned in German jails and concentration camps.

New crimes of fascism are pending. The hand of the fascist butchers must be turned aside. It is for millions of workers and all honest people to speak.

67a

Extract from

"INTERNATIONAL PRESS CORRESPONDENCE".

Vol: 16. No: 4. Dated 18.1.36.

giving

"DIMITROV's reply to Herr RIBBENTROP."

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See also 65x. 131A.

✓ S.D  
24.1.36.

68a

PF. 41718.

CROSS-REFERENCE.

**Subject:—** DIMITROV.

22.1.36. "Inprecorr" vol.16. no.5. contains  
an account of Comrade DIMITROV's closing  
speech at the Seventh World Congress of  
the Comintern.

**Original in**.....SF.411/4 vol.3.(86a).....**dated** 22.1.36.....

F.H.M.  
30.1.36.  
S. Form 81

PF 41718

69a

Cross Reference.

**Subject:** DISRAELI. @ DIMITROV.

**Date:** 29.1.36.  
Nos. 5033/U.K. and 5036/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9 ). v.12. 315a. S.R. Box 46.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

PRESS CUTTING.

MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

Date..... 1 FEB 1936

59 70  
S8  
8/2/36

CASE OF DR. LITTEN

Dimitroff's Reply to Ribbentrop

→ PR - 41718

22  
372

From our Moscow Correspondent

George Dimitroff, the Bulgarian Communist who was the outstanding figure of the Reichstag fire trial and who now is Secretary General of the Comintern, has given an interview in which he contradicts statements made by Herr Ribbentrop in a letter addressed to Lord Allen of Hurtwood. In this letter the Nazi diplomatist replied to an appeal of British lawyers for the release of the German barrister Dr. Hans Litten. In declining to move for Dr. Litten's release Herr Ribbentrop asserted that he, Ribbentrop, had been instrumental in bringing about Dimitroff's release, and said he had learned a lesson from doing so because of Dimitroff's activities since he came to Russia. This assertion the Comintern leader repudiates. "I was liberated," he declares, "because even a Fascist court had no option but to acquit us. I was liberated because the wave of indignation rose so high against the crimes of German Fascism and Fascism so disgraced itself that no other course was open to it but to expel me from the country."

Dimitroff pours scorn on Ribbentrop's assertion that the historic mission of German National Socialism is to save civilisation as well might a set of American gangsters claim, he says, that it was their mission to save mankind from banditry. As for the statement that the present German regime represents a special legal system which is in accordance with the "spirit" and "natural instincts" of the German people, Dimitroff replies that Fascism and a legal system are absolutely incompatible. "Fascism is the negation of any kind of legal system. In essence, Fascism is arbitrary rule."

Dimitroff sums up his impression of Ribbentrop's reply as follows:—

His letter can be regarded only as an official statement from the German Government, attempting to justify the monstrous crimes which have led to protests throughout the civilised world. Ribbentrop writes as the mouthpiece of raging German Fascism, which is attempting to win the support of public opinion in England both for its repression of its political opponents and for the war adventures it is planning. . . . Speaking openly in defence of the executioners who are wielding their axes, their accomplice in the kid gloves of a diplomat virtually throws a challenge to the public opinion of the world by his letter.

71a

PF. 41718.CROSS-REFERENCE.Subject:— DIMITROV.

1.2.36.

Article in "International Press Correspondence", Vol.16 no.7., on the Eleventh Congress of the C.P. of Australia, states that Comrades STALIN, DIMITROV & THAELMANN were elected as the Honorary Presidium.

Original in... SF.411/Australia (68b) ..... dated... 1.2.36. ....

F.H.M.  
7.2.36.

S. Form 81

72a

PI 40718

Cross Reference.

Subject: DISRAELI.

Date: 6.2.36.  
Nos. 5096/U.K. & 5101/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9.). v.12. 318a. S.R. Box 46.

NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.

12/2/36

PF 41218 73a

# Cross Reference.

**Subject:** DISRAELI. @ DIMITROFF.

**Date:** 20.2.36.  
No. 5200/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9.). v.13. 326a. S.R. Box 46.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

✓  
MS  
28/2/36



749

Cross Reference.

Subject: DISRAELI.

Date: 24.2.36.  
No. 5235/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9.). v.13. 328a. S.R. Box 46.

NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.

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15  
28/2/36

PI-41718 746

## Cross Reference.

Subject: "DISRAELI"

Date: 11.3.36.  
No. 5350/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. (9.). v.13. 337a. S.R. Box 46.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

Miss Bagot

To save printing them  
all up - could you have  
a look at the <sup>recent</sup> R S M's  
X referred - then file  
to say whether any of them  
refer to this journey  
(95a) ?

Ward  
18/3/36

59

They do not refer  
to this journey

Ward  
19/3/36



75A

Secret.

In reply, state NUMBER and DATE.

CX/12309, dated 12.3.36.  
V.

M.I.5. (Mr. Cumming)

Movements of DIMITROV.

According to information, dated 5.3.36., received from a contact in touch with the Communist Centre in Paris, Georgi DIMITROV had planned the following tour:

He would leave Odessa on the 10th March for a visit of inspection of the European Communist Parties, travelling via Stambul, Athens, Yugoslavia, Italy and France, where he would spend some days in Marseilles before proceeding to Barcelona. There he would meet the leading personalities of the Spanish Party and thence proceed to Belgium via France, meeting representatives of the Left-Wing British Socialists at Liège en route.

His return journey would be via France and Switzerland to Vienna, which place he would reach on 5th April, thence proceeding via Bulgaria to Varna. He might visit Poland, but this was uncertain.

His tour would be incognito and was being undertaken mainly with the object of clearing up difficulties arising from the new popular front tactics.

(2) We should be grateful if you could let us know whether you have any confirmation of a tour on the part of DIMITROV, as we have none.

for V.V.

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3 (4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958. Jul 14 2003

Cross Reference.

75X

**Subject:** DIMITROV.

**Date:** 17.3.36.  
No. V.P.277.  
18.3.36.  
No. V.P.279.

**Information filed in S.F. 413/4. (10.). v.7. 298a. 299a S.R. Box 46.**

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

756

Cross Reference.

Subject: "DISRAELI"

16.3.36.  
Date: No. 5380/U.K.  
17.3.36.  
No. 5398/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. (9.). v.13. 342a. S.R. Box 46.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

75c

Cross Reference.

Subject: "DISRAELI".

Date: 19.3.36.  
No. 5433/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. (9.). v.14. 343a. S.R. Box 46.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

✓  
B



75d.

Cross Reference.

Subject: "DISRAELI"

Date: 20.3.36.  
No. 5435/U.K.  
No. 5437/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9 ). v.14. 344a. S.R. Box 46.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

76<sup>a</sup>

PP.41718/DS9.

21st March 1956.

Dear Major Vivian,

With reference to your of 12.3.36., you may care to know that we have no previous record here of DIMITROV's proposed tour.

Yours sincerely,

*Handwritten signature*

Major V. Vivian, C.B.E.,  
S.I.S.

*Handwritten date: 21/3/56*

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3 (4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958. JULY 2003

Cross Reference.

