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Michael A. Musmanno

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STATEMENT BY JUDGE MICHAEL A. MUSMANNO AT STATE CAPITOL MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 1951, ON PRESENTATION OF BILL TO OUTLAW COMMUNIST PARTY FROM PENNSYLVANIA.

Anyone who today says that the Communist Party is a political party is either abysmally ignorant or culpably false. The Communist Party in the United States is an extension of the Soviet foreign office. Every Communist headquarters in our land is an advance post of the Red Army. Every Communist between the Atlantic and the Pacific is a Soviet paratrooper already landed here.

It is simply fantastic that with Communists killing our boys in Korea, we should allow their criminal confederates in America to invade our government buildings and our defense plants with the torch of espionage and sabotage in hand.

The fanatical allegiance of American Communists to Russia is no longer a subject for intelligent debate. That they are part of an international revolutionary conspiracy has been proved in thousands of ways. And yet there are persons in American official and private life who will twist themselves into legalistic knots to protect these traitors who are simply awaiting the day when they can betray America into the hands of the atheistic, imperialistic, Red war-mongers who have already brought such horrible destruction, death and sorrow into the world.

It is because of Communism that American boys are being taken from schoolrooms and sports fields to enter the grim arena of mortal combat. It is because of Communism that America is being drained of her rich natural resources to arm the world against the attack which threatens to destroy civilization itself. It is because of Communism that fear casts a shadow on the American heart that always seeks the light. And yet we go on awarding respectability and confidence to the scavenger, lying, scheming traitorous Communists at our very door step. We spend billions of dollars to keep the Communists out of Europe and yet permit them on our grand juries, in our professions, schools, business marts, and theatres. It is all so grotesque and stupid that I apprehend some day to see the statues of our martyred heroes to leap from their pedestals and cry out "Enough!"

Communist spies in our midst have stolen scientific government secrets which some day may lay our country open to the forked lightning of hell-splitting atomic blasts. And shall we go on allowing these traitors to continue stealing until the security of our homes and everything we hold dear faces the ultimate end of Korean smoke and ashes?

Communists have but one object and that is violent revolution. Revolution is not an abstract term. It means murder, bloodshed, and flames leaping to the skies. Why do we hesitate to outlaw these incendiaries? In Philadelphia, in the classic shades of Independence Hall, the Communists maintain headquarters in which they
are plotting the destruction of our independence. This incongruous sight in the very heart of Philadelphia fills me with amazement and anger every time I visit the city in which the guarantees of our independence and liberties were born.

We have outlawed burglary, robbery, murder, arson. Communism is worse than any of these because it seeks to assassinate the very soul of mankind. It would destroy religion, without which life is meaningless; it would destroy the standards of morality, without which there is no honor or shame.

There will be some to say that this bill would offend against the Constitution. This bill is intended to protect the Constitution which the Communists are attempting with sickle and sword to rip into a thousand pieces.

Under the broad police powers of the State the Assembly can take any action needed to preserve the State. Communism is aimed at destroying the State, and I defy anyone to show the contrary.

Can anyone point to one Communist who respects the American flag? Can anyone single out an individual Communist who does not look to the Kremlin for direction and control? I have visited dozens of Communist headquarters and in each of them I have seen only glorification of Stalin's Russia and degradation of the United States. Why must we wait to declare as criminals men and women who, in comparison, make of Benedict Arnold a paragon of loyalty?

I believe it would be a big mistake for the Legislature to adjourn without passing legislation which will permit our State authorities to arrest and prosecute every Communist in Pennsylvania.

Everyone hopes and yearns for peace. It is the sweetest dream of mankind. That dream can become a reality when the Soviet fifth column throughout the world is demobilized and immobilized. When Stalin knows that he can expect no help from the inhabitants of any country he is planning to conquer, his pretensions to world conquest will wither away.

Once Pennsylvania takes the first step to wipe out the fifth column here, other States will follow and other Nations will quickly do likewise.

Duty to mankind demands that we act and act quickly.