

David North to speak at public meetings in US: Why and How the GPU Murdered Leon Trotsky

16 October 2015

The *World Socialist Web Site* and the International Youth and Students for Social Equality are holding a series of meetings, “Why and How the GPU Murdered Leon Trotsky,” addressed by WSWS International Editorial Board Chairman David North. The meetings will be held in California and Michigan in the first two weeks of November (details below).

Seventy-five years ago, on August 20, 1940, Trotsky was assassinated by an agent of the Soviet secret police, the GPU, in Coyoacán, a suburb of Mexico City, where he was living in exile. Thus ended the life of the great Marxist theoretician of world socialist revolution and one of the towering figures of modern political history.

The assassination of Leon Trotsky ranks among the most politically consequential crimes of the twentieth century, with far-reaching implications for the international working class and the world socialist movement. And yet for decades the circumstances surrounding Trotsky’s assassination remained shrouded in secrecy. The massive scale of the Stalinist conspiracy against Trotsky was the subject of a carefully orchestrated cover-up.

In 1975, the International Committee of the Fourth International launched the first systematic investigation by the Trotskyist movement into the assassination. This investigation, known as Security and the Fourth International, led to the exposure of the network of GPU agents within the Fourth International that ensured the success of Stalin’s conspiracy against Trotsky’s life. The investigation was bitterly opposed by Pabloite and pseudo-left organizations, which denounced the exposure of spies placed inside the Trotskyist movement as “agent-baiting.” This has remained their position, despite the fact that state intelligence documents released following the

dissolution of the Soviet Union confirmed the findings of the International Committee and vindicated Security and the Fourth International.

North has been a major figure in the international Trotskyist movement for forty years and played a central role in the Security and the Fourth International investigation. In this lecture series, North will speak on the significance of Trotsky’s assassination, the origins and development of the International Committee’s investigation, and its key findings.

Meeting details:

Berkeley, California

Tuesday, November 3, 7:00 PM

UC Berkeley

McCone Hall, Room 145,

[Area Map](#)

Davis, California

Thursday, November 5, 7:00 PM

UC Davis

126 Wellman Hall

[Area Map](#)

San Diego, California

Monday, November 9, 7:00 PM

San Diego State University

Aztec Student Union, Templo Mayor

6075 Aztec Cir Dr

[Area Map](#)

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Wednesday, November 11, 7:00 PM

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Angell Hall, Auditorium C

[Area Map](#)

Detroit, Michigan

Thursday, November 12, 7:00 PM

Wayne State University

General Lectures 100
5045 Anthony Wayne Drive
Area Map



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Socialist Equality Party visit:

wsws.org/contact