

The World. *When we some day look back to this spring of 1952, it is likely that we shall think first of an ever-tightening fear of the imperialism of Soviet Communism. For Russia and her aims today dominate our newspaper headlines, our radio alarms—and our most widely discussed books. Last week we reviewed three important new books on this almost all-consuming problem: Sidney Lens's "The Counterfeit Revolution," Robert Vogeler's "I Was Stalin's Prisoner," and Adam B. Ulam's "Titoism and the Cominform." This week we review Leland Stowe's study of Kremlin over-all strategy, "Conquest by Terror" (below), Raymond J. deJaegher's eyewitness account of the Communist conquest of China, "The Enemy Within" (page 11), James P. Warburg's search to discover "How to Co-Exist with Russia" (page 12), Joseph Mackiewicz's story of a notorious incident in Poland, "The Katyn Wood Murders" (page 36), and Ray Brock's slapdash account of the tangled situation in eastern Europe and the Near East, "Blood, Oil and Sand" (page 35).*

Fringe of a Frenzy

CONQUEST BY TERROR. By Leland Stowe. New York: Random House. 300 pp. \$3.50.

By EDGAR ANSEL MOWRER

THIS is a book for all civilized human beings. But particularly it is for three sorts of Americans: (1) those who, unconsciously parroting the Communist line, insisted that the USSR "had a right to friendly neighbors"; (2) those who are still losing no sleep over the Soviet Communist menace; (3) those sweet souls who believe that if President Truman would only "understand" Russia he could easily reach a working agreement with Generalissimo Stalin over the conference table.

For the first sort are partly responsible for one of the most hideous crimes ever committed—Moscow's rape of Eastern Europe. The second are living (or rather sleeping) in a fool's Paradise, having failed to set the alarm. The third are too unworldly to survive.

"Conquest by Terror" is bound to deepen the American reader's understanding of what a dreadful thing has happened—and what it means to the West. This lesson is the more effective coming from Leland Stowe. Mr. Stowe ranks with the best reporters

of our time. But, like other optimists, he was ready, just after the war, to "give the USSR the benefit of the doubt." Today, even the last shred of a doubt has gone. What the USSR has done to the once free peoples of Eastern Europe fills him with loathing.

He minces no words. "'How to Enslave Everybody' is a contemporary tragedy written in Moscow, produced and directed by Soviet Russians, and now being played throughout eastern and captive Europe—with a cast of ninety million persons. . . . Russia's Red totalitarianism [is] at its peak."

Back in September 1950, Mr. Stowe decided to report on what was going on behind the Iron Curtain in the belief that it would prove to be full of cracks and crannies that the West

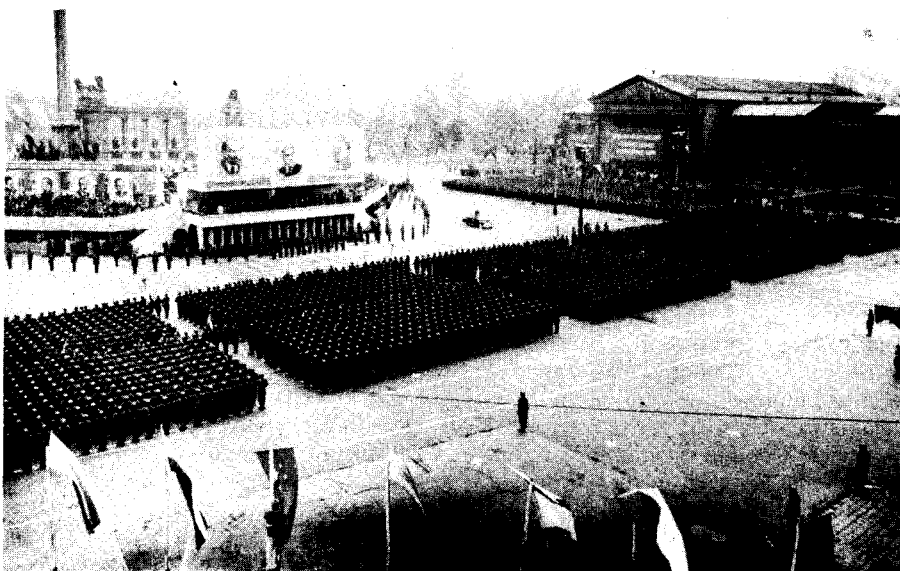
might enlarge and utilize. For almost eighteen months he worked gathering material and writing it up. He found the chinks all right—and seeping through them from within an immense amount of information. This information gradually shaped a picture "a thousand times worse than the average American conceives—or is prepared to believe." In consequence, Mr. Stowe has written of "Terror, Torture, and Murder, Incorporated, reaching one-third around the world."

Why be surprised? the well-informed and the cynical may ask. The pattern of Soviet society has been described in countless first-hand accounts and in a book like "1984." It never varies. Now the Kremlin has simply imposed this pattern upon the European countries it managed to seize and enslave (with our connivance). Here is nothing new.

Perhaps not. Yet it was supposed by some outsiders that the ugliness of Soviet tyranny had to do with the nature of the material it worked upon—the "backward" Russian peoples. Elsewhere Communism would be different. Only it isn't. The example of Eastern Europe shows that the Russian pattern can be imposed on any people, Chinese, North Korean—or American. Here is an important new fact.

The details are fearful. Over one million of the 90 million inhabitants of captive Europe are imprisoned—and the slave masters are building camps for more! (Between 42 and 70 such camps exist in Czechoslovakia alone.) One out of every nine human beings is some sort of police agent.

