

GI Friend of Spies Lands in Top Intelligent Spot

By VICTOR RIESEL

LET'S be calm about the Harry Dexter White rumpus, they tell us in some circles. All right, you be calm. I've got just the story to soothe you. It's the story of a friend of spies Harry Dexter White, Frank Coe, Gregory Silvermaster and William Ludwig Ullman. They all worked for the U. S. Treasury Dept. during the big war.

This "friend" is Russell Arthur Nixon, who had a phenomenal career in the U.S. Army. All you ex-GIs will be fascinated to know

that you just didn't have the right friends. Nixon had them. Drafted in 1944, he went through basic training. Then he just waffled up from buck private to second lieutenant in charge of our Financial Intelligence Section of the Branch of the Finance Division of the Allied Control Council in Germany. That's nice. Such a young fellow. Just 33 at the time.

GOES RIGHT from basic infantry training into intelligence work. And sits as a member of the Joint Intelligence Committee, headed by Col. Kruger, "operating on General Intelligence problems" in Berlin.



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That's our Horatio Alger capitalism, for you. This fellow, who doesn't like us and thinks the Soviet Union is just wonderful, is on record as saying that "in spite of all the desire in the world, the (U.S.) government has never been able to demonstrate" the connection between the American Communist Party and the Communist International.

That was in answer to a question put to him by Sen. Hubert Humphrey. The Senator asked the bright boy: "Do you consider the Communist Party to be a part of an international network or do you consider it to be an indigenous political organization within the U. S.?"

SO THIS FELLOW, Russ Nixon, gets drafted back in 1944 while he is head of the Washington office of the United Electrical Workers. Now, I have differed with the UE rather strongly in the past. But we agree on one thing. This union is pro-Soviet.

Its leaders have been named before Congressional committees as high policy makers of the Communist Party. It was expelled from the CIO for following "the line."

Yet the chief of its Washington legislative efforts is whirlwinded right to the topmost echelons of our intelligence forces—and finds himself sitting on the same Joint Intelligence Committee with none other than our highest intelligence officer, Allen Dulles, now head of Central Intelligence.

Of course, Allen Dulles was operating in Europe at that time—but what happened to our counter-intelligence which was supposed to keep our top counter-py, Dulles, well informed? Oh well, keep calm, like they tell us. There's more.

THIS MAN NIXON, whose union in 1939 pulled and supported some of the most catastrophic strikes crippling our rearmament efforts and our strivings to help the anti-Nazi allies, this man Nixon was shoved to the top in this fashion:

At first he was chief of the Denazification Section of the Finance Division having charge of the vital denazification of the German Financial System in the American Zone.

Then he became chief of the

Branch of Financial Intelligence of the same division. Then deputy director of the Division of Investigation of Cartels and External Assets of the Allied Control Council in Berlin. And WITHIN A FEW LAST DAYS OF GETTING THAT LAST JOB he became Director of that Division.

SO SUBTLY did he work that he deceived even the intelligence officers of Gen. Eisenhower and Gen. Clay, who appointed Nixon THE AMERICAN MEMBER of the four-power German External Property Commission established at the Potsdam Conference. The two generals, busy elsewhere, depended on Treasury Dept. information from back home.

These were the intelligence division which searched out so much of the German assets which the Russians took or dismantled. Much of these properties are now producing weapons and precision instruments with which the Russians threaten us.

Oh, yes. Don't worry about Nixon. He got his job back at the United Electrical Workers. He still runs their Washington Bureau. But, they did give him time off, back there in 1948, to help launch the Pro-Soviet Progressive Party.

Like I said, keep calm.