

Isaac Don Levine

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Isaac Don Levine (19 January 1892 – 15 February 1981) was an American journalist and writer.

Born in Mozyr, Russia, Levine came to the United States in 1911. He finished high school in Missouri, and found work with *The Kansas City Star* and later *The New York Herald Tribune*, for which he covered the Revolution of 1917. He would return to Russia to cover the Civil War for *The Chicago Daily News* in the early 1920s.

For the Hearst papers Levine was a columnist through the late 1920s and 1930s. He edited the anti-communist magazine *Plain Talk* from 1946 till 1950, but did not join *The Freeman*, opting for a stint with Radio Free Europe in West Germany instead. In the spring of 1939, Levine collaborated with the Soviet intelligence agency defector, Walter Krivitsky, for a series of articles in the Saturday Evening Post, exposing the horrors of Joseph Stalin's "workers' paradise." In November of that same year, the series was collected into a book entitled *In Stalin's Secret Service*. Levine's role in the writing was not revealed at the time. In the meantime, Levine arranged a meeting in September 1939 between American Communist Party defector, Whittaker Chambers, and President Franklin Roosevelt's security chief, Adolf Berle, at which Chambers revealed, with Levine present, a massive spying operation reaching even into the White House that involved, among others, Alger Hiss in the State Department and, according to Levine, Harry Dexter White in the Treasury Department. ^[1]

Levine also provided testimony to the House Un-American Activities Committee in the case against Hiss.

Levine wrote the screenplay for the biographical movie “Jack London” (1943) and also appeared as himself as one of the witnesses to the John Reed era in *Reds* (1981).

He makes a brief appearance in Walter Isaacson’s *Einstein: His Life and Universe* (2007) as a friend of Einstein, but they fell out over their political differences.

Books

- *Russian Revolution* (1917)
- *The Kaiser's Letters to the Tsar* (1920) Editor
- *Man Lenin* (1924)
- *Stalin* (1931)
- "Stalin's Great Secret" (1956) Coward-McCann, NY NY USA
- *I Rediscover Russia* (1964)
- *Eyewitness to History* (1973)

References

- ↑ FDR Winked at Soviet Espionage (<http://www.dcdave.com/article5/070113.htm>) , David Martin, January 13, 2007
- "Writer Isaac Levine, 89, Specialist on Soviet Union". *The Washington Post*. 1981-02-17.