

# Beaten in Prague Trial, Says Freed CP Leader

PRAGUE.—Artur London, former Czechoslovak Deputy Foreign Minister, said here this week that "methods of violence" were used to make him confess in 1952 to crimes of high treason and espionage of which he was innocent.

London was sentenced to life imprisonment at the trial of Rudolf Slansky, former Secretary-General of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, and 12 others in November 1952. Slansky and 10 others were hanged.

London said in an interview at his home that the Czechoslovak Supreme Court completely rehabilitated him last Feb. 2, and found he had been a victim of "breaches of Socialist legality."

He blamed his arrest in January, 1951, and later conviction on the machinations of Beria and the "disciples of Beria in Czechoslovakia."

London said that for months after his arrest he refused to confess. But as a result of the methods of violence used against him, the mental anguish at being accused by his comrades and in view of the strained international situation, he came to the conclusion that it was better to say he was guilty than to accuse the Communist Party of having made a mistake.

Asked if by "methods of violence" he meant torture, London replied: "It is the same thing."

Mrs. London said she regained her belief in her husband's innocence shortly after the trial, and this was strengthened later by the deposing of Beria and the rehabilitation of those accused in the "doctors plot" in the Soviet Union.

London said he had never lost faith in the Communist Party and had become a Party member again since his release. He hoped to re-enter political life after the present medical treatment he is having for tuberculosis.

## Freed by Czechs, Returns to Israel

TEL AVIV, Israel, May 15.—Socialist Mordecai Oren today returned from five years in a Czech jail and said many more Jews "whose only crime is love for Zion" are still imprisoned there.

Oren, the leftwing Mapam Party leader released last weekend in Prague, flew to Lydda airport with his wife. She met him halfway on his return from a trip which began six years ago on an official mission to eastern Europe.

He was arrested as an "accomplice" of deposed Czech Communist Leader Rudolf Slansky and sentenced to 14 years in prison.

## FIRST AVENUE FU



EMILY, a Ringling Bros., etc. First Ave. where she died of the h from the city. Emily, 22, had re was down to a ton and a half. The for her weakened heart.