## THE AMERICAN DEFENSE SOCIETY, Inc.

ORGANIZED 1915

225 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

Telephone MUrray Hill 3-3933

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Congressman Vito Marcantonio House Office Building Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The cornerstone of American liberties is the right to be judged by laws and not by men. The exercise of arbitrary power, affecting the person or property of the individual citizen, is repugnant to our American system.

Over the last several years, Congress has created numerous commissions or executive agencies, which have assumed powers that apparently conflict with established principle and precedent, for these executive agencies have not only taken to themselves legislative functions, but have made regulations which preclude a review of their acts by our courts. That this results in injustice to our people is at once evident.

The American Defense Society believes that present conditions and the preservation of our American system demand legislation -

- a which shall insure to us the due process of law that has been guaranteed us by the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments;
- b which shall maintain for us the system of checks and balances established by the Constitution so as to give the judicial branch review of bureaucratic actions, and
- c which shall halt the drift that seeks to obliterate the division of governmental power between the federal and state governments.

These conditions demand immediate attention and this Society urges that Congress shall at once set about the enactment of legislation which shall seek to correct them and halt the present drift away from the American way of life.

Very truly yours,

The American Defense Society

Chairman.

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