

TESTIMONY BARED ON 'FASCIST PLOT'

N.Y. Times
Plan to Run Country Under
Moseley, Given in Deatherage
Letter, Read Into Record

May 21/39
By HAROLD B. HINTON

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, May 20.—A transcript was made public today of the testimony before the House Committee on Un-American Activities Thursday on the fantastic, though vague, plan to establish a Fascist regime to run the country from Atlanta under the leadership of Major Gen. George Van Horn Moseley, retired.

Representative Dies of Texas, chairman of the committee, read the plan into the record in the course of examining James E. Campbell of Owensboro, Ky., one of the two witnesses examined thus far in relation to this and other rumored schemes. The project was set forth in a letter to Mr. Campbell from George Deatherage, head of the Knights of the White Camellia, dated Dec. 14, 1938.

"You will note from the general's speech, a copy of which was sent you," Mr. Deatherage's letter said, "that the plan is to do this job peacefully, and by force only if it becomes necessary. He (General Moseley) will go through if it takes everything that he has."

To Mr. Campbell was promised in this letter a high place in the "inner circle" of the new government as a reward for the sacrifices he had made for the cause.

Asks List of "Leaders"

"I suggest to you," the letter went on, "that in your spare time you make a list of leaders in the nation that you are sure of, that this might be presented to the general when the time is ripe. I will do the same, and between the three of us can decide on them. I am sure that he will not select them until we have a chance to put the old G-2 on them."

The committee has called General Moseley, and he has accepted the invitation. He is coming east from California by train, so will be unable to testify on Monday, committee officials said. On that day the committee will re-examine Mr. Campbell and Dudley P. Gilbert of New York, who has been associated with him in a campaign of spying out "subversive activities," including a reported conspiracy to take over the government by force next August.

This is not to be confused with Mr. Deatherage's plan to put General Moseley in control. The Gilbert-Campbell testimony has to do with a suspected uprising on the part of Communist or left-wing elements.

A postscript to the Deatherage letter indicated that General Moseley might not have been fully informed concerning the part scheduled for him in the new regime. It said:

"For the moment, let us keep this

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MOSELEY ASSAILS FOE 'WITHIN GATES'

He Declares He Is Assisting as 'Patriot' a Fight to Save America From Herself

CRITICISM OF HIM 'STRANGE'

He Drops Study of 'Un-American Activities' on Coast to Appear Before Committee

EL CENTRO, Calif., May 20 (AP).—Major Gen. George Van Horn Moseley, retired, said today that he was leaving tonight to appear before the Dies committee in Washington next week.

Abandoning speaking engagements and his self-termed investigation of un-American activities in the Imperial Valley, he planned to stop in Atlanta, his home, to obtain files.

He issued a statement, saying: "My attention has just been called to press reports to the effect that I am a Fascist. The reports state that I am engaged in un-American activities. That statement is fully in keeping with the findings of the Massachusetts investigating committee on un-American activities, wherein it was stated the constant misuse of the term "fascism," as synonymous with anti-communism, is significant of communistic misrepresentation and deceit.

"All I am doing is to continue to follow those patriotic Christian American principles which have governed me for a lifetime in serving the Republic of the United States, particularly during this period of emergency, in assisting as far as I am able in my subordinate position, in saving America from herself.

"Do the American people not realize that we are in the midst of the greatest battle of our history, first: the battle to keep America out of war, and second, to save ourselves from those enemies prospering today within our gates and as the Dies committee found, in key positions in Federal agencies and projects.

"How strange it is today that a patriot can discuss openly and frankly the problems involving the Irish, the Italian, the German and

all, but let him mention any internationalisms or Zionism and their increasing control in America, then he is attacked on all sides and even his life may be threatened.

"Repeatedly I have declined to join any organization directly or indirectly. My work has been done frankly and in the open. If it is un-American to point out to our citizens today the tragic difficulties of the present situation in an effort to continue in existence the republic that millions of us still love, then I am guilty.

"In the meantime, however, I shall continue to obey that oath that I took upon entering the service and which I have retaken upon every promotion.

"If I may be permitted to give a message to the American people it is for them to unite, patriotically and lawfully, and save our republic now before it is too late."

