

# 5th Column Serbs Greet Biddle Decision

## Use It to Whip Up Pro-Axis Attacks

DW 4/3/42

The decision of Attorney-General Biddle on the deportation of Harry Bridges has stirred enthusiasm and created new vigor not only in Berlin, Tokio and Rome, but among the Serbian fascist elements right here in America.

A Serbian paper here, "American Serbobran," is official organ of the Serbian National Federation and the unofficial organ of the Serbian chauvinist elements who are gathered in the so-called "Serbian National Defense Council."

The main program of "Serbobran" consists of propaganda against (1) Yugoslavia and the Yugoslav government-in-exile; (2) the Croatians in Yugoslavia and in America; (3) the Congress of American Slavs. These Serbian fifth columnists have enlarged their program with a "new" section — against "Communists" (including under that heading everybody who is against Milan Nedich, the Serbian Quisling in Yugoslavia and his bosses of the Axis). This "new" section of the

Serbian fifth columnists has been added to their program since Biddle issued his decision for the deportation of Bridges.

Before that, though they attacked the progressives here as 'Reds' nevertheless they were more cautious, directing their main propaganda attack against the Croatians and Yugoslavia.

Since the Biddle decision it is difficult to find a single issue of the

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"American Serbobran" in which several articles against the Communists do not appear.

"How would it be if we Serbs, who have been Serbian patriots here all our lives, and for whom that is the only capital we have earned and saved, how would it be for us now . . . to join with Communist, anti-Serbian and anti-American organizations? Attorney-General Biddle himself a few days ago published a decision . . ." and then "Serbobran" quotes the Biddle decision. This article continues:

"We have seen the signers of that Congress." (Congress of United Serbs in America Against Fascism, to be held in Detroit July 4 and 5). . . "Among the names we recognize fifty who we know positively to be Communists."

Who are these "Communists?" They are Serbian delegates at the American Slav Congress. They include the well known world scientist, Dr. Nikola Tesla. They include a professor of New York University, Dr. Paul R. Radosavljevich. They include the oldest Serbian priest in America, Rev. Krajnovich. They include Serbian fraternal, religious, cultural and anti-fascist organizations.

What kind of "Communist" organization is that against which "Serbobran" is warning the American Serbs? It is the Congress of American Slavs, and the Vidovdan Congress of United American Serbs Against Fascism.

In connection with this Nedechas propaganda, basing itself on the decision of Mr. Biddle, "Serbobran" wrote a few days ago:

"We are not for Draja Mihajlovich if he is Red." And when Milan Nedich declares that Draja Mihajlovich and his Chetniks are "Communists," then "Serbobran" has the "moral right" not to be for them.

Naturally, we are not surprised in the least that "American Serbobran" and the Serbian National Defense Committee are greeting the decision of Mr. Biddle. The same thing has been done by Nedicha's propaganda machine in Belgrade. The same thing has been done by Hitler's propaganda machine in Berlin.

It means that Mr. Biddle has certainly done something that was desired by the enemy of this country. And we can see from this small example of the Serbian fifth columnists, the decision is harmful to the country and its war effort. Encouraged by his decision, the Serbian fifth columnists now want to contribute the heaviest blow they can to the national unity of America against fascism.