February 16, 1948

THIS IS THE SECOND OF A SERIES OF
REPORTS ON THE COMMUNISTS AND
PRO-COMMUNISTS FOR WALLACE

FERDINAND C. SMITH

In our first report on the Communists and Pro-Communists for Wallace, ten days ago, we dealt with the Communist records of eleven members of the CIO Executive Board who voted in January to support the candidacy of Henry A. Wallace on a third party ticket. Among those eleven was Ferdinand C. Smith, secretary of the National Maritime Union of America. Incidentally, Ferdinand Smith has been the highest Negro labor union official in the United States for many years.

In our first report, we said: "Ferdinand C. Smith is an alien who is likely to be arrested for deportation in the near future by the Immigration and Naturalization Division of the Department of Justice." This "prediction of things to come" has just turned out to be 100 per cent accurate. Today, Ferdinand C. Smith was arrested for deportation as an alien Communist.

Ferdinand Smith's Communist Party record was fully exposed many years ago. In 1935, the Dies Committee received and printed the following testimony concerning Smith: "He is a member of the Communist Party for at least 5 years." (See Hearings of the Dies Committee, Volume II, page 873.) On March 29, 1944, the Dies Committee released a 215-page report in which an entire chapter was devoted to the Communist Party record of Ferdinand C. Smith. (See chapter 53 of report of said date.)

The printed record is perfectly clear. The government of Washington has been fully apprised for 9 years that Ferdinand C. Smith was an alien Communist and, as such, committed to the overthrow of the United States government by force and violence. The record is also perfectly clear that the Roosevelt-Truman administrations in effect shielded this enemy alien for many years after his record was well known to them.

In September, 1944, Ferdinand C. Smith -- the alien Communist -- was selected as one of the two or three leading campaigners for the Fourth Term from coast to coast. Smith was sent out on a nation-wide tour to speak on behalf of the
Roosevelt candidacy. It should be remembered that he went
on this nation-wide tour on behalf of Harry S. Truman for the
vice-presidency, as well.

Smith campaigned from coast to coast for Truman, and now
Truman, through his department of justice, arrests Smith for
deportation as an alien Communist.

The attached exhibit is a photostatic copy of the program
of the testimonial dinner given Ferdinand C. Smith just before
he began his nation-wide tour on behalf of Harry S. Truman.

It should be noted that the committee which sponsored this
testimonial dinner for Ferdinand C. Smith issued the following
statement to the press: "It was decided to send Smith on tour
as the best representative of the Negro people to bring the
truth about the administration's achievements to all Americans
and particularly the Negro people and win their support for
Roosevelt." (See New York World-Telegram, September 20, 1944.)

Smith's thanks for supporting Roosevelt and Truman in 1944
is his arrest for deportation as an alien enemy of the United
States.

From the exhibit attached hereto, it will be seen that
the present Under-Secretary of the Interior, Oscar L. Chapman,
was one of the principal speakers who honored Ferdinand C.
Smith when he started on his nation-wide tour for the
Roosevelt-Truman ticket in 1944. This was only one of several
instances in which Oscar L. Chapman has supported the subversive
Communist forces in this country.

Oscar L. Chapman had every possible access to the records
which showed Smith's Communist activities and Party membership
on the occasion of the testimonial dinner on September 20, 1944.

The attached exhibit shows that Basil Harris, president
of the United States Lines, was chairman of the committee of
sponsors which honored Ferdinand C. Smith on the occasion of his
starting out on his nation-wide tour for Roosevelt and Truman.
According to the Daily Worker, Basil Harris introduced Ferdinand
C. Smith by calling attention to the fact that he was accused
of being a Communist and then remarked "So what?" Basil Harris
was not only a prominent business man; he was also at one time
a member of Roosevelt's Federal bureaucracy, having served as
assistant to Henry Morgenthau from September 1939 to July 1940.

One of the honorary vice-chairmen of the committee of
sponsors for the Ferdinand C. Smith dinner was David Stewart
Iglehart, president of the Grace Line. Mr. Iglehart was also a
member of the Roosevelt administration, having served in the Department of Commerce.

Among the sponsors of Ferdinand C. Smith was William Hastie, Truman's appointee as governor of the Virgin Islands, who has a very long record of affiliation with Communist front organizations.

