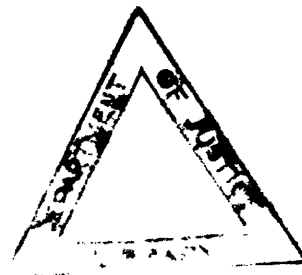


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ADDRESS

BY

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Attorney General of the United States

Prepared for Delivery

at

Twentieth General Congress

General Society of Mayflower Descendants

First Parish Church

Plymouth, Massachusetts

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Americans everywhere ask what they can do, as individuals, to preserve our wonderful heritage of freedom. Naturally, they want to do all they can to make our way of life secure for themselves and for our children.

Some ponder the matter in deep thought. Some worry. A few express fear for the future. A handful even strike out hysterically at anything which resembles any threat to our safety.

The great and visible threat, of course, is from the international communist conspiracy. It is directed by a group of ruthless men who would enslave the entire world. It is founded on violence. It has an utter disregard for every shred of human dignity. It will stop at nothing--and its leaders will stoop to any decadent device to gain their ends.

Wherever they have been successful, the steady progress of civilization has been not only halted, but reversed. People under the heel of the communists live in the same fear and distrust which was the evil symbol of the Dark Ages. A small minority rules a great majority with an iron fist.

Behind the Iron Curtain we find dictatorship--tyranny at its evil worst. The greatest enemy of that dictatorship is, as we all know, the spirit of freedom which men everywhere always have nurtured in their hearts.

Our land, as it has since our ancestors on "The Mayflower" first came to these very shores, stands as the greatest symbol of that spirit of

freedom. As a result, the Red leaders look upon us as the greatest threat to the success of their diabolical plans. As long as freedom lives anywhere, they know that they are in danger. They have said repeatedly that the United States must be overcome before they can complete their plan of world conquest.

They have said this because the United States stands as the symbol of everything they are trying to destroy--and stands not only as an ideological symbol but as a source of moral and physical strength for all the free world.

With our store of atomic weapons, we possess fearsome retaliatory power, poised to counter any attack. We have shown that we will stand for freedom's cause. Our international policy is geared to buttressing the efforts of free men everywhere to help themselves. We are an arsenal for all lands of liberty.

The great factories and the small shops which have flourished under our system of free enterprise pour forth a continual supply of goods for the nations of the free world. The men in the Kremlin know that our production lines can step up that flow at any time--and still produce enough goods to maintain our own civilian economy. They saw us do it during World War I, World War II and the Korean War.

They see this great capacity for production, then, as a visible threat to their greedy schemes.

Consequently, the leaders of the international conspiracy are doing everything they can to weaken us. They will continue to do so. They seize on every bit of discord at home or with our allies and magnify it in a constant effort to create more discord. They fan any

spark of fear and doubt and confusion that arises among us. We have seen them, for example, seek to increase the rebellious spirits of children against constituted authority. We have seen them endeavor to plant spies in the highest circles of our government, to place saboteurs in our defense facilities.

Their program of stealth is subversion in its worst form. The present Administration recognizes it for the evil that it is.

We recognize that the communist party, so-called, is merely a tool of foreign conspirators. That basic fact has been stated by all three branches of our government. Congress re-stated it just a month ago. The President and administrative leaders have said it over and over. The Subversive Activities Control Board, after extensive hearings, held the Communist Party to be nothing more than an organization dominated by an international conspiracy and aimed at the violent overthrow of our Government. The courts have made the same finding in case after case.

Within the framework of our Constitution, our Bill of Rights, and our laws under those great documents, this Administration is dedicated to striking the communists at every opportunity. We believe that the most successful attack against a conspiracy is to destroy its leadership. This we are doing. The success of our prosecutions has been a serious blow to the communist conspiracy. It is off balance. Like any common gang of criminals, its members are haunted by the fear of not knowing where our legal weapons will be used next. This fear, we know, has reduced their effectiveness. But we cannot relax. We must ever be vigilant to meet any move they make. To this, your FBI and Department of Justice is dedicated.

To date, 81 leaders of the communist conspiracy have been convicted--50 of them in the past year and a half. They have been convicted of violating the Smith Act which makes it a crime to conspire to teach or advocate the violent overthrow of the Government. Others are awaiting trial. And I might point out that any communist leaders hereafter convicted under the Smith Act will, by terms of a new law, not only be subject to a jail sentence but also be deemed to have forfeited their American citizenship. They will be treated, for all practical purposes, as undesirable aliens.

