January 27, 1956

Senator Herbert H. Lehman
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Lehman:

I have just been reliably informed that the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, chaired by Senator Eastland, without reference to the full Senate Judiciary Committee (Senator Kilgore, Chairman), has issued a "Handbook for Americans" purporting to describe "The Communist Party of the United States: What it is and How it Works"; and that, in addition to listing a number of organizations as allegedly "front" organizations, it has listed the names of eighty persons as "most typical sponsors of front organizations."

The issuance of this pamphlet can serve no purpose but that of further weakening the opposition to the policies of the more reactionary elements of our Government and Congress through blacklisting and intimidation. It can only bring our nation, as the torch-bearer of the democratic way of life, into further discredit. As one of those named in the pamphlet, in my own interests and the interest of political freedom in the United States, I urge you forcibly to take such action as will result in the deletion from the pamphlet of the lists of organizations and individuals.

Faithfully yours,

Rockwell Kent

RK/sj