

The case of Leon Trotsky, 2d ed.

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In 1937, the Commission of Inquiry into the Charges Made against Leon Trotsky in the Moscow Trials, chaired by American philosopher John Dewey and including other prominent members of the left, conducted a months-long inquiry into the charges leveled against Trotsky at the Moscow show trials orchestrated by Stalin and his allies. Making its findings public in September of that same year, the Commission not only cleared Trotsky, a leader of the Russian Revolution, of all charges, but also concluded that the general "conduct of the Moscow trials was such as to convince any unprejudiced person that no effort was made to ascertain the truth" and found "the Moscow trials to be frame-ups" — years before the 1956 revelations of Nikita Khrushchev to the 20th Party Congress of the Soviet Union began to prompt a much wider recognition of the fraudulent nature of the Moscow proceedings. As part of the inquiry, a five-person sub-commission was dispatched to Trotsky's home in Coyoacan, Mexico, and took Trotsky's testimony regarding the charges- and the underlying political issues behind them - at 13 hearings conducted between April 10 and April 17. This volume, a paperbound edition of a work first published in 1937, reproduces the entirety of this testimony including Trotsky's summation speech, where he addresses major political questions on the eve of the Second World War., along with a few related documents in appendices. A companion volume from Pathfinder Press, *Not Guilty*, reproduces the full findings of the Dewey Commission. (Annotation ©2010 Book News Inc. Portland, OR)