FACTS TO COMBAT COMMUNISM

55 WEST 42ND STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y. LONGACRE 4-1458

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Dear Subscriber:

ARE WE GOING TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT U. S. COMMUNISTS AND RED ARMY? In order to block Atlantic Defense Pact, the Cominform has evidently decided to scare the peoples of Western Europe with threat of Soviet invasion. That is why Communist leaders there spoke out so boldly last week to say they'll oppose their own countries (so-called) and will support Red Army. Thorez in France, Togliatti in Italy and Harry Pollitt in England all sounded off.

Some very dignified American newspapers, which are so chockful of dignity that they ignore the Communists on their own staffs, then editorially called on "the leaders of the Communist Party in the United States" to say where they stand on this Red Army issue. If these newspapers were awake they would know the CP leaders here had already answered that.

As recently as last May, Natl Chairman Wm Z Foster testified before Senate Judiciary Committee against Mundt-Nixon Communist control bill. He was asked what CP would do in case of war between U S and Stalin Russia, and he said plainly the party would NOT support U S in the war.

"Would you fight on America's side?" asked Sen Ferguson. And Foster answered, "We are not going to fight at all." And a moment later, "We are not going to fight against the Soviet Union." He said Communists in "Army or Navy or anywhere else" would campaign for "ending the war at the earliest possible moment by a democratic peace" (meaning a Stalin victory).

"Would you go to the end of disobeying orders or having your members disobey orders while you were in the forces?" he was asked. And he answered bluntly, "That would have to depend on the circumstances."

This week Foster and Frank Waldron (alias Eugene Dennis) issued a written statement repeating essentially the same views and praising Thorez & Togliatti for what they had said. Natl Chairman Foster and General Sec'y Waldron (Dennis) announced that in case of war between America and the Soviet Union, "we would oppose it" and would try to "bring such a war to a speedy conclusion on the basis of a democratic peace." This is the same false phrase used by Foster last May, and again it means a Stalin victory.

Foster-Waldron statement has a purpose. Just as the Thorez & Togliatti statements are a warning to American people not to rely on Western Europe in case of war, so Foster-Waldron statement is a warning to Western Europe not to rely on America. Thorez & Togliatti are notifying America that Western Europe will be a poor risk, because Communists there will sabotage national defense. Therefore why should America sign Atlantic Defense Pact? And Foster & Waldron are notifying Western Europe that America won't be able to help them in case Stalin invades their soil, because Communists here will sabotage arms production and will incite revolt in armed forces. Therefore why should Western Europe sign Atlantic Defense Pact?

America must now send its OWN message to Western Europe...first by adopting Atlantic Pact and backing it up with whatever arms are necessary...

and second by crushing the Communist Fifth Column. Let's set Europe an example by putting the Fifth Column out of business.

Rep Richard M Nixon's bill, known as Mundt-Nixon bill, ought to have been passed by Congress last year. It wasn't. Such a bill should be passed in this session. Anti-Communist legislation is now being pressed vigorously in many states, from Maryland, NY, and NH to Calif. Much of this legislation is necessary as long as Congress remains inactive. Part of it is unwise, even dangerous...it may harm organizations that aren't Communist at all. What the country needs is NATIONAL legislation.

Urge your congressman and two senators to answer Foster & Waldron (alias Dennis) by supporting a revised Mundt-Nixon bill. But don't expect Congress to act unless you awaken rank-and-file sentiment by missionary work in your community organizations, in unions, business groups, etc, and by talking earnestly to your newspapers and radio stations.

It's up to America to crush the Communist Fifth Column. Now that the Fifth Column leaders have spoken so plainly, what are we waiting for?

RETIRED ARMY GENERAL DEFENDS COMMUNISM. Most people take it for granted that military officers or retired officers are simply impervious to Communism. It's assumed all officers are cast in a single mould...straight & stiff & conservative. But truth is you can find officers of all shades of opinion. Extreme example is Brig Gen Henry Clay Newcomer. He retired in 1925, at age of 64. Although nearly 88 years old now, he's still able to express himself clearly & forcibly, as a recent letter of his shows.

