

# SPEAK YOUR PIECE

## Who Caused Cold War?

Editor, Daily Worker,

While on visit in this country, Foreign Minister Brentano of the German Bonn government accused the Soviet Union of keeping his country divided. Unfortunately for him there are mountains of evidence scattered in press reports, magazine articles and books that conclusively indicate his accusation is greatly at variance with the facts.

Even a brief look at small parts of the available record vividly tells that the chief promoter of not only a divided Germany but a divided world is the United States determined to refuse negotiations in order to prolong the cold war indefinitely.

A suppressed Drew Pearson column inserted in the Congressional Record May 1, 1945 reads in part: "It is no exaggeration to say that the seeds of the next war will be nourished or rooted up at San Francisco. Already certain groups inside the State Department and the British Foreign Office have begun jockeying to build up Germany after the war as a bulwark against Russia."

"Why is it the U. S. cannot countenance, much less accept, the Soviet offerings of German unity, free trade and an end to the cold war—since these are precisely the goal towards which United States policy professes to work? Part of the answer is that these goals are no longer, in practice, the goals of United States policy." (Editorial Upon Our Own Petarde-Wall Street Journal, April 10/52).

"Defeated Germany is a power again, and growing. Feelers are out in Europe, testing the idea of starting a new German army." (U.S. News & World Report—Nov. 25/49).

"... the makers of United States policy are unfortunately thinking in purely negative terms—in terms of 'How to Stop Russia'. This means, in effect, that they are consciously or unconsciously thinking of an American-dominated world as the sole alternative." (Last Call for Common Sense by James P. Warburg, Chapter II).

—Pro Veritas, March 10

## "Incredible And Terrifying"

Editor, Daily Worker:

G. Dirba's suggestion that the Daily Worker is committing some kind of political error in printing an excerpt from a Howard Fast novel is both incredible and terrifying. It serves to convince me that we have a long way to go before we can think that narrow, sectarian and doctrinaire attitudes have been eliminated from our movement. Reader Dirba implies that a vigorous campaign of enlightenment concerning Howard Fast's current political outlook is a necessary prerequisite to reading Fast's novel.

If the campaign against what has been labeled "right opportunism" is used to cover up the lunacy of continuing infantile leftism, then we may as well give up the ghost right now. The real danger is not that the Communist Party will die from internal struggle, but that it will be laughed to death by the American people.

I. S.

## Howard Fast's Problem as Artist

Editor, Daily Worker:

Howard Fast's departure from the Party raises both moral-political and artistic issues. The first are easier to understand and have received more comment. On anguish at "totalitarian socialism" in the Soviet Union,

he felt the most forceful protest would be to resign from the Communist Party in the United States. Whether this action was directed to the right address is a question of political logic. But at least sensitive people can understand why Fast acted as he did.

The artistic issues are not so clear. For several years I have been troubled by the feeling that quality of Fast's recent novels was dropping way below the level of Citizen Tom Paine and Freedom Road. In pace, historical insight and ability to develop three-dimensional characters, I think they have slipped into the rut of tendentiousness: they became political rather than artistic creations. If so, did Party demands inhibit Fast's best abilities? Was it instead what he thought these demands might be? Is it coincidence that Fast's best work, to my mind, came when the Party placed greatest emphasis on coalition and American democratic tradition?

Whatever the answers, I am sure Fast's action provides him no automatic solution to a complex artistic problem. Conversely, it only serves once again to raise sharply for the Party the issue of its role in the cultural field. Disagreeing as I do with Fast's political decision, I still hope sincerely he can regain in future books the standard I think he once attained.

P.S.

## "HUMANITARIAN" FORD PENALIZES ROUGE WORKERS

DEARBORN. — That "great humanitarian" Henry Ford II, is penalizing and disciplining workers in his Ford Rouge plant for protesting the moving of jobs and plants to other states. Two weeks ago Labor Relations penalized Arnold Dail, William Brown, Jr., Walter Richburg, Paul Boatin, Jim Tate and Sam Dunlap.

In a leaflet the workers stated that the Ford Company is desperately trying to crush the workers' fight against job moving because they know that workers all over the Rouge and Detroit are becoming more aware of this danger to their homes and families and security because of job runaway.

The workers' leaflet said, "penalties aren't going to scare us. The fight to save our jobs will go on until we win."

Charles Boatin was elected to the coming UAW convention, April 7,

Atlantic City. He ran on a slate whose slogan was, "Job - Moving Can Be Stopped!" Three other members of his slate are Herb Lindberg, Mike Kasper, Ray Sewell, also were elected.

The above mentioned workers work in the Dearborn Engine plant where a 400-motor cutback has resulted in January layoffs and production is six months ahead and big layoffs will take place this summer, workers report.

Automation is displacing workers in every department and its freely predicted that by 1959 some 5,000 workers employed in the Engine plant will no longer have jobs.

Thus job runaway and automation, that puts workers on Miller Road is the question of the hour at the Ford Rouge plant.

The Rouge plant which in 1947 had some 70,000 dues paying UAW members working there is down to a little above 40,000