

A more effective fight  
against Red subversion ne-  
cessitates knowledge of —

# Communist Indoctrination Methods

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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

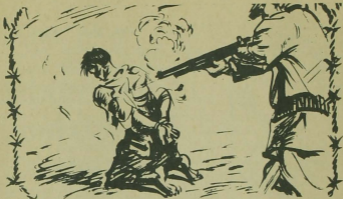
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## Terror and Police

So that the program of mass indoctrination maintains the maximum degree of intensity, and thus attains political solidarity quickly, all human drives and emotions are exploited. Fear, since it is one of the most powerful of human forces for motivation, provides the natural complement to enforced indoctrination. Every artifice at the Government's disposal is brought into play—from brute torture methods to refined psychological trickery. Overwhelming coercion is used to induce compliance; fear of falling victim to one or all three of the terror systems—the purge, execution, or slave labor.

The political police system of the *MVD* is divided into multiple categories of secret activity. In carrying out the complicated task of control, instilling fear, and searching out flaws or behavior and character, the system becomes the eyes, ears, and strong arm of the Government. It becomes an abstract but effective training aid





When "brain washing" and indoctrination fail, the Reds find one alternative handy: execution of the subject person.

for Soviet education, and contains within its scope all thought control of the nation.

#### Thought Control Abroad

In applying Soviet methods of thought molding to other nations, the Communist authorities apparently profited by their mistakes during and after the Russian Revolution. Upon the subjugation of any country, early and continued attention is given to education and the organizing of the school systems along Soviet lines—employing the same framework and central control. Positive and thorough sovietization has been observed after the assimilation of each satellite nation, in the gradual takeover of China and North Korea, and within those overrun sections of South Korea. In each case, to be sure, the temperament of the people, their customs, social structure, economic pattern, and religion were given careful attention. The attack upon each of these traits was different in each case. Methods necessarily

varied. However, appalling as it is, it can be asserted that the youth of each subjugated country is educationally and ideologically abreast of Soviet youth.

One area of exception could be that of national patriotism. Patriotism in the Soviet Union is fanatic—drilled into every student. Within the subjugated nations, patriotism is gradually dislodged from the home country and psychologically bent toward the Soviet Union. An examination of available data from each country reveals that thought control methods applied to them, refined and speeded up though they are, nevertheless, are essentially the same as applied to the citizens of the Soviet Union. Total horizontal schooling, Party training, youth organization, mass indoctrination, attacks on morality and religion, terror and police, slave labor—all are steps in the master plan for thought seduction and control.

It is a matter of record that in every subjugated country, all pro-

minent political recalcitrants having been dealt with, special interest was given all other citizens of influence in any field. These were subjected to a private type of indoctrination known as "brain-washing," or "brain-cleansing," during which the victim would be required to publicly acknowledge his "bourgeois sins," proclaim the truth of Marxist teachings, and to become generally a depersonalized automaton. The more important the person, the more intense would be the "cleansing" process.

The Chinese Communists first used the term "brain-washing" to instill a kind of occult or esoteric terror. After the outbreak of the Korean conflict, they claimed this process as a "secret and terrible weapon." They had tried the same method upon their own people and students with some success. Actually it amounts to a highly stepped-up process of the educational methods already described concerning Soviet schooling.

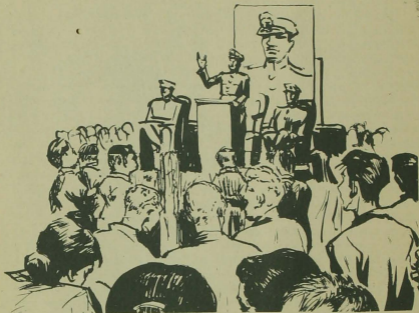
The system appears to be an extension of the technique evolved by the famous Soviet biologist Pavov who experimented on dogs and rats in his studies on the "conditioned reflex." When a rat goes through the wrong door, he gets an electric shock; but when he goes through the right door, he gets a bit of cheese. Before long one can dispense with the shock and the cheese. His behavior has been "corrected." The aims of this method now applied to the minds of men is to so condition the mind that it no longer reacts



*Soviet ways are drilled by the Reds into every student of the subjugated nation, on a free will or rational basis, but responds to impulses implanted from outside.*

#### **Process and Techniques**

Prolonged deprivation of sleep and continued interruption of rest when sufficiently protracted can have the same result as drugs. It paralyzes will power, produces hallucinations, and eventually permits the tormentor to impose his will upon his victim. The need for sleep gradually displaces every other sensation, even hunger and thirst. It overcomes all resistance and all power of mental concentration. We know of the early use of this device in each of the celebrated cases involving Cardinal Mindszenty, William Oatis, Robert T. Bryan, Jr., and a host of missionaries in China, including Dr. John D. Hayes, Francis Olin Stockwell, Father Joseph Schijns, Father Richard Cocquyt, Father Charles deRyck, Father Uldar Lebrun, Father Albert Van Lierde, Father Maurice Kavanaugh, Father Eugene Fahy, Father Mark



*In every subjugated country, the temperament of the people, their customs, social structure, economic pattern, and religion are regimented by the Communists into Soviet lines. The attacks upon each of these traits are different in each case.*

Tennien, and Father Robert W. Greene.

