

House Un-American Activities Committee Hearings Fixed

In a stunning development, recently released KGB files reveal that the House Un-American Activity Committee Hearings, chaired by conservative Chairman Martin Dies (R-TX) were fixed in favor of the Soviets. Recently released *Spies*, by Yale University Press, 2009 (authors Haynes, Klehr, and Vassiliev) demonstrate the actual penetration of the United States government up to the highest levels. KGB files reveal that Democratic Co-Chair, Samuel Dickstein (D-NY) was a paid Soviet spy. The wildest charges of a red under every bed made by the most conservative critics of that era never revealed how complete Soviet penetration actually was. America was for sale then, and it is up to you, the reader, to determine if anything has changed. The lobbyists in Washington, including false fronts like the ACLU, masquerading as 501C(3) non-profits, represent all manner of foreign interests, and, unlike the black and white world of Soviet-US competition, represent finer shades of gray that can be even harder to detect. US interests are being sold around the world to the highest bidder, and the American taxpayer usually ends up paying for it.

Long before Richard Nixon rose to fame as a member of this feared committee, Congressman Martin Dies personified the witch hunting era of the late 40's and early 1950's. It was fully expected that Dies would reveal who the spies were, and the American Civil Liberties Union was bracing to take a hit. It never came. Even ACLU board members were prepared to testify who the communists were on their national board, but they were never called to testify. Independent sources have verified that Martin Dies secretly met with ACLU General Counsel Morris Ernst and other selected board members. Even ACLU staff agreed that the hearings were fixed.

Congressman Samuel Dickstein's fees for selling out America were so high, the KGB gave him the secret code name Crook. What was Dies payoff? Was he completely naïve that his co-chair was undermining the work of the committee? Dies actively worked to take the ACLU off the hook, made public statements saying the committee had investigated the ACLU and had found no evidence of communist connections, and cut off witnesses that were going to discuss the ACLU connection to the Soviets. Dies was too active a participant working to clear the ACLU, completely at odds with his public persona, to not have been involved.

KGB files reveal that Dickstein was on the Soviet payroll as early as May 18th, 1937. He further compounded the treachery by pursuing investigations of White Russian immigrant groups opposed to Stalin. Since Dickstein was also Chairman of the House Committee on Immigration and Naturalization, he was paid to hound Stalin's opponents who had fled to America, thinking they had gone to a safe haven. KGB files reveal that Dickstein was running an immigration fixing business on the side, taking payoffs from immigration lawyers. Stalin's opponents were as vulnerable here as they were in the Soviet Union. Unless, of course, they had money. Their only hope was that their payoff was more than Stalin was willing to pay.

KGB files further reveal that Senator Claude Pepper's (D-FL) top Staffer, Charles Kramer, was a paid Soviet spy. Kramer was so close to Pepper that he helped Pepper write a book. Pepper decided not to publish the book because of the very liberal ideas expressed in the book in contrast with the heightening cold war, but probably had no idea that his book editor, Kramer, was a paid Soviet spy. One can assume that the book was acceptable to Stalin, but not to Pepper's Florida constituents. Kramer would leave Pepper's staff and become a speech writer for Henry Wallace, a man often accused of being a Communist. It was Wallace, as Secretary of Agriculture under FDR, who would introduce the farm subsidies so popular in so called Red States today. In an irony of history, these government subsidies would become a staple of mostly Republican states. No political leader has tried to wean the American farmer off this red state subsidy since Henry Wallace's glory days. Big government apparently is in the eye of the beholder.

ACLU General Counsel Morris Ernst had bragged to his friends in the ACLU about fixing the hearings before the House Un-American Activities Committee, and the fix apparently went on for a long time, back as far as 1939. Congressman Dickstein had been on Stalin's payroll since 1937, and Morris Ernst arranged for a secret meeting between the ACLU and Congressman Martin Dies. A number of the ACLU board expressed serious reservations about meeting secretly with Dies, but their pangs of conscience did not cause them to

spring into action. The meetings would remain secret for years, and the ACLU membership would not be informed, nor even briefed afterward.

Prof Judy Kutulas, of St. Olaf's College, provides some of the background of the secret meetings in her book, *The American Civil Liberties Union and the making of Modern Liberalism, 1930-1960*. "Thus when rumors of a relationship between the committee and the ACLU circulated in the fall of 1939, the primary reaction was outrage. The rumors started after Dies summoned Ward (Dr. Harry Ward) to testify. When questioners asked about Ward's Union activities, Dies cut them off, announcing that "there was not any evidence that the American Civil Liberties Union was a Communist organization." Even ACLU supporters were stunned, for most knew who the communist members were. It is important to note that they did not know who the actual Soviet spies were. Many ACLU activists wanted the ACLU cleaned up. They did not expect that hated Texan Martin Dies would clear the ACLU completely.

Prof. Kutulas further states that Ernst bragged about the fix. "Yet Ernst told Baldwin that "I am thoroughly convinced that I was successful in preventing the hearing from wrapping Ward's testimony, as head of the League, around the neck of the ACLU." He boasted to a decidedly unsympathetic Corliss Lamont that "I have saved the Civil Liberties Union from taking a terrible wrap, by seeing Dies," While Ernst exulted, other members cringed at the notion of clandestine meetings with Martin Dies." (P. 68)

Lucille Milner, the long time administrator of the ACLU National Office described Morris Ernst, as a "fixer", claiming he never appeared in court. The deals were always made well in advance. When she resigned from her career at the ACLU, she informed the board that Ernst was one of the major reasons she was leaving. The board did nothing. Milner's concerns are verified in the excellent investigative work of the 'golden girl' from St. Olaf's College.