

Former pro-Maoists attest:

'Peking Review' directs anti-American campaign

Two former members of the pro-Maoist American Revolutionary Union, an underground organization directed by the "Peking Review," a Maoist journal published in Peiping, aims at achieving the violent overthrow of the American government.

Testifying before the U.S. House Internal Security Committee about their life in the Union, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Goff said "every member of the organization has to agree to the violent overthrow of the U.S. government, agree to bear arms and agree to the dictatorship of the proletariat."

The couple, ex-missionaries turned FBI informants, narrated their story recently to Bill Follett, a reporter for a Fresno (California) State College publication.

Goff said the American Revolutionary Union has close ties with the Chinese Communist regime.

Though the organization is not actually run by the Chinese Communists, members are required to read the Maoist publication "Peking Review."

Whenever the Union stages an anti-Nixon demonstration, the Maoist journal would praise it.

Some of the Union's highest leaders went to Peiping recently.

The Goffs learned this through a broadcast by Peiping radio.

"They wouldn't have had representatives in Peiping if there wasn't something," Mrs. Goff said.

And the organization practices the same ideology as that of Maoists.

"We had at least four meetings a week. They were never less than three hours long and usually six or seven," said Mrs. Goff.

She said they spent hours at a time reviewing in minute detail the "MLMTT—Marx-Lenin-Mao Tse-Tung Thought."

Goff first became involved with the organization during the fall of 1969 after being contacted by the FBI. He enrolled in classes at San Jose City College and worked his way through various front organizations be-

fore being accepted in the Union. He received a promotion for recruiting his wife into the group the next summer.

Goff said Union members thought of them as "great converts" because most of them came from bourgeoisie intellectual backgrounds while he and his wife were from the working class, which is considered the backbone of the organization.

They said they worked as informants until March of this year, when a story in a San Jose student newspaper indirectly blew their cover. This was shortly after President Nixon's visit to San Jose, where he was met by a rock-throwing melee which the Goffs claim was organized by the Union.

Goff now runs a gunsmith shop in the garage of his Lemoore home. The FBI and local law enforcement agencies reportedly keep a close watch on his house. He said that members of the Union have been to their home in Lemoore since March, but "it would be insane to do anything to us now" because of

the public exposure they have received.

According to the Goffs, the Union founded in 1965 by Bruce Franklin, a Stanford University associate professor of English. The organization grew to about 400 members in the Bay Area and has spread into a national organization with branches in cities throughout the United States.

Revisionist groups supposedly broke away about a year ago and the party was going through a structural reorganization when the Goffs left.

They became "best friends" with Barry and Marry Lou Greenberg, who were the leaders of the Union in the Bay Area. Greenberg supposedly was the primary organizer of the well-disciplined and structured Union.

Goff claimed that Greenberg handpicked members for a special squad of the Union designed for

"assassination, bank robbing and sabotage." The Goffs were convinced that this secret arm was responsible for bombings and assaults on police in the San Jose area.

They explained that targets were chosen carefully to get the most public support. For instance, a napalm factory was a better target for attack than a General Motors plant because of the opposition to the war and because GM employed too many workers.

Union members were required to spend a specified amount of time each month practicing with weapons. Proficiency was mandatory, said Goff.

They were told that everything they possessed belonged to the Union. Between 7 and 25 per cent of all income had to go to the organization. Permission had to be given before members could purchase such items as children's clothing.