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REPORT

Remark - "Dulles was experienced
in recognizing truth from fiction in
FBI reports" or words to that effect
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Dispatch FEATURES

RED ESPIONAGE SYSTEM

FBI Ferrets Soviet Spies In Underground

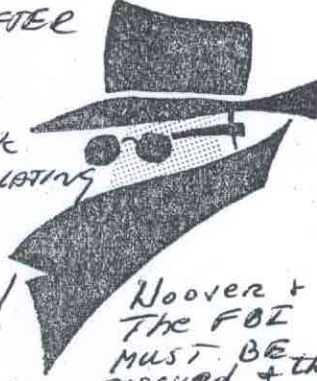
By HARRY FERGUSON
United Press International
(Last of Series)

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has so thoroughly infiltrated the American Communist party that comedians are cracking jokes. Like this: "If the FBI agents stopped paying their dues, the Communist party would be bankrupt." Or—the leader of an American Communist cell opens a secret meeting this way: "Comrades and agents of the FBI."

Over the years the Communist party that operates under the surface in America never has been much of a factor in our destiny. In size it never came close to the membership, for instance, of the Italian party which has 1.3 million. Nor has the U.S. party ever been highly regarded by the masters of world Communism. Nobody was more surprised than the U.S. Communists when Stalin signed a treaty with Hitler. Uncle Joe never told his American nephews anything.

THE CENTRAL Intelligence Agency, contrary to widespread belief, has nothing to do with catching Russian spies in the U.S. It works abroad. It is the duty and function of the FBI to find out who the Soviet spies are in this

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"To enter the underground usually means simply disappearing, quickly, abruptly and without warning. These departures are carefully planned. Above ground comrades will handle any personal matters such as storing furniture.

"SOMETIMES departures have been so rapid that hot meals have been left on the table. Once underground, the member is made ready for assignment; that is, being made into another person. As a general rule this involves the securing of a new name, date and place of birth and even changing physical appearance. One functionary lost between 35 and 40 pounds, giving him a gaunt appearance. Identification marks such as moles and warts have been removed by surgery.

"One underground official boasted he could walk down Main Street every day and even his wife wouldn't recognize him. The member must be supplied with fake identification papers, Social Security cards, drivers' licenses, library cards, bank deposit books. He should acquaint himself with his adopted place of birth, know something about its newspapers, streets and stores. Does it have a baseball team?"

A spy so equipped may be difficult to trace, but shadowing any suspect can be hard, tiring work for the FBI man. It can go on for months as it did in the case of Judith Coplon, the Justice Department employe charged with giving secrets to the Reds.

MISS COPLON rode the train back and forth between Washington and New York. In New York she rode subways uptown, downtown and crosstown. FBI agents stayed with her all the way until they were ready to make the ar-

rest. But one conviction against her was reversed in 1951 and charges on another were dropped by the government early this year.

But there is even a more formidable enemy than the underground for the FBI. There is some satisfaction in arresting and convicting an American citizen who spies for Russia because he can be tried and sent to jail, or even executed. But it is frustrating for the FBI agents when they catch a spy hiding behind diplomatic immunity.

About all they can do is expose him to the U.S. State Department which then declares him persona non grata and expels him. It is a fixed policy of Moscow to fill its embassies and consulates in the free world with spies. Sometimes the spy will act as a chauffeur, but actually will outrank the Red ambassador in the Moscow hierarchy.

DURING ONE 10-year period Soviet officials were expelled from the free nations of the world for espionage and subversion. Some years ago the interior ministry of West Germany reported that over a period of eight years 18,300 persons had been arrested on charges of spying for Russia.

The Russian embassy in Washington has a long record of harboring spies. Usually the men are attaches of the Red armed forces, holding the rank of major or colonel, never too high and never too low. Or they can be translators or clerks. Between 1950 and 1960 there were 11 such Russians expelled from the Russian embassy or the United Nations.

One cold fact stands out—there are Soviet spies—perhaps as many as 100,000 of them—working or near the United States.

country and take effective action against them. This is easy so far as the persons who publicly acknowledge their Communism are concerned. Where it gets tough is when you run into the "Red Underground."

Only the most trusted and dedicated Communists are admitted to the underground. This is the way it works. According to FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover in a study of Communism called "Masters of Deceit":