

Lend Lease Episode 9 Links and Notes - US-Soviet Relations Under FDR

- <https://kansaspress.ku.edu/subjects/history-russian-and-soviet/978-0-7006-1365-6.html>
- <https://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/11/16/nov-16-1933-us-establishes-diplomatic-relations-with-the-soviet-union/>
 - *"The New York Times described the terms of the United States-Soviet agreement, reporting that the Soviets agreed to the "most complete pledge against Bolshevik propaganda that has ever been made," and to allow Americans to have "complete freedom of worship" and the right to choose their own counsel if being tried in the Soviet Union. The United States "made reciprocal pledges except regarding religion, which the Soviet did not desire." The issue of the outstanding debts was left to be decided later."*
- <https://avalon.law.yale.edu/wwii/joint.asp>
- Lend Lease stats
 - <https://ww2-weapons.com/lend-lease-tanks-and-aircrafts/>
 - <https://weaponsandwarfare.com/2019/07/13/lend-lease-redux-i/>
 - https://www.rbth.com/defence/2016/03/14/lend-lease-how-american-supplies-aided-the-ussr-in-its-darkest-hour_575559
 - *"Now they say that the allies never helped us, but it can't be denied that the Americans gave us so many goods without which we wouldn't have been able to form our reserves and continue the war," Soviet General Georgy Zhukov said after the end of WWII. "We didn't have explosives, gunpowder. We didn't have anything to charge our rifle cartridges with. The Americans really saved us with their gunpowder and explosives. And how much sheet steel they gave us! How could we have produced our tanks without American steel? But now they make it seem as if we had an abundance of all that. Without American trucks we wouldn't have had anything to pull our artillery with."*
 - *"Your decision, Mr. President, to give the Soviet Union an interest-free credit of \$1 billion in the form of materiel supplies and raw materials has been accepted by the Soviet government with heartfelt gratitude as urgent aid to the Soviet Union in its enormous and difficult fight against the common enemy – bloodthirsty Hitlerism," Stalin wrote to Roosevelt.*
 - *More than 14,000 U.S. airplanes, 8,000 of which came from Alaska, were given to the Soviet Union in the course of the war. The USSR received a total of 44,000 American jeeps, 375,883 cargo trucks, 8,071 tractors and 12,700 tanks. Additionally, 1,541,590 blankets, 331,066 liters of alcohol, 15,417,000 pairs of army boots, 106,893 tons of cotton, 2,670,000 tons of petroleum products and 4,478,000 tons of food supplies made their way into the Soviet Union.*
- <https://twitter.com/seansrussiablog/status/935716151698640897> (Hammer and Hoe quote)
- Communist Party in the United States during FDR's tenure
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_Communist_Party_USA

- Controlled directly by Moscow during this period and most of the 1920s, especially under Earl Browder who worked various closely including in East Asia with Comintern before they promoted him to the head.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earl_Browder
- In 1935, they reversed course and began integrating members and organizers into the traditional unions, rather than opposing them. (They also began supporting the New Deal and FDR as a Popular Front against rising fascism and possibly nominally in line with the November 1933 agreement between the Soviet Union and US government on tamping down Bolshevik agitations in the US in exchange for restoring diplomatic relations, although Browder had continued criticism through most of the intervening months. Browder was a key figure however in the Popular Front concept as a whole within the US, after persuading Soviet officials to allow this course of action; this included reconciliation with various socialists and other left rivals to the CPUSA. Browder also then reframed the New Deal as a jumping off point for a future worker's government, particularly in its public works programs, instead of as Rooseveltian fascism. Again, he had previously been the one pushing exactly that line. Congressional Republicans attempted to publicly link Browder to the New Deal and FDR in hearings. He was eventually imprisoned for 14 months for using false passports during his international work for the Soviet Union before his party leadership, but FDR commuted his sentence before the full sentence because of the US entry into the war and the need to shore up US-Soviet relations ahead of the Soviet foreign minister's trip to the US in May 1942.)
- Membership peaked at 75,000 in 1938. It fell sharply after Molotov-Ribbentrop.
- CPUSA position abruptly shifted again in September through December 1939 as the Soviets made peace with Hitler and occupied eastern Poland and began attacking the Baltic states including Finland. Suddenly FDR was a bad guy again.
- In June 1941, when Hitler invaded the USSR, policy changed again and the CPUSA was militantly pro-war and anti-strike. While Browder was in prison, the party adopted a series of demands specific to the war effort that would be essentially compatible with both the overall communist ideology and the specific efforts against Nazi Germany, such as emphasizing how anti-racism policies by the federal government could help the war effort.
- With very little guiding contact from Moscow over the course of 1943, Earl Browder even dissolved the party in 1944 in favor of a looser "association," mistakenly believing that a permanent period of US-Soviet harmony was going to follow the war and that Communists had a duty to integrate openly into the fabric of American society. This decision eventually led to his removal from leadership after authorities in Moscow routed a criticism through the French Communists with heavily implied instructions that Browder's line was not the one they wanted and had been a mistake. The Soviets themselves had spent most of 1944 making sure that they would have control over all of eastern Europe after the war.

- Vice President Henry A. Wallace and the 1944 USSR Tour
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_A._Wallace#Secretary_of_Agriculture
 - Ag Secretary, then VP, then dropped from the 1944 ticket (especially due to Southern Dem pressure)
 - Was known for supporting civil rights more than most of his peers
 - 1944 Soviet tour, later (1952) said he felt duped
 - Resigned from the Truman Admin after initially good relations over the emerging hawkish Truman Doctrine foreign policy
 - 3rd party 1948 presidential campaign was a fiasco that kept getting worse
 - Ended up with him being heavily denounced as a communist sympathizer, including media outlets publishing blacklists of people supporting him
 - He was vocally anti-Jim Crow and conducted his campaign as such in the South
 - Also Wallace had weird letters to a German-Russian guru (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicholas_Roerich) that came up and he had given him an Agriculture Department contract that failed
 - His running mate was Idaho Senator and former actor Glen Taylor who was more toward the socialist end of the Democratic Party spectrum and was also opposed to Truman's foreign policy and was loudly anti-Jim Crow https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glen_H._Taylor