U.S. defector fights Russ police

Chicago Tribune

MOSCOW -An American ex-Marine combat veteran fought his way past three Soviet guards at the U.S. Embassy yesterday to talk about returning to the United States, from which he defected in 1957.

Dean Hoxsey, 47, a husky Southern Californian, said he was disillusioned with the Soviet Union and Communism and, when he left the embassy to return to his residence in Volgograd, expressed fear for his safety.

Two embassy officials who were standing outside answered Hoxsey's call for help as three uniformed militiamen overpowered him and tried to march him to a militia warming shack.

The militiamen relaxed their grip when the

Americans intervened, and Hoxey dashed through the entrance of the embassy compound.

Consular officials said they would study Hoxsey's case and submit it to the State Department.

"When you are young," a shaken Hoxsey said inside the embassy, "your own country doesn't mean very much. But when you are older, the pull of home gets very strong."

A World War II veteran who said he was wounded on Okinawa, Hoxsey said he was an unemployed X-ray technician when he came to Moscow at age 30 to attend an International Youth Congress.

While he was in the Soviet capital, he told a Soviet foreign ministry official that he wanted to remain here.

"I was raised as a Communist." he said "My father was a Communist. At one time I believed in it. My father wanted me to believe in it. And I did too. I thought Communists should be with other Communists. I thought it would be better for me. But after a time I saw they didn't trust me."

He said he tried to join the Soviet Communist Party but he failed to obtain the required number of recommendations.

Nobody would recommend me," said Hoxsey

In recent months, he said, he has come under a disturbing harassment by fellow workers and pa-tients in the Volgograd medical clinic where he is employed as a blood and urine analyst.

"It seems somebody's leaking information and ey think it is me.

Hoxsey said he married a Russian girl in Tbilisi Later the couple adopted a daughter.

"My wife," he said. "Is brainwashed. The secret police arrested her in 1950 and sent her into exile in Kazakhistan. They did this because she was one of a few thousand Russians who were born in China."

Asked if he still wanted to be a Communist,

After the harassment I've been through I can't make myself. I just want to be neutral. At one time I wanted to be (a Communist), but no new?"