

## Moscow Takes Over Huge Black Market Network In Attempt To Gather In Dollars

**Illicit Commerce Carefully Organized to Yield Funds for International Trade and Espionage.**

By FRED SPARKS, Times Foreign Correspondent  
VIENNA, Sept. 22—How was the great Soviet crime ring born? The Russians first went into the rackets after Ivan tommy-gunned his way into battered Berlin.

In order to help pay occupation costs and relieve Ivan (who was getting too fat) of some of his converted loot, Marshall Sokolovsky's genuses ran official black-market stores.

In Berlin and Vienna, at prices pegged way above local ceilings, they openly peddled goods through Intra-Tourist—a Soviet-sponsored firm.

Choice cuts of beef, milk, potatoes, warm garments and other heavily rationed items were on the stuffed shelves. This at a time when the average German's

lived. Any man could walk in off the streets if he had the capital—and no coupons needed, comrade.

### Mighty Idea Is Born

This first pleasing experience with dirty commercial dealing gave some unsung Communist mighty mind this idea: "Why not make wider use of Europe's black markets. Particularly to raise badly needed dollars for international trade, diplomacy, espionage and propaganda?"

For by this time the dollar had become dominant and the political and economic division of Europe was complete. Eastern Europe had something Western Europe wanted—food. West-

ern Europe had something Eastern Europe hankered for—raw materials and manufactured goods available only for that despised Yankee dollar.

The black market became the medium . . . the no-man's-land of cold war.

It was a snap to divert a whacking portion of normal Russian and stooge-state trade to the black markets, where profits were double. For the police state controls every shred of commerce.

### Russians Not Used

From the very beginning of the great Soviet crime ring Russians were not employed to do the peddling on a retail level.

This was left to a vast army of camp followers who drifted into continental blackmarkets at the end of the war.

The procedure instituted, which has been followed religiously ever since, was to smuggle stuff—avoiding customs payments—from behind the iron curtain to depots in Germany and Austria where controls are impossible.

From Soviet warehouses the products were then wholesaled to individual black-marketeers, who played the role of jobbers.

These jobbers had to pay the Commissars in dollars collected by dealing with occupation personnel, travelers and in Zurich—

Europe's present banker and cash vault.

From Germany and Austria the black-marketeers, through international connections, smuggled and resold goods in high demand to almost every other nation in this whirling world.

### Spreads Throughout World

Soon this network of crooked commerce became a two-way stretch. When Uncle Sam's counter-blockade banned the Soviet sphere from buying certain strategic materials—even for green dollars—they were forced into the black market to buy as well as to sell.

And so, by the spring of 1947, the great Soviet crime ring was

running in horrible high. Around it mushroomed into action an incredible collection of thieves speaking every language except Esperanto. They all served themselves—and the Kremlin—with the drippings of war, occupation and disorganization.

Is there a single personality—a Capone—pulling the strings on the great Soviet crime ring? Alas, I have not pinpoint any Soviet superman. Certainly, all lines lead to the Gosplan Bureau in Moscow.

This outfit, charged with understanding capitalism, directs economic plans, travel and com-

merce and the business end of administering occupied areas.

Chief pro-consul outside of the motherland in matters monetary—with proven links to the crime ring—is the brilliant Zoltan Vas, Hungarian minister of trade and economic czar. Comrade Vas ranks high in the Cominform, clearing house for all Communist manipulations outside of Russia.

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**Columnist to Speak**  
Herbert Hill, Indianapolis News columnist, will speak on "As I See It" at the weekly meeting of the Indianapolis Optimist Club at 12:15 p. m. tomorrow in the Hotel Severin.

### FRIDAY BARGAINS

Clearance of 28c to 49c Anklets  
50% Cotton, 50% wool, mercerized lace and novelty weave cottons. Firsts and irregulars. White and assorted colors. **15c**

Plastic Tablecloths  
54x54-in. heavy 4-gauge plastic pretty all-over floral and plaid patterns. **\$1.00**

Sanforized Blouses  
Tailored broad-cloth blouses. V-neck, short sleeve style. White, pink, blue and maize. Sizes 32 to 38. **\$1.00**

Wrisley Soap  
10 Bars  
Fine, toilet and bath soaps. Assorted fragrances and colors. **55c**

Metal Skirt Hangers  
All metal, collapsible hanger. Chrome clips. Holds up to 8 skirts and slacks. **\$1.00**

