

Moscow Ordered Riots In 1932 Bonus March, Ex-Communist Says

By the Associated Press

NEW YORK, Aug. 27.—The New York Journal-American quotes an ex-Communist as saying he got orders from his Red superiors to provoke riots in the ill-fated 1932 Bonus March on Washington.

"The Communists didn't care how many veterans were killed," the ex-Communist, John T. Pace, is quoted in the first of a copyrighted series on the 1932 march that turned into disorder.

In a dispatch from Centerville, Tenn., written by Howard Rushmore, the Journal-American quotes Mr. Pace as declaring:

"I've never told this story before, but I think it's about time; and the only reward I want is the knowledge that all veterans and everyone else will know the truth about two great Americans."

Feels Responsible.

Mr. Pace referred to former President Hoover and Gen. Douglas MacArthur, whom the Journal-American says have been accused of killing World War I veterans in Bonus March rioting.

"I feel responsible in part for this often-repeated lie about President Hoover and Gen. MacArthur," Mr. Pace said.

The newspaper gave this account of an interview with Mr. Pace:

"I led the left wing or Communist section of the Bonus March," Mr. Pace said. "I was ordered by my Red superiors to provoke riots.

"I was told to use every trick to bring about bloodshed in the hopes that President Hoover would be forced to call out the Army."



A NEW STORY FROM AN OLD PHOTO—John T. Pace (center, wearing white pants), reluctantly obeyed an order to move on by police and plainclothes men when he attempted to lead a band of about 100 radical bonus seekers in an effort to picket the White House during the 1932 Bonus March on Washington. Yesterday he told the New York Journal-American that he got orders from Communist superiors to provoke riots during the bonus march. Mr. Pace, an ex-Communist, now a deputy sheriff and farmer and chairman of the Americanism Department of the American Legion, said he and four other Communists "took over" a "legitimate" bonus parade in Detroit and he was named commander of the area's contingent for the Washington march. The plainclothes man in white fedora is Detective Sergt. John Apostolides, still on duty with the Metropolitan Police Detective Bureau. —Underwood Photo.

Hoped for Revolution.

"The Communists didn't care how many veterans were killed," Mr. Pace said. "I was told Moscow had ordered riots and bloodshed in hopes that this might set off the revolution."

He continued:

"My Communist bosses were jumping for joy on July 28 when the Washington police killed one veteran.

"The Army was called out the next day by President Hoover and didn't fire a shot or kill a man. Gen. MacArthur put down a Moscow-directed revolution without bloodshed; and that's why the Communists hate him even today."

Wanted Immediate Payment.

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The Bonus Marchers, mostly World War I veterans, arrived in Washington on May 30, 1932. They were trying to get Congress to make immediate payment of a \$2,400,000,000 bonus bill.

On July 28, after President Hoover ordered the evacuation of the marchers, fierce rioting broke out between the veterans and Washington police. One veteran was shot to death.

About 40 police and veterans were wounded, and two policemen were mortally hurt.

Took Over Parade.

Federal troops under Gen. MacArthur moved in and forced the veterans out of their camps the next day.

Mr. Pace told the Journal-American he was in Detroit when the Bonus March plan started. He said, "I argued that the Communists should infiltrate the veterans and take over the campaign."

He said he and four other Communists "took over" a "legitimate" bonus parade in Detroit and he was named commander of the area's contingent for the Washington march.

Mr. Pace, the newspaper said, is now a deputy sheriff and farmer. It said he is chairman of the Americanism Department of the American Legion.