

# Navy Agrees to End 'Red-Hunt' Firings

DN 7/8/42

Strong and persistent union protests against anti-labor policies adhered to by Assistant Secretary of the Navy Ralph Bard have brought results, it was announced yesterday by the National Maritime Union and the American Communications Association.

Following a series of conferences between Bard, Frederick N. Myers, vice president of the NMU and Joseph P. Selly, president of the ACA expressed their satisfaction with the Secretary's approach to a

series of proposals which both unions had offered for improving conditions of safety for the personnel and ships of the American merchant marine.

Assistant Secretary Bard took affirmative action to clear up certain long-standing grievances which had been on the basis of charges of anti-labor activities against certain officials of the Navy Department.

## HAIB REINSTATEMENT

The unions hailed the Secretary's reinstatement of Murray Winocur, Vice President of ACA, who had been removed from his ship, by the Secretary, under what the unions contended was an improper application of Public Law 351. The Secretary agreed, in addition, to review the cases of several other union officials and members and to establish a procedure for the administration of Public Law 351, which would guarantee due process of law to any accused radio operator.

Myers and Selly stated that it was particularly significant that

the Navy had agreed to apply the proper test of pro-Axis activity in making any allegations of subversive intent, and would reject the Dies technique of red-baiting.

The Secretary assured the representatives of the NMU and the ACA that their proposals for rules of safety-at-sea, for training of all merchant seamen as gunners, and

for the utilization of all available small craft for Coast Patrols and Convoys would receive immediate consideration and action.

Both union representatives stated that they were hopeful that the cooperative approach indicated at these conferences would usher in a new and constructive era in the labor policy of the Navy Department.