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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

AUG. 19, 1960

COMMENT ON TRIAL OF U.S. SPY POWERS

Nixon Slanders Soviet Justice
Moscow, TASS, Radioteletype in English to Europe, Aug. 18, 1960,
1738 GMT--L

(Text) New York--The New York HEARLD TRIBUNE carries a UPI report on the statement by Vice President Nixon slandering Soviet justice in connection with the trial of spy pilot Powers. Nixon referred to nonexistent "Soviet statements" to the effect that "the United States was on trial rather than the U-2 pilot Francis Powers" and idle inventions that the Soviet Government is allegedly "more concerned about international repercussions" than about "Powers as an individual." On this "ground," Nixon said that there "could not have been a more terrible and devastating reflection on Soviet justice." "It is not real justice as we know it," Mr. Nixon exclaimed.

According to the news service, Nixon was in a hurry to make his slanderous statement on the eve of the trial; otherwise he would have had to admit that the trial proceeded strictly according to law, in full conformity with norms of legal procedure. This is reported by the correspondents of all the Western newspapers and news services. In any case none of them could give a single example of violation of the law. The fact that the trial of spy pilot Powers, "as an individual," in Nixon's words, exposes the unseemly role of Powers' high-placed inspirers, is by no means the fault of the Soviet court, which is scrupulously observing the generally accepted rules of legal procedure, but the fault of those who have made espionage a principle of their foreign policy.

It is indicative that Nixon again tried to justify spy flights, claiming that the "United States was simply trying to protect itself against surprise attacks."

Nixon Backs Gates' Spy Plan
Moscow, Soviet European Service in Norwegian, Aug. 18, 1960, 1830 GMT--L

(Viktorov commentary)

(Excerpt) At this very time, while the trial is in progress, American Defense Secretary Gates stated that a new board for military planning has been set up under General Power in order to pinpoint installations in Russia which would be hit by all of the American strategic weapons. Is it for this kind of planning that the American Government needs the like of Powers? Presumably the answer is yes.

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Powers' excursions are links in the preparations for aggression. Powers is awaiting his sentence. This sentence will be passed in accord with the law and the severity of his crime.

But the judgement of the policy which Eisenhower and Nixon and their ilk are trying to defend has already been passed by the people. This policy has been condemned by all progressive mankind as a policy of aggression which is aimed at undermining peace and increasing international tension.

(Editor's Note--L: Moscow Soviet European service in Norwegian at 1830 GMT on Aug. 18 carries a longer version of the same commentary, excerpts from which follow.

("Washington is all nerves now. The tension is increasing. Richard Nixon, U.S. vice president and Republican Party presidential candidate, is very much displeased that the public considers the Powers trial to be a trial of U.S. foreign policy. Nixon tells correspondents that Powers should be able to expect the court to examine his case in essence since it is concerned with his actions as an individual. The Vice President is trying to break his way through an open door. That is exactly what the court is examining. Foreign lawyers observing the trial unanimously agree that the case is being conducted in strict accordance with legal norms. It is not the fault of the court but rather the misfortune of Nixon that the Powers case is inseparable from the dirty affairs and policy of those who sent him on that spy mission over the USSR.

("Powers is being questioned, and he is giving the evidence. Eisenhower, Nixon, and Herter are not being questioned; nevertheless they are also giving evidence. They are coming forward with their explanations and the motivations of their policy, but these explanations and motivations merely confirm, just as Powers' evidence does, that there is no justification for the policy which they have been following and which they intend to follow.

("Nixon does not lag behind Eisenhower. He explains the necessity for such criminal acts by the desire to protect the United States from surprise attack. Now, how does Nixon explain the statement of U.S. Defense Secretary Gates, during these days of the trial, that a new board for pinpointing military installations has been set up with General Power in command? Now is not this why Nixon wants all these Powers, to implement such plans?")

Congressmen Take Distorted View

Moscow, TASS, Radioteletype in English to Europe, Aug. 18, 1960,
1655 GMT--L

(Orlov commentary)

(Text) The circumstances of the grievous crime perpetrated by the American spy, pilot Francis Gary Powers, which are being established with scrupulous accuracy and strict regard for rules of procedure, make many Washington leaders very nervous. One can fully understand the difficult position in which they have landed, because they have nothing to counterpose to objective facts.

What should one do in such a case? They found a way out. Facts, it seems, can be ignored. That is how members of the U.S. House of Representatives Mahon, Walter, and McGee decided to act.

Whatever is said about the trial by eyewitnesses, whatever is reported by the American correspondents on the evidence given by defendant Powers, these congressmen have decided, in advance, to repeat over and over again the word they have learned by heart--"propaganda." In this way they calculated, perhaps, to wave aside numerous questions which are probably put to them these days by American voters. Attempts were made to adopt the same tactics by certain papers which printed articles by "specialists on Russian law" in an attempt to "prove" that no normal, honest trial of a foreigner, let alone an American, could take place in Moscow. The purpose was to lead the reader to the conclusion that something like a "political demonstration," a propaganda campaign against the United States would allegedly take place instead of a trial in Moscow. They speculated on the silly idea that the Russians had "brainwashed" Powers and that it was useless even to listen to the court proceedings.

But, as always, facts are stronger than fiction. After the first day of the Powers trial the professional "skeptics" and evil-minded propagandists were ridiculed by the world press and the foreign observers at the trial. The foreigners noted the exceptionally strict observance of rules of procedure at the trial combined with the humanity of the Soviet court. The father of the defendant, Oliver Powers, watching the trial, told American agency correspondents that his son had not changed and that he was speaking his own mind. The same views were expressed by the American lawyer Parker who accompanied Francis Gary Powers' wife.

Many European newspapers today emphasized the strict observance of juridical procedure at the trial. (PARIS-JOURNAL?), for instance, draws attention to the fact that the Soviet court "gives every guarantee of freedom and defense of personality." Lionel Daiches, the British lawyer, writing in the London EVENING STANDARD, points out that the procedure at the Moscow trial is almost the same as that of the British military court. Other experts write in a similar spirit.

How will the discredited American congressmen react after all this? What new tricks will they invent to cast aspersions on the fair trial of the American spy?

