It has been argued that there is not the remotest danger of the Communist Party accomplishing this objective in the United States. This is undoubtedly true. But as the Fifth Column of a government with which we find ourselves in conflict in many quarters of the globe, it can nonetheless do an enormous amount of harm. For Communists who have wormed themselves into key positions in the unions can foment labor difficulties just when to do so would prove most embarrassing to government. And Communists who have wormed their way into a vast range of civic organizations can sow confusion in respect to critical issues of foreign policy at the very time when clarity is most needed. And just as long as the legal status of the Communist Party is preserved, the obtaining of recruits among the naive will be facilitated.

It has been argued that to outlaw the Communist Party would constitute an attack upon the fundamental guarantees of the Bill of Rights. Yet realistically, considered these guarantees, which in a world troubled with the specter of totalitarianism we have come to cherish more than ever before, were designed for the protection of citizens of unquestioned and undivided loyalty. And in almost every country the Communists seek to build up their strength behind the fiction that the Communist Party is a legitimate political party in the accepted sense of the term.

Recent developments abroad should lead us to reexamine the wisdom of continuing to preserve this fiction. The Communist Party is in essence a conspiracy directed at our form of government. Its members recognize a loyalty that transcends national loyalty. In every country they act as the agents of world revolution, and constitute at the same time the vanguard of Soviet imperialism. It is this combination that makes them dangerous. If they were merely advocates of an economic system different from our own, we could safely leave their theories to be disposed of in the market place of competing ideas. But in any emergency demanding a choice, they can be depended upon to follow the dictates of their “higher loyalty” to the Soviet Union. To afford them the status of a legally recognized political party, seems, under these circumstances, little short of absurd.

It has been argued that to outlaw the Communist Party would drive it underground, and thus increase the difficulty of coping with it. In this connection it should be noted that the activities of the Communists are in large measure conducted underground anyway. The open manifestations of the Party are designed principally to obscure its true purpose, to confuse the public and to hoodwink the naive. While the Party pretends to be primarily concerned with the economic welfare of the “American” worker, it follows with “striking servility—every change in the political line laid down by Moscow. While it is vigorously denies in and out of season that its ultimate objective is the overthrow of the government by force, anyone familiar with Communist doctrine knows that this is its real objective in every country.