

Labor unions - Communist Party influence - MATH
PROBLEM (1948)

ALERT

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AGAINST Communism IN CALIFORNIA

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Waterfront Strike Is Major Stalinist Test

The tieup of the West Coast waterfront by a strike of Stalinist CIO unions is a Communist maneuver, directed from Moscow, according to a plan and program openly laid down 20 years ago, for the benefit of the international world Communist conspiracy.

Individuals who participated in the creation and direction of the Moscow directed program that secured Communist domination in shipping and waterfront unions, today still are active in the Red manipulation behind the present strike.

The waterfront strike also may be placed in historical perspective as comparable to the strike of the Communist dominated CIO Autoworkers union of the 1939 Hitler-Stalin Pact period at the North American plant in Inglewood, which Communist directed strike was aimed at American airplane production while the present waterfront strike is aimed at transportation of vital material and equipment in the present cold war.

Taken in combination with the oil industry strike, which basically is not a Stalinist strike, the labor-management conflicts involved present to California's labor and business leadership a crucial test of their ability to meet and defeat the Marxist-Leninist-Stalinist concept of the class struggle.

Few people realize how serious and of worldwide significance is the shipping industry strike!

It is important that every responsible organized group in California understand the worldwide significance of this strike, because it stands forth as of an equal importance in the cold war with the present situation in Berlin. It is a key Communist tactic, directed against the U.S.

In both Berlin and on the West Coast the anti-Communist peoples of the world face a crucial test as to whether or not Communism will triumph over the freedom loving peoples of the world, who are depending on the United States to provide leadership in the world conflict against totalitarianism.

Men like Harry Bridges, leader of the Longshoremen-CIO; Hugh Bryson, leader of the Marine Cooks & Stewards-CIO, and Philip M. Connelly, head of the Los Angeles CIO Industrial Union Council, are no less exponents of world Communism's pressure tactics against the U.S. and its allies than are the Soviet generals, secret police and goon squads in Berlin.

Bridges, Bryson and Connelly are Communists. They have long and consistent records of treacherous, anti-U.S., pro-Communist, pro-Russian activities. They are potential traitors to the U.S. in any conflict with Soviet Russia and the Communist International, on the basis of their past activities.

The Editor of ALERT, in a debate over Television Station KTLA, Los Angeles, on September 13, 1948, made virtually the same charge cited above to William S. Lawrence, regional director of the Longshoremen-CIO and R.J. Thomas, head of the strike publicity committee, and challenged them to get Bridges-Bryson-Connelly et al to sue ALERT for libel if the charges can be refuted.

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CONTINUED) ALERT's editor also made the commitment that if the CIO unions would kick out the Communists honestly and completely, ALERT would agree to muster public opinion through its subscribers and friends to protect and maintain the bona fide collective bargaining gains of the shipping and waterfront unions.

The Pacific American Shipowners Association and the Waterfront Employers Association of California have pledged themselves publicly to such a stand in paid newspaper advertisement published last week

Here is an exact reproduction of the text of this commitment, taken from the signed public advertisements of the two major employer groups as published in California daily newspapers Monday and Tuesday.

West Coast shipping subscribes to the principle of collective bargaining. It will collectively bargain with its unions and will arrive at contracts when its unions have qualified by taking the non-Communist oath. Nothing stands in the way of reasonable progress in our labor relations except the Communist ideology governing certain labor leaders.

Bridges, Bryson, Connelly and their Red alliance that is leading the dishonest waterfront strike do not have a leg to stand on.

There is no legitimate trade union reason why there should be a strike. There is no reason why Bridges should boast that the strike will last for six months or until either the employers or the unions are ruined.

The sole and only reason that there is a strike is to benefit the foreign policy of Soviet Russia and to maintain Communists in power in U.S. trade unions in the face of a determined campaign by anti-Communist labor leadership to kick them out.

