

COUNTERATTACK

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

FACTS TO COMBAT COMMUNISM

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

Letter No. 83
December 24, 1948

Dear Subscriber:

ATTEMPTS TO ABOLISH THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES in the coming session of Congress will take more than one form. There'll be direct efforts to abolish the committee. There'll also be clever plans to sabotage it by denying it enough funds to work effectively.

The committee's virtues greatly outweigh its faults, as the espionage inquiry has shown. Any weakening of the committee will help Stalin.

Unless you're sure your congressman will strongly support the committee, get in touch with him before he goes to Washington for the session beginning Jan 3. Write or wire him, or take a delegation to see him. Urge him to support the committee, to try to put some good new members on it, and to help defeat any attempt by House leaders to starve it for funds.

THIS IS FIRST RETRACTION COUNTERATTACK HAS EVER PRINTED. For more than a year and a half Counterattack has published a vast quantity of facts to combat Communism. Fully realizing that it's dangerous to tell the truth about Communists & fellow-travelers, we've nevertheless assumed the risk.

We've named names. We've deliberately assumed this responsibility, for the sake of our own conscience, for the national interest, for the protection of America and the world against slavery.

And we've done our work so accurately that not once has it become either necessary or desirable to tell our readers that we retract a statement made about anyone. There could be no surer proof of our tireless emphasis on accuracy, of the careful investigations we make by personal interview and other means, and of our endless documentary research.

Now for the first time we print a retraction. And we ask our subscribers to read all that follows very carefully, because of the light it casts on the national & world problem of defending liberty today.

On Nov 26 we published a single sentence about Howard Teichmann, a radio writer & producer, in which we said he had "supported Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences & Professions...also Peoples Radio Foundation, which applied for broadcasting licenses."

Counterattack's statement was based on a letter issued by a Communist front, bearing Teichmann's name. Documentary evidence of this kind has proved consistently valid. But Teichmann says he never signed the letter and had no connection with it or with the front that issued it.

The front was the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences & Professions. On June 28, 1946, the Executive Committee of its Radio Division sent out a mimeographed letter, signed with six typewritten names. One of these signatures was "Howard Teichman".

The letter said in part: "We, members of the Executive Committee of the Radio Division, heartily endorse the liberal, public service policy indicated by the People's Radio Foundation. There are many of our ICC members who not only own stock in the organization but are part of the advisory

council as well." At that time the People's Radio Foundation was trying to get an FM broadcasting license. The letter made a request:

"Enclosed is a form letter indicating by your signature your approval of the People's Radio Foundation. It is preferred that you write a personal letter addressed to the Federal Communications Commission and mail this letter back, with your signature, to the People's Radio Foundation."

Now Howard Teichmann has given Counterattack a personal letter, over his handwritten signature, in which he says that he never authorized the signing of his name to the letter from which we've quoted, that he was never a member of the Executive Committee of the Radio Division of the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences & Professions (known as ICCASP)...and that he was never even a member of the ICCASP...that he "never contributed one dollar to it directly or indirectly", and that he was never a member of the People's Radio Foundation. Counterattack accepts this statement as true, and it regrets and retracts what it published about Teichmann on the basis of the letter to which his name was signed.

And now a further word to you. This incident illustrates the tricks & subterfuges of Communist fronts. If you ever find your name misused by any totalitarian organization, whether Communist or Fascist, protest at once in writing, for your own protection.

The incident of the ICCASP letter also shows something else. It may indicate to you some of the difficulties under which Counterattack is obliged to do the work which it has undertaken.

In this work we need your full cooperation. We need your moral support, your help in every way possible, in order to combat the Communist Fifth Column in your community and the nation. If there are facts about Communist efforts in your locality or region that need attention, be sure to bring them to our notice. Cooperate with us, and be assured of our efforts to cooperate with you against the tyranny that imperils us all.

QUEER ACCIDENTS INTERFERE WITH CLUB'S ANTI-COMMUNIST BROADCASTS.

One of best-known civic clubs in the country is situated in San Francisco. It's the Commonwealth Club of California. Presidents and Presidential candidates and other top-notchers make speeches at this club.

Several anti-Communist speeches at the club's Friday luncheon meetings have run into strange trouble with radio. Examples:

Sen Wm F Knowland, of Calif, made a speech urging America to strengthen itself against Stalin's aggression. Before he came to his most vigorous anti-Kremlin statements, he was cut off the air. Why? Well, the radio engineer who cut him off explained that the senator had just received a lot of applause, so the engineer thought that was the end of the speech.

A speech assailing Stalin's seizure of Czechoslovakia through his action committees was made by Prof Robt J Kerner. Meeting was held in a hotel ballroom, and speech was carried over a telephone line to a transcribing studio. When meeting was ended, the club learned there was a noise interference on the telephone line, so that Prof Kerner's speech wasn't fit for broadcasting. He went to the transcribing studio and repeated the ruined part of his speech. Club couldn't find out the origin of the noise on the wire. Telephone company could only guess it was caused by "some hotel meat cutter or similar electrical machine".

State Sen Jack B Tenney, chairman of Calif legislative Committee on Un-American Activities, made a speech on the committee's work. Speech was broadcast when delivered, on Friday. But it was also scheduled for rebroadcast Sunday morning. A large radio audience listens to the club's Sunday broadcasts regularly. What happened?

