by Eleanor Roosevelt

YOU ASK ME

[illegible] Communism, security and civil [illegible] devoting our entire page this [illegible] on this subject.—The Editors

I am said recently that a Congressional investigation of schools and colleges won't publish anything except scare everybody to [illegible] this means you don't think Red [illegible] are teaching in our schools? Please [illegible] yourself.

[illegible] no idea how many Communists may or [illegible] be teaching in our schools and colleges. [illegible] think the Congressional investigation is [illegible] to be much less effective than a careful [illegible] by the heads of school systems and [illegible] and universities themselves. They are [illegible] better fitted to do this kind of house-[illegible] than the members of the Un-American [illegible] Committee, and they are less likely [illegible] mistrust and suspicion. When a teacher [illegible] to testify before a Congressional com-[illegible] nowadays it has a demoralizing effect [illegible] faculty members and on students.

Why doesn't the President order the FBI to give all the information on suspected Communists in the government to the Senate Investigating Committee?

[illegible] because it would be unwise to do so. [illegible] are made by agents who [illegible] information from all kinds [illegible] and unreliable. To [illegible] this must be screened [illegible] trained people. If you turn [illegible] Investigating

I read recently that even after you knew the American Youth Congress was Communist-dominated you went right on entertaining them and being friendly with them. I know you're not a Communist, Mrs. Roosevelt, but would you mind telling me why you did a thing like that?

When the American Youth Congress voted to oppose the United States' stand against Hitler, after the Hitler-Stalin alliance, I wrote them that I could no longer work with a group that had obviously fallen under the spell of Communist leadership. I did contribute a small sum of money at that time for work being done for the sharecroppers in Missouri, but the American Youth Congress was not entertained in the White House again.

After Germany declared war on Russia and the Youth Congress decided to back the Allies they wrote me asking if I would work with them again. I told them no, pointing out that they had lied to me. When I had asked them, one after another, at a meeting in my sitting room in the White House, whether they were pro-Soviet or had any connections with organizations favorable to the Soviets, each one had assured me that he had not.

I still believe that the majority of the young people in the Youth Congress were not Communists, though they did fall under the spell of Communist leadership and were led to take certain stands that I do not think they later would have endorsed or upheld.

How would you feel about an investigation of Communists among the clergy?

I would feel it outrageous.

[illegible]

In your opinion what group [illegible] the U.S. are putting up the be[illegible] Communism?