On the basis of thorough analysis, investigation and reliable information on the history of the Communist activity in U.S. shipping and the Communist international movement's world strategy and tactics, ALERT reports that:

- 1) There is no legitimate reason why any responsible trade union, either in the CIO or AFL should condone, support or recognize the West Coast shipping strike;
- 2) No responsible organized group in California should support it;
- 3) The issue now must be joined and settled conclusively before the bar of public opinion once and for all as to whether or not Bridges, Bryson, Connelly, et al and their Stalinist gang, are either responsible trade union officials entitled to bona fide collective bargaining recognition or self-avowed Stalinists, who act, think and talk against the interests of their own country for the benefit of Soviet Russia and the world Communist movement!
- 4) In such a crucial and complex situation in the present involved world situation it is important that no action be taken to persecute, degrade or injure the working members of the involved unions that would play into the hands of the Reds and into the hands of the Communist propaganda apparatus.
- 5) President Harry S. Truman has a moral responsibility to the people of the U.S. and of the freedom-loving nations of the world to take positive action for the U.S. government to operate the West Coast shipping industry and to protect both the employers and the workers in the industry from the dangers of Communist class struggle incitement that are inherent in this strike.

ALERT presents herewith a report of the highlights on:

- 1) How the Communists schemed to have power to call such a strike;
- 2) The Marxist tactical and strategic objectives of the strike.

The Sixth World Congress of the Communist International was held in Moscow in 1928. There also was held in conjunction with it, the Fourth Congress of Profintern the Red International of Labor Unions.

George Mink, a key Communist functionary, and William Z. Foster, the present chairman of the Communist Party of the USA, attended the Profintern Congress as the U.S. delegates.

During this Profintern Congress a four day session was devoted to the problems of agitation and organization in marine industries throughout the world for the benefit of the Communist International's long range program.

The American delegates were instructed to 'organize a "fighting, revolutionary union of seamen, dock workers, longshoremen and all others connected with marine industries" immediately on their return to the United States.

Delegates from other nations were instructed to do likewise.

(NOTE: The complete minutes and additional special reports of this Moscow conspiracy meeting and of the developments following it which are to be reported in this and subsequent issues of ALERT, are in the possession of official governmental and private agencies and are available in the event that the Russia Firsts whom ALERT has challenged decide to put their case before the bar of public opinion in open court.)

The U.S. Reds formed as the "fighting, revolutionary union" the Marine Workers League, which was affiliated with the CP controlled Trade Union Unity League of that period. Headquarters were at 28 South Street, New York City.

George Mink was appointed by the Communists as secretary and organizer of the Marine Workers League.

Mink sent to the West Coast as organizer a man named Nehemiah Ish Kishor.

Kishor worked closely and continuously with such individuals as Frank Waldron, William Schneiderman, Tommy Ray, Lawrence Emery, Harry Gliksohn, Edward Harris, Al Schaap, M.J. Olgin, Boris Sussman, Leo Gallagher, Harry Hansen, R.H. McNeill, J. McGrath, Bill Fordyce, Anton Alho, Emanuel Levin and others.

(NOTE: At this time the AFL unions, which were strongly anti-Communist, fought the Red group continuously. The AFL program was headed by H.F. "Pedro Pete" Petersen, who was repeatedly denounced by the Communists as well as his aides, who were known as "The Dirty Dozen." One of Petersen's anti-CP aides was a man known as William S. "Bill" Lawrence. When the Communist picked Harry Bridges to lead their faction in the shipping industry unions and Bridges and the Stalinists came to power, Lawrence swung over with their faction. This is the same Lawrence who debated the editor of ALERT and screamed against "red-baiting" in a Los Angeles television forum last week.)

The Marine Workers League worked through the CP infiltrated and later dominated International Seamen's Clubs. It carried out the complete and familiar pattern of Communist infiltration and agitational-organization technique.

The organization took formal shape finally in three major conferences:

- 1) An Atlantic coast conference, New York, August 17-18, 1929;
- 2) A Pacific coast conference, San Francisco, November 9-10, 1929;
- 3) A Gulf conference, New Orleans, January 18-19, 1930.

It was well-enough organized to send three delegates to the Fifth Congress of the Red International of Trade Unions in Moscow, starting July 15, 1930.

