

SOVIET'S CZECH COUP LAID TO YALTA DEAL

Anglo-American concessions to Russia at the Yalta conference in 1945 "helped considerably to prepare the ground" for the Communist coup in Czechoslovakia last February, according to The Saturday Evening Post.

In an article titled "Roosevelt's Secret Deal Doomed Czechoslovakia," Demaree Bess, a Post editor, declares the late President and Winston Churchill agreed at Yalta that the liberation of Prague would be left to the Russian Army.

Mr. Bess says his information was based on interviews "during and since" the war with Czech President Eduard Benes, which he previously was not free to quote. Mr. Benes, according to the Post editor, had complete faith in Marshal Stalin's integrity, which led Mr. Roosevelt to rely, too, on the Russian leader's personal word.

Mr. Bess writes that Benes "gambled everything on . . . Stalin's personal pledge and lost."

"Franklin D. Roosevelt also associated himself with the same gamble," Mr. Bess said, "and he, too, lost. The Prague revolution is thus an American tragedy as well as a Czech tragedy."

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