

The Treason Case Summed Up

By Andrey Vyshinsky

The criminal activities of Bukharin and his fellow traitors as summarized by the Soviet Prosecutor at the session of the Military Collegium of the Supreme Court of the USSR on March 11.

From *Soviet Russia Today*, April 1938
Vol. 7 No. 2

Transcribed by *Red Flag Magazine*

This is the first time that our court has had to try a case of such crimes and such misdeeds as those that have passed before the eyes of this court, of such criminals as these defendants.

Before us has been unfolded a chain of misdeeds which overshadow the vilest, the most abominable crimes. We have succeeded in tearing from the faces of these miscreants their perfidious masks, and have shown to our people, and to all honest men throughout the world, the bestial face of international brigands, the directing hand of villains conspiring against our peaceful Socialist labor.

The historical significance of this trial consists in that it has been proved that the Rights, the Trotskyites, Mensheviks, Socialist-Revolutionaries, and Bourgeois Nationalists constitute a band of

Red Flag
Journal of the CP (MLM)



murderers, spies, wreckers and diversionists, without ideology or principles. This is a band of criminals who sold themselves to the intelligence services of our enemies.

The so-called “Bloc of Rights and Trotskyites” is an organization for espionage, diversions, wrecking activities and political assassinations, a bloc for the sale of the Fatherland.

Agents of Fascism

This anti-Soviet “Bloc of Rights and Trotskyites” constitutes an agency of foreign intelligence services. The members of the Bloc and its leaders, like Trotsky, Bukharin, Rykov, Yagoda, Krestinsky, Rosenholtz, and its rank and file members, like Zubarev, Maximov-Dikovskiy and others, are the slaves of these intelligence services—they are the slaves of their masters.

What ideology, then, what “problematics” or “prognostication” as Bukharin expressed himself, what “theory” or philosophy could be found here? The “theory” and philosophy behind whose smoke screen Bukharin attempted to hide himself here is only a mask for camouflaging espionage.

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The “Bloc of Rights and Trotskyites” sitting in this dock in Moscow is the vanguard of international fascism, a pack of hangmen and underground assassins with whose aid international fascism operates in various countries. In the first place, it operates in Spain and China. That is why the exposure of the Bloc of Rights and Trotskyites” as a gang of spies is of tremendous importance not only for the cause of our Socialist Revolution, for the cause of Socialism in the USSR. It is also of tremendous importance for the entire international proletariat. It is of tremendous importance for the cause of peace throughout the world. It is of tremendous importance for all human culture and civilization, for the struggle for genuine democracy and the liberty of peoples, for the struggle against all warmongers and against all intellectual provocations and provocateurs.

They Spied for Foreign Powers

Here in the dock sits, not one such anti-Soviet group, here sits agents of not one foreign intelligence service, but a number of anti-Soviet groups, representing agencies of intelligence services of a number of foreign countries, hostile to the USSR. In this “affair” are entangled remnants of all anti-Soviet forces, all anti-Soviet groups and organizations. Here are entangled at least four foreign intelligence services: Japanese, German, Polish, and British and, of course, those other foreign intelligence services which maintain friendly working contact in their

operations with the above mentioned intelligence services.

The entire “Bloc” consisted wholly of foreign spies and agents of the Tsarist secret police. Trotsky had been connected with the German Intelligence Service since 1921 and with the British Intelligence Service since 1926. Bukharin and Rykov, through their accomplices, were connected with a number of foreign intelligence services whom they regularly served. German and Polish spies surrounded Yagoda like flies. He

not only screened them, but through them he conducted espionage and transmitted state secrets to intelligence services, sold and betrayed our country to these intelligence services. Krestinsky, according to his own admission, had been a German spy since 1921.