U.S. Leaders Stand Condemned

Moscow, Soviet Home Service, Aug. 18, 1960, 1200 GMT--L

(Excerpts) The attention of the world is focused on the trial of the American spy pilot Powers. "American Policy at the Bar" is the title of an article by Comrade Dadyants in SOVIET RUSSIA.

There are many people around the House of the Unions. It is not idle curiosity engraved on the faces of the people who have come here after their day's work or during their meal break. Their faces are concentrated and stern. Powers is on trial. It is hard to recall any trial that has aroused so much public attention both here in the Soviet Union and throughout the world.

And it is not merely a question of Powers himself, of course, who American propaganda is now trying to represent as a "hero of the free world." The international prestige of the United States lies buried beneath the wreckage of Powers' plane.

A special box is set aside in the hall for Powers' relatives. His father, mother, and wife are there. Powers' father owns a small shoe repair shop in Pound, Virginia. He asked for a Soviet visa and got one. But why didn't Powers' spiritual father, Allen Dulles, ask for a visa? Why did not those who bear the primary responsibility for his crime, the inspirers and organizers of the policy of espionage and subversion against the Soviet Union, ask for visas?

It was Secretary of State Herter who proclaimed espionage to be U.S. national policy. It was Secretary of Defense Gates who boasted to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee about the success of spy flights over Russia. It was, finally, President Eisenhower who gave the order for spy flights over Soviet territory.

After the exhaustive admissions of Powers and U.S. leaders, what is the value of the vain attempts of the jackals of the American press to compromise the Soviet court and cast doubt upon Powers' evidence?

The Powers case is indeed different from normal spy cases. Not only he himself, but his accomplices, leading U.S. figures, have confessed themselves guilty spies. The leaders of American policy have come to the Powers case absolutely without defense. True, they are not there in the hall of columns at the bar that divides the unmasked spy from the outside world. But invisibly they are there on trial. Every sentence of the indictment, every sentence of the cross questioning is a blow to them.

Powers a Product of Capitalism

Moscow, Soviet European Service in Hungarian, Aug. 18, 1960, 2030 GMT--L

(Excerpts) The leader of America's espionage service, Allen Dulles, once said: We feel that the scientific side of gathering reconnaissance information must be developed to a stage where radar and electronic instruments take the place of those carrying out reconnaissance. Powers' U-2 spy plane came up to Dulles' requirements in every respect. Yes, everything was available in this espionage combine, made up of a machine and a human being turned into a machine, everything including a self-exploding mechanism in the plane and a poisoned needle to destroy the pilot's life.

And why did Powers not use the poisoned needle? Immediately before the trial, the New York TIMES described Powers as one of the representatives of a group of respectable men and women who defend the bastions of America against the constant threats that, they say, the Soviet Union and its armed forces represent. It is improbable that these lofty ideas turned Powers into a spy. Replying to questions by the defense counsel, Powers told his life story. This life story is in many respects typical of American (middle class?) families.

Powers is not only a product, but also a victim of the capitalist system. The power of money--the yellow devil--bears down heavily on the people of America, crippling people's souls and turning them into mercenaries. It transforms some into gangsters ready to rob their compatriots, and others into spies who under cover of night penetrate the territory of foreign powers.

It is not surprising that Powers did not even consider using the poisoned needle. There is no deal in the American espionage service that would have been worth his life.

It is possible that Powers, the American spy, began to realize in court what a vile and dirty affair he had got mixed up in. But it is evident to everybody that also his masters, the ringleaders of the imperialist policy of America, the warmongers, and the instigators of criminal aggression, have become involved in this filthy affair up to their necks.

British Must Share Guilt

Moscow, Soviet European Service in English, Aug. 18, 1960, 2000 GMT--L

(Vetrov commentary)

(Text) The trial of Francis Powers, the American U-2 spy pilot, is causing great concern not only in Washington but also in London. Before the court proceedings began the DAILY TELEGRAPH, the DAILY MAIL, and other publications came out with slanderous articles to discredit Soviet justice. Several officials took part in this campaign. On the eve of the trial the British Embassy in Tokyo included in its official bulletin an unsavory, anti-Soviet article, containing statements that the DAILY MIRROR very sensibly characterized as idiotic and completely irresponsible. The DAILY MIRROR declared that the Russians had every right to try Powers and that Britain would have done the same.

The very first day of the open court proceedings in Moscow showed the world that the American spy, Francis Powers, was questioned and is being tried according to all standards of legal procedure. The calumny, originated in Tokyo, burst like a soap bubble. Yesterday at the press conference in London, the Foreign Office representative was forced to dissociate himself from the sordid and not very bright statement made by his colleagues in Tokyo who, as one newspaperman noted, were evidently seeking to do a service to Allen Dulles and his department. It is quite typical that after the first day of Powers' trial, some British papers which had previously been writing all sorts of nonsense about the Soviet judicial system, began to lose interest. They (grew scared?) at some of the facts that came to light during the trial.

London is worried lest some additional facts emerge on Britain's rôle in the American provocations against the United States. Actually, Powers did admit that the British authorities had something to do with his spy mission. It was British personnel that came out to service his plane at Bahrain. That is where the American spies stopped over on their way to the point where Powers was to take off for Soviet skies. Even though the Foreign Office representative refused to give any details yesterday, it is obvious that the British Government has placed its bases in Britain and outside the country at the disposal of the U.S. spy Powers.

The trial is still going on, but already the danger presented by the U.S. policy of provocations against the USSR and other countries is quite plain. This policy broke up the summit conference. It is aggravating the international situation and is causing the deterioration of relationships between states. The court proceedings against Powers have shown that British ruling circles must shoulder (some of the ?) responsibility for this dangerous course.

U.S. Lawyer Praises Soviet Judiciary

Moscow, TASS, Radioteletype in English to Europe, Aug. 18, 1960,
1346 GMT--L

(Text) Vincent Hollinan, the distinguished American lawyer, told a TASS correspondent he regarded the judicial proceedings in the Powers case as absolutely fair.

Hollinan, who was a U.S. presidential candidate in 1952, is attending the Powers trial along with lawyers from a number of other countries. The American lawyer emphasized that he had studied Soviet criminal law and had been strongly impressed by its progressive and humane nature.

Hollinan said that in his view the military court was examining the Powers case just as any ordinary criminal court would. The only difference was that the judges were military men.