To the prolonged deprivation of sleep was added frequent and constant interruptions by interrogation teams. Many witnesses cite long intense sessions of unbroken questioning, unbroken instructions, repeating over and over the same thoughts. If the victim is under arrest and a crime is being sought, the nature of the session becomes a sadistic series of questions, accompanied with various

physical tortures as the occasion demands. In this case the objective is a confession. In others it may be merely conversion. In any case the production of fatigue is important. Exhaustion having been induced, as the level of consciousness descends, the only thought the victim is aware of is the stream of words repeated over and over by the interrogator or instructor. Thus, a form of hypnosis seems to be produced where thoughts are no longer self-gene-

rated but infixed by the manipulator.

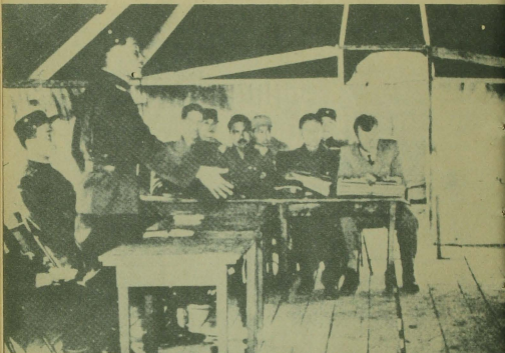
The use of such drugs as Mescaline and Scalpalomine has been reported in the more celebrated cases, particularly in the case of Cardinal Mindszenty and other Europeans; and a drug the Chinese called simply *Cheng Yen Yao*—true words medicine—in the case of Robert T. Bryan, Jr.

In addition to requiring erect posture for many hours, the Chinese displayed originality by ty-

ing their prison victims in grotesque positions, involving great pain, for long periods of time—in the case of Father Kavanaugh, his arms were handcuffed tightly behind his back, and he was forced to remain standing for 4 days without movement. Father Schijns recounts hanging by the wrists as "the worst torture." Colonel John K. Arnold, United States Air Force, relates similar and additional forms of torture. These tortures, augmented by beatings, clubbings,



Political recalcitrants are dealt with by the Communists. The more important the person, the more intense the method used. Interrogations are augmented by tortures like clubbings as shown in photo above.



*Allied with police and terror methods employed by the Reds is further conditioning process whereby accusations are screamed against a victim during mass accusation meetings and mob demonstrations with which to terrify an individual.*

flailings, and kickings are all calculated to draw out the "truth" as understood by the Communists.

#### **Psychological Methods**

Allied with police and terror methods is a further conditioning process in the form of *mass accusation meetings* and *mob demonstrations* where accusations are screamed against a victim. All "students" undergoing indoctrination, as well as the bulk of the local population, are forced to attend these spectacles. The use of

mob demonstration is a powerful instrument with which to terrify an individual and convince him of the uselessness of resistance.

The creation of a sense of isolation and the futility of resistance together with a feeling of utter dependence upon the interrogator or instructor is gradually attained. He is denied counsel, and all hope of rescue is denied him. There are no avenues of redress. The final results are desires to capitulate.

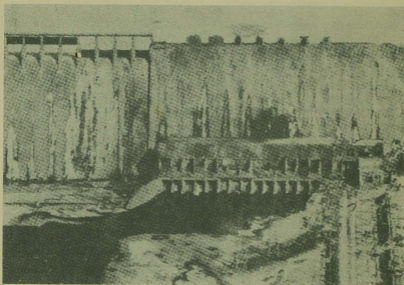


Full use is made of the demoralizing situation where fellow prisoners or students are used as "stool pigeons and spies." After a long term of isolation he is placed among other "progressives" who have seen the light, and carry on the thought-cleansing process by suggesting self-criticism and confession. They report on the accused or unenlightened, and report to him rumors and threats which further the process of breaking his spirit.

The treatment is often varied; the pace is changed; and there is alternation between leniency and severity. This is often successful.

