Pacifica Airs
Oswald Brief

The Communist-initiated campaign to discredit avowed Marxist Lee Harvey Oswald in the slaying of President Kennedy rolled into high gear last month with the announcement that a Communist newspaper's view of the assassination would be nationally broadcast.

The first broadcast was announced for Dec. 28 over WBAI, the New York Pacifica Foundation radio station which was the subject of a probe a year ago by the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee seeking information about possible Communist infiltration of the chain.

Pacifica's West Coast outlets (KPFA, Berkeley, and KPFK, Los Angeles) would repeat the broadcast "later next week," said the announcement, printed in the Communist National Guardian Dec. 26. Jerome Soble, Pacifica vice president, resigned last month following a resolution by the stations disapproving of non-Communist affidavits for their employees.

The Oswald program consists of an interview with left-wing attorney Mark Lane based on his article for the Dec. 19 National Guardian, upholding the innocence of the accused slayer and attempting to foment suspicion of the FBI.

IN PAMPHLET FORM

Henceforth confined mostly to the Communist press, the "Oswald-was-framed" fiction is destined to gain wider circulation inasmuch as the Guardian is also issuing the Lane article as a pamphlet selling at 10 for a dollar. Readers of the Guardian, which the House Committee on Un-American Activities has called a virtual Soviet propaganda organ, are being urged to order the pamphlet in bulk.

With the 30-day national mourning period scarcely over, the Communist press was thus paying no heed to official pleas for national unity and an end to hate. Both the Guardian and the better

(continued on page 2)

Party Member Helen Travis Sponsors Cuba Aid

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The HCUA questioned Mrs. Travis on Aug. 30, 1960, "regarding evidence that she had transferred $8,700 to a 'money drop' in Mexico City in an effort to finance the release of a Stalinist agent who had been imprisoned for the murder of Leon Trotsky."

Mrs. Travis, who formerly wrote for the Daily Worker under the name of Maxine Levi, invoked the fifth amendment in response to questions regarding the money transfer and other activities. She had, said the report, used the name of Helen Levi Simon.

The wife of identified Robert C. Travis of Los Angeles, Mrs. Travis appeared with her husband as a Communist-front lecturer in the fall of 1961 following a clandestine visit to China. Travis, who was earlier active in CP affairs in Illinois and Michigan, is a leader of an anti-McCarthy Act hate group called the Constitutional Liberties Information Center, Los Angeles.

AS THE FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA COMMITTEE EXPIRES

CP Adherents, Frontiers Press
Drive for 'Emergency Relief'

Does the collapse of the Communist-run Fair Play for Cuba Committee mean that Castroite propaganda will cease in this country?

Not a chance, according to indications in reports of the House Committee on Un-American Activities on other Communist fronts.

The Fair Play Committee announced its intention to disband this month because volunteer workers had not been showing up at its offices. The assassination of President Kennedy, apparently by the New Orleans leader of the committee, brought a dramatic suspension of Fair Play agitation. Membership records were hidden or destroyed in some units.

But other Castroite organizations less familiar to the public are still in operation, ready to carry the ball for Communism in this hemisphere.

DISASTER COMMITTEE

The newest and "safest" is the Emergency Committee for Disaster Relief to Cuba, which was launched late last year to "alleviate human suffering" after the Cuba hurricane. Its chairman and medical director have both been identified as members of the Communist Party; a number of identified party members and Communist-front standard-bearers are its sponsors.

The voluntary suspension of a Communist front and its subsequent emergence under a slightly different guise is a familiar tactic. To conceal Communist control, the old American League Against War and Fascism became the American League for Peace and Democracy in 1937. The Young Communist League found it expedient in 1943 to reemerge as America Youth for Democracy, which developed in turn into the Labor Youth League. The latter organization itself ultimately dissolved and fanned out its members into existing liberal organizations.

After the execution of atomic spies Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, the aims of the various Rosenberg defense commit

Identified Communist Sidney J. Gluck, chairman of the so-called Emergency Committee for Disaster Relief to Cuba, has named Mrs. Marjorie Morray, a University of California Extension Department teacher, as Berkeley contact for the relief committee.

Mrs. Morray, of 2963 Magnolia Ave., Berkeley, is the wife of former UC law professor Joseph P. Morray, who now writes for New World Review and other Communist organs. Both the Morrays were employees of the Castro government in Cuba before their return here in 1962.

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Dobbs Expert on Strategy Shifts

"Ideological Trends in the American Left" was the high-sounding title for a scheduled talk by Los Angeles Communist leader Ben Dobbs Jan. 10 at the so-called Echo Park-Silverlake Forum of the city.

Translated into more pragmatic terms, Dobbs' lecture could have been called "Strategy Moves of the Communist Party" — a field in which a 1963 report from the House Committee on Un-American Activities shows him to be an expert.

The report, "'United Front' Technique of the Southern California District of the Communist Party," released July 31, 1963, reveals how Dobbs and other CP leaders reorganized the Southern California party organization for more effective exploitation of legitimate liberal organizations.