779

Subject: "DISRAELI"

Date: 26.3.36.  
No. 5506/U.K.  
No. 5509/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. (9.). v.14. 346a. S.R. Box 46.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

S. Form 111

✓  
S-28/3/36

Cross Reference.

789

Subject: "DISRAELI"

Date: 27.3.36.  
No. 5510/U.K.  
No. 5515/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. (9.). v.14. 348a. S.R. Box 46.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

20/3/36

79a

P.F. 41718. DIMITROV.

CROSS-REFERENCE.

Subject:— DIMITROV.

"INPREKOR". vol.16. No.16. 28.3.36.

This copy of "INPREKOR" printed an extract from DIMITROV's concluding speech at the closing session of the 7th World Congress of the Communist International.

Original in.....S.F....411/4.....v.3.....90a.....dated...28.3.36.....

E.S. 6.4.36.

S. Form 81

✓  
AS

Cross Reference.

809

Subject: "DISRAELI"

Date: 17.4.36.  
No. 5646/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9 ). v.14. 351a. S.R. Box 46.

NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.

✓  
B  
20/4/36

PE. 41718

CROSS-REFERENCE.Subject:— DIMITROV.

18.4.36. According to "International Press Correspondence" Vol.16 no.19, DIMITROV was present at the Tenth Congress of the Y.C.L. of the Soviet Union, opening in Moscow on 11.4.36, and was elected a member of the honorary presidium.

Original in OF, 25/1 vol.2. (78a) ..... dated 18.4.36.  
F.H.M.  
6.5.36.

S. Form 84

Cross Reference.

819

Subject: "DISRAELI"

Date: 20.4.36.  
No. 5680/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9.). v.14. 352a. S.R. Box 46.

NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.

✓  
22/4/35



Cross Reference.

829

**Subject:** "DISRAELI"

**Date:** 21.4.36.  
No. 5689/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9 ). v.14. 353a. S.R. Box 46.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

S. Form 111

✓  
1/5  
21/4/36

PI-41718 83a

Cross Reference.

Subject: "DISRAELI"

Date: 27.4.36.  
No. 5754/U.K.  
29.4.36.  
No. 5781/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. (9.). v.14. 356a. S.R. Box 46.  
358a.

NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.

✓  
29  
30/4/36

838

S.I. Form O.6.

EXTRACT.

Relating to DIMITROV

Extracted from S.F. 411/Spain..... No. 55b.....

Author of original S.I.S...... Place and date of origin 27.4.36.....

Extract made by D.M...... on (date) 6.5.36.....

S.I.S. report on Comintern Activities in Spain, CX/1179/V dated 27.4.36.

"You will remember that, in our CX/12309 of 12.3.36., we informed you that we had received a report to the effect that Georgi DIMITROV was planning a tour through Central Europe to Barcelona, where he intended meeting leading personalities of the Spanish Communist Party. We are now informed that this tour of DIMITROV's was cancelled at the request of Litvinov, who urged that so well known a figure could not fail to attract attention and that, in existing circumstances, a round of visits, whether incognito or not, would do a great deal of harm".....

✓  
DK  
6/5/36

Cross Reference.

41718

84

Subject:

"DISRAELI"  
                    

Date:

1.5.36.  
No. 5802/U.K.  
4.5.36.  
Nos. 5836/U.K. & 5837/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. (9.). v.14. 359a.  
361a.

S.R. Box 46.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

✓  
4/5  
41-7-36

S. FORM 111

859

Cross Reference.

Subject: "DISRAELI"

Date: 5.5.36.  
Nos. 5842/U.K. & 5843/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. (9.). v.14. 363a. S.R. Box 46.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

V/S  
9/5/36

86A

P.F.41718.

CROSS-REFERENCE.

Subject:— Georgi DIMITROV.

"International Press Correspondence", Vol.16, No.23,  
dated 16.5.36, contained an article by DIMITROV, entitled  
"The United Front of Struggle for Peace".

Original in S.F.411/1, 47a. dated 16.5.36.  
M.J.E.B.  
19.5.36.

S. Form 81



87a

Cross Reference.

Subject: DIMITROV.

Date: 20.5.36.  
No. 5956/U.S.A.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. (12). v.l. 12a. S.R. Box 46.

NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.

88  
21/5/36

## Cross Reference.

889

**Subject:** "DISRAELI"

**Date:** 27.5.36.  
No. 6027/U.K.  
28.5.36.  
No. 6039/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9.). v.14. 369a. S.R. Box 46.  
372a.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

✓  
AS  
5/6/36



Cross Reference.

899

Subject: "DISRAELI".

Date: 8.6.36.  
No. 6097/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9.). v.15. 376a. S.R. Box 46.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

✓/15  
12/6/36

Cross Reference.

909

Subject: "DISRAELI."

Date: 17.6.36.  
No. 6167/U.K.  
18.6.36.  
No. 6169/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9 ). v.15. 383a. S.R. Box 46.  
384a.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

✓  
18  
22/6/36

Cross Reference.

919

Subject: "DISRAELI"  
←

Date: 22.6.36.  
No.6189/U.K. & No.6190/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9.). v.15. 386a. S.R. Box 46.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

✓  
25/10/36

Cross Reference.

RF 4718 920

**Subject:** DIMITROV @ DISRAELI.

**Date:** 3.7.36.

No.6295/U.K.  
No.302, dated 27.6.36.

1.7.36.

{ No.6264/U.K.  
{ No.269, dated 25.6.36.  
{ No.6259/U.K.  
{ No.288, dated 20.6.36.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9 ). Vol.15, 393a. S.R. Box 46.  
390a.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

✓  
JM  
7/7/36

939

Cross Reference.

Subject: "DISRAELI"

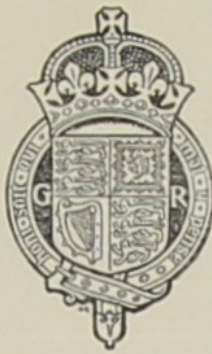
Date: 9.7.36.  
No. 6354/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9.). v.15. 396a. S.R. Box 46.

NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.

88  
14/7/36

94<sup>a</sup>



Telephone : NATIONAL 6321

Telegrams : Postgen Cent London

Your Reference

P.O. Reference M.G.

POSTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT,

GENERAL POST OFFICE,

LONDON, E.C.1.

17th. July, 1936.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear Liddell,

You may wish to see the enclosed two packets addressed to delegates of the I.S.H. residing at 111, Upper Pearson Street, North Shields and 27, Princess Street, South Shields, respectively.

Yours sincerely,

Packets addressed to: I.S.H., 27 Princess St., (Delegate), South Shields, and I.S.H., 111 Upper Pearson Street (Delegate), North Shields. Contained pamphlets by Georgi DIMITROF entitled "Kelas Kaoem Boeroeh Melawan Fassisisme"

Captain G.M.Liddell.



95<sup>a</sup>

PF.41718/DS9.

20th July 1936.

Dear Greenfield,

Many thanks for letting me see the two packets of literature which you forwarded under your letter M.G. of the 17th July 1936.

As these pamphlets are not covered by the Secretary of State's Consolidated Warrant I should be grateful if they could now be sent on.

