

1416 AMENDING SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES CONTROL ACT OF 1950

dictate the President already has the inherent power to effectuate a program to accomplish this purpose. We appreciate, too, your setting of specific standards to meet the objections relating to associational activities and are particularly pleased to note the provision regulating the jurisdiction of the Courts in certain proceedings. Your sincere effort to establish procedures to authorize specific investigation, hearing, and review procedures; cross-examination and confrontation of witnesses; and the issuance of compulsory process, all attest to your good faith in providing the constitutional safeguards for all persons coming within the orbit of this legislation.

The American Legion has, since its founding, fought communism and what it stands for and we find it difficult to accept the tortuous reasoning which allows enemies of this Nation to be employed in defense industries. It follows, therefore, that your remedial action should be approved by the Congress of the United States if we are to protect our beloved country.

Another important section of this bill covers the refusal to testify upon the grounds of self-incrimination in any authorized inquiry relating to subversive activities conducted by any congressional committee, Federal court, Federal grand jury, or any other duly authorized Federal agency, as to any question relative to subversive activities of the individual involved or others. We believe Congress has not only the right but the duty to enact legislation to safeguard defense facilities from acts of espionage and sabotage and to set up personnel and industrial security clearance programs to protect classified information as well as the actual facilities, whether it be vessels, harbors, or docks.

Representing the members of The American Legion, numbering 2,600,000, and 1,000,000 members of the American Legion Auxiliary, I urge this committee to report favorably on H.R. 15626. If ever there was a time in our Nation's history when we should be concerned about communism, it is now. We have seen this ideology spread throughout the world and we would be "sad sacks" to stand idly by while judicial fiat allows Communists to be employed in our defense industry. I urge you to give the internal security of our Nation top priority, and pass this bill on to the floor of the House for consideration.

Thank you for allowing me to appear here today.

The CHAIRMAN. Our last witness this morning is Mr. Speiser, with the American Civil Liberties Union.

Mr. Speiser, you may come forward, sir.

If you wish, you can file your statement at this point and speak from it.

STATEMENT OF LAWRENCE SPEISER, DIRECTOR, WASHINGTON, D.C., OFFICE OF AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

Mr. SPEISER. Very well, Mr. Chairman. I would like my statement included in the record in its entirety.

I will not read it. In order not to keep members of the committee in suspense, I will state at the outset that we are opposed to the enactment of H.R. 15626, H.R. 15018, and the related measures, which are attempts to overturn the Supreme Court's decisions in *United States v. Robel*, and *Schneider v. Smith*.

We go into the constitutional arguments in some detail in our testimony. I am quite willing to answer questions of the committee, based on the submission that we have made.

(Mr. Speiser's prepared statement follows:)

STATEMENT OF LAWRENCE SPEISER, DIRECTOR, WASHINGTON OFFICE, AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION, ON H.R. 15626, H.R. 15018, AND RELATED MEASURES, APRIL 30, 1968

I am Lawrence Speiser, director of the Washington, D.C., office of the American Civil Liberties Union. For almost a half century the ACLU has existed with the sole purpose of protecting and extending the liberties and rights contained in the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitution. Our continued