Hollinan pointed out that Soviet Procurator General Rudenko was fair toward the defendant. The questions he asked Powers were aimed at gaining the fullest possible information on the substance of the case and not at placing the defendant in a difficult situation.

Hollinan said he did not think Powers would be treated with so much courtesy and consideration were he on trial in the United States. Hollinan remarked he regarded the defense of the accused by Soviet lawyer Mikhail Grinev as perfect.

Grinev Meets Powers' Family

Moscow, TASS, Radioteletype in Russian to Europe, Aug. 18, 1960,
1327 GMT--L

(Text) Mikhail Grinev, Francis Powers' defense counsel, told a TASS correspondent that he had a talk after the Aug. 18 morning meeting of the USSR Supreme Court military collegium with the father, sister, wife, and mother of the defendant.

The talk took place at their request in the building where the trial is being held.

Powers' family was interested in Grinev's opinion on the progress of the trial and the general situation of the defendant.

The lawyer said that based on Powers' behavior at the trial, his repentance, and the regret he expressed with regard to what he had done, he, Grinev, hopes the court will show mercy.

Powers' relatives also wanted to know about the further course of the trial, and they received the necessary information.

The family asked the defense counsel to tell Powers that "they are thinking of him all the time." The lawyer promised to comply with their request.

USSR COVERAGE OF AUG. 18 TRIAL SESSION

Home Service Report

Moscow, Soviet Home Service, Aug. 18, 1960, 1800 GMT--L

(Recorded reportage of Powers trial by special correspondents Valentin Zorin, Vladimir Tregubov, Yuriy Kharlanov, and Vyacheslav Chernyshev from the hall of columns)

(Excerpts) Commentator: The public trial of the American spy pilot Francis Gary Powers is in its second day.

Question: Defendant Powers, do you repent your action?

Powers: Yes, very much.

Commentator: Apparently even this American spy is beginning to realize that in the chase after dollars he has committed a very serious crime! Powers regrets! And in this he differs from those who had sent him. The leaders in Washington who bear direct responsibility for Powers' piratical flight do not even now think of repenting! Allen Dulles, the generals from the Pentagon, and the State Department knew full well the possible consequences of this provocative flight. They knew, and committed this crime. And, moreover, they are still saying that they will continue to carry on espionage against the Soviet Union. And so Powers, and with him the entire policy of espionage and subversion against countries of the socialist camp pursued by the United States, is on the bench. The same fate awaits all spies! Having prepared this provocative flight the American intelligence organs have not only committed a crime against the Soviet Union but also against a neutral state, Afghanistan, whose airspace was violated by the U-2 plane on May 1. This was done intentionally. Besides, the American brass hats had in cold blood planned a similar crime against two other states--Finland and Sweden.

Listen to this report. It is read by the presiding judge: to the commander of the army unit.

Official: I report that the order to annihilate an airplane which violated the USSR state border and intruded into our homeland on May 1, 1960, has been carried out. At 0853 Moscow time (as heard), as the aircraft entered the firing zone at an altitude over 20,000 meters, one rocket was launched, which destroyed the target. The hit on the target was observed by instruments, and after a short time, by visual observation posts. The fall of pieces of the aircraft was recorded. So was the descent of the pilot, who bailed out of the plane. Major Voronov, May 1, 1960.

Commentator: The hearing continues. The state prosecutor quotes incontrovertible facts which show the defendant's guilt. Counsel for the defense and the defendant are looking for mitigating circumstances. This is a battle of sides, or, as lawyers call it, of the trial contestants. It is characteristic of Soviet law that it gives the defendant the widest possible opportunities for defense.

A battle is also being waged among those present in the hall—a mute and noiseless battle, but still a battle. This is particularly obvious in the press gallery. To the same answer the newsmen react differently. Some quickly make notes to provide the public with the truth about the trial as soon as possible. Some nervously bite their lips and gnaw on their pencils. Watching them, one can immediately pick out representatives of pro-U.S. press organs in Europe and reactionary papers in New York, Washington, and other cities.

Commentator: What did Powers' bosses think when they gave him Soviet currency and gold?

Powers: I do not know; perhaps there were other objects. I cannot remember. There was a watch which was supposed to be in my pocket, a compass, Soviet money, gold coins.

Question: All right. All that was for bribing Soviet people, is this not so?

Powers: It was to help in any possible way to get out of the country.

Question: So, as I said, with the help of bribery?

Powers: If I could have, I would probably have done it. I don't know. If I could have bought food with some money, I would probably have done so— if I had to start on a 1,400-mile walk. In other words, I was to use this to help myself.

Question: And you found out that you were of course unable to use the money to bribe Soviet citizens, since the very first Soviet citizens you came in contact with disarmed you and handed you over to the authorities?

Powers: I didn't try.

Question: You didn't try?

Powers: No.

Question: I feel sure that your attempts would have been unsuccessful.

Powers: I think so, too.

Commentator: The session continues. The court calls the experts. More evidence of the premeditated actions of those who sent spies over the Soviet sky is heard in the courtroom. The guilt of the defendant is proved without doubt. The guilt of the organizers of his flight is just as incontestable, of all those who direct this vile (sink?) of espionage, raised by the Eisenhower government to the level of state policy of the United States. And, however Washington may twist and turn, however the criminals try to get out of the responsibility, their guilt has been proven. This was heard by all those who were in the hall of the columns today. This was heard by you, radio listeners. The whole world has become convinced of this.

Additional Reportage

Moscow, Soviet Home Service, Aug. 18, 1960, 2018 GMT--L

(Recorded reportage of Aug. 18 session)

(Excerpts) Grinev: When did you hear about this (flying over the USSR--Ed.) for the first time?

Defendant Powers: "Six or seven months later, after I had signed the contract; then I was told that flights across the USSR would be part of my duties. As it became known that the Soviet radar system was more effective than had been considered earlier, I was told "we shall probably limit ourselves only to flights along the frontiers of the Soviet Union."

Grinev: If you had refused to carry out your flying task on May 1, would you have received the sum which, according to contract, you were not handed right away?"

Defendant Powers: The contract was drawn up in such a way that it depended wholly upon those who employed me. They could consider this to be a nonfulfillment of contract on my part.

Rudenko: Thus you violated the sovereignty of the neutral state, Afghanistan?

