

INTRODUCTION

THE greatest enemy of atheistic and materialistic communism in the world today is Christianity. The Protestant churches, indeed all religious institutions, are the strongest bulwark against communism.

1.

A handful of arch critics and dissident groups, who are devoting their lives to undermining the Protestant churches and their regularly constituted agencies, are unwittingly the handmaidens of communist techniques.

2.

Lately, the divisive and slanderous attacks of this handful were insinuated into official training manuals of a major branch of our defense forces, the United States Air Force. Because Church institutions, including the National Council of Churches, were baselessly slandered in manuals destined for young Air Force trainees, and even more because Churches and their National Council feel their responsibility for protecting the human rights and freedoms guaranteed under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, the National Council made vigorous protest. The Council received prompt official apologies from our nation's highest defense authorities and was assured that the offensive and untrue materials would be withdrawn from circulation and destroyed.

Thousands of messages and public declarations of support for this action have reached the Council from religious bodies of all faiths, from respected secular institutions, and from individuals concerned for human rights and the future of our free democratic society. For this, the Council is profoundly grateful, and for this, all Americans should join in gratitude.

3.

Those who would destroy our churches and weaken our democratic society, to the delight of communists everywhere, persist in spreading their poison. Lest their efforts create confusion and doubt and result in

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The opening sentence is gloriously true, "The greatest enemy of atheistic and materialistic Communism in the world today is Christianity." But—and this is where the twist in the discussion may be seen—what kind of Christianity? It certainly is not the kind represented today by the National Council of Churches. And it most assuredly is Biblical Christianity as it is seen in what is called "the fundamental churches" today. This, too, is represented in the American Council of Christian Churches.

If the National Council of Churches were faithful to the historic Christian faith, there would be no controversy; but the kind of Christianity represented in the National Council of Churches, which actually includes quite a variety—the modernist, the liberal, the neo-orthodox, the new evangelical, is the kind which has been willing to advocate and promote some of the most important proposals of the Communist world itself: 1) "peaceful coexistence"; 2) the recognition of Red China; 3) total disarmament; 4) the speedy release of all colonial peoples.

The Christianity which is a bulwark against Communism does not advocate "peaceful coexistence" with Communism. Yet "peaceful coexistence" has been one of the most important programs advocated by the ecumenical movement as represented in the NCC and its larger content the World Council of Churches. The churches and leaders from the United States who are in the National Council are also in the World Council, which is the same movement on the world level.

1.

The critics are said to be a handful, "undermining the Protestant churches" and "are unwittingly the handmaidens of communist techniques." The same turn and twist given to the first sentence is also contained in this second one. The NCC wants its readers to believe that those Church leaders who have come forth with an exposure of this leftist influence are the ones who are pursuing "communist techniques." Actually, in the religious world, they are the ones who are obeying the commandments of the Lord Jesus Christ and following the "techniques" of Scripture. The Scripture says, "Whatsoever doth make manifest is light" (Eph. 5:13), and, "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Eph. 5:11).

2.

By the use of derisive and strong language the NCC speaks of "slanderous attacks," "baseless slander," which has been "insinuated into official training manuals of a major branch of our defense forces."

We recommend that the reader study carefully Section II of this analysis in which we reproduce in full these so-called baseless slanders and give additional information. The NCC's idea of "the truth" does not stand up when one reads the Manual itself.

The publication, however, of this very document, "... the Truth," indicates that the National Council of Churches is in serious trouble with members of the churches affiliated with it. The kind of abusive language used here does not satisfy conscientious people when they have an opportunity to examine the facts firsthand.

3.

The additional emphasis of weakening our democracy is introduced by those who continue to spread "their poison," we are told. The Air Force Training Manual was cautioning Government personnel in matters of security so that the democracy which we enjoy could be preserved from Communist tactics and subversion. This twist is in line with the similar allegation that the Air Force Training Manual