In recent months, there have been weeded from the Government payroll several thousand employees who were security risks. The Government has designated 62 additional subversive groups as communist fronts so that all may know and recognize them for what they are. It has stopped the entry of many foreign communist agents into this country by vigorous use of the Immigration laws. It has deported 112 alien subversives. It has moved to revoke the naturalization of 43 other communists who have violated their oath of allegiance to this Nation by working for its downfall or who lied about such activity when they sought citizenship.

This program will be continued vigorously. In fact, with new laws now made available to us by Congress, the tempo will be increased.

Certain of the new laws which we proposed, of course are aimed at deterring or punishing communists or those who would help them. The Expatriation Act which I have mentioned is one of these. Others increase the penalties for jumping bail or for harboring fugitives such as the communist leaders who hid out, with help, in the California

mountains. Pensions will be denied government workers who commit certain felonies, including crimes of subversion. The sabotage laws have been modernized to include chemical, bacteriological and radiological weapons and facilities. The espionage law has been fitted to the world in which we live. Spying in peacetime, as well as wartime, now is a capital offense and there is no time limit for the prosecution of spies.

Another new law is the so-called Immunity Law. This was requested by the Administration in order to prevent persons from making a sham of the Fifth Amendment privilege against self incrimination. Those persons--subversives, their sympathizers or misguided persons-- have been using the Fifth Amendment in order to shield persons they knew to be part and parcel of the communist conspiracy.

The principle of immunity is not new. Some states have similar laws which have proved highly effective in obtaining evidence to break up illegal conspiracies. Immunity also has been an important part of many of our Federal, quasi-judicial proceedings.

The immunity will be granted under the new law only on questions regarding espionage, treason and other crimes of subversion. It can only be extended to reluctant witnesses before Congressional committees and Federal Courts and Grand Juries--and only after they have been apprised fully of their rights and have refused to answer specific questions. The immunity will extend only to that line of questioning and no other. It will be granted by a Federal District Judge, after advice from the Attorney General, upon petition of a United States Attorney or a representative of Congress. It will be accompanied by

a court order to the witness to answer the questions. Failure to answer will be subject to contempt action before the court, with whatever penalties the court deems necessary. Failure to answer fully and truthfully, of course, will be subject to prosecution for perjury.

As a matter of fact, the new immunity law may serve another purpose. We know of persons enmeshed in the toils of the communist conspiracy who have wanted to break with that conspiracy once they learned its real purposes. These persons have wanted desperately to resume their normal place in society.

But, they have been under the impression that if they went to the FBI and told their story they themselves inevitably would be subject to prosecution for the role they had played in the conspiracy.

Now, you and I know that this has not been the case. The mental torture they must go through in changing their entire outlook, their entire way of living, has been considered punishment enough by most of us. The part such persons play in helping the Government uncover and destroy the communist apparatus has helped them redeem themselves in the eyes of sincere patriots.

But fear of prosecution has lingered among others. Needless to say, the communist leaders have done everything they can to foster this fear. They do so to forestall further defections from their own ranks and to impose silence upon others who have broken with the party but have not resumed the full duties of a good citizen.

The new immunity law should go far to overcome this fear. It offers new hope to those who would rejoin decent society. Here is an added inducement to bring to the Government new disclosures by persons who, from their own personal knowledge and with their own words, can

testify against the criminal leaders of the subversive conspiracy.

Just before leaving Washington, I talked about this with Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, our esteemed Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Hoover said he agreed and added:

"The telephone number of an FBI office appears on the cover of each telephone book in the Nation. Any persons willing to come forward and tell what they know about the conspiracy and its leaders need only to telephone the nearest office, or they can contact me in Washington."

Mr. Hoover put the problem this way:

"The communists themselves assert that the world is divided into two fundamentally different and opposing camps. Only one, they maintain, will survive. With American freedom and the lives of American citizens at stake, the individual who has been drawn into the communist net cannot be neutral. He is either for or against his country.

"If he breaks from the communist conspiracy and yet maintains silence about activities detrimental to his country, he still is aiding the enemy. The moral obligation involved cannot be met by silence. There is only one choice and that is to help the United States. The man who does this is preserving freedom under law. He is protecting the American way of life for free men and women--including his family and himself.

"Now is the time for those who love America to step forward and be counted. Now is the time for those who erred and who realized they erred to declare themselves."



Now, we also are preparing to use another new law. It bars communists from holding offices in labor unions or representing either side in bargaining before the National Labor Relations Board as well as to bar them from passports, from jobs in government and from jobs on strategic defense contracts. The amending law also creates a new category of communist dominated organizations. The new type to be subjected to the Act is the "communist-infiltrated" organization. We now can utilize machinery of the Subversive Activities Control Board to determine if communists have subverted a business or labor organization and to enable loyal members of such an organization to free themselves from such communist domination.

