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12 Petition Ike To Free Communist Party Leaders

NEW YORK (AP)—Forty-two persons, including Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, have petitioned President Eisenhower to grant a "Christmas amnesty" to Communist party leaders jailed under the Smith Act.

The petition stressed that the signers were "in fundamental disagreement with the philosophy of the Communist party. In California, for example, 1950 ... trial elements of ... added that the ... appeal was ... to the Dem... actually ... Communists ...

did," she said. ...

... news files ... that sen... Nixon ... Communists ... He did ... time already ... sign that Mrs. ... nt to prison ... way, Algeria ... influencing ... policy.

... Discussed

... imprisoned for ... denying he passed ... ant ... for ...

... problems ... and ... ely ickly" to ... ro ... tions in New ... and Detroit.

... she said. "We ... ly and with ... said the ... step ... the protection ... and their right to ...

... en overnight and ... violence," Mrs.

after being convicted of teaching or advocating forcible overthrow of the government.

The petition said the trials "were carried through in a period of the 'cold war' and in an atmosphere often marked by hysteria."

It also sought postponement of more than 100 similar cases now pending or under appeal.

An amnesty, the petitioners said, would prove the nation's faith in democratic institutions, win new friends around the world and encourage old ones. They told Eisenhower this would "contribute toward peace in the world about which you are so deeply concerned."

A spokesman for the Communist party expressed surprise and pleasure when told of the petition, which was mailed Eisenhower Monday.

In addition to Mrs. Roosevelt, widow of the late president, signers included Norman Thomas, former Socialist candidate for president; Dean John C. Bennett of Union Theological Seminary, Lewis Mumford, author; Elmer Rice, playwright; Chaplain John M. Krumm of Columbia University, Stephen Cary, of Philadelphia, secretary of the American section of the American Friends Service Committee; Henry Steele Commager of Columbia University, Albert Sprague Coolidge of Harvard University and Roland H. Bainton of the Yale Divinity School.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. ...
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. ...
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

BALTIMORE ...

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