3,000 PIGS DIE IN FIRE

Flames Sweep Barns on 2 Large Farms at Secaucus

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The fire started in the Brody pig farm on Secaucus Road here and spread rapidly through three large barns on the property and then spread to the adjoining Redfern pig farm where three large barns also were destroyed. The pigs were in pens in the barns and the flames spread with such rapidity that it was impossible to get any of the animals out.

From the Redfern Farm the flames spread to the rendering plant of the Quaker Soap Company and this was damaged before the fire was brought under control.

Ten firemen were overcome by smoke but only one required hospitalization.

Mechanics Sail for Reich

The North German Lloyd liner Columbus sailed yesterday for the Channel Ports with 965 passengers, among whom were some skilled mechanics whose passage was paid to Bremen by the German Government. Among the seventy-five cabin passengers were Otto Reinebeck, German Minister to Panama; Michael J. Scott, architect of the Irish Pavilion at the World's Fair, and General Constantin Iliesco, Rumanian Army surgeon.

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"We will have to direct him in a way which is not obviously trying to control him. He has been in the army so long that he has his own definite ideas. That will have to be allowed for. I see now that we cannot give him all this in one dose without upsetting him. We do not want to force more food on a man that is already upset with indigestion."

Mr. Deatherage will also appear before the committee Monday, it was announced, as will John D. M. Hamilton, chairman of the Republican National Committee, and Felix McWhirter, Indianapolis banker. Committee officials said that they had correspondence between General Moseley and Mr. Deatherage, which would probably be put into the record Monday. This correspondence, they added, indicated friendship and cooperation.

At one point in the letter to Mr. Campbell, made public today, Mr. Deatherage wrote:

"I believe as you do that it would take military action to get this gang out. And the organization must be built around a propaganda organization now that can in a few hours be turned into a militant fighting force. That is the idea of the boss also, but must be kept on the Q. T."

Mr. Deatherage suggested to Mr. Campbell that "in your letters and in mine hereafter, let us refer to the General as the boss in case Mr. Farley is interested."

"Please rest assured that our time is coming," he wrote, "and that within the next twelve months those that have borne the heart-breaking load of carrying on the fight will come into their own. That sacrifice will not have been in vain when the crisis reaches its climax and the nation knows the facts. You may rest assured that the General will take care of that."

Said to Oppose Fascist Tag

According to the letter, General

Mosely was to avoid taking army and navy officers, active or on reserve, into the organization so that he would not be accused of building up a Fascist army.

"I feel sure that if these men, many of whom you know, were appreciated (sic) of the situation," Mr. Deatherage commented in his letter, "they would resign their commissions and enlist with us for this American-Jewish war, for that is all that it is—a war fought with money and propaganda instead of rifles."

Declares It Means Fascism

After outlining evils which it would be the aim of the new government to end, Mr. Deatherage wrote:

"As far as the program is concerned, that is something else. We do not need fascism or nazism, that is true—but to my mind we will have fascism, call it what you may—for there can be no solution to this except a disciplined force under central leadership and an economic program that will put these millions back to work and keep them there.

"If we start a program that says we are going back to constitutional principles and ignoring the economic plight of the nation, we have not licked it. This is a social revolution just as much as the revolution against slavery or from the feudal age to the industrial."

The writer announced that, soon after the first of the year, there was to be held a quiet meeting, probably in Chicago, to map out plans in detail. Committee officials said that they believed this gathering never took place. Saying that the agenda would be "what we are going to do about this thing," Mr. Deatherage added:

"These will not be the organiza-

tion leaders but leaders of the main groups throughout the nation—Father Coughlin, Winrod, Lodge Curran, John Fry of the AFL, Homer Chaillaux of the Legion, as well as other veteran leaders, Taber of the Grange, Garrison of the Associated Farmers—in all, men who are heads of large groups on our side of the fence."

Feared "Pussyfooting"

Mr. Deatherage feared, however, that General Moseley would find the conferees "pussyfooting the issue, and that it will end in his having to take the bull by the horns and go to town on his own."

Through the testimony of both Mr. Campbell and Mr. Gilbert ran a bitter strain of suspicion and dislike for heads of other organizations ostensibly engaged in uncovering "subversive activities." Mr. Campbell insisted that he had no use for Mr. Deatherage, in spite of several friendly-sounding letters produced by the committee's investigators. At one point, Mr. Dies asked him if the Deatherage letter did not contain "reasonable utterances."

