0-19 (11-22-55)

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

File

ANTI-ANTI-COMMUNISM

MRS. ROOSEVELT and 45 others have appealed to President Eisenhower to grant a Christmas amnesty for communists now in jail. The Reds were convicted under the Smith Act—found guilty of being part of the international conspiracy to overthrow the United States Government.

The plea of Mrs. Roosevelt and her associates is an outstanding example of what AFL-CIO President George Meany recently called anti-anti-communism. He warned liberals they were in danger of developing a certain type of McCarthyism of their own.

What is an anti-anti-communist? It is a conscious or subconscious feeling that communism is not an international conspiracy and that American communists should be permitted to misuse American freedoms to serve the Kremlin's purposes.

Mrs. Roosevelt and her associates emphasize that they disagree with the Communist Party. But that is not enough.

What is alarming is that the petition uses the same arguments—almost exactly the same wording—as the Communist Party in its attack on the Smith Act and other anti-communist measures.

When two fugitive communist leaders recently surrendered to the Government, the Communist Party leader William Z. Foster issued an explanation. He said that because the cold war was subsiding, the fugitives felt safe in surrendering after four years of hiding because "of confidence in the rising democratic strength of the American people."

Mrs. Roosevelt and her associates said in their plea that the Red leaders were convicted during the cold war but that now there was a "noticeable trend to reaffirm the basic democratic traditions of the country."

This anti-anti-communist trend is extremely dangerous. Mrs. Roosevelt and her associates would have us believe the communist propaganda that the Red leaders are political prisoners. What nonsense!

These men are in jail after due process of law—found guilty of violation of an act that has been upheld by the Supreme Court—and should pay the full penalty.

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N. Y. Daily News
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