Defendant Powers: If my unit did not receive the relevant permission, I did violate it.

Rudenko: But did your unit receive permission to go beyond the boundaries of the Soviet Union?

The question nonplusses the defendant. He keeps silent and then replies: I assume that this was not the case.

Replying to further questions put by the prosecutor the defendant confirms that his plane was shot down at a height of 68,000 feet.

Rudenko: You were flying in the Sverdlovsk area at precisely this height of 68,000 feet?

Defendant Powers: Yes.

Rudenko: At precisely this height of 68,000 feet you were shot down by a Soviet rocket?

Defendant Powers: Yes, something shot me down at this height.

Rudenko: You said something had shot you down? But it was precisely at that height that you were shot down?

Defendant Powers: Yes.

Borisoglebskiy: You told the court yesterday that Colonel Shelton was especially interested in rocket-launching sites.

Defendant Powers: Yes, he pointed out a section of the map where according to his calculation, there might be rocket-launching sites.

Borisoglebskiy: Could one say that the main aim of your flight on May 1 was to discover and pinpoint rocket-launching sites?

Defendant Powers: I can only express my personal opinion on this question. I am sure that the experts who studied the film from my cameras can tell what interested the people who sent me. In my opinion the Soviet rockets are of great interest not only to the military authorities of the United States, but to the whole world. (Animation in the hall)

In the course of the trial an increasingly clear picture of Powers himself is emerging, a carefully (word indistinct) dangerous criminal. The evidence of witnesses and the accurate and objective data of experts incontrovertibly show that Powers' spy flight was a premeditated and carefully prepared aggressive act against the USSR. Nobody now has a shadow of a doubt that since he was recruited in 1956 by CIA, Powers actively engaged in espionage against the USSR in expression of the aggressive policy carried out by the U.S. Government.

Further Details

Moscow, Soviet Home Service, Aug. 18, 1960, 1300 GMT--L

(Correspondents' report from the Hall of Columns of the House of the Unions)

(Excerpts) Under the weight of incontrovertible evidence the accused bows his head lower and lower. Repentance can be detected in his replies more and more often. And when the chairman puts the straight question to him: "Do you repent of what you have done?" Powers replies, "Yes, very much."

This makes a clear distinction between him and those who sent him. For indeed the leading statesmen of Washington, who are directly responsible for Powers' bandit flight, as reports from the United States indicate, have no thought of repentance. They follow the example of their President who, being caught redhanded, instead of offering the necessary apologies to the Soviet Government, preferred to assume responsibility for the collapse of the Paris conference and for the aggravation of international tension.

Witnesses appear before the court, simple Soviet people who detained the U.S. spy. They describe how Powers was seized. The chairman asks the accused: Have you any questions to ask the witnesses? I have no questions, says Powers, but I should like to express my gratitude to these people for the way they treated me on that day which was so unfortunate for me.

Press Coverage

Moscow, TASS, Radioteletype in Russian to Europe, Aug. 18, 1960, 0707 GMT--L

(Excerpt) All Moscow papers on Aug. 18 publish extensive commentaries on the trial of the U.S. spy pilot. Detail by detail the picture of the dirty doings of the American spy centers are being drawn in all their unseemliness.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
Aug. 19, 1960

Both ordinary people of Moscow and prominent jurists who have come to the trial from almost all ends of the earth, and many representatives of large papers and agencies, do not cease to be surprised at how low the ethics of the bourgeois world have fallen, which proclaim in words freedom and democracy but in fact serve the dollar.

PRAVDA emphasizes that sitting in the dock along with Powers are the people who paid him money, who sent him about his foul business, and who elevated spying to the level of U.S. state policy.

Of whom does this physically strong but morally wadded young man remind one, ask KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA observers. Were not those young men like that, who, fed on Hitlerite bread, 20 years ago destroyed cities and bestially murdered millions of people? They also thought about nothing, but obediently carried out their orders. Fascism gave birth to these unthinking monsters of cruelty. Powers is through and through a representative of the American way of life. Is not this the reason why he and those like him are being defended by Eisenhower and shielded by Nixon and Herter? And today in Moscow, the paper writes, not only Powers is on trial, but also the leaders of the state which proclaimed international banditry as its policy.

SOVIET CULTURE ridicules Sulzberger's fabrications in the New York TIMES that Powers was conditioned on the basis of the "conditioned reflexes" theory. It is certain, says the paper, that Powers' followers, if followers they be, will have lost some of their reflexes calculated with the assistance of Allen Dulles. The sight of Soviet military objectives is unlikely to make them want to start clicking their camera shutters. But this has nothing to do with the teaching of Academician Pavlov. And anyway why should Powers have been "conditioned?" The guilt of the rulers of the United States of crimes against peace has already been fully confirmed by the cynical admissions of Eisenhower, Nixon, and Herter themselves. The millions of ordinary people in all countries will never forgive the leaders of the United States for disrupting the summit conference, will never permit banditry and lawlessness to become the accepted standards of international relations-- it is they who can bear witness to the indictment, points out the paper.

Further Details

Moscow, Soviet African Service in English, Aug. 19, 1960, 0630 GMT--L

(Text) The papers carry detailed reports about the Powers trial. As it proceeds it becomes clear that Powers is a well-trained, dangerous criminal.

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Aug. 19, 1960

The testimony of witnesses Aug. 18 and the precise, unbiased information of experts prove irrefutably that the spy flight of Powers was an intentional, carefully prepared aggressive act against the Soviet Union. There is absolutely no doubt that after having been signed up by CIA in 1956 Powers spied on the USSR, which shows the aggressive policy adhered to by the U.S. Government:

PRAVDA states that the Soviet people are not only trying Powers, a poisonous but small worm in a pilot's suit; they are trying the criminal morality of American imperialism, which is based on the medieval slogan used by the inquisitors: Any means can be used to achieve an aim--all without exception, even the filthiest.

Espionage, instead of generally accepted norms between states; the corruption of young people, instead of their being educated to understand humanism and nobleness--those are the links of a defamed chain with which American imperialism is still trying to tie the world. But the chain is cracking here and there. Francis Gary Powers is another such link that has fallen out of the rusted chain of U.S. imperialism.