"Absolutely, and that is why I took the pains to go back behind this man," Mr. Campbell answered.

Mr. Deatherage had his own pet dislikes. He referred to "Major Pease who is now in Florida," "Gwiner of Atlanta," "Mrs. Fry" and others "who cannot be trusted." Apparently, these were persons known to him and Mr. Campbell as ostensibly engaged in parallel lines of endeavor.

Mr. Gilbert said he had been taken in time and time again by persons he trusted. In this connection he listed Hyatt Dane and John B. Snow, who, he testified, wanted him to merge his American Nationalists, Inc., with a pro-German organization they were launching.

He, also, did not like Mr. Deatherage, although he met him only once.

Another disillusionment, he declared, came from Royal Scott Gulden, who persuaded him to join an "outfit" which was described as anti-Communist and turned out to be anti-Semitic. When he found that out, Mr. Gilbert said, he resigned.

Harmonie Club Is Named

Most of Mr. Gilbert's testimony related to the alleged plot to seize the government by force next August. The headquarters of the alleged conspirators was the Harmonie Club, at 4 East Sixtieth Street, New York, according to the testimony in the transcript.

The informant, supposed to be a waiter in the club, who brought to Mr. Gilbert notes on secret meetings of the alleged plotters, was known to Mr. Gilbert as George Rice, but that probably was not his right name, Mr. Gilbert said. The waiter was described as about 40, of medium height, weighing 160 pounds, with darkish brown hair parted on the right side, as was Representative Dies's hair.

Asked whether he believed any of the supposed conspirators occupied positions in the government, Mr. Gilbert said:

"I don't say that, but they were in a confidential or very close to those who hold positions."

He added that the waiter's reports often included the name of "a judge in the New York Supreme Court and formerly the personal attorney of the President years ago, when he was Governor of New York."

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Dies said that all of the names he had seen in the reports Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Campbell had devised on the basis of the waiter's information were those of Jews, Mr. Gilbert said there were others as well.

Another witness was James F. Cooke of Athens, Tenn., commander of the Department of Tennessee, American Legion. He, with Bascom Jones, chairman of the Americanism Committee of the Department of Tennessee, and Leonard Lisk, a former department commander, brought one of the committee's investigators and Mr. Campbell together for the interview which led to the present investigation.

Mr. Dies asked Mr. Cooke if he thought there was a whispering campaign "for the purpose of convincing the people that the Jews are running the Democratic party." Mr. Cooke said he had heard no mention of it in connection with the efforts of Mr. Campbell.

DIES WARNS CANADIANS

Two Nations Must Join to Fight 'Triple Threat,' He Declares

MONTREAL, May 20 (Canadian Press)—Canada and the United States must stand together in fighting the triple threat of communism, fascism and nazism "which today threatens every existing democracy," Representative Martin Dies, chairman of the committee investigating un-American activities, told the Royal Empire Society here tonight.

He declared that Canadians were as vitally concerned in stopping subversive activities as the people of the United States because "after they have established a firm foot-

hold in the United States they will spread to Canada."

He said that 10,000,000 people in the United States are being influenced directly or indirectly by subversive activities and that these activities "were originally established in the United States by foreign governments with foreign funds."

The new state worship, which he called "statolatry," fundamental objective of communism, fascism and nazism, was designed to crush the individual and bend him to the will of the State, he asserted.

Accusing Communists of filtering into trade unions and motivating sit-down strikes, Mr. Dies said:

"I wish to digress a moment to compliment Canada upon the courageous manner in which she handled the sit-down strike. When this communist technique was imported to Canada the Canadian people, with firmness and courage, placed the stamp of disapproval upon it. As the result of this prompt action you were spared the lawlessness and violence which cost American labor and American industry billions of dollars and which contributed to the recession in the United States."

Mooney to Speak in Garden

Tom Mooney will appeal for labor unity and for the release of Warren K. Billings in an address at Madison Square Garden on Monday evening, June 5, the New York Tom Mooney Committee announced yesterday. Sponsors of the meeting, according to the committee, include Senator Robert F. Wagner, Representative Caroline O'Day, Sidney Hillman, David Dubinsky, Heywood Brown, Borough President Stanley M. Isaacs, Alex Rose, Paul J. Kern and City Councilman Michael J. Quill.