Yours sincerely,

BTM

1622

P.Greenfield Esq.,  
G.P.O.

✓  
14703  
2/7/36

41718 96A

Cross Reference.

**Subject:** DISRAELI (DIMITROV).

**Date:** 4.8.36. 31.7.36.

No.334, dated 20.7.36. No.351, dated 25.7.36.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9 ). Vol.16, 408a. S.R. Box 46.  
407a.

NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.



# Cross Reference.

PR 41718.

97A

**Subject:** DISRAELI (DIMITROV)

**Date:** 7.8.36.

No.6622/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9 ). Vol.16, 410a. S.R. Box 46.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

S. Form 111A

✓  
M.T.B.  
15/8/36

RF 41718  
989

# Cross Reference.

Subject: SIRAELI.

Date: 15.8.36. 13.8.36.  
No. 6710/U.K. No. 6692/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9.). v.16. 412a. 413a. S.R. Box 46.

**NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.**

✓  
25/8/36

P.F.41718

98B

CROSS-REFERENCE.Subject:— DIMITROFF

"VOELKISCHER BEOBACHTER" dated 16.8.36 contained an article on "The hand of Moscow in Palestine" in which it was stated that a University had been erected in Moscow to instruct Arabian revolutionaries. The plan of instruction is that common to all Komintern schools. It was stated that this Arabian movement is under the special protection of DIMITROFF.

Original in S.F.411/Palestine 50b ..... dated 16.8.36.  
D.W.H.  
1.9.36.

S. Form 81

✓  
JG  
1/9/36

Cross Reference.

999

Subject: "DISRAELI"

Date: 18.8.36.  
Nos. 6723/U.K. & 6727/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. (9.). v.16. 417a. S.R. Box 46.

NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.

✓ AS  
24/8/36

100a

P.F. 41718CROSS-REFERENCE.Subject:— DIMITROFF.

9.9.36. S.I.S. forwarded a review of Communism in Bulgaria for the year ending 30.6.36. which stated that the C.P. in Bulgaria followed the directions of DIMITROFF and KOLAROFF who led int on to the more moderate policy of collaboration with the other parties of the left, ~~Under~~ their instructions the party congress in 1935 passed resolutions to fight for the restoration of the constitution and the formation of a popular front.

DIMITROFF is presumably identical with the subject of this file.

Original in.....S.F. 411/Bulgaria. 62a.....dated.....9.9.36.....

S.A.T. 16.9.36.

S. Form 81

ST.  
16.9.36

PF 41718

101a

Cross Reference.

Subject: "DISRAELI"

Date: 17.9.36.  
No. 6923/U.K. & 6925/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9 ). Vol.16 (428b) S.R. Box 46.

NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.

✓ 22/9/36

102 A

S.I. Form O.6.

EXTRACT.

Relating to DIMITROV.

Extracted from S.F. 420/1..Vol. 5..... No.....

Author of original ..S.I.S..... Place and date of origin .192a..15.10.36.

Extract made by ..P.S.J.W..... on (date) ...22.10.36.....

.....

(a) Some months ago the IKKI received a report from BELA KUN - P.F.R. 3543 (BELA KUN) regarding the situation in Spain in which he stated that the time was drawing near for the Comintern to give practical help to the Spanish revolutionaries. This report was commented upon by DIMITROV to the effect that BELA KUN had allowed his zeal to outrun his judgement and that the Comintern's policy at present would not admit of active intervention in Spanish affairs. The document was sent to STALIN who returned it to the IKKI archives and the Narkomvnudel was able to establish that they had found their way to the anti-Stalinites who saw in them a further proof of STALIN'S betrayal of the revolutionary cause. The Narkomvnudel reported that the anti-Stalinites were planning to get these documents out of the USSR and to make them public abroad in the interests of their cause. STALIN was determined at all costs not only to prevent this happening but also to silence all those who had evolved the plan, as he realised that if it were given publicity the prestige of the VKP(b) might be seriously damaged.....

103A

PF. 41718

CROSS-REFERENCE.

Subject:— DIMITROV

14.11.36. "Inprecorr" vol.16 no.51 contained an article entitled "The People's Front against Fascism and War" by Georgi DIMITROV.

Original in SF.428/Spain (24b) .....dated 14.11.36.

F.H.M.  
26.11.36.

S. Form 81



PF. 41718

104A

CROSS-REFERENCE.Subject:— DIMITROV

17.11.36. N.I.D. file M.5621/1936 enclosed copy of despatch from British Embassy, Paris, concerning an article in "Republique" of 6.11.36. which alleged that a plan was under consideration for the transfer of the Third International from Moscow to Paris. The despatch stated that "the transfer to Paris would also suit members of the Third International, including DIMITROV, who no longer, the article alleges, feels safe at Moscow under the potential menace of the Stalin-Voroshilov-Molotov triumvirate.....I am not myself in a position to suggest that, if any credence should be attached to the story, in particular to its allegations of a divergence between M.Stalin and the Soviet Government on the one hand, and M. DIMITROV and the Third International on the other....."

Original in SF. 411/3..vol 13..(70a).....dated 27.11.36.....

F.H.M.  
3.12.36.

S. Form 81

105A

P.F. 41718.CROSS-REFERENCE.Subject:— DIMITROV.

According to a report, forwarded by S.I.S. on 13.5.37 under CX/23550, Margareta NELKIN had for some months believed that the "removal" of General Franco would bring about the collapse of the Insurgent Cause. She had, therefore, written to the Comintern for advice.

In reply, DIMITROV had written, encouraging her to carry out her plan on her own account.

Original in S.F. 411/11, 39a. 41b. dated 13.5.37.  
 M.J.E.B. 20.5.37.  
 20.5.37.

S. Form 81

✓  
 N.W. 21/5/37

156A.

P.F. 41718.CROSS-REFERENCE.**Subject:**— DIMITROV Georges.

4.6.37.

"Humanite" of 4.6.37. published the text of telegrams sent by Georges DIMITROV in the name of the executive committee of the Communist International to DEBROUCKERE, president of the executive committee of the I.O.S., BRUSSELS, and to the Socialist and Communist parties of Spain and to the U.G.T. These telegrams urge unity of action between the various parties in defense of the people of Spain.

**Original in**..... S.F. 428/Spain vol. 2. 59x. .... **dated**..... 4.6.37. ....

S.T. 9.6.37. ✓

S. Form 81

P.F.41718.

CROSS-REFERENCE.Subject:— DIMITROV.

2.9.37.

Under CX/8488 of 2.9.37. S.I.S. forwarded a report from Paris dated 9.8.37. on the relations of MUNZENBERG with the Comintern.

According to MUNZENBERG and confirmed by a member of the Soviet Embassy in Paris, there is a struggle taking place between Stalin and the Comintern in the course of which DIMITROV has been much discredited. Stalin dare not have an open quarrel with the Comintern or cut off all its funds as he fears the effect on foreign communists.

Original in... P.F.R. MUNZENBERG vol.3. 238a. dated... 2.9.37.

S.T. 6.9.37.

S. Form 81

108

INCOMING DOCUMENT

S. Form 14.

Enclosures.

received from M. I. L.  
on 30 NOV 1937 at 11.30 a.m.  
Senders Reference (or File No.) 20045/14/47 p.m.  
Schedule No. 39.