After the Supreme Court upheld the registration requirement of the McCarran Internal Security Act on June 5, 1961, the Southern California Communist Party technically dissolved its District Executive Board. Four board members, including Dobbs — who had been district executive secretary — were, however, selected to carry on the board's supervisory work "unofficially."

PAYROLL CHANGE
At the time of the 1961 reorganization, Dobbs had been taken off the party payroll. But, still in charge of a local construction company, the HCUA reported.

He nevertheless continued to meet with lower-level Communist Party functionaries at so-called coordinating council sessions, where he issued directives on the implementation of party policies.

Such shifts in strategy are nothing new to Dobbs. When he joined the Communist Party in 1933 at age 21. His first activity was in the Young Communist League. A group which later became American Youth for Democracy. In 1938 Dobbs was YCL state administrative secretary. By 1948 he had advanced to the post of Los Angeles County labor secretary of the CP.

Arrested in Sept. 1951 for violation of the Smith Act, he was convicted on Aug. 5, 1962, of conspire to teach and advocate violent overthrow of the government. His five-year sentence was appealed to the Supreme Court, which reversed the lower courts and granted a new trial. The indictment was subsequently dismissed upon recommendation of the U.S. attorney.

BAIL FUNDS
Bail money was partially provided for Dobbs after his arrest by Grace Partridge, former head of the Communists' Northern California Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, and Clara L. Fox of Los Angeles. Mrs. Fox is the wife of Jacob S. Lipshutz, who is a representative for the Los Angeles chapter of the National Guardian (TOCSIN, July 17, 1962); the Foxes are the parents of a former University of California teaching assistant fired for Communist activity in the UC radiation laboratory.

Born in New York in 1912, Dobbs was reared in Los Angeles, where he carried on the work of his Communist Party activity. He also made frequent public appearances on the Communist lecture circuit, discussing such topics as "The Youth of Two Worlds" and "Youth Faces 1940" and plugging for funds to aid what he termed the "people's press" (i.e., the Communist People's World).

Joining the Army in 1942, he spent four years as a World War II infantryman, including a year overseas where he was reported to have contacted Communist Party headquarters in one country in which he was stationed.

In contrast to the Communist Party's insistence that the weapons of today, Dobbs told the People's World on the eve of his induction, "I'm glad to get the chance to fight for democracy against the Axis powers."

Timothy Evans, Jr., a former Communist who was chairman of the Tubman Club of the party, testified Dobbs had also "spoken before various Communist gatherings in the San Francisco Bay region," according to HCUA hearings of March 1952.

Dobbs was subpoenaed as a witness at HCUA hearings, April 24, 1962, in Los Angeles, but refused to answer all questions about Communist Party organization. Among the groups and individuals whom he refused to identify or discuss were the now-defunct Fair Play for Cuba Committee, the Constitutional Liberties Information Center of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, and its Communist leader, Rose Chernin.

OSWALD CASE
(continued from page 1)

Known Communist Worker have increased, rather than lessened, their attempts to divide the nation into pro- and anti-Communist.

The attempts have taken the form of scare-stories about the FBI and "police brutality" as well as the persistent characterization of the entire U.S. South as a kind of moral leper.

One distressing effect of the case is that Communist U.S. "agitproping" has not been limited to the U.S. The Guardian also boasts that its hell suicide of the person in charge of the People's Press.

The political left indeed has reason to decry the faltering U.S. image, said one TOCSIN reader: they helped tarnish it.

The Guardian also boasts that its headline in the Oswald case is analogous to its effects in the furor surrounding executed atom spies Julius and Ethel Rosenberg.
Methodists Alarmed Over Pro-Red Views

Patristic Methodists are expressing increasing alarm over the pro-Soviet positions being taken by a number of spokesmen for their denomination. Although one officially cited Communist front (the Methodist Federation for Social Action) has long been known to follow the Soviet line, it was held not to represent the bulk of Methodism.

Indications are now that the Federation's many tentacles have reached well outside its own sphere of Marxists and into respectable Methodist circles.

One such indication is contained in articles in the magazine Concern, published by the General Board of Christian Social Concerns of the Methodist Church.

The December issue contains an article against loyalty checks, another supporting the wheat deal with Russia and a third whitewashing the recent USSR arrest of Yale Professor Frederick C. Barghoorn.

The Barghoorn article attempts to justify the professor's treatment by the Soviet police on the basis of restrictions placed on Russian diplomats visiting this country in retaliation for Soviet policies.

The article also equates the arrest of Barghoorn with "restrictions placed on U.S. citizens relative to travel to such places as Red China."

The article which equates loyalty checks uses such loaded words as "blacklist," a term favored by the Communist press for stories agitating against restrictions on employment of subversives.

Songs for Our Heroes

Identified Communist William M. Mandel, a frequent speaker at the University of California and commentator for Berkeley station KPFA, recently announced his decision to retain his present program format.

Do you like KPFA, Billy boy, Billy boy, Do you like KPFA, Chamin' Billy? Yes, I like KPFA, Marxist theory I display, I'm a young thing who's faithful to the Party.