Rosenholtz, one of the leaders of the Trotskyite underground organizations, commenced his espionage work for the German General Staff in 1923 and for the British Intelligence Service in 1926. Rakovsky, one of Trotsky’s closest and particularly trusted men, had been an agent of the British Intelligence Service since 1924 and of the Japanese Intelligence Service since 1934. Chernov, a German spy since 1928, established contact with the German Intelligence Service upon the initiative and with the assistance of the notorious émigré Menshevik, Dan. Sharangovich was recruited by the Polish Intelligence Service and sent into the USSR for espionage in 1921. Grinko became a spy for the German and Polish

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Intelligence Services in 1932. Ikramov and Khodjaev were connected with the agents of the British Intelligence Service, which the notorious adventurer Lawrence did much to strengthen along the Central Asiatic borders of the USSR. Then follow the provocateurs and agents of the Tsarist secret police, Zelensky, Zubarev and Ivanov—the latter also a British spy. Add to this company the group of prisoners, the murderers Levin, Pletnev, Kazakov, Kriuchkov and Maximov-Dikovsky, and the moral and political essence of this “Bloc” and its every participant become completely clear. This is an unprincipled gang of murders, who stop at nothing, who have no scruples, who are ready for everything, for blowing up plants, for wrecking trains, destroying cattle, damaging grain, for murders, espionage and treason.

They did everything they could to set fire to our house from all four sides, they hastened to open the gates to the enemy in order to force their way to power, even at the price of a Judas’ betrayal. It is precisely these crimes that explain the real course of events, the real logic of events and the struggle that places face to face two worlds and two blocs, the bloc of traitors and hirelings of foreign capital, the bloc of traitors who covered themselves with eternal shame, with disgrace and the condemnation of millions of working people throughout the world, and, confronting these, the bloc of Soviet patriots, great and invincible in their love for their Fatherland, the people who stood the test of historic battle against all enemies, people ready under the leadership of the

Communist Party and the great Stalin to offer a crushing repulse to any enemy under any conditions.

Two Worlds

In twenty years the entire aspect of our country has fundamentally changed; it has been transformed into the richest, mightiest proletarian power. Socialism has permeated the every day life of our people, Socialism in our country has won, finally and irrevocably. From the

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first days of the great October Revolution to the brilliant days of the epoch of the Stalinist Constitution, the young republic of the Soviets has never been out of the fire of the class offensive of the exploiters and their countless agents in the persons of Trotskyites, Mensheviks, Socialist-

Revolutionaries, Bukharinites, Zinovievites, the Georgian, Uzbek and other nationalists, the reactionaries of the “Black Hundred,” White guards, Constitutional Democrats, priests, kulaks, et cetera, et cetera.

This trial has once more reminded us that two worlds—world capitalism and world Socialism face each other as irreconcilable and deadly enemies.

In 1921 Lenin gave us this warning: “We are surrounded by the world bourgeoisie who are watching every moment of vacillation in order to bring back ‘their own folk,’ in order to restore the landlords and the bourgeoisie.”

Throughout the existence of the Soviet power, certain circles of foreign bourgeoisie have never ceased in their attempts to restore capitalism and the power of the landlords and capitalists. They are supporting the remnants of these classes, their agents within our country. Was not the devilish work of foreign intelligence services shown by the trial of the British engineers, Thornton, MacDonald and others who were exposed in 1933 as agents of an intelligence service? Was not this also shown by the well-known trial of the “Industrial Party,” in which, alongside Ramzin and Chernovsky, the first violin was played by the White émigrés Riabushinsky and General Lukomsky, by the British spy, Colonel Lawrence, and the French General Joinville?

The significance of this trial goes beyond the bounds of an ordinary criminal trial. It takes on the greatest historical significance. This trial sums up the results of the struggle against the Soviet State and the party of Lenin and Stalin, waged by people who wore masks throughout their lives, and who commenced this struggle long before the present time, who, under cover of loud phrases of provocateurs, served not the Revolution and the proletariat but the counter-revolution and the bourgeoisie.