He's angry at American Unitarian Assn because its official magazine, the Christian Register, is no longer pro-Communist. Nearly two years ago the association fired the editor of the magazine, Rev Stephen H Fritchman, who had used it to promote Communist Party line. Now it's edited by a board of three, one of whom is Dr Warren B Walsh of Syracuse University. Not long ago Dr Walsh wrote an editorial that angered Gen Newcomer.

The general wrote a furious letter to the Christian Register. Here are excerpts: "Dr Walsh...spread his anti-Communist venom over these two editorial pages. He...does his utmost to foment the current hysteria that has made the word 'Communist' a 'smear' term instead of one representing an ideology that has appealed to many very respectable and intelligent people. It was disturbing enough to know of his holding such influential positions in our Unitarian headquarters, but appalling to find that he has apparently converted it to his witch-hunting views, seeing only sinister motives back of energetic efforts to promote social justice."

Gen Newcomer's astonishing letter can teach us a few lessons. One is that the military mind isn't immune to Communism. True enough, Gen Newcomer has long since given up active duty...but lately there was a comparable case of a young Marine officer concerning whom Counterattack provided his superiors with information. And then there was the late Col Evans F Carlson, the highly press-agented leader of "Carlson's Raiders", who retired with rank of brigadier general. Counterattack on July 3 '47 published some significant facts that showed his pro-Communist position.

Another lesson is that some people turn pro-Communist in old age. This has been true of certain rich men & women. There are several psychological explanations of this. One is that there's such a thing as a revolt of age, as well as a revolt of youth. But perhaps chief reason is that the persons in question had changed their environments. They had lost touch with

many of the friends & acquaintances of their active careers. Some of them had come under influence of certain secretaries, social workers or ministers.

Big Communist front, Natl Council of American-Soviet Friendship, is especially active among the clergy. Its chairman is a minister, Rev Wm Howard Melish. So is its Exec Director, Rev Richard Morford (lately convicted of contempt of Congress). A vast number of clergymen have become pro-Soviet in varying degrees. And these men have a deep influence, especially on their aging parishioners. And thus many religious persons in their latter years are misled into believing that the tyranny of the Kremlin is really freedom and the brotherhood of man.

"THOU SHALT HAVE NONE OTHER GODS BEFORE ME." These words could be truly spoken by the Kremlin. They're the reason for all the efforts in Stalin Russia and its satellites to reduce the churches to puppets. The masters of the state must be the TOTAL masters of the people. They must control not only the people's economic system but their thoughts & emotions. This is why the churches as well as unions, sports federations, scientists' & artists' organizations, etc, must be tamed or crushed.

Hand of Stalin is obvious in Bulgarian mock trials of Methodist, Baptist, Congregational, Pentecostal, and Church of Christ leaders. For it was plain beforehand that this persecution would bring down the wrath of Protestants in many countries upon all regimes behind Iron Curtain. Georgi Dimitrov, Stalin's tough gauleiter in charge of Bulgaria, couldn't have the last word in any matter of such high importance. Decision had to be made in Moscow. And the man in absolute charge there is Stalin.

This doesn't mean Stalin picked the individual victims in the Bulgarian persecution, as he picked Cardinal Mindzsenty in Hungary. There's a difference. The 15 Bulgarian clergymen are comparatively minor figures, because they speak for a very small part of the population. But Cardinal Mindzsenty is Primate of Roman Catholic Church in Hungary, which is church of the great majority of that country. When Stalin authorized the decisive subjugation of that church in Hungary, he knew it meant the jailing & crushing of the Primate. But in Bulgaria he may not have paid any attention to identity of the 15 leaders. All that was necessary was that he give Dimitrov the signal to crack down on any Protestant resisters.

