

*This piece was taken from the March 4, 1947 issue of Look magazine. It hints at the anti-Communist hysteria that would quickly grip the country after World War II.*

### ***How to Identify an American Communist***

There is no simple definition of an American Communist. However, certain general classifications can be set up. And if either a person or an organization falls within most of these classifications, that person or organization can be said to be following the Communists' lead.

These identifying classifications include:

1) The belief that the war waged by Great Britain and her allies during the period from August 1939 to June 1941 (the period of the war before Russia was invaded), was an "imperialistic" war and a game of power politics.

2) The support of foreign policy, which agrees always with that followed by Soviet Russia, and which changes as the USSR policy changes.

3) The argument that any foreign or domestic policy, which does not fit the Communist plan, is advanced for ulterior motives and is not in the best interests of either the people or of world peace.

4) The practice of criticizing only American, British, and Chinese policies, and never criticizing Soviet policies.

5) Continually receiving favorable publicity in such Communist publications as the Daily Worker and the New Masses.

6) Continually appearing as sponsor or co-worker of such known Communist-front groups as the Committee to Win the Peace, the Civil Rights Congress, the National Negro Congress, and the groups which can be described as Communist inspired because they fall within the classification set forth here.

7) Continually charging critics with being "Fascists," no matter whether the criticism comes from liberals, conservatives, reactionaries, or those who really are Fascists.

8) Arguing for a class society by pitting one group against another; and putting special privileges ahead of community needs as, for example, claiming that labor had privileges but had no responsibilities in dealing with management.

9) Declaring that capitalism and democracy are "decadent" because some

injustices exist under those systems.

Of course, actual membership in the Communist Party is 100 percent proof, but this kind of proof is difficult to obtain.