Bearings of a generator in radio station burned out. This was an emergency generator. It was in use because the electric lighting company was changing the generator in the basement that morning. Extra oil had been supplied for the emergency generator...yet its bearings burned out. So the station was off the air during the whole time when Sen Tenney's speech was scheduled. When service was restored, the station broadcast the speech... but by that time the club's regular Sunday morning audience was largely gone.

Arthur Bliss Lane, former ambassador to Poland, and author of "I Saw Poland Betrayed", made a speech on that betrayal. In the transcribing studio, the recording of this speech was given to a messenger to carry to the broadcasting studio upstairs. Instead the messenger wrapped it up and mailed it back to Commonwealth Club. So the speech wasn't broadcast that day. Messenger explained he had misunderstood his orders.

Only anti-Communist speeches have run into such accidents. There are many other speeches at the club all the time...but not in several years has any of them been messed up by mechanical trouble on the radio. The accidents only happen to anti-Communist speeches at Friday luncheon meetings. Commonwealth Club doesn't understand why.

HERE'S A TALE OF GRATEFUL COMMUNIST PARENTS. In one community the Communist Party began forming a youth club. The young party members who were assigned to this task didn't start out by trying to organize non-Communists. Instead they went to older party members in the community and asked about their children in late teens or early 20's. It turned out that some of the children weren't members of party. They were sympathetic to it, but for one reason or another their parents hadn't been able to sign them up.

The organizers of the youth club visited homes of these young non-members and made their sales arguments. Quickly they signed up several of the children. CP reports this incident to its members, pointing out that among results were "a number of very grateful parents, who appreciated the final boost in making Communists out of their sons and daughters."

LET'S THINK ABOUT MORAL BUSINESS MEN AND THE COMMUNIST FIFTH COLUMN. In our issue of Oct 8 we quoted a letter by Paramount Pictures which we said "might well be a model for other companies". Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, had sent the letter to a Communist-controlled union, the Screen Office & Professional Employees Guild (known as SOPEG). This union is a part of the notorious United Office & Professional Workers of America.

Barney Balaban wrote that Paramount wouldn't negotiate with SOPEG, because its officers had refused to sign non-Communist affidavits. "The Communist Party and its adherents are bad for our country and bad for our industry," wrote Balaban. "Our position, therefore, is very simple. We propose to exercise every legal right to keep them out of our affairs....If ever there were a time for each of us to stand up and be counted, this is it! Why should any American hesitate to stand up and state, 'I am not a member of the Communist Party and I'm glad to swear to it!'"

But one large movie producer DID sign with the Communist-controlled

SOPEG. This was Eagle Lion Films, Inc. Now how did Eagle Lion explain its action? Listen to this from Wm C MacMillen, Eagle Lion V-P in charge of operations. Speaking of the affidavit provision in Taft-Hartley Act, he said:

"Of course I know some employers take advantage of that provision. They challenge the union's claims to represent a majority of the employees and refuse to negotiate, thereby forcing an NLRB election and making signing of the affidavits unavoidable."

Well, that's exactly what OUGHT to be done, isn't it? That's what the affidavit provision was intended to do. It's a weapon against Communist union officers...and to the extent that it works, it's an admirable weapon. But V-P MacMillen of Eagle Lion continued:

"Aside from the purely moral issue, we wouldn't do anything like that for selfish reasons. We just don't think our employees would like it if we did and we don't think resentful employees work as hard or as conscientiously as employees who think we're dealing honestly with them."

You may have to read that a second time to get what he's driving at. He actually means it's a violation of morals to refuse to deal with a Communist-controlled union! It's immoral and specifically it's dishonest.

Thus Eagle Lion takes a high moral tone and nobly rejects the weapon that Congress put in its hand to protect itself and its industry and the American people from the Communist Fifth Column. Morally and graciously, Eagle Lion sits down with the Fifth Column and negotiates a contract.

Many employers have signed with Communist-led unions because they thought they were forced to do it. They've signed as a matter of necessity. But to sign willingly and gladly, to sign with a high moral tone, and to cast moral reproaches at companies which refuse to sign...that's something different. That isn't a matter of necessity. It's a matter of morals.

This is the moral season of Christmas. In Stalin's slave camps many millions of men and women, who once celebrated Christmas like us, are now toiling like beasts and waiting for death. The world wonders whether it can avoid a shooting war, which may end in American defeat and may bring those slave camps to our country, with millions of us as the slaves. In the Berlin airlift American airmen, who are risking their lives to keep those slave camps out of America, sometimes don't get through...they crash and burn. But in our comfortable country, in our safe country where there are no slave camps yet, Eagle Lion morally signs with the Stalinists.

"COMMITTEE FOR PROFESSIONAL FREEDOM"...what do you suppose that is? It's a new front, which ought to be called "A Committee for the Freedom of Communist & Pro-Communist Professional People Employed by the Veterans Administration to Stay on the Federal Payroll and Do Whatever They Can for Stalin Russia, Despite the Loyalty Check".

But of course it hasn't got such a long name...or such an honest one. This front has been organized by the Communist-controlled United Public Workers, CIO, to subvert the loyalty check. It's seeking support of medical and scientific organizations.

Yours faithfully,

December 24, 1948

Counterattack