

Tocsin Back- Despite Odds

— See Page 2

Oswald Lawyer On U. S. Tour

Busiest man on the Communist lecture circuit these days is Mark Lane, the ultra-left-wing lawyer who will defend accused presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald before the Warren Commission investigating the slaying.

Lane will be a speaker in major cities this month where he will present the Communist version of the Kennedy murder. One of the meetings, scheduled for Los Angeles Feb. 11, will be chaired by identified Communist lawyer John T. McTernan. Lane will speak under auspices of the Communist National Guardian, the New York-based weekly which on Dec. 19 carried his lengthy "brief" on Oswald's behalf to the Warren Commission.

The brief is being widely distributed from coast to coast and was broadcast over the left-wing Pacifica radio stations last month. Lane attempts to shift guilt for the assassination to right-wing elements and law enforcement officials.

OTHER ENGAGEMENTS

Other stops on the Lane speaking itinerary are Chicago, Feb. 13; Detroit, Feb. 14; and New York, Feb. 18. Lane was already booked for a Jan. 24 New York city appearance sponsored by the Militant Labor Forum, a unit of the subversive Socialist Workers Party. The SWP is a Trotskyite-Communist organization.

After Lane's report defending Oswald appeared in the Guardian, he made a trip to Dallas, where Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, mother of the accused assassin, suddenly announced she had hired him for a post-humous defense.

Even though Lane is presumably fully occupied with the Oswald agitation, he has nevertheless been announced as a speaker for a totally unrelated Communist-backed cause. He is to appear at a meeting sponsored by the pro-Castro Emergency Committee for Disaster Relief to Cuba in New York City, Feb. 26. The Committee which has succeeded the recently dissolved Fair Play for Cuba Committee in promoting help for the Communist country, is headed by identified Communists Sidney J. Gluck and Dr. Louis I. Miller.

CO-SPEAKERS

Other speakers at the meeting will be Thomas E. Coltan, chairman of the left-wing American Friends Service Committee for the Delaware area, and Phillip A. Luce, spokesman for the student group which illegally visited Cuba last summer. Ruth Gage-Colby, a leader in the Com-

(continued on page 3)

TOCSIN

THE WEST'S LEADING ANTI-COMMUNIST WEEKLY

TM

COPYRIGHT BY TOCSIN, INC., 1964

Vol. 5, No. 6

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, FEBRUARY 12, 1964

20 Cents

ON WARREN COMMISSION STAFF

Red-Fronter in Death Probe

A prominent member of a Communist front is a member of the staff of the Warren Commission investigating the slaying of President Kennedy.

He is Norman Redlich, a professor at New York University Law School, who is acting as assistant counsel to the commission.

Redlich is listed on a July 1963 letterhead of the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee as a member of the group's executive committee. The Emergency

"The Emergency Civil Liberties Committee is an organization with headquarters in New York, whose avowed purpose is to abolish the House Committee on Un-American Activities and discredit the FBI," the 1959 annual report of the HCUA stated.

"The committee finds that the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, established in 1951, although representing itself as a non-Communist group, actually operates as a front for the Communist Party. It has repeatedly assisted, by means of funds and legal aid, Communists involved in Smith Act violations and similar legal proceedings. One of its chief activities has been and still is the dissemination of voluminous Communist propaganda material."

Civil Liberties Committee has been named a Communist front by both the House Committee on Un-American Activities and the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee.

One of the ECLC's executives has been identified Communist Frank Wilkinson, a present leader of the Communist-run National Committee to Abolish the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

COMMUNISTS' CLEMENCY

When Wilkinson and his co-defendant, Communist Carl Braden, were in prison for contempt of Congress in 1961, Redlich was among persons who signed an appeal to the President for clemency. This is revealed in the Dec. 4, 1961, issue of the Communist National Guardian, the New York-based weekly which has led the campaign to disculpate Lee Harvey Oswald in the President's assassination (see accompanying story).

The 1963 letter from the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee makes an appeal for support for two groups accused of supporting Communist causes. One was Advance, cited as a subversive organ-

ization and required so to register under the McCarran Internal Security Act. The other involved three University of Indiana students accused of violating state sedition laws while members of the Trotskyite-Communist Young Socialist Alliance.

Redlich had earlier publicly condemned a decision by the Supreme Court to enforce registration by Communists under the McCarran Act, according to the Communist Worker of June 24, 1962.

The Worker also names Redlich as among "notables (who) denounce attack on the peace movement" during the 1962 hearings by the House Committee on Un-American Activities on the avowedly Communist-backed Women for Peace organization (Worker, Dec. 18, 1962).

A member of the advisory committee-information of the New York Council to Abolish the HCUA, Redlich signed a petition in the New York Times Feb. 22, 1962, condemning the anti-subversive committee.

He was a scheduled speaker Feb. 24, 1961, at an anti-HCUA meeting in New York City, along with Frank J. Donner, an identified Communist lawyer. Sponsor of the meeting was the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee.

The Communists In the Co-ops

Identified Communists elected as congressmen of the Northern California chain of Consumers Cooperatives last summer included Charles G. Drasnin, Russian-born former veterans director of the South Berkeley branch of the Communist Party.

Drasnin, 59, of 746 61st St., Oakland, was elected to serve at the Telegraph Avenue Co-op center in Berkeley.

A registered Communist voter in Alameda County in the 1940's, Drasnin later listed his affiliation with the Communist-run Independent Progressive Party until 1955.

He was convicted of illegally distributing Communist literature during a 1941 East Bay strike.

Drasnin is wed to the former Wenonah Nedelsky who has recently served as

(continued on page 2)

Woodsheet

TOCSIN published weekly at Oakland, California. Publisher, Charles For; Editor, George H. Keith. Second-class postage paid at Oakland, California. Subscription rate \$10 per year.