Bukharin’s Plot against Lenin

Bukharin, who started out in 1918 with a plot against Lenin as head of the Soviet State—could he finish otherwise than he does now, in this ignominious dock awaiting the severe but just verdict of

the Soviet people, who now curse his hateful name? Could Bukharin, who started out in 1928 with the quack “theory” of the peaceful growing of kulaks into socialism, who, in the course of these ten years carried on an underground struggle against the Party and against the Soviet people, could Bukharin finish his political career otherwise than he does now?

The kinship in the positions of the Trotskyites and the Rights, their constant attraction to each other, their constant search for blocs, and the existence of these blocs at various stages of their struggle against the Party and the Soviet State, are to be explained in the first place by the common social base of the Trotskyites and the Rights.

Both the Trotskyites and the Rights reflect the pressure of capitalist elements who are resisting the successes of Socialism and have no intention of leaving the historical arena peacefully and quietly. They both acted on orders of the same masters, sitting in the General

Staffs and Intelligence Services of foreign countries hostile to the USSR. The Trotskyites and the Rights many years ago became henchmen of the bourgeois counter-revolution. The Trotskyites and Rights are both engaged in the same work of black treason.

Before the Revolution, in 1909, Bukharin waged a struggle against Lenin’s line on fundamental issues of Party tactics. In the years of the Imperialist War Bukharin declared himself against Lenin’s slogan of civil war and for the unity of the Trotskyites.

During the war Bukharin developed anarchist views on the problem of the state; he repudiated the dictatorship of the proletariat and published a thesis rejecting the principle of the right of nations to self-determination. Like all Trotskyites, Bukharin denies the possibility of the victory of Socialism in one country. He waged a struggle against this theory in the Trotskyite newspaper *Novy Mir*, which he edited jointly with Trotsky. At the Sixth Party Congress, in 1917, he spoke against the line of Lenin and Stalin, and propounded the same Trotskyite theory of the impossibility of the victory of Socialism in Russia. In 1918, as leader of the “Left Communists,” Bukharin turned to terrorism against Lenin. In 1919, at the Eighth Party Congress, he waged a struggle against Lenin on fundamental issues of the program of the Bolshevik Party. In 1921, together with Trotsky, Bukharin waged a struggle against the Party on the questions of the role and tasks of the trade unions. In 1922, Bukharin tried to disrupt the monopoly of foreign trade and came forward as a defender of profiteers, the petty bourgeoisie and the kulaks. In 1923-1924, Bukharin entered a bloc with Kamenev and Zinoviev against Comrade Stalin. In 1928, Bukharin was the leader of the Right Deviationists. Later, while formally acknowledging his mistakes, he actually took up the course of double-dealing and lies; he made a bloc with the Trotskyites, Mensheviks and Socialist-Revolutionaries. At the Seventeenth Party Congress he demanded a ruthless smashing of all oppositions and of the opposition of the Rights as the chief

danger. And he did that at the very moment when the Rights and the Trotskyites were actually conducting the work of undermining spying and diversion against the Party and this country.

Rykov’s Background of Treachery

The other “heroes” were no better than Bukharin. In Saratov, before joining the Bolsheviks, Rykov was a member of the United Party of Socialist Revolutionaries and Social-Democrats. From 1909 to 1911, Rykov was semi-Trotskyite, semi-liquidator. At the April Party conference in 1917, he advocated an alliance with the Socialist-Revolutionaries and Mensheviks. In October, 1917, Rykov, jointly with Kamenev and Zinoviev, turned deserter; in December, 1917, he declared that the Soviet power was not stable and that Socialism could not win in Russia; in 1920, Rykov entered a bloc with the worst enemies of the Revolution—the Saprnovites. Later Rykov opposed the Leninist plan for the electrification of the country; in 1928, he was the leader of the right wing deviationists, and then followed more blocs, centers, plots and betrayals.