Delivered to B.C.C. on 30 NOV 1937 at 12.30 a.m.  
Passed for action to B.C.C. on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m.  
p.m.

R. for former papers or traces

Herewith or  
Out to

B.4b.

We have information with which to confirm or  
refute this report. A Green Card was  
inserted in the T.I. in April, 1933. (see minute 5).  
A similar report was received in 1936, - see 75A, 76A.  
MJB. 2/12/37.

Executive Instructions.

Miss Bagot     33

200  
2/12

P.A.                      Section                      Date

Filed in P.F. 41718. as Enclosure No. 108A by MJB.  
Carded:     Names                      Subjects                      Places                      } 2/12/37.

110

**INCOMING DOCUMENT**

S. Form 14.

Enclosures.

received from **N.I.C.**  
on **18 DEC 1937** at **9.30** a.m.  
Senders Reference (or File No.) **20065/4/CX** p.m.  
**Schedule No. 58.**

*Handwritten note:*  
200  
20/12

Delivered to **B.C.G.**  
on **18 DEC 1937** at **12.30** a.m.  
Passed for action to **B.P.O.** on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m.  
p.m.

**R. for former papers or traces**

Herewith or  
Out to

*Handwritten signature:*  
G.P.O.

**Executive Instructions.**

*Handwritten:* PA.

P.A.                      Section                      Date

Filed in **P.F. 41718.**

as Enclosure No. **110A**

by **M.J.B.**

Carded: Names

Subjects

Places

*Handwritten:* 22/12/37

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ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3 (4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958. JULY 2003

1080

Secret.

In reply, state NUMBER and DATE.

dated 29.11.37.

M.I.5. (Mr. White)

Georgi DIMITROV.

DIMITROV, the subject of the Reichstag trial, was alleged to have been in Amsterdam during the first half of the present month and attempting to enter the U.K.

Have you any information, which would tend to confirm or refute this report? During the past year there have been two or three reports regarding DIMITROV's alleged presence in different European countries, but these have never been confirmed. The last was a report dated 26.10.37., saying that a rumour was then current and was supported by one or two newspapers that DIMITROV had been secretly visiting that city. The Danish Police, however, stated that this was certainly not true.

for V.V.

SECRET.

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ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3 (4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958. JULY 2003

109a

PP. 41718/R.4b

3rd December, 1937.

Dear Major Vivian,

In answer to your letter dated 29.11.37, we have no records here to bear out the report that DIMITROV has been in Amsterdam, or visited this country.

PPR 4310.

It occurred to me for a moment that DIMITROV and the new head of the Comintern European organisation, (SHOSTIN) might be identical. On going into the matter, however, I found a report stating that SHOSTIN had at one time returned to Moscow to consult DIMITROV.

On going into SHOSTIN's records, I noticed a statement made in the report forwarded under your letter dated 11.8.37, to the effect that SHOSTIN had been appointed by Lincoln, and was directly responsible to the new C.P.U. chief in Moscow, YERKIN. It seems a curious situation for the Comintern agent to be responsible to the Russian Minister for Internal Security; unless SHOSTIN is to be regarded more as an itinerant inspector sent to test out the orthodoxy of the Comintern representatives in Europe.

Yours sincerely,

D G W

Major V. Vivian, C.B.E.,  
S.I.S.

✓  
MJD  
4/12/37



Secret.

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3 (4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958. JULY 2003

110A

In reply, state NUMBER and DATE.

dated 17.12.37.

M.I.5. (Mr. White)

Reference your PF.41718/B.4b of 3.12.37.:

Our source in touch with Communist circles in Paris reports that DIMITROV paid a secret visit to France at the beginning of September 1937, having previously visited Holland, Belgium and Switzerland. He remained in Paris for four days and then made his way to Spain. He only saw a few people in Paris and to them he stated that he merely wished to gather a personal impression of how things were going in France and Spain.

Our source is certain that <sup>PPR 4310.</sup> [SUBOTIN] is not identical with DIMITROV. From the circle he frequents he is sure that SUBOTIN's principal function is that of an Ogpu Inspector. Owing, however, to the trouble which arose with Munzenberg, SUBOTIN was obliged to take charge of the complete re-organisation of the Comintern work in France; but it is gathered that, as soon as the work of the Action Committee is proceeding satisfactorily, SUBOTIN will cease to be a member of that Committee and will return to his primary Ogpu function of keeping watch over the others.

for V.V.

111a

P.F. 41718  
~~XXXX(1670)~~

CROSS - REFERENCE.

SUBJECT:-

G. DIMITROV.

On 18.2.38, C.C. Cardiff forwarded a postal packet which had been taken to them by the addressee, Mr W.H. HARRIS, of Cardiff. The packet contained three pamphlets, one of which, by G. DIMITROV, was called "THE SOVIET UNION AND THE WORKING CLASS OF THE CAPITALIST COUNTRIES".

S.I.

N.B. Pamphlets sent to Library - 24.2.38.

SF. 416/3, v.3. 93a.

18.2.38.

Original in.....dated.....

D.G.  
24.2.38.

PF.41718

112a

CROSS - REFERENCE.SUBJECT:- Georgi DIMITROV.

According to the Table of Contents of INTERNATIONAL PRESS CORRESPONDENCE from January - December 1937, which was received in M.I.5. on 12.3.38, Georgi DIMITROV contributed the following articles:-

- |    |  |        |       |
|----|--|--------|-------|
| 1) | "On the Threshold of 1937".  | No. 2. | p. 21 |
| 2) | "The 1th Anniversary of the C.P. of China".                                  | 54.    | 1332. |
| 3) | "Release Thaelmann!"   | 9.     | 240.  |
| 4) | "The Soviet Election Campaign".  | 55.    | 1356. |
| 5) | "The Lessons of Almeria"   | 25.    | 565.  |
| 6) | "A Year of Heroic Struggle of the Spanish people".                           | 31.    | 693.  |
| 7) | "Unity of the Int. Proletariat is the Supreme demand of the Present Moment". | 20.    | 465.  |
| 8) | "Fascism is War."  | 33.    | 741.  |
| 9) | "The Soviet Union and the Working Class of the Capitalist Countries".        | 49.    | 1177. |

Original in SF.416/4 v.8. 391a. dated 12.3.38.

D.G.  
31.3.38

S. Form 81.

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PP# 113A

CROSS - REFERENCE.

SUBJECT:- DIMITROFF

31.3.38.

S.I.S. report stated that as a result of reports from the Action Committee to the Comintern to the effect that the Blum Government was gradually feeling towards the Right Parties for support and correspondingly freeing itself from Communist political influences, DIMITROFF immediately despatched three of his confidential men, SLUTZKI, GREBIN and TIANOV, to take stock of the situation and report what steps could be taken to counteract this movement.

Original in SF.411/11 (79a) vol.2. dated 31.3.38.  
F.H.M.  
5.4.38.

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supported every effort made by the Wilhelmstrasse to separate Rumania from France and effect a rapprochement with Germany.

