

When is Communist Not Communist? Question Raised by Indictments Of Twelve Leaders at New York

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The question before the house is this: When is a Red not a Red, or do Communists who are bent on mischief always give warning by displaying the red danger signal?

It's an ironic circumstance—though perhaps not strange—that while twelve top leaders of the U. S. Communist party were being indicted on charges of advocating the overthrow of the Washington government by force there should also arise the pressing query of whether foreign Communist delegations in the United Nations are a threat to American security. There is a divergence of testimony regarding the Bolsheviks attached to the peace organization.

Last week two State Department officials testified before a Senate judiciary subcommittee that hundreds of foreign agents may be operating subversively in the United States on U. N. credentials. The officials were Robert U. Alexander, assistant chief to the state department visa division, and William Harlow, chief of the Department's diplomatic visa section.

Secretary of State Marshall in effect disavowed this testimony. He told a news conference that he didn't know of any case in which a foreigner coming to America for the U. N. had in any way threatened American security. He said while he hadn't read the record, he was under the impression that the testimony of Alexander and Harlow was

contrary to his own information. Attitude inconsistent.

As regards the Communist leaders indicted in the United States, they deny that the party is engaged in subversive activities or that it takes orders from Moscow. That being so it would make the American Communist party unique, since it is common knowledge that all other Red parties are under the direction of the Cominform which gets its instructions from Moscow.

The whole history of Communism since the Bolshevik revolution of 1917 is one of efforts to overthrow foreign governments. It was because of subversive propaganda from Moscow that Russia wasn't recognized by the American government until 1933. But why the employment of force to establish a Soviet regime—why not do it through the ballot box? The answer is that Bolshevism calls for bloodshed and terrorism in order to impress the proletariat with the nature of the change. As the Encyclopedia Britannica puts it: "Modern Communism regards revolution as necessary and a period of dictatorship of the proletariat based on open terror as the only means

of creating the Socialist economic and social system."

The law under which the American Communist leaders have been indicted was passed in 1940. Among other things it makes it unlawful for any person "to knowingly or willfully advocate, abet, advise, or teach the duty, necessity, desirability, or propriety of overthrowing or destroying any government in the United States by force."

The Moscow brand of Communism has no more legal rights in the United States than did Al Caponism.

Lt. Zebulon M. Pike, discoverer of the Colorado Peak which bears his name, predicted in 1820 it would never be climbed, but it was climbed in 1820.

When Japan's silk industry declined in the 1920s and 1930s, many of the country's old silk weaving plants turned to weaving rayon.

About 80,000,000 Americans engage in swimming or public bathing every year.

Lifer Escapes From Oregon Penitentiary

SALEM, Ore., July 21.—(AP)—A 45-year-old life term, George B. Graves, escaped from the State Prison last night, Prison Warden George Alexander announced today.

Alexander said he does not know how Graves got out, but that he might have been aboard a freight car which left the prison yard.

Graves came to the penitentiary four years ago to serve life for armed robbery in Multnomah County, but he had served four prison sentences before that.

Forest Research Tax Take Exceeds Forecast

SALEM, Ore., July 21.—(AP)—Collections from the state forest research tax totaled \$350,000 during the first year of its operation, State Tax Commissioner Wallace S. Wharton announced today. The tax is five cents on each 1,000 feet of timber cut. Collections are about \$70,000 more than expected.



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