Notwithstanding all his dodging and attempts to evade responsibility for this monstrous crime, Bukharin has been fully convicted of the attempt to disrupt the Brest-Litovsk Peace, to arrest and murder the leaders of the Party and the Government, Lenin, Stalin and Sverdlov., and to overthrow the Soviet power—convicted of a plot conceived

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by him jointly with Trotsky and the “Left” and Right Socialist-Revolutionaries. Bukharin, together with his adherents, did everything to disrupt the Brest-Litovsk Peace, fully realizing that in those days the question of war and peace meant life or death for the Soviet power and the Soviet people. By their provocative speeches and slogans, the Bukharinites and Trotskyites attempted to lead the Party astray from the Leninist path. It was only for camouflage that they called themselves “Left” Communists. In reality, as was irrefutably proved by preliminary investigation and the testimony in court, they sought forcibly to overthrow the Soviet power, to assassinate Lenin, Stalin and Sverdlov, and to form a new government of Bukharinites, Socialist-Revolutionaries and Trotskyites. All this has been ascertained and proved.

Bukharin admits the plot of the bloc of “Left Communists” with Trotskyites and “Left” and Right Socialists Revolutionaries in 1918 and the plan to arrest Lenin, Stalin and Sverdov, but does everything to deny the plan for murdering our leaders. But this was testified to by Karelin, Yakovleva, Ossinsky and Mantsev, people for whom the admission of such a shameful and terrible fact, such a monstrous crime against the Fatherland, was of no advantage. These people were participants in that plot.

Bukharin Admits Murder Plot

Driven into a corner, Bukharin admitted both the plot and the plan for the arrests. He did not deny and even had to admit

that the murder of our leaders was contemplated and prepared.

Bukharin’s crimes against the Fatherland and the Soviet people, however, are not limited to this terrible crime. Bukharin’s participation in such a monstrous crime as the attempt on Lenin’s life by Kaplan, the Socialist-Revolutionary terrorist, on August 13, 1918, has now been fully revealed. Karelin, former leader of the “Left” Socialist-Revolutionaries, testified that “the question of a terrorist act against Lenin was raised by Bukharin in the second half of July, 1918,” and that this demand “played its part in hastening the terrorist act against Lenin committed by the Central Committee of Right Socialist-Revolutionaries.”

The witness, Ossinsky, also spoke about this in court.

In his hypocrisy and perfidy, Bukharin surpassed the lowest creatures ever known in the history of mankind. How many times did Bukharin swear by Lenin’s name in order to deceive and betray Lenin and his Party? How many times did he offer the treacherous kiss of Judas to his great teacher?

The court investigation established, with exhaustive thoroughness, that the “Bloc of Rights and Trotskyites,” as agents of the intelligence services of certain states, worked to undermine the military power of the USSR; aimed for the overthrow of Soviet power and the restoration of capitalism and the rule of the bourgeoisie; the dismemberment of the USSR; the separation of the Ukraine, White Russia, the Central Asiatic Republics, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, and the Maritime Province.

Trotsky headed this bloc, and the bloc worked in accordance with the plans of the General Staffs of Japan, Germany and Poland. Colonel Oberhaus, with whom Chernov was connected, said: "If you want to seize power, don't be scrupulous about methods of struggle."

This advice fell on fertile soil. The entire organization of the Rights was placed at the service of the German Intelligence Service. As Rykov admitted, the "Bloc of Rights and Trotskyites" was an agency of certain intelligence services of certain foreign states. Sharangovich testified that the national-fascist organization of White Russia constituted the "fifth column" which Polish General Staff needed in the event of an offensive against the USSR.

Rykov admitted that he knew about the negotiation which Karakhan conducted with the German Fascists in 1933; he also admitted that the "Bloc of Rights and Trotskyites" prepared a base of attack against the USSR by German Fascism.

Receiving an allowance of 250,000 marks from General Seeckt, the traitors, back in 1920-1921, concluded an agreement with the German General Staff, on the strength of which they had to supply espionage information for this money.

