

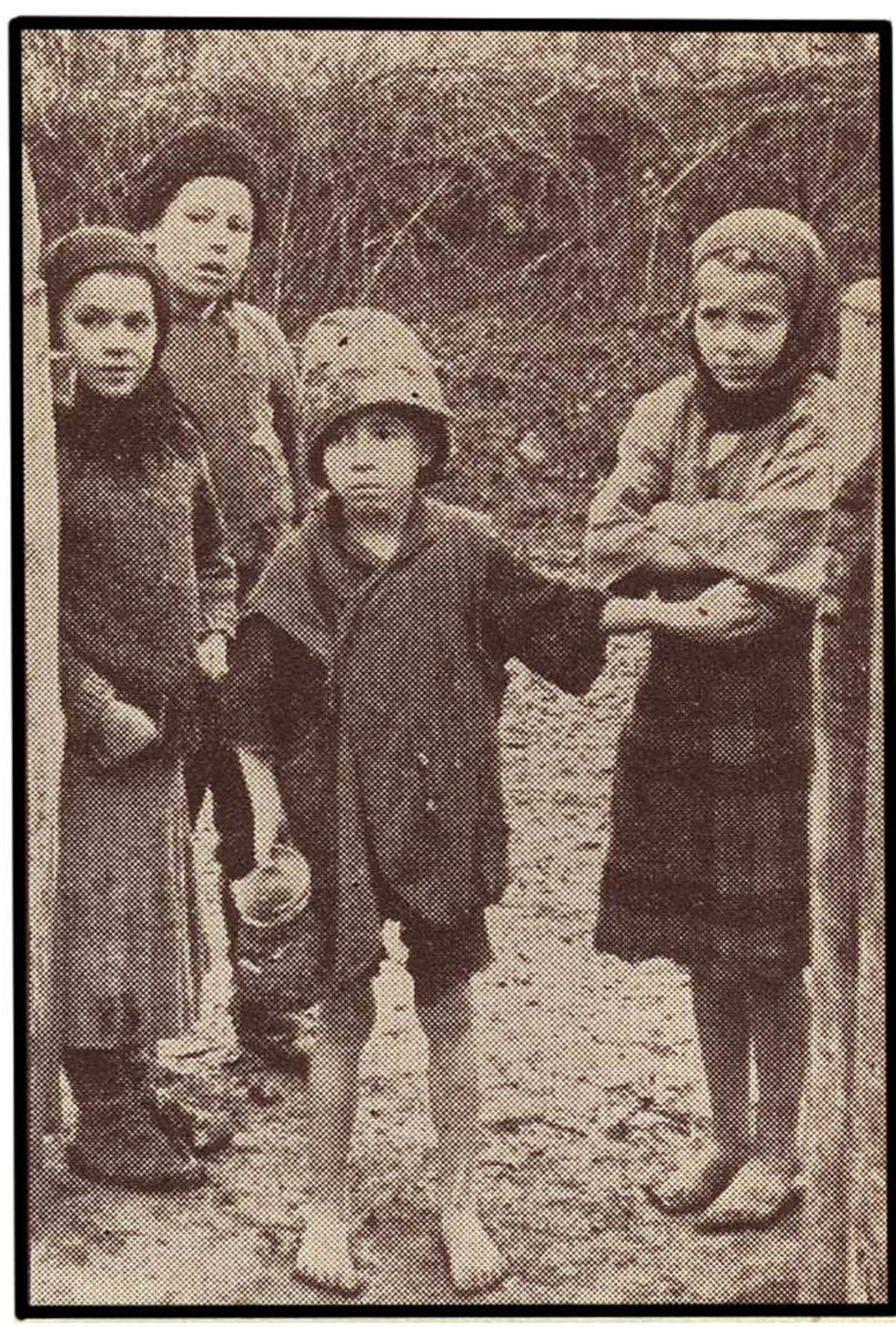
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TALKING IT OVER

by Graham Patterson

Know Your Enemy



Under Red rule. No personal hope.

The free peoples of the world are engaged in a bitter struggle with their arch enemy—communism. Even if the Korean “incident” is localized, the fight will continue for many years; the Communists have admitted that their war with the democracies must be and will be never-ending. They believe that democracy must be destroyed if communism is to survive.

Obviously, then, it is important for free peoples to know their avowed enemy, to understand communism, to recognize the difference between their present freedom and the way of life communism would force upon them.

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Communism is more than a political belief; it is a form of fanaticism. It is an evil doctrine, against all our concepts of life. It is atheistic, and opposes all forms of religion.

Communism claims it works for the benefit of all the people, yet it does not trust those it claims to help. Did you ever hear of a Communist regime voted in by the people in a really free election? Under communism, there is no choice. You vote for it—or else.

Democracy holds the individual as all-important and the master of the state. Communism considers the individual the *servant* of the state; the state is all-important. Yet under communism the state is a small group of *individuals*, the bureaucrats who—usually by violence—have gained control of the Party.

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In a democracy, you enjoy freedom of speech, thought, worship, and opportunity. Under communism, you do as you are told, you even think and speak as you are told; you work where you are told, and for as little as the group of bureaucrats at the top decide you should be paid. If you don't like such a way of life and are foolish enough to say so, you are "purged"; you end up in a labor camp, prison—or a cemetery.

Democracy dignifies man as God's masterpiece; communism disavows God, and man is a robot. No man, woman or child is permitted any individual ambition, any personal hope, any private plans. Communism demands everyone's soul, mind and body—without question, without mercy, without appeal.

Under democracy, the people elect to office those they consider best fitted; if they prove incompetent, the people themselves vote them out and elect others in their place. Under communism, there is no hope of change; the Party is considered incapable of error. It gains control of the state by violence and keeps control by violence. Communism has pledged itself to the overthrow of every other form of government in the world—by violence. Yet, would violence be necessary if communism really were the Utopia it claims to be? Wouldn't people willingly vote for such a system? Would the millions of suffering Russians, slaving under the Communist yoke, vote in a free election to keep the Kremlin crowd in power?

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Small wonder that the Communists maintain their "Iron Curtain"; the real reason for its existence is to prevent the people from learning the truth about the high living standards and freedoms enjoyed by the American people. The Russian worker would soon learn what a sham communism is. And in his rage he might use on his masters their own greatest weapon—violence.

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