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THREE CENTS NEW YORK CITY

LATE CITY EDITION

Mostly sunny today, fair tonight. Partly cloudy tomorrow. Temperature Range Today—Max., 40; Min., 25. Temperatures Yesterday—Max., 38; Min., 28. Full U. S. Weather Bureau Report, Page 45

Tokyo War Secrets Stolen By Soviet Spy Ring in 1941

Agents Led by Pseudo-Nazi Obtained Data Permitting Use of Troops in Siberia to Defend Moscow—2 Here Deny Role

By WALTER H. WAGGONER

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 — The Nazi troops pressing toward Moscow made public today a 32,000-word report on a Soviet spy ring in the Far East that was credited with a major development in diplomatic history and with having aided materially in the defeat by the Soviet Union of the Nazi armies invading Russian soil.

Prepared more than a year ago by Gen. Douglas MacArthur's intelligence staff, the document not only told a story of espionage, intrigue, passion and betrayal but warned that undetected fragments of the "most successful and complete" spying operation in Japan—these history might now be continuing its work in other world capitals.

Headed by a Russian-born German, Dr. Richard Sorge, the ring was found to have been responsible for information leading first to the "famous and disastrous" Soviet-Nazi pact of August, 1939, and then, as the diplomatic wheel went so full circle, to the eventual destruction by the Soviet Army of the

(1) The Japanese Cabinet, Navy and financial and industrial ruling class rejected a proposal by Germany for a Nazi-Japanese alliance against the Soviet Union and Great Britain. Moscow instead later chose to enter upon its own pact with Berlin, with

Continued on Page 4, Column 5

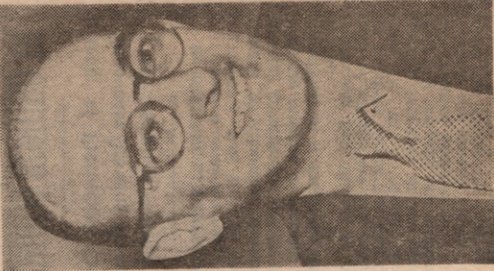
NAMED IN THE ARMY'S REPORT ON ESPIONAGE



Dr. Richard Sorge
Associated Press



Ozaki Hozumi
Associated Press



Guenther Stein
Associated Press

TOKYO WAR PLANS STOLEN FOR SOVIET

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the knowledge that Tokyo would not attack.

(2) Japan, later engaged in a "local" war with the Soviet Union, would not, however, strike, northward toward the U. S. S. R., but would instead seek her conquests in South Asia.

(3) In the crucial period of 1941, Sorge advised Moscow on two critical issues: he "flashed the urgent warning" that Germany would throw from 170 to 190 divisions against the whole Soviet border June 20, aiming at Moscow. The attack did come June 22.

(4) And July 2, immediately after the Imperial Council meeting of that day, Sorge advised Moscow that Japan would push southward toward French Indo-China. By Oct. 15, the chief agent had sent his "final sober conclusions" that the Japanese armies would not move into Siberia.

This was assurance enough for the Soviet Army to move its Siberian troops westward against the advancing Nazis. But it was Sorge's last coup: three days later, he and his radio operator, Max Klausen, were placed under arrest by the Japanese imperial police.

Working with Sorge was a clever, well-informed group of agents of several nationalities and a variety of protective colorations. High among them, according to the report, was Agnes Smedley, a United States writer on the Far East who now lives in Palaisades, N. Y.

Remington Cleared of Disloyalty As Board Rejects Bentley Charge

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he had known Miss Bentley, or that he had given her information while he was employed at the War Production Board. He did deny her charges that he was a dues-paying Communist and passed along secret information.

He testified that he thought that she was a newspaper reporter and gave her information of a non-secret character.

When the loyalty review board was considering the Remington case, Chairman Richardson on two occasions sought to obtain Miss Bentley's testimony but she declined to appear.