Carol would like to be king of a country including Hungary. He seeks the assistance of the Reich and already has the support of the Polish Colonel Beck, who would like to play the leading role in an anti-Soviet "League" extending from the Baltic to the Black Sea.

The price Carol must pay is Rumanian oil, at present pledged to guarantee French loans to Rumania. This oil is to go entirely to Germany. Rumania is to take her place in the economic system of Greater Germany, break off her relations with France and serve the ends pursued by the fascist bloc.

#### CHINA WILL DEFEAT JAPAN IF SHE IS NOT SACRIFICED LIKE SPAIN

The news from China is more reassuring. Chinese troops are inflicting defeat after defeat on the Japanese in Shansi, Shantung and the Shanghai district. The military and economic chances of a Chinese victory are undeniable. All she needs, like Spain, is the effective help of the Great Powers.

The Sixth Congress of the Kuomintang was held last week. It issued a manifesto calling for national unity, undertaking to forgive political quarrels and promising that after the victory the political tutelage of the Kuomintang would end and a Government be formed by the people in conformity with the teaching of Sun Yat Sen.

The attacked nations form a single national front against the aggressor. They are fighting heroically. They have been betrayed by those from whom they expected help. At the congress of the International Peace Congress in Prague, Dr. Zenkl, mayor of that city, and Dr. Sychrava, legionary leader and representative of a section of the I.P.C., advocated the unity of the democratic forces of all countries which is to guarantee peace and proclaimed: "There is something worse in the world than war and death—life without honour, without liberty and without humanity."

Are London and Paris not conscious of this?

## France

### Crisis in France

By J. Berlioz (Paris)

**T**HIS week, which begins with the placing before Parliament of the Government's financial projects, may be decisive for the future of France and of peace throughout the world. Forces of reaction and war are concentrated against the French Popular Front and the masses are possessed by a legitimate anxiety when witnessing the real failure of governmental authority in face of the menace abroad and at home.

These masses realise better the serious consequences of the successive neglect of the programme for which they voted in April, 1936, a programme to which they have always been faithful, but whose application has hardly been begun by governments which have failed to express their aspirations.

The frightful financial situation, inherited from the reactionary governments, instead of having improved, has been aggravated because at every price they have sought the confidence of the money powers, rather than attacked them.

Disputes are taking place, as, for example, in the Paris engineering industry, brought about by the employers' obstinacy in refusing to agree to adjustments of wages with reference to the rising costs of living, and the renewal of collective agreements. These disputes have been aggravated by the spectacle of the powerlessness of the Government to make the employers accept equitable solutions of the conflicts, those employers who are deliberately sabotaging national production and trying to extend the disputes, hoping thus to set the workers against other sections of the Popular Front.

Dissatisfaction is also increased by the freedom which is permitted to the fascist organisations to provoke disorder; to the agents of international fascism who prepare for civil war, and to the accomplices whom they find in the higher ranks of the Government apparatus, the thorough cleansing of which is so sorely needed.

English Edition

A30  
TWO PENCE

## INTERNATIONAL

Vol. 18. No. 19

PRESS

9th April, 1938

## CORRESPONDENCE

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## The Sign in Which We Must Fight, and in Which We Shall Be Victorious

Dimitrov's Book on the United Front and the People's Front

By J. Alpari

THE impunity of the shameless attack by German fascism on the Austrian people, the benevolent attitude of the British Government to the future predatory plans of fascism, and the shameful betrayal of the Spanish people by the Western powers, who wish the Spanish Republic to be given over to death and destruction—all these things have aroused an indescribable wave of indignation throughout the whole world, and in particular in those countries which are directly threatened by robber fascism. However, anger and indignation alone are not enough, particularly when they exhaust themselves in condemnation only. Anger and indignation must be turned into action.

The time has now come in which millions and millions of toilers, workers, peasants, intellectuals, tradesmen, shopkeepers, officials, etc., must finally join hands in a *real fighting front* to defend their freedom and their lives, and the freedom and the lives of their wives and children.

In these decisive days we welcome with particular satisfaction the appearance of the book of comrade *Dimitrov* in which his speeches and articles on questions of the united front and the people's front delivered and written during the years 1935/37 have been collected. We have received in this way a book

which will serve us as a guide in our difficult struggle against the fascist oppressors of liberty and the war-mongers, and which will contribute to a tremendous extent to the building up of the anti-fascist people's front.

Naturally, we can give no more than one or two indications of the contents of the book here.

If one wishes to fight against an enemy effectively, one must know him well. Above all, we find in Dimitrov's book an excellent description of fascism and at the same time its exposure. Let us quote only a few short passages:

"Fascism—that is not a power above and beyond the classes; it is also not the power of the petty-bourgeoisie or of the slum proletariat over finance capital. Fascism—that is the power of finance capital itself. Fascism is the organisation of a bloody and terrorist oppression of the working class, of the revolutionary section of the peasantry and of the intellectuals. Fascism in foreign policy is

G. Dimitrov: Problems of the United Front and the People's Front. Speeches and articles. Co-operative Publishing House of Foreign Workers in the U.S.S.R., Moscow 1938.

Chauvinism in its most brutal form, and it nourishes a bestial hatred of other peoples."

Naturally, this is not an exhaustive characterisation of fascism. That description was given three years ago in Dimitrov's great speech to the VII World Congress of the Communist International. The four short sentences reveal already the real nature of fascism. The stress laid on the bellicose characteristics of fascism even then is noteworthy. It was at this congress incidentally that the phrase was coined: Fascism means War! Dimitrov wrote a special article on this question which was published in August 1937. But even earlier, in November 1936, he wrote:

"One must not regard the war let loose against the Spanish people by fascism as a casual and isolated act. Not at all. On the contrary, *this war is merely a link in a whole chain of offensives which fascism proposes to carry out in the international arena.* One must not harbour the illusion that the war being waged against the Spanish people by fascism will be the last war of its kind. On the contrary, fascism is arming itself for attacks against democracy in France, Belgium and Czechoslovakia, and even against democracy in Great Britain, Switzerland, and in the Scandinavian countries. Everywhere the fascist reactionaries are at work both inside the countries and outside preparing fascist mutinies and uprisings in order to launch them at a favourable moment."

At the time it sounded like a prophecy. To-day the truth of Dimitrov's utterance can be recognised by anyone.

Dimitrov's chief aim in his speeches and writings is the conduct of the struggle against fascism, how this struggle can be conducted *correctly* and *successfully*.

The whole book is, therefore, devoted to the struggle for the united front and for the people's front, and the struggle of the united front and the people's front.

As early as May 1st, 1935, Dimitrov developed the idea of unity of action in a speech to delegations of foreign workers who had come to the Soviet Union:

"The economic, social, cultural and political interests of the workers are the same, irrespective of their political affiliations, whether they are Communists, Social Democrats or Anarchists."

Therefore Dimitrov demanded unity of action, declaring that only in unity of action could the working class develop its whole strength.

This idea was then developed by Dimitrov with iron logic in each succeeding stage of the struggle, always on the basis of a sober analysis of the existing situation and always taking into consideration the given relations of class forces.

