

in your church that you solidly support the communistic direction of the country, that you are devoted to its principles, and that you wish all your people to take the strongest stand against the wickedness of the U.S.A.

The church representatives explained to him that their whole interest was in preaching the gospel. They took no part in politics, they were not interested in \_\_\_\_\_, they would not take a stand in these matters. Their interest was in religion and in that alone. He became very angry and he prepared a statement == and they prepared a statement they all signed expressing these facts. He said, I could immediately have all of you put into prison, but I want you to go home and think this over for a week and then come back and tell me if you are ready to cooperate. After a week they came back and told him that they stood to their convictions, that they were not going to ~~sz~~ take a stand in politics as between nations, but that they were going to devote themselves to their religious work.

Then about a week after that meeting, at about 4 o'clock in the ~~morning~~ morning the doorbell began to ring and ring and ring in Popov's house. He went to the door and three men in civilian clothes and one in officer's clothes said we have come to search the house. They searched everyplace in the house looking for any material whatever, and they carried him off to the prison, and there he waited in an ante-room most of the day and they ~~wa x~~ brought him into an office and they said, Now will you confess. He said, I have nothing to confess; I am simply devoted devoting myself to preaching the gospel and am interested in the work of Christ and in that alone. They said, Alright, and they took him up to a cell ~~as~~ a dirty cell, with dirty straw on the floor, filthy with vermine and no furniture in the cell except a little pot off in the corner. No sanitary provisions at all. One man in there. They brought him out of there each night and made him stand against the wall, facing the wall and shouted, Now confess. He said, I have nothing to confess; I am simply a preacher of the gospel.

They would hit him on the head, and then say, Confess. They kept that up all night and then put him back in the cell during the day and did the same the next night. The continued that night after night. Then they put him in another situation where they would hit him repeatedly on the head, beat him and knock him over, and order him to stand up and not to blink and if he blinked they would hit him. They put him through tortures like this for a couple of months. One reader of the book said- it is amazing that a ~~am~~ man could live through it. But each of these men did not see each other at all, but each of them went through similar treatment. He was probably stronger than ~~most~~ most of them and so endured more torture and more suffering but said at the end his will was broken. Most of the others had been broken earlier.

Then he said, they immediately told him what he was to confess. They made him write it out and say it over and over. He said I was just absolutely destroyed. My will was broken. All I could do was to repeat the words. He said, I was like a tape recorder. Just made to repeat what I was given. Then they sent to their families to get a good suit of clothes for them, they dressed them up, they fed them up. During all these months all they had had was a tiny bit of soup each day and a little piece of bread. Just enough to keep them alive, but not enough to give much strength. But he said if they had not had (some ) food they would have quite having hunger pains after a little. As it was they had terrible hunger pains all the time. Now they were fed up. The doctors looked at them. They got rid of all the scars on them. They made