

STALIN'S DISCIPLES

Communists all over the world are reeling under the shock of Moscow's repudiation of Stalin. For Soviet citizens this shock is deep because the revelations of Stalin's crimes and murders call into question the entire indoctrination to which they have been subject. The majority of them cannot remember a time when they were not told by every teacher, newspaper and radio broadcast that Stalin was the incarnation of all that was wise and good. If that fundamental was false, can anything be believed? Such must be the question millions of Soviet citizens are asking themselves.

But the Soviet citizen for the most part had no alternative information. Hence he does not have the problem of conscience which presents itself for every sincere Communist in the free world. An American Communist, for example, has had innumerable opportunities to learn of Stalin's crimes before this, yet the fact that he remained a Communist proves that he chose to disbelieve what our free press has printed so freely these many past years. Now he learns that what the "bourgeois" press printed was true and what *The Daily Worker* printed was false. How American and other free world Communists will react to the moral shock of the latest revelations should be not the least interesting development to be watched in the days immediately ahead.

The New York Times

Published: March 20, 1956

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