TASS REPORTAGE ON AUG. 19 PROCEEDINGS

Report on Session

Moscow, TASS, Radioteletype in English to Europe, Aug. 19, 1960, 1059 GMT--L

(Excerpts) The session of the military collegium of the USSR Supreme Court in the case of the American spy pilot Powers resumed at 1000 hours Moscow time Aug. 19.

The procurator general of the USSR, Roman Rudenko, spoke for the prosecution. At the end of his speech he demanded a 15-year jail term for Powers.

After a 20-minute recess, Powers' defense counsel, Mikhail Grinev, took the floor and asked the court for milder punishment for Powers.

At 1242 hours Powers made a three-minute final appeal.

At 1245 hours the court retired to the conference room to deliberate on the verdict. The verdict is not expected before 1700 hours Moscow time.

Summary of Rudenko Speech

Moscow, TASS, Radioteletype in English to Europe, Aug. 19, 1960,
0714 GMT--L

(Text) Roman Rudenko, USSR procurator general, speaking Aug. 19 at the trial of the American spy pilot Powers, said that this trial exposes the crimes committed not only by the defendant himself, but unmasks completely the criminal aggressive actions of U.S. ruling quarters, these actual inspirers and organizers of the monstrous crimes directed against the peace and security of the peoples."

This trial has proved once again, the state prosecutor emphasized, that in the struggle against the forces of peace the reactionary forces of the United States unscrupulously use any means, criminally trample underfoot elementary norms of international law, and violate the national sovereignty of other states with a view to pursuing the bankrupt "brinkmanship" policy.

Rudenko qualified the intrusion by the American plane into the airspace of the USSR on May 1, 1960, as a "bandit aggressive raid" and a "dangerous provocation."

The peoples of the world branded with infamy these provocative, perfidious actions, which, as officially admitted by Eisenhower, Nixon, and Herter, were carried out on direct orders of the government and the U.S. President himself and are a calculated official policy of the United States.

The procurator general of the USSR declared that, as shown by subsequent events, the Government of the United States demonstrated before the entire world its real intention to use the provocative incursion of the U-2 plane into Soviet airspace as a pretext for wrecking the summit meeting, plunging the world again into the state of cold war, aggravating tension in international relations, and putting a brake on the great powers disarmament talks.

Rudenko emphasized that the exposure of Powers, one of the agents of the American intelligence service, was simultaneously an exposure of the reactionary ruling circles of the United States of America which have made the national policy of their country a calculated policy of perfidy, provocation, espionage; a policy of balancing on the brink of war in the interests of capitalist monopolies.

The procurator general noted that the criminal actions of Powers, in their significance and the great consequences they have already entailed, not to mention those they could have entailed, go far beyond an ordinary felony. The specific circumstances of this case cannot but lead any rational person to draw conclusions about the aggressive aims of U.S. policy, the flouting by the American military of all universally recognized standards of international law, the criminal violation of the national sovereignty of other states.

The procurator general believes that the verdict in the Powers case will have a bearing on more than just the personal fate of the accused Powers. This verdict will again convincingly expose before the whole world the criminal, aggressive policy of the ruling circles of the United States. It will play its role in the struggle of the peace forces against the forces of aggression.

Turning to the factual circumstances of the case, the state prosecutor pointed out that the criminal actions committed by the accused Powers have been fully established by evidence impossible to refute or shake. The charges against Powers are fully substantiated by many objective pieces of evidence. This the accused himself realizes, and he does not attempt to dispute his responsibility for his crimes.

The prosecutor considers it established that Powers spent his espionage service at the 10-10 espionage detachment based at Incirlik airbase in Turkey. The aggressive flight on May 1, 1960, was the last in Powers' espionage career, which began way back in 1956 when Powers signed a secret contract with the Central Intelligence Agency of the United States. It was precisely from that time that Powers became a staff spy pilot ready to commit any crime in the interest of the American military, who are in the service of monopoly capital.

Commenting on Powers' training for U-2 flights at the secret Las Vegas atomic range in the Nevada desert and his training in handling special reconnaissance equipment which was directed by representatives and pilots of the Lockheed company which makes these planes, and also by military pilots, Rudenko declared: "Here is a patent example of criminal collusion between a big American capitalist company, an espionage and intelligence center, and the U.S. military."

Powers confessed that, in conformity with the contract he had concluded with CIA, he was a pilot of a special air detachment engaged in collecting information on Soviet radio stations and radar facilities and also on the location of rocket sites.

Unquestionably, the prosecutor emphasized, the aggressive penetration into the depths of Soviet territory on May 1 was planned by the American intelligence service way in advance, since as early as August 1958 Powers received an assignment to transfer a U-2 plane from the Incirlik base to Bodoe airfield in Norway, the very same airfield at which he was to complete his May 1 flight.

Recalling Powers' testimony that he had piloted a U-2 plane from an American airbase in the area of Wiesbaden, West Germany, to a U.S. Air Force base at Plattsburg, New York, the procurator general declared: "This shows once more that American U-2 planes were based on the territory of West Germany and made flights from that territory. The revanchist Adenauer government, however, did not even find it necessary to lodge a protest in this connection with the U.S. Government, as other NATO states did. Furthermore, Chancellor Adenauer hastened to be first to express approval of the criminal, aggressive, espionage flights of U-2 planes."

By carrying out espionage flights, the state prosecutor said, Powers and his masters shamelessly violated the sovereignty of other countries. U-2 planes flew over various countries involved by the United States in its expansionist, aggressive policy. They lent their airbases for the use of American military planes. With even greater arrogance, Powers and other American spies violated the sovereignty of neutral countries, in particular Afghanistan, taking advantage of their technical superiority to do so.

The procurator general, referring to Powers' testimony, revealed to the court the nature of the espionage assignments--to collect information on specially important defense and industrial establishments in the Soviet Union--which Powers received before the May 1 flight.

American intelligence, envisaging in advance the possibility of its agent's failure, and desiring to prevent exposure, conditioned Powers to the idea of inevitable suicide in case he should come down alive on Soviet territory. "Here you see the savage, misanthropic ethics of Mr. Dulles and company, placing the dollar, this 'yellow devil,' higher than human life," the prosecutor declared.

Referring to Powers' testimony, material evidence, and the findings of experts, Rudenko held it proved that Powers' Lockheed U-2 plane was a special military reconnaissance plane, equipped with a special device by means of which the pilot could blow it up in the event of a forced landing on USSR territory.

