

Inside Labor

People's Party To Be Launched

By VICTOR RIESEL



Mr. Riesel

In the world of Communist semantics, there is People's pleurisy, which one's enemy gets just before disappearing. There is People's justice, which one's opponent gets just before disappearing. And there is People's politics, which is organized just before appearing on the surface.

This report is concerned with the latter since the American Communists are about to launch a People's Party.

It was all worked out at a mid-January secret meeting. In the interest of a free press and an informed public, I believe in sharing the Communist' secrets—especially since the People's Party will be one of many peace parties which are proliferating as the bombing of the Viet Cong, north and south, is escalating.

Some of the peace parties will be honest and dedicated. The People's Party will be dedicated—to the Soviet Union.

The secret preparatory meeting was held over at the Communist Party's building on W. 26 St. Some 80 full-time Party functionaries were summoned from the organization's 21 districts.

They were instructed, during the day-long session, by Communist Party leader Gus Hall, who takes to the word "revolutionists" as Marat took to hot baths.

This People's Party must basically be a labor party organization, though there must be a co-mingling of rural workers, intellectuals, and ultra left-wing Negro activists. These descriptions are Hall's.

This Brezhnev of American Communism told the gathering of new youth officials, all national officers of the Communist Party and several carefully chosen members of its National Committee, that they "must concentrate on the working class in the U.S., and must involve laborers and trade unionists in the campaign for peace in Viet Nam."

There was an urgency about the secret session. There was a fear that other peace parties would move in before the Communists' official apparatus could control them and that they would pre-empt the field.

Motif of the day-long sessions was the fact that the Supreme

Court had ruled that Communists—official Communists—no longer were ineligible to hold office in unions. This decision came last June when the high court declared that the section of the Landrum-Griffin Labor-Management Act which banned Communists from holding union office was unconstitutional.

The appellant was self-avowed Communist Archie Brown, a leader of the West Coast International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, whose national president is Harry Bridges.

Some months later Mr. Brown was elected to the 31-man Executive Committee of that union's Local 10.

Furthermore, the Court also ruled later that the law which would force Communist Party members to register with the Attorney General was unconstitutional. Thus, Gus Hall and his high command decided that the Party now could turn its concentration strategy back on the labor movement.

Favorite Communist Labor Commission concentration points are New York City, Buffalo, Chicago, Detroit, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia on the industrial front.

This People's Party is scheduled for unveiling later this month. It will be well connected, well financed, well staffed and well camouflaged.

It's first, loud hurrah will come from the assembled masses—or parts thereof—during the evening public rally scheduled to launch the Communist Party's 18th Convention here during the last week in June. Then, the Party will discuss its Program For a Peaceful America, which is about to be delivered onto the American people in the coming weeks.

To frustrate the Federal authorities—namely the FBI—the Communist Party's internal security commission will put some 300 "guests" who are not Communists on the convention floor. Thus no one should be able to tell a Party delegate from a visitor.

And the Party believes its people could pose unconcernedly for convention photos—official and unofficial—and plunge into its renaissance era. Or so it hopes.