

Comrade A. Jakira, a Leader of the Communist Party, Dead

Abraham Jakira, assistant secretary of the International Labor Defense, died Friday after many months of illness, suffering from a cancer in the throat.

With the loss of Comrade Jakira the Communist and revolutionary movement loses one of its staunchest and devoted fighters. Comrade Jakira who was a co-worker of Ruthenberg, is the second leader of the Party to die since the formation of the Party which he helped to organize.

There can be no question that his untimely death was caused by his untiring work in the interests of our class. Comrade Jakira never for a moment in his long career in the revolutionary movement allowed personal welfare to interfere with his work. As late as a few weeks ago when his condition was already quite serious he insisted that he remain at his post. From a sick bed he came to the recent National Conference of the International Labor Defense to participate in the discussion of the important problems that arose as a result of the increased persecution of the working class fighters throughout the country.

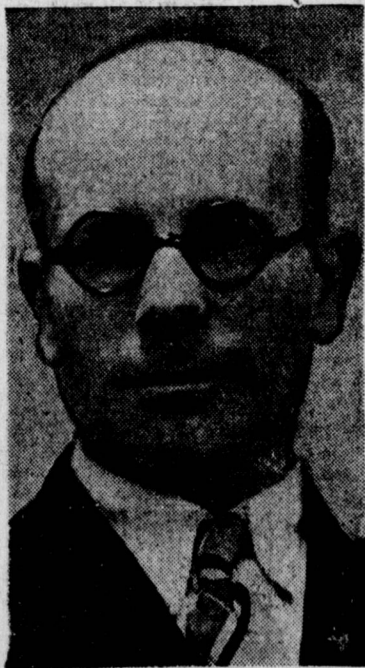
Comrade Jakira was active in the left wing of the socialist party. He was one of the founders of the Communist Party which he helped organize in September, 1919. Later on he was the secretary of the illegal Communist Party in its most difficult and trying period. He was arrested many times during this period.

Later on when the Party came out into the open and Ruthenberg, released from jail, became again secretary of the Party, then the Workers Party, Comrade Jakira was assistant national secretary.

In the course of the next few years he was district organizer in Philadelphia, working in Pittsburgh, where he played an important role in the big miners' strike. He was one of the leading forces in Pittsburgh that helped the miners to form the National Miners' Union.

During his whole activity in the Party Comrade Jakira was a devoted soldier in the ranks of the Communist International. In the many

crises that our Party underwent he always remained steadfast and loyal to the Communist International.



A. JAKIRA

never for a moment wavering.

In recent days his ailment continued to grow worse. It was clear to his friends and comrades who visited him that his days were numbered. But he did not think of himself. Always from his sick bed in the Harlem hospital he was interested only in the Party and its work, the advance of the revolutionary movement.

Comrade Jakira's body will be brought to the Workers Center, 50 E. 13th St., where his comrades and revolutionary workers can come and pay him their last honors. The body will be on the second floor from Saturday afternoon until Monday 1 p. m., at which time there will be held a memorial meeting in the same building. From the memorial meeting the funeral will take place on Monday.