German Fascism, however, needs not only espionage information. Hitler needs colonies and, instead of waging a war with America or Britain, he is ready to satisfy himself with territory of the USSR. As Bukharin admitted, servants of the German Intelligence Service who possess keys to the gates of our frontiers, wanted to open them to German

Fascism. The cards of the traitors are on the table—marked cards.

At the beginning to the interrogation, Rykov testified that the national-fascist organizations of White Russia, led by Goloded, Chervyakov and Sharangovich, and forming part of the bloc, coordinated important appointments with the Polish Intelligence Service. This fact shows with sufficient clarity the nature of their connections. It is clear that the real masters of the bloc were the intelligence services of foreign states.

I will also cite the testimony of the defendant Ivanov, who stated that some times "we did not know where the foreign intelligence services were acting." According to Ivanov, Bukharin advised him to establish contact with the British Intelligence Service. The close connections of the bloc with foreign intelligence services were told by Rakovsky, who simultaneously served the English and Japanese Intelligence Services and, therefore, found himself in a difficult position. Rakovsky testified: "We did not know how to behave in order not to offend one or the other party."

"To Open the Gates to the Enemy"

The bloc was preparing to open the gates to the enemy, as Rykov confirmed and Bukharin had to admit. Their plan included preparation of an armed attack against the USSR. However much Bukharin might strive to outdo himself in the interpretation of certain words and phrases, it is a fact that they, jointly with Rykov and Tomsy, were preparing an attack by the aggressors on the USSR;

that they entrained no scruples about the means for overthrowing the Soviet power; that they for the support of states hostile to the USSR and negotiated with them regarding the destruction of the Soviet State in order to assume power by dark treason and to turn this power over to the fascists—their real masters.

The conspirators set themselves the task of opening the frontier and securing the defeat of the USSR. All the spying work of the “Bloc of Rights and Trotskyites” and connections of the individual participants in the bloc and of the whole group with foreign intelligence services were cultivated by Bukharin and Rykov. This was proved irrefutably. All the spy reports were delivered to foreign intelligence services through channels and contacts which were in the hands of Bukharin, Rykov and Yagoda. Such was the contact of Rykov through Dan, through the magazine *Socialistichesky Viestnik*, through the Mensheviks and the Socialist-Revolutionaries and through the entire White guard scum, who, with Bukharin, Rykov and Yagoda and others, dreamt not merely of some kind of new government but of a real return to capitalism, of a real domination of landlord and capitalist.

Krestinsky, Rakovsky, Ivanov, Grinko, Yagoda, Sharangovich and the other ringleaders of the bloc regularly supplied to foreign intelligence services, and the General Staffs of certain foreign countries, secret information about the USSR and the most important state secrets. The defendants themselves had to admit this. Of their spying work we also have evidence supplied by the masters of these traitors and spies. Bukharin and Rykov contemplated

opening the frontier at the time of an attack by fascist aggressors on our Soviet soil. Bukharin knew well, and so he testified at examination, that the tremendous patriotism of the Soviet people will permit no one to plan treason in its house, that the traitors would have to pay for it with their heads. They took no account this patriotism. They took no account how deeply the people love their Fatherland. It was on this basis that they built up their provocative work. That is why they wanted to make it appear that the opening of the frontier was the devilish design of someone else and that they had nothing to do with it.

Trotsky's Pacts with Japan and Germany

As was established in previous trials and now corroborated, Trotsky made an agreement with German and Japanese Intelligence Services for the joint struggle against the USSR. Carrying out this agreement, the plotters, who had worked their way by double-dealing into responsible positions, disrupted normal diplomatic relations between the USSR and Germany, organized contact between the underground Trotskyite organizations of the USSR and the German espionage organizations and their agents, in order to organize the defeat of the USSR and to prepare the way for foreign intervention and for wresting the Ukraine, the Maritime province and White Russia from the USSR. The “Bloc of Rights and Trotskyites” carried on preparations for the separation of the national republics through the counter-revolutionary bourgeois nationalist groups of Grinko, Khodjaev and Ikranvov, Sharganovich, Goloded and Chervyakov. The “Bloc of

Rights and Trotskyites” and the foreign intelligence services sought to separate the union republics for the purpose of weakening the USSR and dooming our fraternal people’s union of republics to the slavery of the capitalists.

