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## INVESTIGATION OF UN-AMERICAN PROPAGANDA ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED STATES

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JANUARY 3, 1940.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state  
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Mr. STARNES of Alabama, from the Special Committee on Un-  
American Activities, submitted the following

### REPORT

[Pursuant to H. Res. 282 (75th Cong.) and H. Res. 26 (76th Cong.)]

#### INTRODUCTION

Every modern democratic nation is confronted by two pressing problems. The first is the preservation of the constitutional liberties which their people have gained through the years of struggle. The second is the problem of adjusting their economic life to the difficulties of the machine age. Throughout all ages there have existed groups of people who have sought power and influence through the exploitation of the economic difficulties of the people of various nations. The more difficult economic circumstances become, the greater the opportunities for groups of this character. There is at present taking place in the world a struggle between democracy on the one hand and dictatorship on the other, upon the outcome of which the future of human liberties in the next few centuries may well depend.

As long as this struggle continues the American Nation, along with other true democracies in the world, faces a serious dilemma. It is of primary importance to prevent the growth or spread of influence of any organization or group which seeks to undermine democracy and substitute dictatorship of whatever sort for it. But it is at least equally important that in combating subversive groups of this character nothing be done which would undermine the fundamental structure of constitutional liberty itself.

One method which can and should from time to time be used is the method of investigation to inform the American people of the activities of any such organizations in their nation. This is the real