

## INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE

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### DIES RESOLUTION UP NEXT WEEK

Effective work by people and organizations all over the country who support a united defense effort against the Axis has delayed for a week House action on the resolution to continue the Dies Committee. Dies' plan was to rush his resolution through the Rules Committee and have it acted on by the House on February 9 and 10. Instead, hearings of the Rules Committee, hitherto limited to testimony by members of Congress, have been extended (against the will of its members) to hear testimony from representatives of organizations opposing continuance of the Dies Committee. At this writing it would appear that the resolution may come before the House on the 16th or 17th. Of course sufficient development of pressure may postpone it even longer.

Leading the opposition to continuation of the Dies Committee, before the Rules Committee and in the House, is Congressman Vito Marcantonio, (A.L.P., New York), president of the International Labor Defense.

This gives the enemies of the Axis that much additional time to roll up the register of opposition, in letters and telegrams to THEIR OWN REPRESENTATIVES and to the Speaker of the House. (See special sheet of suggestions for action with last week's Legislative Letter.) That time should be used effectively, to help end the Dies Committee.

Two important analyses of Dies' work have been prepared for presentation to the members of the House of Representatives. They are: A "Memorandum to Members of the House of Representatives of the United States and all Patriotic Americans," on "Pro-Axis Leanings of the Dies Committee Hinder the War Effort", (printed, 15 pages), prepared by the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, 1400 L Street, Washington, D. C. and 1123 Broadway, New York City; and a "Review and Analysis of the Dies Committee and Petition for its Discontinuance" (mimeographed, 24 pages), submitted by the New York City Chapter of the National Lawyers' Guild, 16 East 41st Street, New York City. Both these publications are replete with evidence from the record of Dies anti-national-unity actions, his attacks upon the war effort and the national administration. The Lawyers' Guild memorandum lists 29 separate occasions on which Dies refused to investigate Nazi and fascist activities which had been brought to his attention.

The democratic people of the United States can beat all their enemies: Hitler, Mussolini, Japan, the Ku Klux Klan, the Silver Shirts--and Martin Dies.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### CONGRESSMAN VITO MARCANTONIO LEADS FIGHT AGAINST DIES COMMITTEE

Climaxing a vigorous protest campaign mobilized by progressive Americans against the continuation of the un-American Dies Committee, which resulted in public hearings on H. Res. 420 (the resolution to continue the life of the Dies Committee after March 31) before the House Rules Committee on February 10 and 11, Congressman Vito Marcantonio, president of the International Labor Defense, told the Rules Committee that Martin Dies had deceived the American people when he claimed that the State Department and the Department of Justice had asked him not to use information which, according to Dies, "could have prevented the tragedy at Pearl Harbor."

Congressman Marcantonio revealed that Under-Secretary of State Sumner Welles had called him on the telephone and refuted Dies' statement that the Department of State had asked him not to use information that might have prevented Pearl Harbor. Congressman Marcantonio stated that Mr. Welles had authorized him to make a similar refutation on behalf of President Roosevelt. The White House did not ask Dies to refrain from investigation of Japanese activities.

The public hearings before the Rules Committee came after a persistent protest campaign in the form of wires and letters to members of the Rules Committee from every part of the country, urging them to vote down the Dies Resolution. On Monday, February 9, representatives of numerous progressive organizations in New York called upon the New York delegation in Congress, urging those representatives to vote against H. Res. 420.

The almost unprecedented move of permitting spokesmen, other than members of Congress, to appear before the Rules Committee, is clearly an indication of the effectiveness of the protest campaign to date. Witnesses appearing in opposition to the Dies Resolution were: Martin H. Miller, National Representative of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen; Rev. Charles C. Webber, National Executive and Field Secretary of the Methodist Federation for Social Service; Russ Nixon, National Representative of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers; Clifflord T. McAvoy, Legislative Representative of the Greater New York Industrial Union Council; William S. Zeman, representing the Connecticut Conference on Social and Labor Legislation; Bjorne Halling, secretary of the CIO Maritime Committee and Congressman Vito Marcantonio.

The International Labor Defense, which has consistently and persistently fought against the continuation of the Dies Committee as a disruptive force inimical to the national unity of the American people, called the action taken to date against H. Res. 420, proof of the fact that large sections of the American people are convinced they have had enough of Mr. Dies subversive activity.

The I. L. D. urged all trade unions, fraternal and civic organizations, all individuals, those already on record in opposition to the Dies Committee and those which have not yet made their stand public, to flood Congress with the demand that every member of the House vote against H. R. 420.

"The facts exposed by our president, Mr. Marcantonio, in regard to the dereliction of the gentleman from Texas so gross that the Dies Committee should be discontinued," referring to Dies' failure to act on alleged information he had in regard to Japanese activity in Pearl Harbor, becomes a challenge to every patriotic American," the I. L. D. said in calling for continuation of activity to END THE DIES COMMITTEE. "Martin Dies' Committee is not serving the interests of the American people. Its disruptive smear campaign never did. Its present activities, under wartime conditions, are detrimental to our national defense and should be discontinued. Wire your congressman today urging him to vote against H. Res. 420."

(more)

REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR! BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS!