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COMMUNISM IN CRISIS IN BRITAIN AND ABROAD, 1931-1979



Explore the communist movement between...

British Online Archives updated collection, Communism in Crisis in Britain and Abroad, 1931-1979 is drawn from the personal papers of John Gollan, a communist activist who served as General Secretary of the Communist Party of Great Britain (CPGB) from 1956 to 1976.

Gollan was born in 1911 to working-class parents and his political motivations began from an early age.



This collection is one of many CPGB resources hosted on the British Online Archives website.

He joined the CPGB at the time of the General Strike of 1926 and became increasingly involved in the fractious politics of the 1930s. The material from this era shows his anti-militarism and involvement in the Young Communist League.

Note on the trials of Bukharin, Radek, Zinoviev, Kamenev, Pyatakov, Rykov and the other Old

There were three public trials, August 1936, January 1937 and March 1937.

The trial or trials of Tuchashevsky and the military leaders were held in secret.

Tuchashevsky and the military leaders were declared innocent and rehabilitated at the

I am now convinced that the three open trials of the Old Bolsheviks were a fake. This view is based on the whole position and re-reading two of the three complete trial reports. Unfortunately I have not got the third trial report.

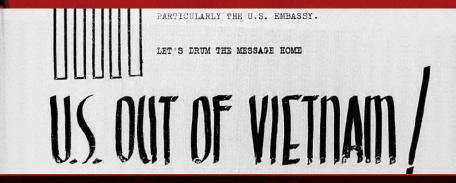
The collection contains over 8500 unique images.

Gollan's role as General Secretary is remembered as one fraught with adversity, as Soviet interventions in Hungary (1956) and Czechoslovakia (1968) caused fractures in the international communist movement and left the CPGB scrambling to justify Soviet actions.

The collections wide range of reports, correspondence, and articles document the depth of crisis for the CPGB, as it's apologist attitude to the Soviet Union's authoritarianism severely damaged its reputation in Britain.

Overall, the collection offers an insight into the firefighting efforts of Gollan and his peers as the first cracks began to show in the solidity of the international communist movement.

...international conflicts and domestic crises



International events in the collection are not just limited to Eastern Europe but also cover the Vietnam War and acrimonious splits between the Soviet Union, China, and Yugoslavia.

THE TRANSITION TO SOCIALISM

Will deal with Three Issues

- (1) The Dictatorship of the Proletariat and the Russian Experience
- (2) The People's Democracies and the Transition
- (3) The Position in Britain.

INTRODUCTORY - CENTRAL ISSUE AS SHOWN IN THE CLASSICS

There can be no transition to socialism without state power being he hands of the workers.

This is the Contral Proposition of Marxism,

An avid writer and theoretician, the collection contains a range of Gollan's musings on Trotskyism, the transition to socialism, and ongoing domestic politics in Britain.

"DEMOCRATISATION"

All the fundamental issues of the future development of the Common Market were carefully avoided by the right wing Labour leaders and the Tories in the Referendum campaign. Had they been disclosed and properly debated they might have swung the vote the other way

Immediately after the referendum the issue of political, economic and monetary union was presented in the European Assembly in a report of its Political Affairs Committee.

The scheme for political and economic union is the proposed next step in the development of the Market in the interests of monopoly capitalism. It should be pointed out at the outset, however, that there are strong divergences and contradictions regarding this among the Governments of the

During his tenure, Gollan also wrestled with the issues of affiliation with the Labour Party and the Britain's entry into the European **Economic Community**

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