Women's Dress Shoes  
That Formerly Were \$3.95 and \$4.95  
Pumps, ties and straps. Sizes 4 to 9 in the group but not in every style. **\$1.99**

Children's Oxfords  
\$2.98 and \$3.95 Values  
Sizes broken from 8 1/2 to 3. Good serviceable oxfords for school and dress. **\$1.99**

Men's Sport Shirts  
Plain colors. Some fancy. Broken lots of values up to \$5. Sizes small, medium and large. **\$2.29**

Men's Pajamas  
Seersucker. Fancy pattern in colors. Cotton style. Expertly tailored. A \$3.95 value. A. B. C. D. **\$2.29**

Men's Tee Shirts  
Special  
White combed cotton. Flat weave. Close fitting collars. Short sleeves. Small, medium and large. **47c**

Men's Shorts  
Fancy patterns. Many colors. Sanforized snap or boxer style. Full set. Roomy cut. Sizes 28 to 44. **69c**

Boys' Jack Shirts  
Made of fancy plaids. Heavy-weight. Sizes 4 to 8. **\$1.98**

Boys' Shirts  
Boys' shirts made of cotton flannel in fancy plaid pattern. Sizes 6 to 16. **\$1.69**

Boys' Babe Ruth Sweat Shirts  
Fleeced back in blue, maize, red and grey. Size 4 to 12. **\$1.00**

Boys' Slacks  
Made of fancy cassimere. Broken lots. Size 10 to 16. **\$1.99**

Boys' Bungarees  
Special  
Made of 8-ounce cotton. Blue and white. **\$1.49**

### STORE HOURS

Daily 9:30 to 5 P. M.  
Saturday 9:30 to 6 P. M.

STAR STORE HOURS—9:30 TO 5—SATURDAY 9:30 TO 6

**STAR STORE**  
360 W. WASHINGTON ST. LI. 6471

# FRIDAY BARGAIN Day

SPECIAL FOR FRIDAY ONLY—No C. O. D.s, Phone or Mail Orders Please

New Fall \$1.00  
HANDBAGS \$1.00

Women's \$1.98 Satin and Crepe Slips

\$1 Costume Jewelry  
Odds and Ends  
\$1.25

39c Rayon Panties  
Novelty weave  
\$1.00 Rayon Knit Petticoats  
Elastic waist, lace trimmed bottom. Tea rose color. Medium size. **57c**

**MEN AND BOYS' WEAR**  
(17) Men's SUITS  
\$10.

MADE OF ALL-WOOL FANCY CASSIMERES. While they last. Here is a real buy. Hurry!

Size 34 to 38



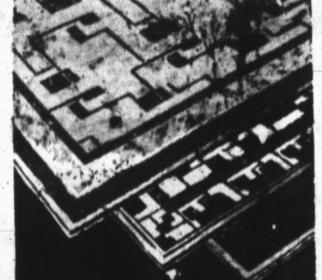
Men's Slacks  
\$7.95 Value  
Men's slacks made of mixed worsteds. Also all-wool fancy cassimeres. Plain or pleated zipper fly. Sizes 29 to 42. **\$5.00**

Men's Sweaters  
\$5.95 and \$6.95 Value  
Men's sweaters made of 100% wool. Coat style in navy blue, Oxford grey and brown. All with double elbow. Size 38 to 52. **\$3.98**

Men's Jack Shirts  
\$6.95 Value  
Men's Jack Shirts made of all wool fancy plaids. Sizes small, medium and large. **\$3.98**

Men's \$3.98 Coveralls  
Made of sanforized white drill. Sizes 40, 42, 44. Special—  
\$1.98

**FROM THIRD FLOOR**  
\$5.95 FELT BASE RUGS  
9x12-Foot  
\$3.95



Now amazingly low-priced. Various patterns and colors. Floral and tile designs with borders. All first quality.

88c Rag Rugs  
Hit or miss was habable rag rugs. Size 24x48. Assorted colors. **69c**

\$4.99 Curtain Stretcher  
For all size curtains. Up to 54x90 inches. Rigid 4 square frame-hinged easels. **3.99**

\$2.98 Clothes Dryer  
Natural finish. Size 30 in. wide. 42 in. high. 14 in. deep. Gives 392 inches hanging space. **2.49**

79c Sq. Yd. Felt Base  
Sq. Yd. First quality. Several patterns. **49c**

\$1.49 Bread Boxes  
and Vegetable Bins in Colors **1.00**

\$3.30 Stair Carpet  
27" wide. Brown color velvet weave. Lin. Yd. **1.98**

### 100% All-Wool

COVERT COATS  
\$15



- Priced to fit your budget
- Smartly styled
- Flare backs
- Var scalloped yokes
- Satin lined
- Warmly interlined

Come and choose yours tomorrow from this amazingly low priced group.

