

The Army - McCarthy Fiasco

By WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

FROM THE OUTSET, it has been obvious that no serious attack was to be made upon McCarthyism in the now notorious hearings in Washington. As the endless gabfest has dragged along its slimy way, this fact has become clearer and clearer. Manifestly, the Administration is making no effort whatever to crush McCarthy and McCarthyism. At most, it has made only a few milquetoast attacks upon the Wisconsin fascist leader, designed to hold him somewhat in check so as not to disrupt the Republican Party; but the Administration has refused to make any assault whatsoever upon the basic program of McCarthyism.

Actually, the McCarthy brand of anti-red hysteria, with its sharp overtones of fascism and war, has reigned unchallenged throughout the interminable hearings. McCarthy has expounded it again and again, and not a word has been said against it. That is, McCarthy, with his big lie of the "Communist menace," has shouted and bellowed his warnings that the government is saturated with Communists, who are a grave menace to the whole state machine.

Even if there should be only one Communist in a key position, McCarthy declares this could and probably would cause endless destruction to the country. And there has been pre-



cisely nobody in the hearings to challenge even the most fantastic elements in this network of dangerous absurdities.

MCCARTHY reached the apex of his frenzied anti-red hysteria when he took the stand as a witness a few days ago. Although but a few minutes earlier he had taken an oath to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, he at once launched into one of the most outrageous tissues of anti-Communist lies ever heard from the witness stand in this country. It was also one of the most illiterate politically. McCarthy, in his wild fantasies, showed that he knows precisely nothing of the realities of Communism.

In the Smith Act and other persecutions, the government, through its batteries of stool-pigeons and perjurers, spokesmen of the FBI and its "secret" files, has deluged the country with scandalous lies and perjuries against Communism. But McCarthy, supposedly speaking as a responsible Senator, outdid all the government's professional informers, with his fantastic fables about the Communist Party teaching its members the arts of sabotage, espionage and murder. And, of course, no one in the hearings will contest a word of his whole bizarre and abysmally ignorant attack upon Communism.

With four pro-McCarthy Republicans sitting on the Senate Committee and three conservative pro-war Democrats also members, it is absurd to believe that the committee will take a serious stand against either McCarthy or McCarthyism.

AT THIS LATE STAGE of the hearings, efforts are being intensified to work out some sort of a whitewash-patch-up settlement of the whole affair. This is especially obvious from the switch in McCarthy's strategy. For weeks his whole song was that the attack against him was organized by the Eisenhower Administration especially in the famous meeting of Brownell, Sherman Adams, Henry Cabot Lodge and others. And when the President's order made it impossible to pry into the doings of that meeting, McCarthy cried out to the high heavens that "the iron curtain" had been dropped against him, that "the deck had been stacked," etc.

But now McCarthy has abandoned this whole line. He no longer fires into the administration. Now the villain in his piece is Senator Symington of Missouri, a Democrat whom he accuses of having launched the whole fight to break up the Republican Party. Thus he maneuvers to dissolve his Republican opposition by making the whole matter appear as a partisan issue between Republicans and Democrats.

During the hearings much of the rottenness of McCarthy's and Cohn's activities has been exposed. Conceivably McCarthy (and especially Cohn) will be slapped on the wrist for this, but the deadly disease of McCarthyism, which has had such a tremendous play-up during these hearings, will go unscathed. That is, it will unless the workers and democratic masses of the people speak out promptly and insist that the Wisconsin

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Senator and his fascist program be dealt a real blow.

The hearings have intensified the vast body of anti-McCarthy sentiment, but the committee deserves no credit for this. The hearings reek throughout with dozens of examples of flagrant perjury from the witnesses on both sides, but will the Department of Justice act?