B-36, and also despite the fact that, soon after the Hearings had ended, General Collins, speaking as Army Chief of Staff, admitted that the United States could not wage intercontinental war with existing weapons (including the B-36). This meant, he said later, that overseas bases would be needed *to provide fighter escort* and refueling for the B-36s; regarding which he said the Joint Chiefs of Staff were "in accord."

This statement was confirmed by General Bradley's testimony on January 22, 1951 that, in case of attack:

> The *initial* retaliation against an enemy by *strategic bombing* will be provided *if* the air power and the necessary Army and Navy support *to seize and hold the bases* from which to operate, are in our hands the moment an emergency arises. [Italics mine.]

In other words, Bradley and Collins and the other leaders of the Armed Forces know that unescorted bombers can not make "effective delivery." Yet they continue to help befuddle the people and Congress about the B-36 — to help build up within the defense establishment a colossal B-36 empire which is a fraud militarily, a bankrupting process for the nation's economy.

As any sensible citizen can see from the foregoing facts alone, the "mystery" cloaking the B-36's inadequacies as a bomber is fooling only the American people — not the Kremlin. These facts lead inexorably to this conclusion: The B-36, as a bomber, is America's one-way flying coffin, capable of making "effective delivery" only of the corpses of its suicide-mission crew members.

GREAT DEBATE—SOVIET STYLE

By PIERRE FAILLANT *and* ROBERT DONLEVIN

Paris

THE ALMOST simultaneous disappearance of former Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Vladimir Clementis and the opening of an important schism in the Italian Communist Party had a direct bearing on Kremlin plans for a mid-April offensive in Yugoslavia and Italy, according to information gathered here from reliable Swiss, Italian and Czech émigré sources.

The first inkling of the schism in the Italian Communist Party came on January 28, when two Communist Deputies, Valdo Magnani and Aldo Cucchi, announced their resignations. Both men were party stalwarts and had just recently returned from trips to Moscow and Warsaw respectively, where they went to get the latest word on the tactics to be employed by the Kremlin in case of a general conflict.

Cucchi and Magnani knew that over a year ago a Soviet People's Commissar named Ciantek and a group of twenty-odd deputies had been assigned to the "urgent" mission of organizing new cells of saboteurs in Italy and the rest of western Europe. Cucchi and Magnani were to assume leading roles in these sabotage groups, whose membership was drawn from the Association of Former Italian Partisans, veterans of the wartime anti-Fascist maquis in Italy, in which the two Deputies had played important parts.

In the event of war this fifth column of several hundred thousand militant Communists were to have two main missions: 1) the cutting of communications between Rome and Milan, Italy and Austria, and Italy and Yugoslavia; and 2) the reception of "volunteer" Communist parachute brigades which would be dropped in Italy as well as in Yugoslavia to conduct guerrilla warfare.

On their trips behind the Iron Curtain, Magnani and Cucchi learned that war was considered inevitable by a certain number of members of the Politburo because of the present critical situation in the satellite countries and the determination of the West to rearm. According to the line of reasoning followed by this faction, a delay of even one year would be fatal to a rapid and certain Communist victory, whereas an attack this spring would find the West still incapable of defending itself, and military success would have the usual salutary effect of consolidating the regime, especially in the restless satellite states.

Our informants also reported that another Politburo clique now opposes this line of action for three reasons: 1) the West's superiority in atomic weapons; 2) when Magnani and Cucchi resigned from the Communist Party they took with them between 150,000 and 200,000 followers — militant Communists who were the main body of the party's carefully set up sabotage organization; and 3) certain deviationist defections from the Czechoslovak Communist Party.

The eagerness with which a number of Italian Communists awaited the arrival of the Red Army in Yugoslavia and of the "volunteer" parachute partisans in Italy to help force the installation of a Communist regime in Rome, had disturbed Magnani and Cucchi, although they did not believe the menace was real. Behind the Iron Curtain, however, they got both confirmation of the Kremlin's timetable for a mid-April offensive and an unpleasant preview of what life would be like in a Communist Italy. They also learned that Clementis was in contact with several Czechoslovak "nationalist" Communists who were said to be supported by the Politburo faction who fear war.

Clementis intended to warn these Communists having "nationalist" tendencies, in both the satellite and Western nations, of the Kremlin's plan for war. His arrest by Stalin's puppets in Prague (if the report is true) was no doubt timed to prevent this action.

EASTWARD, HO!

A Soviet basketball team came to Shanghai and, imposing on the "brotherly" Chinese team its own rules and referees, easily won all the games. Whereupon, one may assume, the defeated players of the liberated "new China" immediately dispatched a message of thanks to their beloved leader Stalin.

India's Prime Minister Nehru is still very busy trying to convince the Chinese Communists that they are not Communists.

Albania has joined the rest of the "people's democracies" and adopted a "peace law." From now on any Albanian who doubts that the Chinese fighting in Korea are volunteers will be branded a warmonger and hanged. ARGUS

THOMAS MANN'S LEFT HAND

By EUGENE TILLINGER

THE RANKS of the intellectuals who sign every Communist-inspired manifesto and join every Moscow propaganda front are growing sparser. But Thomas Mann is still in the vanguard of this curious parade. With amazing consistency he continues to back every Stalinist organization that carries the word "peace" in its title.

