

Clark Reveals Truth on Those '60,000 Fascists'

In the *Daily Worker* for Dec. 4 there is a postscript on the Stalinist claim that "60,000 fascists infiltrated Hungary via the Austrian border." The *DW* had previously confessed it had garnered this little statistic from the London *Daily Worker* (see last week's *LA*).

Now Foreign Editor Joe Clark, in the course of a vigorous polemic against Eugene Dennis, tells more about this "fact."

"Now, the story of the 60,000 appeared in the *DW* via my typewriter and it was picked up from the London *Daily Worker*. The dispatch in question did not come from Hungary because at that time the Budapest correspondent of the London *Daily Worker* [Peter Fryer] couldn't get his on-the-spot reports into his paper. *It was based on dispatches from Prague, which mentioned 60,000 as the total number of persons who crossed the Austrian-Hungarian border over a period of months. These included all tourists, delegations and persons whose politics ranged from Communist to Fascist.* [Italics added.]

"To cite this as evidence that the 800,000 members of the Hungarian Communist Part and the millions of organized Hungarian workers and the Hungarian army of 250,000 could not prevent fascism is to deny facts and the class struggle."

Note that this is an open accusation that the editors of the London *Daily Worker* had forged the news item in their own staffroom, since Clark now states that the Prague news item said something different.

This gives a final blow to the 60,000-fascist question, and simultaneously rips the lid off on what in the whole past has been standard operating procedure for all Stalinist sheets.