Powers pleaded guilty to having flown over Soviet territory and to having switched on and off over the points indicated to him for his flight the controls of the special equipment installed in his plane. During the flight Powers also conducted visual observations and plotted the results on the flight map.

Rudenko exposed the falsity of official American statements alleging that the U-2 plane was a civil aircraft and Powers a hired employee of the Lockheed aircraft corporation.

The procurator general noted that, as established by Powers' testimony concerning the circumstances in which he was recruited for intelligence service, the organization and implementation of aggressive spy flights into Soviet airspace were directly effected under the supervision of CIA, with the knowledge and sanction of the U.S. Government and President Eisenhower.

The materials of this trial, the state prosecutor declared, conclusively prove that the 10-10 detachment in which Powers served was nothing but a military intelligence unit.

There is not the slightest doubt, Rudenko pointed out, that Powers' plane was a military aircraft specially equipped and sent into Soviet airspace with aggressive espionage purposes, and that Powers, by the very nature of his activity, continued to remain a military pilot discharging the duties of a military intelligence man and spy.

"In fact this is nothing but an espionage hybrid--an offspring of CIA, and the military intelligence of the U.S. Air Force, covered up by the NASA figleaf," declared the procurator general.

Rudenko considered that the espionage purposes of Powers' flight over the Soviet territory had been confirmed by all the circumstances of the case, including the testimony of the accused and the abundant material evidence.

Rudenko emphasized that the statements of leading U.S. statesmen, acknowledging to the whole world that espionage and violation of the sovereignty of other states are national policy of the United States, acquire procedural importance and had to be considered judicial evidence in light of the criminal Powers case.

This evidence--that is, the statements of these U.S. leaders--fully establishes that the U.S. Government was the inspirer and organizer of the crimes committed by Powers and others like him. In the opinion of the procurator general, there was every reason to regard the above-mentioned statements as irrefutable evidence in the Powers case.

Rudenko thoroughly analyzed the abundant material evidence. He said that as a result of its careful study by experts the prosecution was in possession of objective, irrefutable data, proving with new force the indictment against the defendant Powers and the deliberate, aggressive nature and espionage purpose of his criminal mission (Over 320,000 Soviet citizens and 20,000 foreigners have seen the material evidence on public display-- TASS).

Parts and units of the plane, Rudenko announced, scattered over an area of some 20 square kilometers, were found where the Lockheed U-2 plane fell, including the forepart of the fuselage with the central wing and the cockpit with equipment; the turbojet engine, and the fuselage's tail.

In refuting the false allegations that the U-2 plane was a civilian and not a military aircraft, the state prosecutor made special note that the radiotechnical intelligence equipment and some other units had markings showing that they belonged to the U.S. military establishment.

The material evidence had established irrefutably, the procurator general declared, that the flight of the American plane over Soviet territory was deliberate and planned in advance. As seen from the conclusions of experts, the map showing the flight route and navigation calculations was prepared on the ground before the takeoff. While in the air the flier knew his position, systematically checked off the marked reference points as he flew over them, and strictly adhered to the established route. While over USSR territory the flier plotted on the map intelligence information.

The state prosecutor regarded the photoequipment of the aircraft and the immediate results of its photo reconnaissance as important evidence exposing the espionage purposes of Powers' flight.

Technical findings by experts have established that the aerial photographic equipment installed in the U-2 plane is a special aerial reconnaissance camera for photographing strips of land from great altitudes. A special aerial photofilm was designed for aerial survey of military and topographical objectives. The aerial photos taken contain intelligence information on industrial and military objectives in the USSR.

Expert findings on the tape recorder and its tape have shown that the signals recorded by Powers came from surface radar system insuring the antiaircraft defense of the Soviet Union. Special equipment had been installed in Powers' aircraft to counteract and interfere with interception radar stations and fighter plan direction.

As Rudenko further pointed out, the absence of long-distance radio-communication facilities in the U-2 plane is further evidence that the sponsors of the aggressive intrusion took measures to conceal the piratical flight and to prevent its possible detection on Soviet territory.

Were it not for the fact that the assignments received by Powers were of a criminal nature, Rudenko pointed out, his masters would not have supplied him with a deadly pin. The experts' conclusion was that a prick of this pin would kill a person instantaneously.

An analysis of the material evidence, the prosecutor concluded, fully establishes the crimes committed by Powers, finally exposes the inspirers and organizers of these crimes, and provides justice with incriminating evidence of great convicting force. The prosecutor general emphasized that Powers personally carried out specially dangerous criminal assignments which directly endangered universal peace and might have brought upon mankind a terrible disaster.

From the ground no one could tell whether his hostile plane, which unceremoniously and arrogantly intruded into the Soviet airspace, was carrying a deadly load. It is fully obvious, Rudenko declared, that since certain states possess nuclear weapons and the means to deliver them to targets at almost lightening speed, the aggressive acts undertaken by the United States on May 1, 1960, against the Soviet Union are a crime which endangers the security of all mankind and were fraught with the gravest consequences for the whole world.

Rudenko declared that the Powers case exposed the criminal flouting of all universally recognized standards of international law by American ruling quarters. An indisputable principle of international law, the state prosecutor recalled, is the principle of full and exclusive sovereignty of a state over its territory, including the entire airspace above it. The U.S. Government did not react to the repeated Soviet protests concerning illegal violation of Soviet airspace by American planes. On the contrary, it continued its policy of cold war, of gross violation of the sovereignty of other states.

Rudenko further declared: "He who elevates crime to the level of calculated national policy deliberately runs the risk of being caught in the act of committing the crime, recognizes the positions of strength policy as a supreme principle of national policy, without a twinge of conscience disregards generally accepted international practice expressed in the lofty principles of international law, and replaces law and justice by arbitrariness and lawlessness."

Examining the question of whether the intrusion of even a single plane into the airspace of another country is an act of aggression, the state prosecutor declared: "There is every reason to conclude that the incursion of a foreign plane, such as the incursion of the U-2 spy plane, undoubtedly constitutes an act of aggression." It is irrefutable, he added, that under modern conditions the incursion by even a single plane into the airspace of any state threatens disastrous consequences.

