

## **2ND PAPER TOPIC**

**DUE: Lec #14**

Please write 6-8 pages on one of the following topics

1. Consider two Communist "managers" we learned about in memoirs: Trotsky and Neposedov. What are the important similarities and differences do you see between these managers' styles? How might you explain these similarities and differences? Think in particular about the beliefs each had, and the kind of environments they were operating in. One idea to consider is whether there is a causal relationship between the victory of Trotsky (and the Bolsheviks) in the Civil War and the economic and ideological environment facing Neposedov. Trotsky's "The Train" and Bitter Waters should be your main sources. However, please incorporate other readings from the course when they are relevant.

2. In addition to the examination and final testimony of Nikolai Bukharin in the 1938 show trial, we have also given you the final speech of prosecutor Andrei Vyshinsky. Please analyze both documents closely and formulate an argument concerning the nature of the dialogue between the two (if dialogue it can be called). Why do you think this trial was necessary to the regime? What are the two saying? What kinds of language are they using? What assumptions are they making? How do their comments relate to the language and assumptions that Bolshevik leaders were making in earlier years? Are they similar or different? What has changed?

Your principal sources for this paper should be the Bukharin and Vyshinsky speeches from 1938. However, you may well want to make reference to other documents we have read in the course, especially if you are making an argument about comparisons to language used by the regime and/or its critics in earlier years.