Grey, green, wine, brown, taupe. Sizes 10 to 18.

**Special Purchase**  
500 Pairs Quality  
**CURTAINS**  
\$1.99 and \$2.39 Values

\$1.39 Pair

88c Inlaid Linoleum Room-size remnant rolls of standard weight. First quality. Marbled patterns. Assorted colors. Pieces of 10 to 20 sq. yds. **1.00**

\$2.98 Light cream shade  
Priscilla Ruffled Cushion Dot  
Priscilla Ruffled Clipped Figure  
Tailored French Marquisette  
Tailored Pin Cushion Dot  
Tailored Fancy Clipped Figure

All 2 1/2 Yds. Long  
Choice of the Following Styles

Light cream shade  
Priscilla Ruffled Cushion Dot  
Priscilla Ruffled Clipped Figure  
Tailored French Marquisette  
Tailored Pin Cushion Dot  
Tailored Fancy Clipped Figure

Special \$1.39 Pair

### 5 WAYS TO SHOP

- 10-Pay Plan
- Layaway
- Pay Cash
- Easy-Pay Plan
- 30-Day Charge

46-in. Curtain Marquisette  
Actual 39c Value  
Sheer quality curtain marquisette. Light cream shade. **28c**

Plaid Wash Cloths  
Actual 10c Value  
Colorful plaid wash cloths. Very absorbent. Choice of pink or blue plaid. **6c**

Bleached Fleur Sacks  
Actual 25c Value  
36" x 36" bleached flour sacks. Full size. Makes ideal dish towels. **19c**

39-inch Unbleached Muslin  
Actual 25c Value  
39-inch closely woven unbleached muslin. Lengths up to 10 yards. **18c**

Stevens All-Linen Crash  
Actual 49c Value  
18-inch Stevens P. bleached or brown toweling. Colored borders. **39c**

Cannon Dish Cloths  
Actual 12 1/2c Value  
3 for 25c  
Colorful Cannon dish cloths. Large size. **25c**

Wool-Mixed Blankets  
Actual \$4.99 Value  
70x80-inch wool mixed plaid blankets. Closely woven. **3.99**

Boys' Briefs  
3 for \$1.00  
Elastic waist. Sizes 4, 6 and 8. Extra weight for cold weather.

Children's Union Suits  
One-piece knit union suits. Also broken sizes of button-on two-piece styles. Sizes 2 to 8. **59c**

Boys' and Girls' Dungarees  
Regular \$1.79  
Fine combed interlock cotton yarn. Colors of white and pink, blue, maize, grey, green, wine, brown, taupe. Sizes of small, medium and large. **\$1.59**

Infants' Crib Blankets  
First quality Emmons Crib blankets. Pretty jacquard patterns. Rayon satin binding. **\$1.98**

Infants' Knit Gowns  
Fine knit tie and draw string bottom. Good warm garment for the baby. **59c**

Infants' Bunting  
Reg. \$3.00 and \$3.98  
Warm fleece bunting. Zipper closing with hood. Slightly counter tossed. **\$1.99**

**INFANTS' NEEDS**  
Infants' Shirts  
Regular 49c Value  
Fold over ties, pin back and sleeveless styles. Broken sizes of 3 to 6 1/2. **1.00**

Boys' and Girls' Bungarees  
Regular \$1.79  
Fine combed interlock cotton yarn. Colors of white and pink, blue, maize, grey, green, wine, brown, taupe. Sizes of small, medium and large. **\$1.59**

**FROM THE BASEMENT**  
HOPE BLEACHED SHEETS  
\$1.84 EACH

8x99-inch DOUBLE BED SIZE  
Actual \$2.49 Value  
Type 128 Thread Woven. First Quality. No Filling. **1.84**

Men's Seersucker Pajamas  
Stripes and neat figures. Cost. style. A. B. C. D. A \$3.95 value. **2.29**

Men's Tee Shirts  
White. Flat weave. Cotton. Full cut. Small, medium and large. **47c**

Men's Hats  
Good grade wool, felt in all the new colors. Snap brims, matching bands. **2.98**

\$7.95 Floor Lamp  
Decorated pottery base 24" tall. Silk shade with top and bottom trim. **6.00**