In the U S this week the Jewish Labor Committee issued a 61-page report on treatment of Jews and their organizations in Poland, Hungary, Romania, and Czechoslovakia. It shows success of Communists there in smashing all organized Jewish life. Whether dealing with Protestants, Catholics, or Jews, the Communist pattern is the same. So is the motive...to crush all independent religious life, thus taking another big step in preparing satelite states for full annexation by Soviet Union.

REV. GUY EMERY SHIPLER'S DINNER IS A FLOP BECAUSE OF BAD PUBLICITY. Last year, after protests by Counterattack subscribers, Sec'y of State Marshall refused to appear as guest of honor at Shipler's annual money-raising dinner for his magazine, "The Churchman", which he uses to propagandize for his political ideology. So only 300 people showed up, at \$25 a plate. This year Shipler cut the price to \$10 and sent out large mailings, hoping to attract a huge crowd. But so many sponsors publicly withdrew that a lot of people who had expected to attend changed their minds.

When the dinner was held last week, Shipler only had 500 guests at the cut rate. That meant a gross take of \$5,000, out of which he had to pay

for the dinner itself plus the big expense of promoting it. He took a collection but it was plain his annual money-raiser wasn't raising much money.

Bishop G Bromley Oxnam, guest of honor, accepted Shipler's annual "award", which Gen Marshall rejected last year. Prof Harlow Shapley, Number 1 scientist in leadership of Communist fronts, also spoke. So did Dr Abba Hillel Silver and Wm L Shirer, radio commentator on Mutual Broadcasting System (his sponsor is Piedmont Shirt Co, maker of Wing shirts).

Reason Shipler's dinner flopped is that truth was told about him and his magazine, as supporters of Communist fronts. That got results.

ROMAN BOHNEN DIES BETWEEN ACTS OF A PLAY PUT ON BY COMMUNIST FRONT. This 47-year-old stage & screen actor was chairman of Actors Laboratory Theater, Hollywood. This is a front...an indoctrination center for young actors & actresses. It steers them toward other Communist fronts.

Two years ago Roman Bohnen refused to tell Calif Un-American Activities Comm whether he was member of Communist Party. He said Actors Laboratory was getting money from Veterans Administration for training students under G I Bill of Rights. Last week Bohnen died suddenly between acts of a play in which he was appearing at Actors Lab. Now the Communists are planning a Roman Bohnen Memorial Fund to raise more money for this front.

DEMAND OF COMMUNISTS IN LABOR FOR 30 HOUR WEEK AT 40 HOURS' PAY is due to directive from CP to be super-militant in order to gain strength and weaken anti-Communist leaders in CIO. John Williamson, CP Natl Labor Sec'y, has ordered this program: "United & militant labor action to win substantial wage increases now. The 30-hour week without any reduction in pay. The \$1 hourly minimum wage. Employer-financed health, welfare & pension plans." That's why Communists in unions are shouting such demands.

PIECEWORK WAGES ARE PROGRESSIVE, SAYS COMMUNIST PARTY. Don't rub your eyes when you read this. Sure, the Communists are fighting piecework & incentive pay...in America. But CP's organ, the Daily Worker, carries enthusiastic story about new agreement in Romania between Govt and General Confederation of Labor. Production there has been nationalized. This change, it seems, "demanded a parallel change in the wage system, which had remained on a capitalist basis." What's the glorious new UN-CAPITALIST system? This:

"Workers are grouped into wage classes according to the importance of the industry in which they are employed and the skill they have. There will be four industrial groups and eight professional groups." And the differences in pay are big. "Thus there is a clear incentive to every worker to increase his own skill, quantitatively and qualitatively...While the placing of each worker into a definite wage category is determined by his skill, the amount of pay he draws each week is determined by the quantity of his output. Piece rates will be fixed according to scientific data and based on the average working time required for the production of each piece."

You can imagine how the work load is going to be raised time & time again, how there'll be speedups & stretchouts that would provoke strikes in America. But when CP sees the same thing in Romania it's "progressive"!

Yours faithfully,

March 4, 1949

Counterattack