THE AUTHOR

Wilfred Burchett is one of the few Australian journalists with an international reputation. He is a product of Melbourne, Ballarat and the coastal areas of Australia which he travelled in the pre-war years seeking work and building up experience. Returning from Europe early in 1939, he was sent by a group of Australian newspapers to report on war preparations in South-East Asia and the Far East. He joined the staff of the London Daily Express in Chungking in 1941, and worked as War Correspondent until the war ended in the Far East in August, 1945. One of his greatest scoops was the reporting of the atom bombing of Hiroshima which he was the first non-Japanese correspondent to visit. He served as a war correspondent in China, Burma and India for two years, and in the Pacific Area attached to Admiral Nimitz of the United States Fleet. He carries around in his legs and back a number of slugs, left over from a strafing by Japanese planes in Burma. After the war Burchett was transferred to Berlin, where he served for over three years for the Daily Express, and then to Eastern Europe, where he was based for eighteen months, at first for the Daily Express and later for the London Times. He resigned from the Daily Express and The Times to devote himself to the struggle for peace which he believes is in the gravest danger. At the moment he is visiting China where he will again be able to make an investigation on the spot of the changes and developments now taking place in that great country.

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