Mr. Remington's brief to the loyalty review board, said that "a number of flagrant inconsistencies" in Miss Bentley's testimony, plus her refusal to appear before the board and "her long Communist record" demonstrated the "total unavailability of her testimony as the basis of a charge of disloyalty to our nation."

Joseph L. Rauh Jr., one of Mr. Remington's attorneys, pointed out that character witnesses for Mr. Remington included Ernest M. Hopkins, former president of Dartmouth College; Prof. Robert M. Hail of Columbia; Thomas Blaisdell, Assistant Secretary of Commerce; Dr. Edwin G. Nourse, chairman of President Truman's Economic Council, and David Bruce, former Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

"We believe that a finding that William Remington is disloyal to the Government of the United States would be a travesty of Mr. Remington.



William W. Remington
The New York Times (Washington Bureau)

American justice," the brief concluded. "Remington has already paid many times over, the penalty for his gullibility."

Mr. Rauh said the loyalty board had access to the FBI report on Mr. Remington.

Miss Smedley, stated the report, "has been one of the most energetic workers for the Soviet cause in China for the past twenty-odd years." The report stated that she had "worked closely with Dr. Sorge as a member of his ring from late 1930 until he left China," and that "presumably in the past she had been a Comintern agent.

Although the "harm" of her work as an influence has been done, concluded the report on Miss Smedley, "perhaps it could be mitigated if she is now exposed for what she is, a spy and agent of the Soviet Government."

Another writer named by the report as a member of the Sorge ring was Guenther Stein, at that time a British citizen and journalist, who now resides in New York.

Mr. Stein is the author of "Challenge of Red China," published by McGraw-Hill in 1944.

[Both Miss Smedley and Mr. Stein denied in New York that they had participated in the espionage activities.]

Other members of the ring named by the report were:

Ozaki Hozumi, a Japanese newspaper correspondent whose valuable associations and position as unofficial adviser to the Cabinet under Prince Fumimaro Konoye entitled him to be Sorge's chief assistant.

Max Klausen, a German, valuable to the ring as experienced radio operator.

Branko de Voukelitch, a Yugoslav Communist in Tokyo as a magazine representative.

Miyagi Yotoko, a Nisei artist born in Los Angeles recruited by the United States Communist party and the Comintern.

Sorge and Ozaki were hanged Nov. 7, 1944. Voukelitch, sentenced to life imprisonment, died Jan. 13, 1945. Yotoko, a critically ill consumptive, died during his trial.

Klausen, the radio operator, received a life sentence, but he was released Oct. 9, 1945. His whereabouts is not now known.

Other key figures of the espionage network have either served their sentences or been released. Some, according to the report, are divorced from their former roles. But others are believed to be talking perhaps "garrulously of the great days" or even "still propagandizing for the cause."

"Guenther Stein and Agnes Smedley," stated the report, "are still at large, posing as objective analysts of Chinese affairs and still affecting the formation of American policy by the skill of their writings."

The report touched upon several controversial issues now before the public and the Government including:

(1) In effect, the document called for a greater degree of suspicion and distrust by and of individual United States citizens. "Though the work of Dr. Richard Sorge and his companions belongs to history," it said, "the lessons of their work should serve as a clear warning for today and the future. They concern not just the intelligence officer, but every good citizen. Some of their implications are frightening. One begins to wonder whom one can trust, that innocent comrade or loyal friend may suddenly be discovered as the enemy. He may have any face."

(2) The report charged that "high American Government officials" had been hoaxed by the writings of Miss Smedley and others on the Chinese Communist problem and it was implied that United States policy toward the Chinese Government had been influenced by these opinions.

(3) The United States Government's "loyalty" program was indirectly referred to in a comment stating that "the previous inter-

ests and prejudices" of a person are of greater importance in the selection of a Communist party agent than the question of whether he was a "card-carrying member."

"These facts," said the report, "should sharpen American concern with United States employes who show sympathy with the party and yet who have never joined it."