Since the United States constantly keeps in the air squadrons of bombers with atomic and hydrogen bombs, the appearance over Soviet territory of even a single reconnaissance plane can always portend an air attack. But even if squadrons of bombers do not immediately follow the reconnaissance plane, the flight of such a plane with its air survey and reconnaissance of USSR antiaircraft defense radar facilities are integral elements of an air attack, Rudenko pointed out.

The procurator general exposed the attempts of leading U.S. statesmen to conceal their criminal aggressive acts with allegedly peace-loving intentions. He revealed the hypocrisy of the President, the Vice President, and the U.S. secretary of state, who alleged that the U-2 flight and preceding incursions of U.S. planes into Soviet airspace had no aggressive purposes but were supposedly defensive measures.

Rudenko pointed out that U.S. statesmen sought to revise the bankrupt, fixed idea of "communist menace," which has been refuted by history itself.

The state prosecutor drew the court's attention to the fact that involved in the Powers' case is the peculiar instance of international complicity. The aggressive espionage flights by American planes over Soviet territory could not have taken place if states close to the Soviet Union--in this case Turkey, Pakistan, and Norway--had not made available their territory to the American military. The range of the U-2 plane would not have allowed it to operate directly from U.S. territory.

Rudenko declared: "If we are to assess all these circumstances in conformity with the doctrine of complicity, we should regard as Powers' accomplices those who organized and sponsored this crime, and also those who as accomplices obviously facilitated the execution of the crime by making means available and removing obstacles."

Recalling that the Soviet Government had more than once warned the governments of countries linked by military blocs with the United States against the danger that installation of U.S. military bases on their territory creates for them; Rudenko said that this trial showed graphically how well founded these warnings issued by the Soviet Government were.

This trial fully reveals the aggressive, man-hating policy of U.S. ruling circles and military who, for the sake of their dirty aims, do not stop at flouting any sacred principle of international law to continue their dangerous brinkmanship, he emphasized.

The state prosecutor then gave a judicial assessment of the actions Powers is accused of. Pointing out that Powers' guilt of espionage had been irrefutably proved from the standpoint of the criminal legislation of the Soviet Union, he emphasized that, in conformity with U.S. legislation too, Powers' actions, had they been committed in the United States and directed against that country, would also have been regarded as espionage and entailed stern punishment.

Concluding his speech for the prosecution, Rudenko reemphasized that grievous consequences to peace and to mankind might have followed from Powers' criminal actions. No one could know what further aggressive actions Powers' flight portended and what death-dealing load it carried.

Powers is no ordinary spy, but a specially and carefully drilled criminal, Rudenko said. Powers carried out his crimes by means fraught with danger for millions upon millions of people.

Addressing the judges, the procurator general declared: "May your verdict be a stern warning to those who carry through an aggressive policy, criminally flout generally accepted standards of international law and national sovereignty, and proclaim a policy of cold war and espionage as their national policy. May this verdict also be a stern warning to all other Powerses who, at the bidding of their masters, would seek to undermine the cause of peace, to encroach on the honor, dignity, and integrity of the great Soviet Union."

Supporting fully the state prosecution in the Powers case, the procurator general said:

"I have every reason to request the court to apply the supreme penalty to defendant Powers. But taking into account the sincere repentance of defendant Powers before the Soviet Union of the crime he committed, I do not insist on the death penalty for him and ask the court to sentence defendant Powers to 15 years' detention."

(Editor's Note--L: At 0844 GMT on Aug. 19 TASS states: "The punishment demanded for Powers by the procurator general was met by a storm of applause.")

Summary of Grinev Speech

Moscow, TASS, Radioteletype in English to Europe, Aug. 19, 1960, 0912 GMT--I.

(Text) Soviet lawyer Mikhail Grinev stressed at the trial of the American, Francis G. Powers, his "exceptionally difficult, incomparably complicated position." He noted that the defense was further complicated by the demand of the state prosecutor.

It is our civic and professional duty to help a defendant who wishes to avail himself of the right to defense guaranteed by the constitution of the Soviet Union, the defense counsel said. He recalled that the Soviet procedural code not only granted the right to defense but also provided broad practical possibilities for exercising it.

The defense counsel said he intended to set forth arguments which gave him the right to ask--and the judges perhaps to agree--that the (demand of the state prosecutor not be granted?).

Since Powers had pleaded fully guilty, the defense counsel said that the defense challenged neither the facts of the charges preferred against Powers nor the appraisal of the crime given by the state prosecutor.

Addressing the court, the lawyer said that he could expect with full confidence that the judges would accept Powers' testimony as truthful.

The defense counsel stressed the international significance of the Powers case inasmuch as Powers, one of the perpetrators of a perfidious and aggressive act against the Soviet Union, should be joined on trial by his masters, who ought to attend this trial invisibly: the Central Intelligence Agency headed by Allen Dulles, the American military, and with them all those sinister, aggressive forces which strive to touch off another world war.

The defense counsel urged the judges to pay attention to this factor which he believed would be of substantial importance in determining Powers' punishment, that although Powers was the direct executor, the main culprits were those who sent him to commit this crime.

In view of this, the defense counsel expressed regret that Powers alone was on trial. Otherwise Powers would have held a secondary place in the case and thus could undoubtedly expect a much milder punishment.

Without absolving him of responsibility, the defense counsel stressed that Powers committed this crime not of his own volition, but on orders of his bosses; in doing so he was not connected with any of them except his direct superior, Colonel Shelton, and was not even informed by them about the plans they harbored when sending him to commit this crime. Moreover, they deliberately misled him by giving assurances that the flight over Soviet territory was absolutely safe and did not involve any risk.

The defense counsel expressed the conviction that in setting the punishment for Powers the court would take into account his breach of Colonel Shelton's order to destroy the plane and commit suicide in case of a forced landing, abandonment of the plane, or capture.

The defense counsel also asked the court to take into account Powers' truthful and frank testimony during the preliminary and court investigations.

"I do not know," Grinev said, "whether Powers has told all of the truth, but doubtless what he did say is true."

The defense counsel stressed that despite the fact that divulgence of state secrets is punishable in the United States by 10 years in prison or a 10,000 dollar fine, Powers nevertheless testified truthfully and thereby sharply conflicted with his employer.