During 1951, over 100,000 Hungarians were forcibly deported from Budapest and border regions—sent away to toil and die. For as Mr. Stowe



—Eastfoto.

The Hungarian People's Army—"the USSR is feverishly organizing satellite armies."

Edgar Ansel Mowrer has been covering the foreign scene for American newspapers since World War I and won a Pulitzer Prize for his correspondence. His most recent book is "Challenge and Decision: A Program for America."



quotes from the "Soviet Encyclopedia" (1940): "Forced Labor is one of the basic measures of Soviet criminal law."

Startling to me remains the fact that despite the pressure on farmers and labor, the universal state robbery, the economic consolidation of the whole area with the USSR (through a Council of Mutual Economic Aid—"Comecon" for short) for the sole benefit of the latter (the area's potato crop—allegedly destroyed by potato bugs of U.S. origin—goes to Russia for vodka), the system requires slaves in order to work! To push it limpingly along, Communist inquisitors daily commit crimes that, "like the Nazis", are so inhuman that our imaginations can hardly grasp their enormity."

Mr. Stowe spares us nothing, from the original conquest and enslavement through a series of "measures to achieve real democracy" to naked terror, with the "greatest slaughter . . . somewhere ahead."

Unhappily, just as in the USSR, the lying and propaganda are so skillful that millions have awakened to the hideous reality only when it was too late. Lots of young people (Mr. Stowe thinks the majority) grow up enthusiastic over the only system they know.

Such a society is bad enough in itself. Yet many Americans will feel that it can be changed only by a third world war, and that nothing could justify such a catastrophe.

But wait a minute. The deepest purpose of the Communist system Mr. Stowe believes—is war—if necessary, against the United States. The satellite economies are geared to the USSR's war plans. That is the purpose of the frantic industrialization in all the satellite countries, which are producing as much basic industrial goods per capita as the Russians—"one half as much hard fuel and electric power,

one third as much steel, one fifth as much oil."

The USSR is feverishly organizing ever larger satellite armies. They now have fighting forces of about one and a half million, mostly created since the Korean outrage, not counting the internal police armies. The USSR is supplying these fighting forces with weapons in abundance, most of them conventional (artillery, etc.). These may be outmoded but they won World War I and with them the Russians defeated the Nazis in World War II. Moreover, the Soviets have now equipped the satellite air forces with more new jets than the United States Air Force has in Korea. The building of new air bases in East Europe has outstripped what NATO has done in the West. In short, thanks to a two years' headstart, the satellite armies today more than counterbalance the new armies in West Europe in manpower and training.

They are a major element in the Kremlin's plans for taking over the world. We of the West must therefore ask ourselves whether there can ever be real peace again until Soviet Communism has been rolled back at least to its 1939 frontiers.

This—Mr. Stowe implies without saying—need not necessarily require a new world war. Communist society, particularly in the satellites, is honeycombed with weaknesses—basic barbarism, the luxury of the rulers, endless terror, the stubborn resistance of the peasants, native nationalism, remembrance of something better, the possibility that conventional weapons may be obsolete and, finally, the infinitely greater attraction of democracy wherever democracy is known. To make democracy effective and outdo the Communists in the field of propaganda laws become the aims of the U. S. Government's Voice of America and of the private Committee for a Free Europe. Both recognize that to influence multitudes, one must, like the Russians, literally drive simple things into their heads by endless repetition. Yet here, thanks to an economy-minded U. S. Congress, the Soviets are still outstripping us. They are still spending on propaganda for France alone and for jamming our broadcasts, respectively, as much as the Voice spends for the entire world. In the war of ideas Communism is ahead and gaining ground.

For how long? That, Mr. Stowe says bluntly, depends upon us. "If you read such reports as this and still find nothing to do about and for the free way of life . . . you will have taken your stand by default. . . . Either you stand with freedom—or you stand against it."

Creeping Terror

THE ENEMY WITHIN. By Raymond J. deJaegher and Irene Corbally Kuhn. New York: Doubleday & Co. 196 pp. \$3.50.

By HALLETT ABEND

BOOKS about China have multiplied almost beyond counting in the last two decades, but most of them are now forgotten, and many of them were not worth the writing—or the reading.

This book, the first-hand account of a Roman Catholic priest and missionary, who spent many years in the countryside south of Peking, is a book that will be rightfully remembered and that should be read for many years to come. It tells the horrible tale of the gradual Communist conquest of the land of China, and the much more horrible tale of the conquest and attempted enslavement of the mind of the Chinese people.

Page after page, the work offers a series of memorable and striking pictures of seemingly trivial and occasionally important events, and each picture is as telling as a steel engraving reproduced from the clever pen of a great illustrator. Each separate picture bites as decisively into the mind of the reader as the acid bites into a metal plate.

Father DeJaegher saw and wrote like a trained observer. The book has little of the distinct flavor of his religion, and his attitude is that of a shocked friend of the Chinese people—not that of a shocked missionary. While it does not devote much space to either domestic or international politics, the book is a political document of great importance. It is made so by the candor and utter honesty of its author, by the clarity with which he transmits his observations, and the frankness with which he transmits conclusions which seem to be inevitable.

Irene Corbally Kuhn is listed as co-author, but the story is told in its entirety in the first person, as though the priest were speaking. Presumably Miss Kuhn served as a combination translator and ghost writer only. None of the experiences listed were hers. She did a good job, for the text is literate, smooth, and convincing.

Born in Belgium in 1905, Father DeJaegher was taken to England by

Hallett Abend, former China correspondent for The New York Times, has written "Chaos in Asia," "Japan Unmasked," and other books.