

# Mexico Jails Axis Agents; Trotzkyites Called Spies

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By Alfred Miller

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—Arrests during the past week show that Mexico's fight against the fifth column is getting under way.

The arrests mark recognition of the danger pointed out by President Manuel Avila Camacho. Proof of the need for a cleanup is evidenced by the outbursts of ultra-reactionary papers like *Excelsior*, which vigorously defend fifth columnists and intensify their attacks on labor and Mexican progressives generally.

Another important development in the drive to uncover traitors was the public condemnation this week by a group of Mexican congressmen of foreign Trotskyites, whom they termed "the fifth column's shock brigade."

The most sensational arrests this week were made by the village authorities of Atlixco, Puebla, who put a number of Sinarquist chiefs, including Manuel Torres Bueno, the new "Jefe Supremo" of the native basquist battalions, behind the bars. The Sinarquists were arrested for holding an illegal meeting.

## TOWN OFFICIALS ALERT

Though it is not expected that the Sinarquist chiefs will be out of circulation for any appreciable length of time, the incident clearly shows that even authorities of small villages are aware of the fifth column danger.

Earlier this week, a large group of Mexican Congressmen publicly denounced foreign Trotskyites.

"This group," the Federal Deputies declared, "is headed by elements like Victor Serge, Marceau Pivert, Julian Gorkin, Grandizo Munis and some prominent German Trotskyites, all of whom have a long record of treason to the cause of democracy, in Spain as well as in France and in other countries where these anarcho-Trotskyite gangsters have operated."

"This group of spies and fifth columnists, headed by Serge, runs a publishing house which puts out anti-democratic papers like 'Lucha Obrera' and '19 de Julio' Even though these papers have a small circulation, they are carrying on an intensive campaign against the allied countries—the United States, England, the Soviet Union and others—of which Mexico is the virtual ally in this struggle against Nazifascism. They are carrying on constant work of social disintegration which only benefits the totalitarians," they charged.

The congressmen pointed out that the arguments of these Trotskyites "coincide and even surpass" the arguments of Goebels.