

Nov 26 1959

Commission Exhibit No. 295 -

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Dear Robert

I shall begin by answering your question on why I and my fellow workers and communists would like to see the present capitalist government of the U.S. overthrown.

Do you remember the time you told me about the efforts of your milk company to form a union? Try to see why workers must form unions against their employers in the U.S., it is because the government supports an economic system which exploits all its workers, a system based upon credit which gives rise to the never ending cycle of depression, inflation, unlimited speculation (which is the cause America is in now) and war. In this system art, culture, and the spirit of man are subjected to commercial enterprising; religion and education are used as a tool to suppress what would otherwise be a population questioning their government's unfair economic system and plans for war.

Science is neglected unless it can be directly used in making war or producing more profit for the owners of business. These are some of the reasons. Look around you, and look at yourself. See the segregation, see the unemployed and what automation is, remember how you were laid off at Conair?

I remember well the days we stood off-shore at Indonesia waiting to surge up another population, when they were having a revolution there in Nov. 1955. I can still see Japan and the Philippines and their puppet governments. More important I can see the American in uniform men who were there because they were drafted or because they were adventurers or unemployed in civilian life. I will ask you a question Robert, what do you support the American government for? What is the ideal you put forward? Do not say "freedom" because freedom is a word used by all people through all of time. Ours is

and I will tell you I fight for communism.
This word brings to your mind slaves or
injustice, this is because of American
propaganda, look this word up in the
dictionary or better still, read the book
which I first read when I was 15,
"CAPITAL", which contains economic theory
and most important the "communist manifesto."

I will not say your grandchildren will
live under communism, look for yourself
at history, look at a world map! America
is a living country, I do not wish to
be a part of it, nor do I ever again wish
to be used as a tool in its military
aggressions.

This should answer your question, and
also give you a glimpse of my way of
thinking.

Do you speak of advantage. Do you think
that is why I am here? For personal,
material advantage? Happiness is
not based on oneself, it does not consist

of a small home, of taking and getting,
happiness in taking part in the struggle,
where there is no bordering between one's
own personal world, and the world in general.
I never believed I would find more material
advantage at this stage of development in
the Soviet Union than I might find in
the U.S.

When I talked to a reporter I gave most
of my reasons, however, the story I found
out later was badly slanted and left out
my real reasons. The reporter was
interested only in a colorful story.
I have been a pro-communist for years
and yet I have never met a communist,
instead I kept silent and observed,
and what I observed plus my Marxist
learning brought me here to the
Soviet Union. I have always
considered this country to be my
own.

I left you out of the matter because

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I did not want to get you into any sort of trouble because of me, also this decision is one which I only could make, and you would not have been able to understand me.

You probably know little about this country so I will tell you about it. I did find, as I suspected I would, that most of what is written about the Soviet Union in America is for the better part fabrication. The people here have a seven hour work day now and only work till three o'clock on Saturdays with Sundays off. They have socialization which means they do not pay for their apartments or for medical care the money for this comes from the profit they help to create in their labor, which in the U.S. goes to Capitalist. Here in Moscow there is a housing shortage because of the war, but it's not bad now there is no unemployment here and in fact a slight shortage of manpower even with

a 250,000,000 population takes it because the country is building at a pace which will put it first in all fields of endeavor in 15 years. Most important in the fact they do not work for employers at all, a millman or a factory supervisor are both socially equal, this does not mean they have the same salary of course, this just means that their work goes for the common good of all.

These people are a good, warm, alive people. These people would never think of war, they wish to see all peoples live in peace but at the same time they wish to see the economically enslaved people of the west free, they believe in their ideal and they support their government and country to the full limit.

You say you have not renounced me, good I am glad, but I will tell you on what terms I want this arrangement.

I want you to understand what I

any now, I do not say lightly, or unknowingly,
since I have been in the military as you
know, and I know what war is like.
1. In the event of war, I would kill ~~any~~
American who put a uniform on in defense
of the American government - my American.
2. That in my own mind I have no
attachments of any kind in the U.S.
3. That I want to, and I shall, live a
normal happy and peaceful life here in the
Soviet Union for the rest of my life.
4. That my mother and you are (in spite of
what the newspapers said) not objects of
affection, but only examples of workers in the U.S.
5. That you should not try to remember me in
any way I used to be, since I am only now
showing you how I am, I am not all bitterness
or hate, I come here only to find freedom,
In truth, I feel I am at least with my
own people. But do not let me give you
the impression I am on another world, these
people are so much like Americans and people
the world over. They simply have an economic
system and the ideal of communism which

the U.S. has not done. I could never have
been personally happy in the U.S.
I wish you would do me a favor
and that other had newspaper story about
over I have been thinking it would like to
give people, who are interested in social reasons
If you would, give the contents of the letter
(except that which is for your benefit)
to some reporter, it will clarify my
situation, use your own judgment, however.
I have no money problems at all.
My situation was not nearly as bad
then, as it is now, I have had trouble
at all now along that line.
It is snowing here in Moscow now, which
makes everything look very nice, from my
hotel window, I can see the Kremlin and
Red Square and I have just finished a
dinner of (Milk & Vegetables) just and potatoes
to you see the Russians are not so different
from you and I.

JD

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U.S.A.

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