

Document 25

Dzerzhinsky, "Report Peters, Joseph . . .," 15 October 1947, RTsKhIDNI 495-261-5584. Original in Russian. Dzerzhinsky, not to be confused with the founder of the Cheka, was probably a functionary of the CPSU International Department.

Secret

R E P O R T

PETERS, Joseph (Peters Joseph), a.k.a. Boorstein, Isidor, born 1894 in the town of Cop, Austria-Hungary (later Czechoslovakia), to a worker's family. Nationality—Jew. Citizen of Czechoslovakia. Finished secondary school and the first year of university in the town of Kluzh. Knows Hungarian, English, and German.

A member of US Comparty since 1924. Was a member of the Comparty of Hungary since 1918 and a member of the CP of Czechoslovakia from 1919 through 1924.

1913-14—an office clerk in Debrecen, while also a correspondence student of the university in Kluzh (Kolozhvar).

1914-18—a private, then an officer of the Austro-Hungarian army, was at the front in World War I.

1918-19—assigned by the CP of Hungary to work among railroad workers in Debrecen.

In 1919 during the Hungarian revolution was elected a member of the directorate of the Ungsk (Uzhgorod) district. Took part in battles of the Hungarian Red army against Czech and Romanian troops.

1919-21—subdistrict organizer of the Comparty of Czechoslovakia in the Cop region of the Uzhgorod district. Arrested by Czech authorities for revolutionary activities, released after two weeks.

1921-22—employed by the legal bureau attached to the Uzhgorod Comparty district committee.

1923-24—chairman of district control commission and member of Comparty district committee in Uzhgorod.

In 1924 traveled to the US and worked eight months in a New York factory.

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1924–26—district organizer of the Hungarian Federation for the CPUSA in Chicago assigned to miners and metallurgical and auto industry workers in Illinois.

1925–27—on editorial staff of the Hungarian Communist newspaper Uj Elore in New York.

In 1927 at the 5th CPUSA Congress elected a candidate to the CPUSA CC.

1927–29—secretary of the National Bureau of the Hungarian Federation of the CPUSA, New York.

In 1928 visited Moscow as a delegate of the 6th Congress of the Comintern.

1928–29—during factional struggles in the CPUSA sided with the Lovestone group.

1929–30—head of national minorities department of the New York district of the CPUSA and director of the party printing office.

1930–31—organizational secretary of the New York district committee and simultaneously a worker of the organization department of the CPUSA CC.

1931–32—trainee in organizational issues in the Anglo-American Lander-Secretariat of the ECCI, Moscow.

At the end of 1932 left the country for party work in the US.

We have no information on Peters's activities for 1933–35.

1935–36—organizational secretary of CPUSA regional committee in New York.

1936–38—worker in the secret apparatus of the CPUSA CC.

In 1938 worked in the organization department of the CPUSA CC. In the same year elected a member of the CPUSA Central Control Commission. He was subsequently relieved of his duties in the CPUSA CC apparatus as a non-American citizen and performed special assignments for the party CC.

There is no information on Peters for the period 1941–47.

According to a report in the US reactionary press of 9 October 1947, Peters was arrested by the American authorities on Ellis Island (New York). The Hearst press calls him a “Soviet agent.”

Dzerzhinsky (Dzerzhinsky)

15 October 1947

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