This new law also carries a Congressional finding that the Communist Party U.S.A. is not a political party at all but merely a tool of international conspiracy; denying to that subversive group all the legal rights and privileges normally enjoyed by legal organizations, and stating again that knowing members are subject to all provisions and penalties of the Internal Security Act.

In carrying out these new laws, I can pledge that due process of law will be respected scrupulously. Every one of our Constitutional rights and privileges will be protected. These are the woof and warp of the fabric of our way of life. Destroy any one

of them and you have taken a step toward the destruction of our heritage of freedom, toward a goal of the communists.

Let me recall to you part of what President Eisenhower told the American Legion just two weeks ago today:

"The communist dictatorship ... uses propoganda .. which emphatically requires from us new and aggressive counter measures.... We must preach, demonstrate and tirelessly sell the vitality and value of freedom..... We must reaffirm to the oppressed masses of the earth the great truth that the God who gave life to humanity at the same time gave the right of liberty to man .... From the resources of the free world must be developed the many kinds of strength required to oppose successfully the broad front of Communist pressure. We and our friends must be strong spiritually and intellectually, so that neither fear, nor ignorance, nor lack of determination can lead into defeat."

President Eisenhower, in his every word and deed, is setting a wonderful spiritual and intellectual example for all of us and for all free men everywhere. Certainly, there is no lack of determination courageously to protect our internal and external security in the finest traditions of our forefathers.

Our work in rooting out subversion is defensive just as our basic military policy is one of defense. Both are jobs for the properly designated Government agencies.

If we all were doing everything we could as individuals to practice our way of life, to spread the infection of liberty by day-to-day examples, then I don't believe we would find so many individuals wondering what they could do to protect and strengthen our heritage.

An example of what I am thinking about was described in an article in a Sunday newspaper recently. It told of interviews with churchmen who came here from all over the world to attend a religious conference. They literally were amazed that the United States is essentially a religious nation. They said movies and newspaper accounts of American glamour and American gangsters had led them to believe there was little place for religion in our lives. Yet, they learned here for themselves that the church has a firm place in our society; that it is a great influence in our everyday life. One visitor reported with amazement that she thought Americans were more spiritual in many ways than the people of her own deeply religious land.

Perhaps as individuals we have failed to show people of other lands how we really live. Perhaps as individuals we could do more to encourage our own church people--and others--to carry the story of our spiritual life to other lands.

We all have read books and articles too numerous to count telling us that America really is disliked by all other lands; that we have lost their respect; that we have tried and failed to buy good will and have offered nothing other than bribes in order to retain our allies. Yet,

Americans who have left the political capitals and gone along the by-ways of other nations have been overwhelmed with the friendship, the interest and the cheerfulness with which they are greeted by the farmers, the shopkeepers or the workers of those lands.

Here is the reservoir of good will, This is the reservoir we must keep filled with friendly deeds, with the simple kindness of one human to another. Individuals who travel to other lands; organizations which have affiliates overseas; Americans who correspond with relatives abroad--all can do much to keep alive the friendship we have with all free men.

Our leaders in all walks of life must prove to all peoples--those of Asia and Africa particularly--that we have no desire to colonize or exploit them, as the Communists constantly tell them we have. We must continually reaffirm that we respect the right of all people to choose freely the form of government under which they would live.

It is not enough that we should be against Communism. We must be for freedom--in our every work and deed.

The Escapee Program of our Government is one vital phase of this aggressive freedom. It is designed to provide assistance to those men and women who escape from behind the Iron Curtain.

Inspired by a yearning for liberty, many persons overcome the guns, the wires and the guards that make up the Iron Curtain. They make their way West in Europe to freedom. But they must have food, clothing, shelter and medical care. They need help in finding a new home and starting a new life.

Our government lends them vital assistance through the Escapee Program. Close to 30,000 have been aided in the two years the program has been underway. About one-third of those have been re-settled in

Australia, Canada, South America and in the United States. The others are receiving assistance pending final resettlement.

As individuals we can aid in similar work, helping refugees who seek a life of liberty, particularly in this country. We can ease the way for them; help them find jobs, make new friends, become accustomed to our ways; join in our civic and social life; help them above all to become good Americans.

Individuals can strengthen our rights and privileges by exercising those rights and privileges. We can vote. We willingly can accept public office or jury duty. We can lend support to improving schools or clearing slums or combatting juvenile delinquency. We can take an active role in community affairs.

At heart, America is stronger today than ever before. Our freedoms, our opportunities, our basic protection against the powers of tyranny are greater than ever before.

We are moving closer and closer to the ideals of liberty which brought the good people of the Mayflower to this land in search of a better life. I am sure each of us will continue to work to attain that better life in our time.