The eminent German novelist — now an American citizen and a resident of California — sponsored the Win the Peace group in 1946. In 1948 he was chairman of the Conference for Peace. In 1949 he not only endorsed the Cultural and Scientific Conference for World Peace held at the Waldorf-Astoria, but denounced "the machinations aimed at discrediting" this party-line assembly. Now Thomas Mann is backing the newly formed American Peace Crusade, along with Paul Robeson, Howard Fast, Rockwell Kent, Elmer Benson, National Chairman of the Progressive Party, and such leaders of Communist-dominated unions as Ben Gold, Abram Flaxer and Hugh Bryson. The initial statement of this group calls for the withdrawal of American troops from Korea, an end to war in the Far East and to the armaments race, and "recognition of the right of the Chinese People's Republic to representation in the UN."

Thus the author of "The Magic Mountain," who has emphasized that "Anti-Bolshevism is the fundamental folly of our time," further deepens his own moral eclipse. The American press has paid little attention to certain pronouncements made by Thomas Mann in lectures and interviews, mostly abroad. But the Moscow propaganda machine has played them up to the full. The least that can be said of them is that they were just what the Kremlin publicists were looking for.

A few months ago it appeared that Thomas Mann, in the seclusion of his ivory tower in Santa Monica, felt a bit uneasy about some of his pro-Soviet statements. His denial that he had ever signed the so-called Stockholm Peace Appeal was carried in a United Press dispatch from Los Angeles, dated October 31, 1950. He declared: "I have never signed the Stockholm Peace Appeal, even if this is erroneously so often stated." And he added: "I heard about this assertion only comparatively late, because I traveled around the whole summer. Then, when I learned about it, I didn't deny it because it was too late and because I have always been for peace."

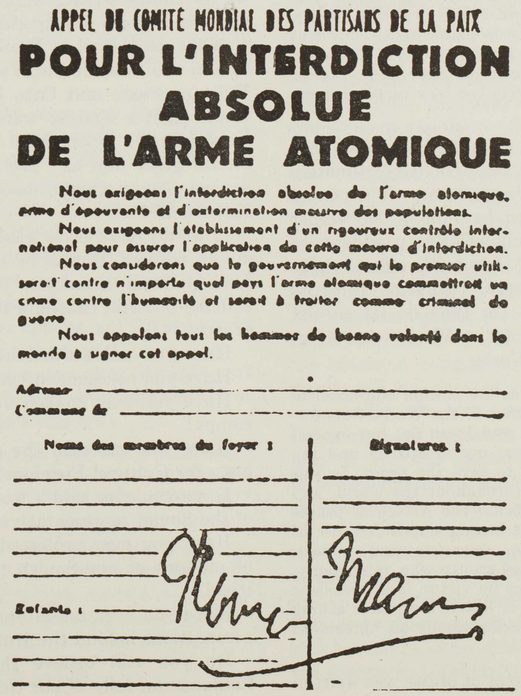
Dr. Mann's reference to the "assertion" that he had signed the Stockholm Appeal is vague, but this writer can refresh his memory. On May 18, 1950, the French weekly *Les Lettres Françaises* published an exclusive interview with Thomas Mann on its front page, under a screaming three-column headline. *Les Lettres Françaises* is not an obscure literary periodical; it is the French Communist Party's official organ in the cultural field. Its publisher, Claude Morgan, who interviewed Dr. Mann, is one of the foremost French Stalinist intellectuals. In granting this exclusive interview Thomas Mann must have been well aware with whom he was speaking — the more so because Morgan began by bringing him the greetings of the World Committee of the Partisans of Peace.

"Why did you sign the Stockholm Appeal?" Morgan asked.

Answered Thomas Mann: "I signed the Stockholm Appeal because I support every movement whose goal is to further peace. In an atomic war, I am convinced, there will be neither victor nor loser, but the world will suffer general destruction. For that reason I have signed. I think I have [thus] acted in the interest of my new fatherland, America. . . ."

Another interview, in the French Communist-front periodical *Droit et Liberté* (May 25, 1950), quotes Thomas Mann as saying: "We must save the peace; this today is the most important thing. Therefore the movement for peace that started in Stockholm should be heartily welcomed." This article emphasizes the fact that "the night before this interview was granted, Thomas Mann had signed the Stockholm Appeal."

The entire Communist press of Europe, inside and outside the Iron Curtain, featured excerpts from Dr. Mann's interview with Claude Morgan. It seems, therefore, rather strange



APPEL DU COMITÉ MONDIAL DES PARTISANS DE LA PAIX

POUR L'INTERDICTION ABSOLUE DE L'ARME ATOMIQUE

Nous exigeons l'interdiction absolue de l'arme atomique, arme d'épouvante et d'extermination massive des populations.

Nous exigeons l'établissement d'un rigoureux contrôle international pour assurer l'application de cette mesure d'interdiction.

Nous considérons que le gouvernement qui le premier utiliserait contre n'importe quel pays l'arme atomique commettrait un crime contre l'humanité et serait à traiter comme criminel de guerre.

Nous appelons tous les hommes de bonne volonté dans le monde à signer cet appel.

Adresse

Commune de

Noms des membres du foyer : | Signatures :

Enfants :