

# Communist Meeting Aimed at Knocking Hole In American Method of Screening Dockmen

By LYLE C. WILSON  
 United Press Correspondent  
 Washington—U.P.—The principal Communist publication in the United States is ballyhooing a new mass meeting designed to knock a permanent hole in government security fences.

The Daily Worker, published in New York, announces for a week from today a rally in that city sponsored by the Seamen's Defense Committee and the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee. The purpose is to press for a permanent injunction against U. S. Coast Guard methods of screening on American ships and of longshoremen in American ports.

Process Began in 1950  
 The screening process began in 1950. Since then, the Coast Guard has screened and cleared 43,461 applications by merchant seamen for port security cards. It denied 1,838 applications, and 58 applications are pending on appeal against denial.

An even 398,000 longshoremen have been screened, cleared and have received their security credentials. The Coast Guard de-

nied 1,066 applications and there are 64 on appeal. The U. S. Court of Appeals in the 9th Circuit (San Francisco) held the screening process to be unconstitutional. The Department of Justice has until March 26 to appeal the decision. If no appeal is taken, the present security system for merchant seamen and longshoremen is finished.

Source Not Revealed  
 The court found against the security system because individuals screened were not informed of the source of the charges brought against them. It might be possible to interpret the opinion to mean that an individual being screened also must be brought face to face with any individual challenging his patriotism.

Vice Adm. Alfred C. Richmond, Coast Guard commandant, explained to a House appropriations subcommittee last January:

"The source of the information is rarely in the hands of the Coast Guard. We obtain it from other agencies and the other agencies will not make that information available for disclosure."

Most of the information against subversive individuals comes from the FBI which does not permit inspection of its files nor often reveal the identity of

its informants. Every president and Congress has upheld the FBI on those two points since it was organized in 1925 under the direction of J. Edgar Hoover. There has been adverse criticism. But no one has come up with a method by which the FBI could open its files or identify its informants and stay in business.

## OSC Council Votes To Eliminate Hazing

Corvallis — (U.P.) — Members of the interfraternity council voted 28-2 last night to eliminate hazing during fraternity initiations on the Oregon State College campus.

Under the new regulations, hazing, excessive physical strain and public initiations are prohibited. Fraternities in violation could be placed on probation, halting pledging and rushing activities.

Eddie Thomas, Portland, president of the council, said the most difficult problem would be enforcement as fraternity men would not be expected to "squel" on one another.

The target date for opening the five-mile bridge being built across the Straits of Mackinac is Nov. 1, 1957.

Effects of Controversy  
 The Communists may make a lot of hay with their denunciations of the screening process. They cite a statement attributed to the 9th Circuit Court that the Coast Guard's reliance on "secret informers, whisperers and talebearers" violated the constitutional guarantee of due process. The after effects of bitter years of controversy over what came to be called McCarthyism will help the Red comrades line up non-Communist opposition to the screening process and to any effort by the Justice Department to stave off a permanent injunction against it.

There's No Villain  
 The villain, however, is not Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, nor any group of Fascist witch burners and Red baiters. In fact, there isn't any villain.

The Coast Guard began to screen the ports for traitors under authority of Executive Order No. 10173, Oct. 20, 1950, signed by President Truman. The order was issued by authority of an act of Congress passed Aug. 9, 1950 with bi-partisan support. Mr. Truman's order directed the Coast Guard to supervise port security especially against "sabotage or other subversive acts."

That is what the Coast Guard was doing when the 9th Circuit Court intervened.



WIFE'S RADIO PLEA ENDS RIDE—Joseph Madera is shackled as he is driven from his home in Philadelphia. He is charged with holding two policemen and a priest as hostages at gunpoint while he contemplated suicide. His five hour ride of terror ended when his wife pleaded with him over police radio to come home.

Commanders of the Naval Air Test Center, Patuxent River, Md., live in the colonial mansion "Mattapan." It was built in 1670 by Gov. Charles Calvert, Third Lord Baltimore.



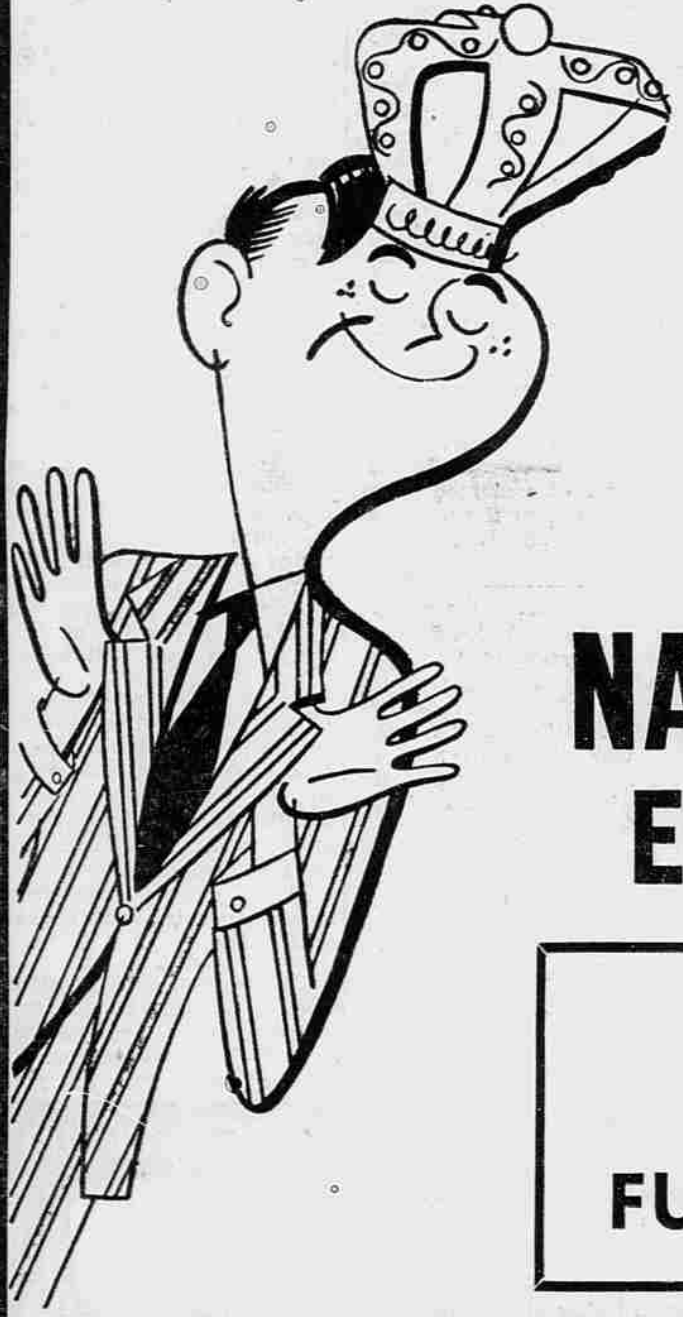
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