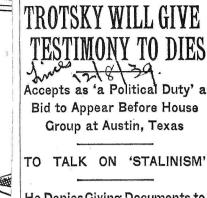
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8. 1939. DA



He Denies Giving Documents to Committee and Says He Has No Data on Latin America

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK TIMES. MEXICO CITY, Dec. 7-In a statement to the press today, Leon Trotsky revealed that he had accepted an invitation to testify before the Dies committee at Austin,

Fore the Dies committee at Austin, Texas. He asserted, however, that he did not intend to make any depositions concerning the activities of Mexican or Latin-American Communists, nor about the oil question, concern-ing which he said he did not possess a single document. He add-ed that no representative of the Dies committee had visited him in Mexico and that if he appeared be-fore the committee it would be to testify exclusively on the history of Stalinism.

Accepts as 'Political Duty'

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Accepts as 'Political Duty' By The Associated Press. MEXICO CITY, Dec. 7 (P)-Leon Trotsky, exiled former Soviet War Minister, said in a statement to-night that he had accepted "as a political duty" an invitation to ap-pear at Austin, Texas, before the Dies House Committee Investigat-ing Un-American Activities. He declared, however, that any implications that he had been turn-ing over documents to the commit-tee "represent a pure fabrication from beginning to end." [Robert E. Stripling, secretary to Mr. Dies, said yesterday that any hearing with Mr. Trotsky and Diego Rivera, Mexican painter, as witnesses, would be aimed at au-thenticating documents obtained by committee investigators who had conferred with Mr. Trotsky and Mr. Rivera.] Mr. Trotsky made it clear that any hestimony he gave before the

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and Mr. Rivera.] Mr. Trotsky made it clear that any testimony he gave before the committee would be "about the his-tory of Stalinism, but in no case about the inner life of Latin-Ameri-can countries. "I never had and do not have a single document concerning the ac-tivities of Latin-American com-munists and I could in no way pre-sent anything on this before the committee," he stated. Mr. Trotsky said that J. B. Matthews, chief investigator of the said re of eplace e said warn

committee, had telegraphed him Oct. 12, inviting him to appear to enable the committee to "have a complete record of the history of Stalinism."

enable the committee to "have a complete record of the history of Stalinism." He said that the telegram added that the committee "invites you to answer questions which can be sub-mitted to you in advance if you so desire." "Your name has been mentioned frequently by such witnesses as Earl Browder (general secretary of the Communist party in the United States) and William Z. Foster (member of the permanent execu-tive committee of the Third Inter-nationale)," the telegram was quot-ed as saying. "This committee will accord you an opportunity to an-swer their charges." Mr. Trotsky's statement added that 'findependently of the political tendency of the chairman of this committee I could not find it per-missible to avoid appearing as a winess in a public investigation." He added: "I have never had and I do not have any connection with unmask-ing of the real or pretended plans of Latin-American Communists. If I should actually have to appear as a witness before the Dies Commit-tee it would be upon questions spe-cified in the above quoted telegram bearing the signature of Mr. Mat-thews." West Point Waiter Held in Theft

West Point Waiter Held in Theft

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES. NEW CITY, N. Y., Dec. 7-Ac cused of taking \$16 from a lunch wagon in West Haverstraw Sunday night in an armed hold-up, James With, 19 years old, a waiter in a dining hall at the United States Military Academy at West Point, and Robert Fairweather, 21, of Midand Robert Bairweather, 21, of Mid-dletown, a former waiter there, were held without bail for the grand jury on a first-degree robbery charge here today. The men were arrested by an Orange town police-man who saw them sitting in an automobile reading a newspaper ac-count of the hold-up. An alarm had been broadcast for the car.