This gang of traitors used methods of wrecking, diversion, espionage and terrorism. Bukharin, Rykov and Ikramov organized kulak uprisings. Chernov, Grinko, Rosenholtz and Zelensky, occupying responsible posts, had enormous opportunities for wrecking. The wreckers aimed to undermine the economic might of the USSR and the defense of the country, to damage agriculture and transport in order to time the evil consequences of these acts with the moment of the attack on the USSR and to create the conditions for the destruction of Soviet power. The “Bloc of Rights and Trotskyites” did not stop at provocations in order to arouse the discontent of the population. Chernov, enlisted by the German Intelligence Service, had instructions from the latter to deprive the Red Army of horses and to poison and infect cattle. Twenty-five thousand horses perished in Western Siberia alone. Rosenholtz, in making contracts for the export of oil, gold and pig-iron, protected the interests of Germany and Japan and retarded the import material for defense purposes in accordance with the orders of foreign intelligence services. Ikramov and Khodjaev disrupted cotton growing, while Zelensky, through his agents, put nails and glass in food products and artificially created a food shortage. Sharangovich and Ivanov also engaged in wrecking activities. The object of all

this activity was an attempt to strangle the Socialist Revolution by the bony hand of famine.

Terrorism against Soviet Leaders

Terrorism directed against the leaders of the Party and the Government was one of the favorite methods of struggle of the bloc. Rykov openly stated that under the conditions of the illegal nature of a conspiratorial organization, in the absence of a mass base and in the absence of other paths, terrorism provided a possibility. Upon Trotsky’s instructions, the entire bloc systematically engaged in terrorist activities, each in his own field, following a general plan. Only now it is established that Kirov was killed in accordance with the decision of the center of the Bloc of Rights and Trotskyites. This was confirmed by the defendant Yagoda, who was an active organizer of this murder. Yagoda testified that Rykov and Bukharin participated in the decision to perpetrate this murder. Rykov and Bukharin admitted that their plan included terrorist acts against the leaders of the Party and the Government.

The investigation established that the murder of Menzhinsky, Kuibyshev, Gorky and Peshkov was carried out upon instructions of the center of this Bloc. This was admitted by the defendants who took direct part in these villainous acts. In the course of a short period, three outstanding personalities of the Soviet State, and among them the great Russian writer, Gorky, met their death.

Each line written by Gorky breathed with the excitement of revolutionary action. It was not for nothing that all his life this writer was bound with the leaders of the Socialist Revolution, Lenin and Stalin, as their best friend. The criminals of the “Bloc of Rights and Trotskyites” extinguished one of the most brilliant and beautiful lights of all mankind.

The Murder of Gorky

Now everything is exposed, not only the motives for the murder, but the murderers themselves. The order to eliminate Gorky was given by the chief bandit, Trotsky, brought to the USSR by Bessonov and handed to the bloc, which adopted the decision regarding the murder.

The trial has proved irrefutably that Rykov and Bukharin knew about these terrorist acts, about these monstrous crimes. Rykov admitted that as far back as the end of 1935 he talked with Yenukidze about Gorky, about the fact that Gorky was a staunch supporter of Stalin and the Trotskyites and Zinovievites were worried about Gorky’s tremendous influence on public opinion. Rykov admitted that the plotters insisted upon the end of Gorky’s political activity and admitted the possibility of applying violence against him. Rykov admitted that he and Yenukidze talked about the murder of Gorky.

Bukharin, who wriggled and shuffled at the trial, had to admit the same. In 1935 he had a similar talk with Tomsy about a “hostile action,” as Bukharin expressed

it, which was being prepared against Gorky.