Do you keep you on the air, Billy boy, Billy boy, Do you keep you on the air, Chamin' Billy? Yes, they kept me on the air, Though my views I'll not forsake, I'm a young thing who's faithful to the Party.

Do you preach the Soviet line, Billy boy, Billy boy, Do you preach the Soviet line, Chamin' Billy? Yes, I preach the Soviet line, In a Russian accent fine, I'm a young thing who's faithful to the Party.

—Linda Coit
Several tie-ins between the pro-Peking Progressive Labor Movement and Castroite forces in this country are revealed in the December 1963 issue of Progressive Labor, organ of the dissident Communist PLM group.

Now listed as a member of the publication’s editorial board is Hal Driggs, 333A 7th Ave., San Francisco. Driggs’ wife Margaret is San Francisco representative for the Communist National Guardian. Their son, Steve Driggs, a San Jose State College student, was one of the 59 persons who made a clandestine visit to Communist Cuba last summer.

An old-time supporter of the Communist movement, Driggs told reporters last summer that the issue of Communist influences in his son’s trip was a “red herring.”

The December Progressive Labor also contains an article by Don Rainman of Oakland, another of the summer Cuba visitors. Rainman disclaims affiliation with Progressive Labor, but is an ardent fan of Castro’s dictatorship. A recent University of California graduate, Rainman is the son of Mrs. Mollie Zeavin, 5799 Shafter Ave., Oakland, who was a registered Communist in Los Angeles in 1940.

West Coast editor of Progressive Labor is Lee Coe of 840 Delaware St., Berkeley, a former editor of the People’s World and a present representative of the National Guardian.

The same issue of PL contains an open call to violence against New York police officers against whom the paper brings the old Communist charge of “police brutality.”

“Who is this?!” says an announcement in the magazine “.... The police and their boss Wagner are terrified when people take action. And people will take action... We will be back — hundreds of us — tonight at 5:30 in front of the 100th street station ... Take the murder weapons away from the police!”

**New Racist Party Upsets Red Plans**

The admittedly racist Freedom Now party, a new black-supremacist group, is causing consternation in Communist Party circles by diverting energies heretofore used in the CP’s exploitation of “racial unity.”

Freedom Now, which plans to run candidates in 1964 elections, is headed by attorney Conrad Lynn, an acknowledged advocate of violence in the civil rights movement. Formation of the new group is considered by the CP as unwelcome factionalism since the party is now vigorously striving to present itself as a foe of violence and a proponent of group harmony.

In Los Angeles, the pro-Communist Unitarian Public Forum was to hear newsmen William Worthy, Jr., Jan. 10 on “Why a Freedom Now Party in 1964.” Worthy, a propagandist for the Castro revolution, has been active in the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. His conviction under the McCarran Immigration Act for a passport violation has been used by Communist fronts to agitate against travel restrictions.

Worthy had earlier come into conflict with government authorities for trips to Red China and the USSR. His Freedom Now talk was to be held at the Los Angeles First Unitarian Church, 2936 W. 8th St., whose pastor is Rev. Stephen Fritchman.

Fritchman, who invoked the Fifth Amendment when questioned about Communist Party membership by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, has been active in Communist fronts which emphasize the “racial-unity” theme.

**Ex-CP Member Backs Cuba Aid**

Is Professor Kenneth O. May, who avowed his past Communist Party membership in 1950, destined to be another example of the on-again-off-again Communist a la actor Sterling Hayden?

May, former member of the California Communist Party’s State Central Committee, who now teaches at Carleton College in Minnesota, appeared as a witness before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, Dec. 21, 1950.

He was considered a cooperative witness who furnished information to the committee, then investigating Communist infiltration of the radiation laboratory of the University of California. Admitting he joined the Communist Party in 1936, he said he had severed all connections in 1942.

In 1943 or possibly 1944, he acknowledged, he “once or twice,” called on Steve Nelson, former Alameda County Communist Party chairman and present CP boss in Western Pennsylvania. May had earlier briefly shared a house with Nelson.

**JEFFERSON SCHOOL**

Six years after the time he said he quit the CP, May was listed in a letter as a supporter and editor of the Jefferson School of Social Science, a since disbanded Communist training center in New York whose obligation to register as a Communist front was upheld last month by the courts. The Daily Worker of June 29, 1964, also listed him as a member of the Jefferson School’s registration.

Last month, May turned up among a list of Communists and left-wingers sponsoring a so-called Emergency Committee for Disaster Relief to Cuba, described in an accompanying article as the successor of the late Samuel C. May, director of the University of California’s Bureau of Public Administration. The senior May disowned his son because of Communist Party activity, declaring “I want to protect the University all I can in this matter.”

A former mathematics teaching assistant at UC, Kenneth May was a Communist candidate for Berkeley City Council in 1941, taught at the Bay Area’s Workers School, wrote for the CP magazine, New Masses, and several times visited the Soviet Union before World War II.

“In every great university,"” May commented about his visit to Europe, “I found Communists working just as my comrades were working at home in Berkeley.”