That Was the Week That WASN'T

California Attorney General Stanley Mosk declared that a Cuba armed with intercontinental ballistic missiles and led by a fanatic could conceivably become as great a threat to the security of the United States as the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade . . .

The National Council of Churches of Christ of America announced that Communism is atheistic and therefore totally at variance with the Christian faith . . .

Herb Caen wrote a whole column without mentioning favorably even one Communist . . . The Birch Society called a man a Communist. He really was one . . .

TOCSIN received a five-dollar subscription and a letter which did not say "Send me all the information you have on Gus Hall and the following 19 other individuals." . . . A man and his wife moved to Berkeley, Calif., from the East. They are not Communists . . .

Trevor Thomas of KPFA came out with a direct, straightforward, factual statement on something, and people knew exactly where he stood . . . A man not known for his extreme left-wing views was invited to speak on the campus of the University of California . . .

Thirteen Bay Area Communist leaders went home and admitted to their wives that they had been shacking up elsewhere . . . The Supreme Court announced publicly that henceforth it would leave legislation to legislators and sociology to sociologists . . . An issue of a San Francisco paper appeared without once naming a single member of the Hallinan family.

All the Guests Were Identified CP Members

Identified California Communist Holland Roberts reports in an article in the Communist magazine New World Review for January that a visit by Communist visitors from the Soviet Union was hosted by Marxist attorney Vincent Hallinan at his Bay Area home.

"An invitation from Vivian and Vincent Hallinan," Roberts reported, "took the Soviet visitors to a dinner party and evening of lively exchange at their lovely bay-side Belvedere home. Writers Sterling Hayden, Jessica Mitford, Albert Kahn, Alvah Bessie, Mason Roberson, Doris Brin Walker, and the ILWU officials, Louis Goldblatt and Harry Bridges, gave them sharp insights into the post-Kennedy era in an exploration of Western ideas."

All of the persons named as guests have been identified as Communists.

MORE SUPPORT IN SIGHT?

Tocsin Resumes Publication

"You can't quit now!"

This was the tenor of a number of letters and phone calls to TOCSIN last month when the paper announced that it was suspending publication.

The generosity and confidence of a few readers have persuaded TOCSIN to reverse its decision to fold and make one more effort to survive.

Suspending publication was a decision that had not been made lightly. It had, however, been made under considerable stresses and strains.

Faced with mounting bills and an inexhaustible workload, the TOCSIN staff found cause for alarm in the recent failure of its continuing appeals for support. Both the bills and the workload doubtless magnified the pessimism with which we viewed this publication's future.

In resuming publication despite a less-than-solid financial basis, we wish to point out that no publication can subsist on subscriptions alone. Nor is it possible to operate soundly without a close estimate of the degree of support.

Contributions which are sporadic mean that plans have to be abandoned, decisions reversed and steps retraced. These things only add to an already staggering amount of work. TOCSIN therefore asks for regular commitments. For this purpose a coupon is provided on page 3.

In addition to financial pledges, which will enable the staff to concentrate on editorial work, readers can help in other ways.

One of these is by sending us clippings on Communism and Communists from their local newspapers, unmarked except for the name and date of the publication.

Another is by communicating by letter rather than telephone whenever possible and by limiting letters to those which do not require an answer. TOCSIN's volunteer secretarial help is severely limited.

TOCSIN wishes to thank those individuals who have expressed such deeply felt enthusiasm. They have included the leader of a major anti-Communist organization which itself has sacrificed some of its own badly needed funds to help us.

This enthusiasm has prompted us to resume publication for as long as possible, in the hope that others may yet be persuaded to emulate their example.

L.A. WOMEN FOR PEACE SPONSOR PAULING RALLY

Women Strike for Peace announced a rally featuring bomb-banning Linus Pauling for Jan. 17 at the Los Angeles High School Auditorium, 4600 W. Olympic Boulevard.

Scheduled to preside was Mrs. Mary Clarke, coordinator of the women's "peace" organization. Mrs. Clarke was cited by the Communist People's World 12 years ago as a participant in Communist-front activity.

She sponsored a dinner Feb. 17, 1952, given by the Citizens Committee to Preserve Americans Freedoms, a declared party front dedicated to fighting the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

Purpose of the dinner was to mount a "fight-back" campaign against the HCUA's pending hearings on Communist activity among Los Angeles professional people.

Mrs. Clarke was listed in the Oct. 1, 1962, Communist National Guardian as a delegate to a conference the previous month sponsored by Voice of Women in Montreal. The VOW organization is a Canadian version of the Communist-endorsed U.S. Women for Peace group.

She is also listed as second vice chairman of the Southern California chapter of the National Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy.

Pauling was to be introduced at the

rally by Mrs. Mary Tinglof, a Los Angeles board of education member frequently listed in the People's World as a supporter of "civil rights" action.

CO-OP

(continued from page 1)

Women for Peace contact in East Bay auxiliaries of the Communist-run International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union.

EARLY CP FRONT

Drasnin was a member of an early Communist front called the American League Against War and Fascism in 1937, was listed by the People's World of Jan. 21, 1948, as active in an Independent Progressive Party drive, and joined in festivities of other Communist-run organizations.

One such organization was the Committee to Secure Justice for the Rosenbergs during the famed atom spy clemency case in 1953.

A 1951 issue of the People's World also named Drasnin as a member of a "civic reform" group in Oakland. Others affiliated with the group are Roscoe Q. Proctor of 1919 Oregon St., Berkeley, a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party who currently faces a McCarran Act charge after he failed to register as a Communist leader.