This same question was the centre point of the discussions of the VII World Congress of the Communist International, at which Dimitrov spoke on the struggle against fascism. He declared:

"Whether the victory of fascism can be prevented depends *in the first place* on the militant activity displayed by the working class itself, on whether its forces are welded into a single militant army combating the offensive of capitalism and fascism. Having established its fighting unity the proletariat would paralyse the influence of fascism over the peasantry, the petty-bourgeoisie of the towns, the youth and the intelligentsia, and would be able to neutralise one section and win the other over to its side."

As the first condition for the establishment of unity of action Dimitrov demands the *restoration* of trade-union unity in all countries and also on an international scale.

This demand was put forward at a time when the French trade unions were not yet united, and when a number of big revolutionary trade unions still existed. Nevertheless he declared:

"We have raised aloft the banner of trade-union unity at this congress. . . . We shall pursue this policy no matter what it may cost, and we shall succeed in finding a common language with our class brothers, our fellow workers and fellow fighters, the workers who to-day belong to the International Federation of Trade Unions."

Unity of action means the united action of the working class; it is the real united front. But as important as it is in

itself, it is not sufficient by any means in the fight against fascism. In this struggle the united front must develop into a *People's Front*. Dimitrov, therefore, dealt in detail with this question also at the VII World Congress, and brought it into the closest relation with the struggle against war. He declared:

"To-day not only the working class, the peasantry and the other toilers are supporting the cause of the preservation of peace, but also the oppressed nations and the weaker peoples whose independence is threatened by new wars. Even some of the big capitalist States, who fear that they would suffer losses in any re-division of the world, are, *at the present stage of development*, interested in avoiding war."

"From this follows the possibility of the broadest possible united front of the working class, of all toilers and of whole peoples against the danger of imperialist war. Based on the peace policy of the Soviet Union and on the desire of millions and millions of toilers for peace, our congress has put forward a perspective of the development of a broad anti-war front not only for the Communist advance guard, but for the whole of the international working class and for the peoples of all countries. It will depend on the degree to which this world anti-war front is realised and becomes effective whether the fascist imperialist warmongers will be able to let loose a new imperialist war in the immediate future or not, or whether their criminal hands will be hacked off by the axe of a powerful anti-war front."

Shortly after the VII World Congress Mussolini began his robber crusade against Abyssinia, and thereby fascist war developed from a threatening possibility into a deplorable fact. The fight against the fascist war-mongers then became the chief object of Dimitrov's speeches and articles.

He clearly and sharply defined the difference between the fascist Powers and other imperialist Powers against which fascism is fighting. Unlike the war of 1914-18 it is not possible to treat all the capitalist States as aggressors. When the decision is taken of war or peace the working class cannot stand on one side (May 1, 1936). It must take sides against the fascist aggressors.

However, Dimitrov had spoken in this sense even earlier, when in his great speech to the VII World Congress he declared to the Chinese Communists:

"We approve of the initiative our heroic Chinese brother Party has taken in the formation of a broad anti-imperialist united front against Japanese imperialism and its Chinese agents: a united front with all organised forces at present on the territory of China which are prepared to wage a real struggle for the salvation of the country and its people."

Dimitrov, a passionate fighter against fascism, plunges the struggle against fascism with fiery enthusiasm, knowing that although fascism is a cruel force, it is not a stable force, and that the forces opposed to it are far stronger than it. However, he does not underestimate for one moment the difficulties which the struggle for the united front and the People's Front must overcome. As early as May 1, 1935 in his May Day speech he declared that the chief hindrance was the attitude of the reactionary leaders of the Second International and of the International Federation of Trade Unions. In his speech to the VII World Congress he sternly rejected any compromise with Social Democracy as a dangerous tendency in the working-class movement which co-operated with the bourgeoisie in the interests of the bourgeoisie. The readers of this book, through which this idea runs like a red thread, will wonder, therefore, how it is possible for *Otto Bauer* to contend that Dimitrov in his struggle for the People's Front has deviated from the line of the VII World Congress because on the twentieth anniversary of the Socialist October Revolution he warned the working class against Social Democracy.

Incidentally, Dimitrov was *unfortunately* not wrong. What a different situation we should find ourselves in to-day if the Right-wing leaders of the Second International had acted differently during the past three years!

The social-democratic readers of Dimitrov's book will now be able to judge for themselves who was right: Dimitrov or his social-democratic critics? And in spite of everything: the united front and the People's Front have stood the test of history. In France; unity of the trade union movement was restored and

supported every effort made by the Wilhelmstrasse to separate Rumania from France and effect a rapprochement with Germany.

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Disputes are taking place, as, for example, in the Paris engineering industry, brought about by the employers' obstinacy in refusing to agree to adjustments of wages with reference to the rising costs of living, and the renewal of collective agreements. These disputes have been aggravated by the spectacle of the powerlessness of the Government to make the employers accept equitable solutions of the conflicts, those employers who are deliberately sabotaging national production and trying to extend the disputes, hoping thus to set the workers against other sections of the Popular Front.

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accompanied by an unprecedented upsurge of the trade union movement. The drive for international unity can record certain progress. The February elections in Spain, the May elections in France, both of which were carried out in 1936, are milestones on the path of the successful application of the People's Front policy. Its culminating point was reached in Spain and China where the People's Front has become a real fighting front against German and Italian fascism and Japanese military fascism, a policy which met with and is continuing to meet with the all-round, even if inadequate, international support of the anti-fascists of all lands.

A whole number of articles in the book are devoted to the German-Italian attack on Spain and the repulsion of this attack. The book also contains the exchange of telegrams between Dimitrov and the Spanish Socialists and between Dimitrov and the leaders of the Second International. This exchange of telegrams was inserted not in order to establish the responsibility, but obviously in order to have the whole matter reconsidered and to make good what has been left undone.

Although Dimitrov's book is chiefly devoted to the struggle against fascism, naturally, the struggle against *Trotsky* and his agents cannot be overlooked. It is particularly interesting to observe the clarity with which Dimitrov demonstrated the real connection between Trotskyism and fascist war-mongering as early as August, 1937, when not everything was so clear as it is to-day, after the Bukharin-Krestinsky trial, in an article entitled "Fascism means War!" in which he demanded the struggle against Trotskyism as part of the struggle against the fascist war-mongers.

It is impossible in this short article to give even an approximate idea of the rich content of this book, and in the near future a more detailed review of it will be published. Let us, therefore, content ourselves here with two further brief indications.

It is refreshing to read the refutation Hitler's prize diplomat *Ribbentrop* suffers at Dimitrov's hands. *Ribbentrop* declared that the salvage of civilisation is the historical mission of German fascism. This sounds as if, declared Dimitrov, American gangsters were to declare their mission to be the saving of humanity from banditry. German fascism is the sworn enemy of all human progress and civilisation.

Dimitrov replies as follows to *Ribbentrop's* assertion that he, Dimitrov, owes his liberation to *Ribbentrop*:

"A bandit who releases his victim because people who have hastened to the assistance of his victim have stayed his arm, is least of anybody entitled to boast that he has shown magnanimity."

It is also characteristic of Dimitrov's knowledge of human nature and judgment of character to observe how he estimated the capacities of Comrade *Dolores Ibaruri* as early as 1935, the comrade who afterwards distinguished herself and won enormous popularity as *Pasionaria*.