Also included among the sponsors of Ferdinand C. Smith were the following members of the United States Congress:

CHARLES A. BUCKLEY
LOUIS CAPIZZOLI
EWALD CELER
WILLIAM L. DAWSON
ARTHUR G. KLEIN
VITO MAUGANTONIO

Other names on the list of sponsors which appears on the attached exhibit will indicate to the politically-informed that this was strictly an affair of the Communist Party.

In his coast-to-coast tour on behalf of the Roosevelt-Truman ticket, Smith addressed political rallies in the following cities: San Pedro, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Akron, Detroit, Lansing, Ann Arbor, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Louisville, Baltimore, Camden, Trenton, Newark, and New York.

Smith was born in Jamaica, British West Indies, on May 3, 1899. He was registered as an alien on January 30, 1942, with Registration No. 581-735.

Smith's record of affiliation with Communist front organizations will be found on the following pages.
American Committee to Save Refugees  Labor Sponsor  Daily Worker, March 23, 1942, p. 5
American Youth for Democracy  Sponsor, "Welcome Home, Joe" Dinner  Program, N. Y. C., Dec. 12, 1945
Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder  Signer of Statement  Daily Worker, March 14, 1942, p. 5
Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder  Signer  People's Voice, March 27, 1942
Citizens Committee of the Upper West Side  Signer of Statement  Daily Worker, July 5, 1942, p. 7
Citizens Non-Partisan Committee to Elect Benjamin J. Davis, Jr. to the City Council  Committee member  Daily Worker, Oct. 13, 1942, p. 4
Civil Rights Congress  Sponsor  People's Daily World, Oct. 28, 1947, p. 4
Civil Rights Congress  Signer of Manifesto  The Worker, May 25, 1947, p. 9
Citizens Emergency Conference for Interracial Unity  Sponsor  Booklet, p. 30
Conference on Puerto Rico's Right to Freedom  Sponsor  Program and Call, January 5, 1946
Council on African Affairs  Council Member  New Africa, Dec., 1942, p. 4
Council on African Affairs  Council Member  Booklet, "For a New Africa," p. 36
George Washington Carver School  Board of Directors  Catalogue, 1947
George Washington Carver School  Guest Lecturer  Catalogue, 1947
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Organization / Committee</th>
<th>Role / Action</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International Labor Defense</td>
<td>Member, National Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jewish Writers and Artists</td>
<td>Sponsor, Mass Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee</td>
<td>Sponsor, Pamphlet, &quot;I Know You Are My Brother&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joint Committee for Trade Union Rights</td>
<td>Signer of telegram to President Roosevelt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Labor Committee for Amster</td>
<td>Sponsor, Letterhead, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Free Broader Congress</td>
<td>Supporter, Daily Worker, March 9, 1943, p. 4</td>
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<td>National Negro Congress</td>
<td>Signer, Congress View, Jan.–Feb., 1946, p. 10</td>
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<td>National Negro Congress</td>
<td>Treasurer, Congress View, July, 1943, p. 4</td>
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<td>Negro Labor Victory Committee</td>
<td>Co-Chairman, Letterhead, April 24, 1943</td>
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<td>Negro Labor Victory Committee</td>
<td>Co-Chairman, Letterhead, Oct. 11, 1943</td>
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<tr>
<td>Negro People's Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy</td>
<td>Signer of Letter, Daily Worker, Feb. 6, 1939, p. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Masses Award Diner</td>
<td>Received award, New Masses, Jan. 9, 1946, p. 32</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York Committee to Win the Peace</td>
<td>Member, Letterhead, June 1, 1946</td>
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<tr>
<td>Progressive Committee to Rebuild the American Labor Party</td>
<td>Member, Executive Committee, Leaflet, p. 4</td>
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Schappes Defense Committee
Sponsor
Letterhead, undated

Schappes Defense Committee
Signer of Appeal
Daily Worker, Feb. 4, 1942, p. 5

Sleepy Lagoon Defense Committee
Sponsor
Letterhead, August 9, 1944

Stage for Action
Member, Board of Directors
Folder

Testimonial Dinner in Honor of Ferdinand C. Smith
Guest of Honor
Daily Worker, Sept. 11, 1945, p. 2

Trade Union Committee to Elect Win-The-War Candidates
Member, Executive Letterhead, undated Board

Twentieth Anniversary Greetings to the Daily Worker and The Worker
Committee member Letterhead, undated

United American Spanish Aid Committee
Member, Executive Letterhead, undated Board

United American Spanish Aid Committee
Labor Sponsor
Daily Worker, March 23, 1942, p. 5

Win-The-Peace Conference
Sponsor
Program, April 5-7, 1946, Washington, D.C.