A further device which is always employed is the enforced writing of a self-disclosure, comprising a detailed account of his entire life, disclosure of his family background, education, friends, relatives, and hobbies. These also must include present interrogation summaries, doctrines taught, and his appreciation of them. Often he must rewrite the entire account without retaining a copy. Thus the Communists, beyond the pressures already described, employ every describable trick to confuse and entrap this individual.

There is adequate testimony in our own hands which reveals that the Communists employed psychological pressure methods upon our American prisoners of war. The entire picture presented was one of supreme degradation where Americans saw themselves filthy, full of lice, wounds untended and full of maggots; sickness regulated to a point just short of death; unshaven and without a bath for as long as a year; men in rags, exposed to the elements; fed with carefully measured quantities and qualities, often served in rusty cans; men isolated, and exposed to a battery of interrogators, bullied, deprived of sleep, and ruthlessly browbeaten into a state of mental anguish. The tightened grip would be relaxed only when a man was in a dying condition, or



*Soviet's control of Yalu River power dams enabled them to disrupt economy of Republic of Korea, even before the Korean War. Subversion, invasion and indoctrination follow, methods of which necessarily vary.*

when he showed signs of cooperation. Into this controlled environment was introduced psychological trickery, under extreme conditions of fatigue. The constant repetition of the Communist line, over and over again; a prisoner's repetition of it, his own criticism and understanding of it—all accumulated to cause a fatigue hypnosis coupled with fear, hunger, and abandonment. The result was discouraged, broken men, many of whom wrote confessions, and some became "progressives" to varying degrees. Many were induced to write or sign atrocity stories.

A careful scrutiny of the background of the *Little Switch* repatriated prisoners of war reveals

the fact that there evidently existed a common denominator in the character and background of each prisoner who succumbed in any degree to Communist indoctrination. Repeated biographies demanded of them revealed these factors to their captors. They are:

1. A product of a broken home resulting in a lack of strong family ties.
2. A lack of strong religious convictions; lack of active faith, moral principles, and consequent discipline.
3. A lack of strong units or organizational ties.

#### **Ideological Mobilization**

The sum total of the ideological



marshalling of forces in America today, in brief, comprises the following activities: the cold war waged by experts who have access to the facts; new books treating of communism and its objectives together with a few counterproposals; articles which describe sensational aspects of the cold war; and radio and television panels, movies, and lectures.

However, there is little coordination and cooperation between church groups, and less understanding, mutual sympathy, and "work-togetherness." Unfortunately the Communists have capitalized on these barriers of misunderstanding, seeking in every pos-

sible way to widen the breach between them, and with some success. The Party Line working through popular fronts, youth groups, the uninitiated, and dupes has made much of religious differences. Violent anti-Protestant and anti-Catholic tracts have appeared, written by the same Communist cells and placed in public places such as libraries, reading rooms, railway stations, terminals, and even in churches.

### Education

In spite of all the mass media of communication, of intensity of effort by party, pressure groups and civic organizations, and churches, one fact remains unchanged:

*Refugees to U.S. from communist-dominated European countries leave plane shortly after arrival at Idlewild International airport in New York.*





*Communist pressure against voters makes it dangerous or impossible to oppose Communist candidates in Red-controlled elections.*

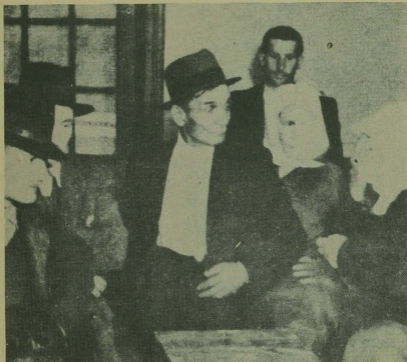
The American people are not actively concerned with national issues—much less with ideological battles.

Does the public complacency stem from the school system? It cannot be denied that from one point of view, America is an un-schooled nation. The 1950 census according to Harold D. Lasswell shows that the majority of the population has not gone much beyond the eighth grade; that among the 25-year bracket 1 in 70 had finished high school, and 1 in

7 had finished college. Now, it is an established fact that there is a positive relationship between informed interest in public affairs and the length of exposure to educational institutions.

Upon analysis it appears that the modern trend in public schools is more and more to avoid teaching principles—either disciplinary, moral, patriotic, philosophic, or theological—and to stress teaching of mere material facts.