As its publishers rightly observe, this book will give the masses of the toilers new courage, and it will also give them new and sharp weapons; it will inspire all those who vacillate and hesitate with fresh belief in the strength of the masses, and give them fresh confidence and assurance.

The united front and the People's Front as Dimitrov advocates them, this is the sign in which we must fight and in which we shall be victorious.

---

"The menace of a new world war is growing. And this war would long ago have begun had it not been first and foremost for such a factor of peace as the Soviet Union, had it not been for the fact that the united People's Front against fascism and war has been constituted and has grown in the capitalist countries. By its consistent peace policy, by its Socialist industry, by its collectivised agriculture, by its Stakhanov movement, by its glorious Red Army, Red Air Fleet and Red Navy, by its example and influence, the Soviet Union strengthens the world front of the working people against war. It is not so simple to attack the Soviet Union. It is far easier to attack Spain, China, Austria and Czechoslovakia. To undertake a military campaign against the powerful Soviet Union is a somewhat risky affair for the fascists of Berlin, Tokyo and Rome."

(From the Speech of Comrade Georgi Dimitrov at an election meeting in Kostroma on December 8, 1937.)

114A

Vol.18, No.19. "INTERNATIONAL PRESS CORRESPONDENCE" 9th April, 1938.

"The Sign in which we must fight, and in which we shall be  
victorious."  
"DIMITROV's Book on the United Front and the People's Front"  
by J. ALPARI.

G. DIMITROV: "Problems of the United Front and the  
People's Front. Speeches and Articles."  
Co-operative Publishing House of Foreign  
Workers in the U.S.S.R., Moscow, 1938.

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13/4/38.



Cross Reference.

65c

Subject: DIMITROV @ DISRAELI.

Date: 9.1.36.

No. 4854/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. ( 9 ). v.11. 303a. S.R. Box 46.

NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.

669

Cross Reference.

Subject: "DISRAELI's" letter re RIBBONTROP

Date: 14.1.36.  
16.1.36.  
No. 4891/U.K.  
No. 4909/U.K.

Information filed in S.F. 413/4. (9.). vol.12. 305<sup>a</sup>. S.R. Box 46.

NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MAJOR V.

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Transferred from SF 427/1  
See also, 67a.

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PRESS CUTTING.

DAILY WORKER.

Date..... 9 JAN 1936

# Dimitrov Scourges Lawless Nazi Terror: Rule Of Gangsters And Plotters

## RIBBENTROP'S VILE EXCUSES

### Socialism Rallying Millions For Peace

(From Our Own Correspondent)

Moscow, Wednesday.

ON December 18 the Nazi official paper, "Voelkischer Beobachter," published a letter from von Ribbentrop, Hitler's chief adviser on foreign policy, to Lord Allen of Hurtwood.

Lord Allen had forwarded to Hitler a demand by British lawyers for the liberation of the German lawyer, Hans Litten.

Ribbentrop, in his letter, makes a direct attack on Dimitrov, who he "regrets" was liberated after the Reichstag Fire Trial.

Dimitrov, in an interview with Press representatives, answered a number of questions put to him in connection with Ribbentrop's attack.

## INTERVIEW IN FULL

What is your opinion of the letter written by Hitler's diplomat, Ribbentrop, to Lord Allen, and published in the official organ of the German Government, 'Voelkischer Beobachter,' on December 18, in answer to the demand for the liberation of the German lawyer, Litten, addressed by English lawyers to Hitler personally?" Dimitrov was asked.

"Herr Ribbentrop is not giving his individual opinion alone," Dimitrov answered. Indeed, his personal opinions are of very little value. His letter can only be regarded as an official statement from the German Government attempting to justify monstrous crimes which have led to protests throughout the civilised world.

### Mouthpiece

Ribbentrop writes as the mouthpiece of raging German Fascism which is attempting to win the support of public opinion in England, both for the repression of its political opponents and the war adventures which it is planning.

Is it by chance that this letter appeared at the same time as the dastardly execution of the German Communist Klaus has filled all honest people throughout the world with indignation; and when, faced with the results of their policy—the catastrophe of starvation for the working people of Germany—the Nazis are greatly intensifying terror throughout the country?

By speaking openly in defence of concentration camps, this accomplice in kid gloves virtually challenges the world public

### Gross Insult

"What do you think of Ribbentrop's statement that the present German regime represents a special legal system corresponding to the 'spirit and natural instincts of the German people'?"

Dimitrov: Ribbentrop's statement is a most gross insult to the great German people.

What cynicism and Nietzschean scorn does Ribbentrop show towards the people to whom he addresses his letter when he makes such a statement. Fascism and a legal system are absolutely incompatible. Fascism is the negation of any kind of legal system. In essence Fascism is arbitrary rule.

### Gang Rule

It is the arbitrary rule of an armed gang of hirelings of big capital who enslave the vast majority of people in the interests not only of an exploiting minority but precisely in the interests of the most rapacious exploiters.

What kind of legal system is it that, corresponding to "the spirit German people" has deprived and natural instincts of the nine-tenths of this people of elementary political rights?

What kind of a legal system is it that is destroying the flower of the concentration camps? What kind of a legal system is it which, as Ribbentrop himself says, keeps in confinement German people in prison camps? Absolutely inhuman

cause they have a different "spiritual viewpoint" from that of Ribbentrop?

### Fire Trial

Ribbentrop's justification for the annulment of the old legal system in Germany is, as he says, "Adolf Hitler could also be tried by the same clauses" of the criminal code as other mortals.

But a system under which any Fascist murderer does not come before a court or any clause of the law for its criminal acts is an arbitrary system.

It is a regime of criminals in power.

It would be no exaggeration to say that the "special legal system" of Ribbentrop stands closer to the "system" of American gangsters who terrorise the population of the United States of America than to any other existing legal system.

Under what legal system, for example, can we include the provocative burning of the Reichstag by German Fascists? Let the unified German Academy of Law, whose material Herr Ribbentrop so obligingly promises to send to Lord Allen, try to justify from the viewpoint of any legal system this provocative act which served, as its initiators planned, as a pretext for a series of Saint Bartholomew's nights.

By no "legal system" will the Ribbentrops be able to justify such a step as the arrest of people who had nothing whatever to do with the affair and their trial on the charge of burning the Reichstag, when the whole world knows that the Reichstag was fired at the orders and under the leadership of the Fascist rulers.

### "Escaping"

Let the German Academy of Law try to give legal justification to the assassinations so frequently practised by Fascists or the numerous cases of murder during so-called "attempts to escape," or death sentences on anti-Fascists on the basis of forged documents and false witnesses.

Let it try to justify the system of tortures and inquisition to which Fascist hangmen subject imprisoned Communists, Social-Democrats, and other anti-Fascists. Let Herr Ribbentrop explain what standards of a legal system will embrace such actions as the murder by Fascists of the German, Professor Lessing, on Czechoslovakian territory, as the bloody slaughter of June 30, as the murder of General Schleicher and his wife, as the shooting of scores of Storm Troopers.

