

gles, extend them to other ports, broaden them out from individual ship strikes to larger mass struggles because [sic] we have carried on the policy of concentration. Our main energy was concentrated upon 1 company and 45 ship strikes were developed out of this concentration. As a result these struggles have become a lever which we are now using to set the masses into action and winning the mass of the workers.¹

The party stated as follows in 1937:

In this generally favorable situation, our party members have a chance to work with tens of thousands of workers. We are an influence in determining policies. Large numbers of seamen, longshoremen, and other workers from the industry have joined the party in various ports from coast to coast.²

That Communists dominated certain maritime unions by the end of World War II has been established through studies on how the leadership in those unions has consistently adhered to shifting patterns of the Communist Party line.

When Germany breached its nonaggression pact with Russia and invaded the Soviet Union in 1941, certain of the maritime unions called for United States support of Russia. After the war, when Russo-United States relations became strained, the same unions continued to support Soviet policies, even though to do so put such unions in a position of openly opposing undertakings of the United States in both domestic and foreign matters.

The CIO became alarmed, investigated, and expelled nine affiliates, including three maritime unions, for the reason that such unions had, for more than a decade, invariably conformed their policies to each shift in the Communist Party policy.

In addition, other evidence taken at congressional hearings further revealed the sinister danger to maritime security implicit in the Communist control of these unions.

The American Communications Association, expelled from the CIO in 1950, was criticized by Admiral S. C. Hooper as " * * * the nucleus of the Communist Party cell in United States communications * * * a well-known fact in the industry, and was shown by the fact that 7 of its 10 officers were known Communist Party members * * * ." In emphasizing the danger from such cells, the admiral recounted the example of the Spanish Fleet in 1937:

* * * 700 officers were murdered by the Communist Party cells in the fleet because of the fact that the radio operators delivered the announcement of the Communist revolution to their comrades rather than to the responsible ship's officers, which permitted the revolutionists to commit the crimes, the officers not expecting it.³

Communist influence in the National Union of Marine Cooks and Stewards was such that the CIO expelled it in 1950.

The National Labor Relations Board was unable to wrest control over jobs from the group running the union hiring hall. Board case studies unfolded the many individual stories of violence and vilification wreaked upon courageous anti-Communists who dared to file charges against the union or undertake to defeat the entrenched forces in open elections.

¹ HCUA hearings, "Communist Activities in the San Francisco Area," Dec. 2, 1953, p. 3175.

² *Ibid.*, p. 3177.

³ Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, Report for 1954, Jan. 3, 1955, pp. 20-22.