Teachers have access to our population at least for 8 formative



*Voters in Red countries, like these in Hungary, have only one set of candidates, selected by the Reds. There is no popular will of the voters.*

years, and still they have not succeeded in enlarging the scope of curiosity and knowledge of national or international problems which will outlive the classroom. It is idle to assume that public indifference to these things depends on the struggle for livelihood or upon income. History disproves that. Hence, it must be concluded that school effectiveness depends very largely upon encouragement given at home toward classroom achieve-

ment, upon interest in school discipline, and of the teachings concerning the great issues.

At the academic and university level there is a divisive tendency caused by overspecialization. The university is no longer a "universe," but a "multiverse" with variegated and new activities popping off in all directions. Hence there is no true frame of reference in relation to goal values of a free society, and in the sense of

timing introduced by continuing crisis.

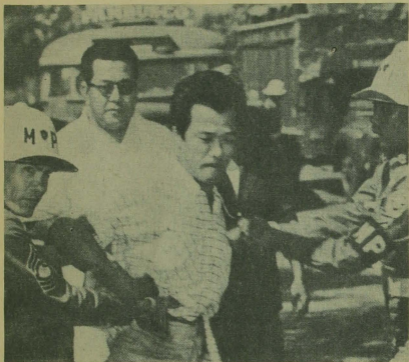
### Intellectual Resources

An audit of intellectual resources will show wide gaps. In most academic institutions the entire field of military, naval, and air strategy is an unknown continent. Ideologies and systems of morals, political science, and philosophy are tightly compartmented and highly elective; nor do these courses in political science, despite long concern for the "state," typically have seminars or courses on

strategy, or how the armed forces can be articulated with the needs of a free society. Military history is often lacking in departments of history. Departments of economics do not generally concentrate on problems of total or partial mobilization of economy with minimum loss of freedom, nor are positive countermeasures formulated which will thwart the avowed destructive aims of the Soviet Union toward American economy and American standards of living. Departments of philosophy do not

*Soviet troops leave Iran after Soviet subversive attempts to take control of Azerbaijan province were thwarted by world opinion and Western help to Iran.*





*Guerrilla warfare and espionage are two elements of cold war used by Communists. Photo above shows an armed Huk caught in checkpoint on a highway in the Philippines in an attempt to undermine the authorities.*

normally have courses on the political and social ethics of coercion related to modern social situations.

#### **Within the Service**

The service is in the position to witness and judge this spirit of complacency brought into its ranks from civilian life by newly created enlisted men and officers, but it can do little to correct this serious defect on the family and community level.

As for Army personnel, at-

tempts have been made to reach the troops, both in the Troop Information and Education (TI&E) and Character Guidance programs, and to elevate the deficient educational level as well as to instill positive fundamentals of citizenship and morality. Statistics show that, after intensive screening, 7 percent of inductees which the Army retains cannot read or write; and 12 percent have no religious moral training. However, due to the limited term of service,

shortage of trained instructor personnel in TI&E fields, the full training schedule, and manner of presenting information and character guidance programs, together with subject matter treated, reduce the efficacy and value of such programs.

As to the individual soldier, he has carried with him into military life an accustomed reliance upon ease, luxury, and the pursuit of idle entertainment induced by current high standards of living.

His talents for work, creativeness, self-reliance, and self-improvement have often never been awakened. He is wanting not only in education, but often lacks such basic things as knowledge of self-preservation under conditions of privation; lack of acceptable social habits; moral training; and solid religious principles. Commanders are frequently appalled at the lack of understanding on the part of young soldiers as to such basic questions as: What is America; the conditions which would force America to fight; the reasons for risking his life on the field of battle—are they merely to protect property, national rights, or are they for the fundamental rights underlying life itself? These appalling deficiencies today are occupying the attention of a good many Army commanders, civic leaders, Government officials, and clergymen. The President himself, referring to them, exclaimed with dismay: "It is not juvenile delinquency, it is parental delinquency.."

## Conclusions

It is concluded that:

1. Thought control within the Soviet bloc nations is solidly entrenched through the agency both of formal education and mass indoctrination to the degree where the younger generation is completely distorted mentally as to objectivity concerning themselves and the outside world.

2. This generation is being employed as the implementing instrumentality to wage worldwide ideological struggle, and to foment a world revolution by means of patiently planned infiltration, organization, subversion, and all manner of sabotage, both physical and psychological.

3. This organized group will operate through such forces as popular "fronts," with special attention to the fields of politics, science, religion, and education.

4. Every effort will be made to convert captive Westerners by means of rigorous indoctrination; and where this fails, to impute to them political crimes through signed "confessions" induced by brain-warfare and torture methods.

5. The ideological threat to American freedoms is not generally understood as to its scope or seriousness and is not countered energetically either in the field of education, in the schools, in the homes, in organized religious bodies, or generally within the body politic of the Nation.