The methods used to accomplish the murders are worth noting. They consisted in gradual killing by means of special drugs and in utilizing the special knowledge of the murderers. The history and annals of criminal murders in recent decades show that poisoning with the aid of professional murderers has disappeared. Poisoners have now been replaced by criminal physicians. It was no accident that Yagoda chose such a method of killing the best men of our country. He took into account the historical situation and arranged the poisoning so as to be able to represent the murder as natural death from illness.

It is known that Pope Clement II was killed by smoke from a poisoned candle. We know the case of Buturlin, who was killed by Panchenko, who controlled in Russia the sale of “Sermin-Pel.” Under the guise of this medicine, Panchenko introduced diphtheria bacilli into a sick organism. There are numerous examples of such murders committed by various human monsters.

Yagoda’s Monstrous Crimes

Thus were effected the murders of Menzhinsky, Kuibyshev and Gorky. In accordance with this plan there was also planned a terrorist act against that outstanding Stalinist, Yezhov. Yagoda gave instructions to arrange matters in such a way that Yezhov should inhale poisons and gradually die. This was done, with the knowledge and approval of the “Bloc of Rights and Trotskyites.”

The findings of expert medical witnesses, who included the best representatives of Soviet medicine, established the fact that, in cases of Gorky, Kuibyshev, Menzhinsky and Peshkov, the criminals employed methods to accelerate their deaths.

Yagoda, whose duty it was to safeguard the security of the state, committed the gravest of crimes. Disguising himself, resorting to double-dealing, this traitor emulated Joseph Fouchè. This base enemy of the Soviet power, this outrageous traitor, who organized a group of German spies and agents of intelligence services, must be cast out of life. The accused did not all participate in these crimes to an equal extent. To be considered as accomplices this was not necessary. The tasks, aims and criminal activities were well known to all, approved and adopted. There was a division of labor among the criminals. The crimes of the accused are proved by their own testimonies, by the evidence of witnesses, by the findings of expert witnesses, and by material evidence. All these proofs are at the disposal of the court.

Speaking concretely, the actions of each of the accused are part of a single plan of criminal activity, reflected in the charges preferred against all of them and covered by Article 58-11 of the criminal code of the RSFSR. It does not follow that equal punishment must be meted out to all the accused.

The Supreme Penalty

Of all the defendants, two, Rakovsky and Bessonov, though they committed most heinous crimes against the Soviet

power, were, however, isolated from the center of the plot. Their crimes differ from the crimes committed by Rykov, Bukharin, Grinko and the others. Therefore Rakovsky and Bessonov deserve lesser punishment, namely twenty-five years imprisonment. In regard to all the others, the Procurator demands the supreme penalty—to be shot.

The entire Soviet people and all the honest men throughout the world are awaiting your sentence. Let your sentence, Comrade Judges, resound as a bell calling for new victories. The entire country demands one thing: shoot the plotters as foul dogs, crush the accused vipers. The years will pass and graves of traitors will be overgrown with wild weeds and thistles, while bright rays of our sun will shine over our Fatherland as brightly as ever. Along the road cleaned of this filth, our people will march onward; headed by our great teacher and leader, Stalin, they will march towards Communism.

The verdict of the court, announced by Presiding Judge Ulrich, was the death penalty for Nikolay Bukharin, Alexey Rykov, Henry Yagoda, Nikolay Krestinsky, A. P. Rosenholtz, Vladimr Ivanov, Mikhail Chernov, Gergory Grinko, I. A. Zelensky, Dr. Ignatius Kazakov, Dr. L. V. Levin, Faizulla Khodzhayev, Akmal Ikramov, F. A. Sharangovich, P. Y. Zubarev, P. P. Bulanov, V. K. Kruchkov and V. A. Maximov. Christian G. Rakovsky, Dr. Dmitri Pletnev and S. A. Bessonov received prison sentences.