### Pogroms

And what about anti-Semitic pogroms and the persecution of Catholics, which recall the worst pages from the times of the inquisition, the persecution of the persecuted?

365X

Under what legal system can such vile acts be permissible? Or the Bacchanalia which accompanied the public burning of immortal productions of human thought and human genius?

## Dark Ages

Yes, such a "special legal system" has had precedents in history, in the dark ages. It still arouses horror among those who study history to read of tortures like the stake, the burning of heretics, the execution of Giordano Bruno, the brutal racks upon which unfortunate people were stretched in the time of Ivan the Terrible. At that time also there were heads-men with axes at the place of execution cutting off heads, at that time also there were Ribbentrops who lauded this "special legal system."

But we know that the peoples utterly destroyed this system and without regret drove out those who created it.

## Brings Shame

It needed the spiritual degeneration of capitalist society and all the rottenness of disintegrated capitalism to revise this system once more and bring shame on the country which gave to the world Marx and Engels, Goethe, Schiller, Wagner and Heine. The court of history will not be gentler with those who raised the axe and block as the symbol of modern mediævalism at the time when the five-pointed star with the emblem of the hammer and sickle is already blazing over one-sixth of the globe.

"What is your estimate of Ribbentrop's statement that 'revolutions are not decided in court-rooms and in accordance with ordinary legal standards'?"

Dimitrov: It is quite true that revolutions are not decided in court-rooms and on the basis of ordinary legal standards. But Herr Ribbentrop, thinking that he has here found the key to the justification of the crimes of German Fascism, forgot one "small thing." The whole point is that the coming of the German Fascists to power on January 30, 1933, was not a revolution at all.

It is known that every genuine revolution means the passing of power from one class into the hands of another class. But in Germany the bourgeoisie as a class were in power and remained in power.

The capitalist system remained untouched. All that changed was that the most reactionary, most Chauvinistic and most imperialistic circles of finance-capital became the

complete masters, and extremely intensified capitalist exploitation and oppression.

This political forgery will not help Ribbentrop. He thinks that when he sticks the verbal label "National Socialist Revolution" on to the reactionary frenzy of the Fascists he thus justifies Fascist terror. It never occurred to the Fascist diplomat that real revolutions, however harsh they may be, do not need justification, because they uplift the people who bring them about and humanity as a whole as a consequence, to a higher stage of human civilisation.

But the bloody orgy of Fascism cannot be justified in any way, for the very reason that it reduces the great German people to the level of barbarism.

## Instead Of Meat

The Fascist Legend of National Socialist Revolution has hitherto been an article primarily for home consumption, intended to lead the masses into confusion and to take the place of fats, meat and eggs that are not forthcoming. Ribbentrop, Hitler's travelling salesman, attempts to throw these rotten goods on the European market.

He recommends the raging Fascist frenzy quite seriously as a "sample" of revolution for all other nations. It is impossible to read without a smile such a statement of Ribbentrop's as that the infamous methods of the National Socialist "revolution" "have nothing resembling them in history," and "are in crying contradiction to the cruel and barbarous methods by which revolutions were carried out among other peoples of the civilised world," that, finally, they serve the cause of "preserv-

ing the fundamental ethical and moral principles of the people."

This record-making shameless lying does not even need a reply.

It is a truly Fascist sample of boundless insolence.

"What is your attitude to the statement of Ribbentrop that it is the historic mission of German Fascism to save civilisation?"

Dimitrov: The same as it would be to a statement by American gangsters if they were to attribute to themselves the mission of saving mankind from banditry.

It is well known that German Fascists direct their blows against everything which bears the imprint of human progress, free thought and independent creation, against all who are not Fascists. It could not be otherwise, because Fascism is the most merciless enemy of human progress and civilisation. It is the embodiment of the most savage and unbridled obscurantism.

It direct its blows first and foremost against the Labour movement and particularly against Communism, because Communism represents the vanguard of the world working-class movement, because it is the bearer of a new civilisation, because, as the famous French writer, Andre Gide, recently correctly expressed it, Communism is "the common cause of the peoples of the whole world."

## In The U.S.S.R.

This role of Communism stands out with particular clearness in the light of those great achievements of Socialist construction which have been brought about in the U.S.S.R. under the wise direction of the greatest man of our era, Stalin.

Millions of people—workers, peasants, intellectuals, scientists, engineers, technicians—in the capitalist world are becoming more and more convinced that Socialism in the U.S.S.R. means a mighty growth in productive forces, that it means the continuously growing welfare of the broadest masses of the people, that it means an unprecedented rise in their cultural level, that it means an all-round development of human personality, that it means the birth of new people, a new life, a new psychology.

Socialism is peace and fraternity of peoples. And for this very reason all that is honest, independent and free among mankind is rallying with the working-class, despite all difficulties, in a United Front against Fascism, this foul disease of modern humanity.

"What have you to say about Ribbentrop's claim that he assisted to secure your liberation?"

Dimitrov: In making such a statement, to express it mildly, Ribbentrop exaggerates the role played in history by his own personality. As everybody knows, I was liberated from prison together with my Bulgarian comrades because even the Fascist Court had no option but to acquit us.

It acquitted us because it was proved up to the hilt at the Leipzig trial that the Reichstag was fired

not by Communists, but by German-Fascists. We were liberated because of the wave of indignation which rose so high against the crimes of German Fascism throughout the world, and because Fascism so disgraced itself and made itself such a laughing stock at Leipzig that nothing was left for it but to expel us from the country.

But where does Ribbentrop's part come in here?—If the Ribbentrops could have torn me in pieces at Leipzig they would have done so with the greatest of pleasure. But they were powerless.

A bandit who lets his victim go because people rush to the aid of the victim and holds the robber's arms can boast least of all of his own magnanimity.

## Not A Plot

Ribbentrop tries to depict the programme of the United Front of struggle against the offensive of capital, of Fascism and war, which was developed at the Seventh Congress of the Communist International openly before the whole world, as a world terrorist plot, not only against Fascist Germany, but against all Europe and especially against the British Empire.

It would seem that this terrible calamity took place as a result of "British Liberal outlook and German complacency and magnanimity," which, as Ribbentrop assures us, led to my liberation.

Ribbentrop needs all this lying balderdash to persuade British public opinion not to repeat such a "mistake" as my liberation, in order to set German Fascism free to wreak vengeance on Thaelmann and other prisoners in the German dungeons.

He deliberately distorts the decisions of the Seventh Congress so as to distract attention from the real plotters and terrorists who are trying to drag the world into the catastrophe of a new imperialist war.

The stenographic report of my speech has been published. It has been read by the workers of all countries, and English Lords can read it also.

In my report, in conformity with the programme and tactics of the Communist International, not only did I not speak as a supporter of individual terror, but I fought with all the passion of a fighter of Communism against those who have made the weapon of political, individual terror into a basic method of achieving their reactionary aims.

I have in view, first and foremost, the German Fascists.

There is no doubt that serious danger is looming more than ever before over the life of Thaelmann, and tens of thousands of Communists, Social-Democrats and other anti-Fascists imprisoned in German jails and concentration camps.

New crimes of Fascism are pending. The hand of the Fascist butchers must be turned aside. Let millions of workers and all honest people have their say.