

# U. S. Reds Get New Line

By **RUSSELL PORTER**

American Communists were ordered yesterday to admit there had been anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union under Stalin. They were also instructed to call for an explanation by Soviet leaders who shared his responsibility.

A directive to take this course in the current re-writing of Soviet history was issued by The Daily Worker. This official publication of the Communist party in the United States carried a column-long editorial in two-column measure with the title "Grievous Deeds."

The Daily Worker's statement was a complete reversal of the position it took in 1949 when American newspapers published reports of anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union.

At that time, The Daily Worker indignantly asserted that the story was a "hoax." It accused The New York Times and other newspapers of having used the Communists' own "big lie" technique to discredit communism.

Yesterday The Daily Worker was still indignant, but against Stalin.

"We feel a deep sense of indignation, anger and grief over the latest disclosures of violation of Socialist principles under the Stalin regime in the Soviet Union," its editorial began.

"We refer to the apparent confirmation this week by a Jewish Communist paper in Poland of the charges that a large number of Jewish writers and other Jewish leaders were framed up and executed and that Jewish culture was virtually wiped out."

Expressing "our strong dissatisfaction that the Soviet leaders have not offered any explanation of what took place," the editorial said:

"Every supporter of socialism, every honest foe of racism, has

**The New York Times**

Published: April 14, 1956

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a right to expect an explanation and a duty to ask for it."

It praised the present Soviet leaders for taking steps to prevent a recurrence of other forms of Stalinism, but asked:

"What false theories, if any, played a part in the violations? What has been done to punish all those responsible? What has been done to rectify the misdeeds?"

The editorial added:

"For our part, we frankly admit we were too prone to accept the explanation of why Jewish culture had disappeared in the Soviet Union in the late Nineteen Forties. Had we not done so, we would have served the cause of socialism better."

The Jewish Labor Committee here announced plans yesterday for a "public trial" at the Biltmore Hotel April 30 to protest against the murder of Jewish writers in the Soviet Union.

"Jewish schools [in the Soviet Union] are still closed," said a committee statement. "Jewish newspapers are still not permitted to be published, Jewish books are not issued, and the majority of Jewish writers are still kept in cultural exile—if, in fact they are still alive."

The American Jewish Committee demanded yesterday that Soviet leaders prove they had abandoned anti-Semitism by releasing Jewish prisoners. It called the current admissions "camouflage and propaganda so long as tens of thousands of Jews are still held in Russian prison and slave labor camps on charges publicly confirmed now as completely and utterly false."