This was the Communist organization that planted "cells" and "fractions" on the ships and on the docks in the AFL unions. It created in the period from 1930 to 1934 a militant, trained, disciplined, well-financed Communist organization that was able to step in and seize control in the struggles of the 1930's and to secure domination of the CIO unions that now are under the control of the Bridges-Bryson-Connelly Stalinist gang in the California CIO.

Many of this gang still maintain important positions as Stalinist functionaries to the present day. Here is some data on the most conspicuous:

1) NEHEMIAH ISH KISHOR. This alien traitor and Communist conspirator today is known as Nemmy Sparks, and is the Secretary and chief administrative officer of the Communist Party, Los Angeles county unit. He also is a member of the national CP secretariat.

2) FRANK WALDRON. This native born servant of the Kremlin today is known as Eugene Dennis, and as the national secretary and chief administrative officer of the Communist Party of the USA. He is familiar to ALERT subscribers.

CONTINUED) WILLIAM SCHNEIDERMAN. This alien Communist exponent of treachery has been for some time the Secretary and chief administrative officer of the Communist Party of California, with headquarters in San Francisco.

He is the protagonist in the famous Supreme Court case involving his citizenship.

LEO GALLAGHER. His work was in the International Labor Defense as an attorney, a role he has pursued assiduously since to become known as an "elder statesman" of California Communism.

M.J. OLGIN. Now deceased, Olgin won fame as a Marxist writer, lecturer and agitator. He wrote several deep and brazen books that stated plainly the Communist plan for revolutionary overthrow of the U.S. government.

A number of the others involved in the early activity of the Marine Workers League ran for public office as avowed Communists and Emanuel Levin was widely known in the CP in California as a functionary and organizer.

There is not the slightest doubt that national secretary Eugene Dennis, California secretary William Schneiderman, and Los Angeles secretary Nemmy Sparks of the Communist Party played major roles in the analysis that resulted in the Marxist decision to stage the current West Coast waterfront strike.

Here are some reasons (from the CP viewpoint) why it had to be called:

1) The Communists have launched a huge united front from below struggle against anti-Communist leadership of the CIO and the AFL. They had to attempt to create an apparently vital trade union issue to make an appeal to win support, collaboration and contacts in the AFL and CIO unions.

Such a gambit was imperative in the conflicts that have been generated in the 1948 election struggles over the Marshall Plan and the Wallace third party movement between the Communists and anti-Communists in the CIO and the AFL.

(See detailed analysis, ALERT, Nos. 22, 25, 26, 27, 28.)

2) The world Communist movement wanted and needed badly at this time a major U.S. strike, conspicuously led by Communists, which could be used for propaganda purpose to denounce U.S. business as Fascists, war-mongers and union-smashers and also would be an agitational vehicle to build world labor united front from below collaboration.

3) World Communism wants to wreck the Marshall Plan and to propagandize that its agitational organization has the power to wreck it.

4) Non-Communist members, who are the majority in many of the CP dominated unions long have been sold a Communist bill of goods against "redbaiting"; but they have been getting restive since the highly respected CIO chief, Philip Murray took the wraps off the anti-Reds in the CIO and launched the "red-baiting" drive in the CIO, which ALERT has reported and analyzed.

5) The Marine Cooks & Stewards union, headed by Hugh Bryson, who also is head of the California Independent Progressive Party, the CP dominated wing of the Henry Wallace third party movement in this state, faces important court action that may break the Red hold on the union and expose CP manipulation of huge sums for the benefit of the Wallace party and other Red causes. The Commies want a good class struggle going when this explosive case hits the S.F. courts next month.

6) The strike will give the Communist access to the manipulation of large sums purportedly for strike purposes, at a time when the CP badly needs all the agitational and defense finances it can muster.

7) The strike will give the Communists an opportunity to resume militant class struggle techniques in preparation for the inevitable treachery and sabotage that they will engaged in if the cold war turns into a hot war.

No responsible organized group in California can afford to be ill-informed or confused about the waterfront strike. Leadership can not afford to make a blunder any more than U.S. military leadership in Berlin. The strike is a key move in the cold war! It presents a situation that demands absolutely clear thinking, based on accurate facts and analysis of Red strategy.