A key element in the success of the Sorge ring, according to the report, was that its leader never associated directly with either the Comintern or the local Communist parties. He was an agent of the Fourth Bureau of the Soviet Army staff, the intelligence unit, and probably had the rank of colonel.

In accepting the assignment as chief spy, Sorge made the following conditions, which were accepted: He would have "no relations" with the Japanese Communist party or its known members; he would have a Caucasian assistant of other than German or Russian ancestry; he would have a high level Japanese assistant; and he would have as little contact as possible with the Soviet Embassy.

He never permitted a Russian to be a member of the ring, and he also urged that intelligence and party activities be completely separated in all countries.

All Sorge's agents had aliases, and all posed as something quite different from their real function as spies. They were writers, artists, journalists, or a soldier, or a seamstress.

Nazi Card Held by Sorge

Sorge himself was the perfect opposite of a Soviet spy. He was a Nazi, with an authentic card. Only after his arrest Oct. 18, 1941, did the Embassy consider checking him against the files in Berlin. When it did, two high officials and close friends—Ambassador Eugene Ott and Col. Joseph Meisinger, Gestapo chief in Tokyo—were embarrassed, upset and, stated the report, for a while not above suspicion themselves.

The group worked in the best tradition of fictional spies. Members arranged meetings through code words, established contacts by matching serial numbers on currency, and exchanged notes in cigarette packs.

One member was found to be the "weak link." Kitagayashi Tomo, a Los Angeles dressmaker, was a friend of one of the principals and a member of the United States Communist party. But she was converted to the Women's Christian Temperance Union in 1933, and later to the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Even Klausen began to make so much money in his "cover" occupation of manufacturing blueprint machinery that it is believed his prosperity "dulled his enthusiasm in the Soviet cause."

The report attributed the downfall of the ring to its betrayal by Ito Ritsu, today one of the four or five highest Japanese Communist leaders. Acting on a confession by Ritsu the police trailed the former Los Angeles dressmaker, who led them eventually to the others.

The report concluded with an expression of doubt that the Soviet Union ever had learned that the informer had become a leading Japanese Communist in the post-war period.

Rescued Flier at Rhodes

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
RHODES, Feb. 10—French pilot William Labussiere and his wife arrived in Rhodes today aboard a Greek Coast Guard vessel that had rescued them after a crash-landing on the little uninhabited island of Tilos during a flight from Paris to French-Indo China.

Grandfather of Sorge Was Secretary to Marx

By The Associated Press.
WASHINGTON, Feb. 10—Dr.

Richard Sorge was born Oct. 4, 1895, a grandson of Adolf Sorge, secretary of Karl Marx at the time of the creation of the first Communist International, the Army report said.

It gave this thumbnail portrait of the master spy:

"Physically, Sorge was a big man, tall and stocky, with brown hair. His brow was creased and furrowed and his face was lined. From a glance at his face you could tell he had lived a tough, hard life.

"There was an arrogance and cruelty to the set of his eyes and the lines of his mouth. He was proud and overbearing . . . ruthless."

Japanese newsmen saw him as the typically swashbuckling, arrogant Nazi . . . quick tempered, a hard drinker."

The report added that "in addition to having a wife in Russia," he had another, "a school teacher in the United States."

JAPANESE SENTENCES CUT

Gen. Walker Acts on Convictions for Killing of U. S. Fliers

YOKOHAMA, Japan, Feb. 10 (UP)—Death sentences decreed a year ago for twenty-five Japanese for the murder of three American fliers were commuted today and three other death sentences for the same crime were revoked.

Lieut. Gen. Walton H. Walker, United States Eighth Army commander, commuted seven of the twenty-five death sentences to life imprisonment, seventeen to various terms at hard labor, and one to a suspended five-year term.

The three Japanese Navy men whose death sentences were revoked will be freed from prison.

General Walker upheld thirteen original death sentences and seven sentences of life imprisonment decreed at the same trial.