

Exile Faces Dies' Call To Testify

Puppet State in Mexico Seen Russian Plan

By WILLIAM S. NEAL, International News Service Staff Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—A series of hearings to explore charges that Soviet Russia seeks to make Mexico a puppet State and a base for spread of Communism in the Western Hemisphere may be conducted by the Dies Committee, it was disclosed today.

Leon Trotsky, one of the founders of Soviet Russia and now an exile in Mexico, has asked to appear before the committee, and may be brought to the United States for this purpose.

These developments followed receipt of reports from committee investigators on Chairman Dies' arrival at his home in Orange, Texas, where he was ordered by his physician to take a month's rest. **TO ABANDON REST.**

The reports, however, were described by committee sources as "so important" that Dies probably will abandon plans for a rest and start an investigation.

Trotsky, it was reported, is anxious to bare many secret documents dealing with his fight with Russian Dictator Josef Stalin and work of the Communist Internationale in the United States.

A committee investigator spent more than a week with Trotsky in Mexico, during which the former world Communist leader was said to have offered his co-operation in a battle against "Stalinism."

Dies was described as being deeply impressed by information from other sources to the effect that the Communist Internationale has established a base in Mexico for operation in the United States, Latin and South America.

WANT TO SEIZE MEXICO.

Dies was said to have received information "from a very high authority" that Soviet Russia seeks to take over Mexico as much as it hopes to take over Finland—except that the penetration is to be accomplished by propaganda, subsidizing of Mexican politicians and other political methods.

Reports were also received by Dies that Mexican organization leaders contacted persons of political influence in the United States before the Mexican government expropriated American oil property in an effort to forestall retaliation.

Trotsky, it was understood, does not plan to give testimony regarding Communist activities in Mexico, but chiefly to detail Communists' efforts to infiltrate their doctrine into the United States while he was in power in Russia.

(For earlier details see Page 4.)

Trotsky to Be Star Stoolpigeon In Dies Lineup

ORANGE, Tex., Dec. 6.—Rep. Martin Dies announced today through his secretary, Robert E. Stripling, that his greatest star witness outstripping the long array of stoolpigeons, strikebreakers and criminals who appeared before his committee on "un-American activities" is yet to appear.

He is none other than Leon Trotsky, the arch plotter against the Soviet Union, who is now living in Mexico.

The announcement stated that a hearing is planned around Jan. 3 "somewhere near the Mexican border." Mr. Dies is now giving attention to "gigantic Communist plot" affecting Latin America with Mexico City as its seat.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1939

Dies to Set Date Today For Hearing of Trotsky

Rivera Also Asked to Testify in Texas Near Border

ORANGE, Tex., Dec. 11 (UP)—Representative Martin Dies, Democrat, of Texas, chairman of the House committee investigating un-American activities, said tonight he expected to announce tomorrow when and where the Texas hearing to which Leon Trotsky and Diego Rivera have been invited would be held.

En route here by plane was J. B. Matthews, the committee research director, who presumably has obtained from the State Department permission for Trotsky and Rivera to enter the United States from their homes in Mexico.

Trotsky, exiled Russian revolutionary, accepted a committee invitation as his "political duty" to discuss the history of Stalinism in Russia. Rivera, Mexican artist who has disagreed with Trotsky, has charged that Soviet agents were trying to establish bases in Mexico for inter-American spread of Communism. He refuses to testify outside of Mexico, but has said he will fill out a Dies questionnaire.

Representative Dies ordered the hearing before his commit expires on Jan. 3. He has been recuperating in the east Texas piney woods from nervous strain.

Times — 12/13/39
Delays Action on Trotsky

By The Associated Press.
ORANGE, Texas, Dec. 12—Representative Martin Dies said tonight that Leon Trotsky might not come to the United States to testify before the House committee investigating un-Americanism about Communist activities in the Western hemisphere.

The statement was made through the chairman's secretary, Robert E. Stripling. No assurance that Trotsky would return to Mexico, where the Russian is living in exile, has been given to the committee. Mr. Dies decided not to proceed with the proposed hearing until the committee as a whole had decided on what course to pursue.

There was a possibility that an investigator might be sent to Mexico City to interview Trotsky if the committee decided not to hear him in Texas.

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