Grinev expressed the view that Powers' handwritten testimony and the evidence which he gave repeatedly of his own will were, perhaps, a result of some inner change which he began to experience from the moment he came into contact with the Soviet people and realized that much of what he was told in America about the Soviet Union and the Soviet people was in sharp contradiction to reality.

In part of his testimony, the defense counsel recalled, Powers said that he was deceived by his bosses and that he never expected to be so well treated in the Soviet Union. Referring to Article 33 of the fundamental criminal code of the USSR, the defense counsel said that Powers' truthful testimony and conduct constituted circumstances mitigating his responsibility and gave grounds for a milder attitude toward him.

Surveying Powers' life, the defense counsel showed what roads led him to the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and made him a tool of the U.S. Government's aggressive policy.

Though he lacked adequate means, Powers' father sought to give his son a higher education. But Powers wanted to stand on his own feet sooner, to free the father of the sacrifices he would have to make if his son continued studying, since it costs a great deal to obtain a higher education in the United States.

After graduating from college in 1950, Powers took a temporary job. Mass unemployment and his forthcoming army draft kept him from finding a steady job. Thus Powers, anticipating the draft, volunteered for the U.S. Air Force in 1950 in order not to worry about the future.

Having finished his pilot course, Powers, like every American, was taught to worship the omnipotent dollar. False American propaganda could not leave Powers' character and upbringing unaffected, especially his ideas of the Soviet Union. It is not accidental that at the preliminary investigation Powers said that he did not expect such humane treatment in the USSR. He expected to be tortured and humiliated.

Now Powers, who did not have any political convictions or predilections, could become embroiled in such a large-scale, dangerous political venture, was explained by the conditions of life in capitalist America, with its permanent mass unemployment, the defense counsel told the court.

The bourgeois ethics which prevail there are characterized by strongly expressed individualism and greed. In accordance with bourgeois morals, it is quite permissible to sacrifice honor, honesty, and truth in the name of profit, in the name of dollars. Influenced by these ethics, said Grinev, Powers lived under the delusion that money does not smell, and he did not realize that the 2,500 dollars he was receiving from the Central Intelligence Agency did have a most evil smell, though he had some doubts the last time he extended his contract with that organization.

The defense counsel expressed the hope that Powers' experiences had made him rightly understand the nature of the money he received under the contract, which undoubtedly would be an earnest of his correct conduct in the future.

Turning to Powers' statement to the effect that maybe Soviet law stipulated the death penalty irrespective of his testimony and behavior, the defense counsel stressed that the Soviet criminal code did not know such a formal approach to sentencing persons who are guilty of even the gravest crimes.

The Soviet court is a humane court, the defense counsel said, where motives of the formal requirements of law are not the only determining factors. In passing sentences, a Soviet court is never guided by considerations of cruelty or revenge. It always takes into account not only from the circumstances of the case, but also account of defendant's individuality, as well as mitigating circumstances.

The defense counsel maintained that Powers' truthful, sincere testimony and his age since he recently had his 31st birthday, were mitigating circumstances. He reminded the court that when Powers concluded his contract with the Central Intelligence Agency he did not know the real purpose of the task set before him.

The defense counsel also called attention to Powers' doubts as to whether his previous actions in the Central Intelligence Agency were correct.

On the basis of all this, the defense counsel said that there was every reason to recognize the presence of mitigating circumstances and to adopt a less severe sentence. In asking the court to mitigate Powers' punishment, he would proceed not only from the reasons underlying the motives of the crime and the circumstances under which it was perpetrated, as well as Powers' conduct after his detention, but also from the strength, might, and power of the Soviet Union, and from the fact that initiative and strength were at present in the hands of the peace forces, the camp of peace and socialism.

In conclusion, the defense counsel said: "Your sentence will add one more example to the numerous instance of the humanity of Soviet justice and will sharply contrast with the attitude toward man practiced by Powers' masters--the Central Intelligence Agency, the ruling reactionary forces of the United States that sent him to a sure death and wanted him to die."

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
Aug. 19, 1960

Text of Powers' Appeal

Moscow, TASS, Radioteletype in English to Europe, Aug. 19, 1960,
1004 GAT--L

(Text) You have now heard all the evidence in the case, and you must decide my fate.

I realize that I have committed a most grave crime and deserve punishment. I ask the court to weigh all the evidence and take into account not only the fact that I committed the crime but also the circumstances which induced me to it.

I ask the court to take into account that no secret data or information went through the channels they were supposed to. All fell into the hands of Soviet authorities.

I realize that Russians regard me as an enemy, but I should like to stress that I personally, do not have and have never had any enmity toward the Russian people.

I ask the court to judge me not as an enemy but as a human being who is not an enemy of the Russian people, a man who never before had faced a court on any charge whatsoever and who deeply realizes his guilt. Thank you.

Report on Interval Before Sentencing

Moscow, TASS, Radioteletype in Russian to Europe, Aug. 19, 1960,
1315 GAT--L

(Text) Moscow--Awaiting the announcement of his sentence, Francis Powers told Defense Counsel Grinev that the tremendous strain which he felt during the closing speech by the state prosecutor had gone and he felt greatly relieved when he learned that the prosecutor did not insist on the death penalty.

The defense counsel visited Powers while the judges were in conference about the actual sentence. Grinev found Powers reading. Powers had just finished his dinner and was enjoying after dinner grapes. During the conversation his defense counsel told Powers about the launching of a second cosmic satellite ship by the Soviet Union. Powers said it was wonderful news.

Report on Sentence

Moscow, TASS, Radioteletype in English to Europe, Aug. 19, 1960,
1600 GMT--L

(Text) The president of the military collegium of the USSR Supreme Court, Lt. Gen. of Justice V.V. Borisoglebskiy, read the court verdict in the criminal case of American spy pilot Francis G. Powers.

The court found defendant Francis G. Powers guilty of the crime covered by Art. 2 of the law of the Soviet Union on criminal responsibility for state crimes, and sentenced him to 10 years' confinement, with the first three years to be served in prison.

The sentence is final and not subject to appeal.

Announcement of the sentence was met with great satisfaction and applause by all those present.

This ended the session of the military collegium of the USSR Supreme Court.

(Editor's Note--L: So far, Moscow has not broadcast any more information on the details of the sentence, described by TASS English as "10 years' imprisonment," by TASS Russian as "10 years deprivation of liberty, the first three years to be served in prison.")