

The CIO expulsion of the West Coast International Longshoremen's Union and the trials of its leader, Harry Bridges, are matters of public record and knowledge. The HCUA had this to say about this union:

This has 75,000 members. They have effective control of many ports in the U.S.A. and more than once have used it to paralyze shipping. Communist domination of this union in wartime could wreck the whole U.S. fighting power.⁴

Harry Bridges is still president of the West Coast Longshoremen's Union.

Neither the CIO expulsion of Communist unions nor the notoriety received from congressional exposure has deterred the Communist Party in its program of maritime union infiltration. Typically, the party revised its tactics to hold its ground.

The HCUA reported in 1954 that—

the material from which to recruit was no longer available among the workers * * *. Therefore, the Communist Party directed its intellectuals and white-collar-worker members to leave their own chosen fields and to obtain employment in the basic industries. This the Communist Party did, starting in late 1948 and early 1949.⁵

The party went underground in 1948 and Director J. Edgar Hoover had this to say:

No longer are Communist Party membership cards issued; maintenance of membership records are forbidden; contacts of rank-and-file members are limited from 3 to 5—the basic club unit. Most of the local headquarters have been discontinued and party records have been destroyed. No evening meetings are permitted in headquarters without staff members present. Conventions and large meetings are held to the absolute minimum. The use of the telephone and telegraph is avoided.⁶

The party today is back in the open due to Supreme Court decisions of the past several years. It is just as dedicated to the destruction of this country by force and violence as it ever was. There has been no change in its goal of world domination and control, nor has there been a lessening in its policies of infiltration.

The threat to our security by infiltration was clear and present when the Magnuson Act became law on August 9, 1950. This was the period of growing public concern over Communist action in Korea. Today we have another example of Communist aggression in Vietnam.

The Supreme Court held that the Magnuson Act gave the President no express authority to set up a personnel security screening program with respect to merchant vessels of the United States. In spelling out congressional intent, Senator Magnuson in sponsoring the bill before the Senate stated:

This is not a national emergency measure; it is only a limited emergency measure to take care of the water front security of the Nation. * * * It would be impossible for destruction to come to any great port of the United States, of which there are many, as the result of a ship coming into port with an atomic bomb or with biological or other destructive agency, without some liaison ashore. This would give authority to the President to instruct the FBI, in cooperation with the Coast Guard, the Navy, or any other appropriate governmental agency, to go to our water fronts and pick out people who might be subversives or security risks to this country. * * *⁷

⁴ HCUA, "100 Things You Should Know About Communism," House Doc. 136, 82d Cong., 1st sess., p. 82.

⁵ HCUA, "Colonization of America's Basic Industries by the Communist Party of the U.S.A.," Sept. 3, 1954, p. 13.

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 15.

⁷ Cong. Record, vol. 96, part 8, p. 11321, July 28, 1950.