



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

15 May 1961

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE POSITION REGARDING COMMERCIALLY
PRODUCED FILM PRESENTATIONS ON COMMUNISM

On 10 March 1961, the Deputy Secretary of Defense by memorandum for the Secretaries of the Army, Navy and Air Force, stated:

"(1) There is presently being established within the Office of the Secretary of Defense centralized procedures for evaluating materials designed for indoctrination of personnel of the Defense Department in the general area of international affairs and related fields. The evaluation will apply to all materials, written, pictorial or audio, used in training programs and troop information programs, and will be in conformance with the security and policy review regulations of the Defense Department. "

"(2) The film "Operation Abolition" will be retained in the film libraries on an "on-call" basis for those requesting to view it, but will not be prescribed in the training of personnel. A memorandum of January 31, 1961 from the Office of Armed Forces Information and Education stated the "on-call" policy for information programs and described the production of an OAFIE film covering the tactics employed by communists seeking to manipulate youth. This film is being produced within the framework of material set forth in the House Committee on Un-American Activities print entitled "Communist Target - Youth," a report by J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. "

"(3) Another film coming within the scope of paragraph (1), which recently has been brought to our attention is entitled, "Communism on the Map. " Determination as to the use of this film will be deferred pending its evaluation pursuant to the procedures prescribed in paragraph (1). "

(over)



On 21 April 1961, the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower) by memorandum for the Secretaries of the Army, Navy and Air Force, stated:

"SUBJECT: Narrated Film-Strip "Communism on the Map"

"The commercial, narrated film-strip "Communism on the Map" has been determined, by official review under DoD evaluation procedures, as not required for Armed Forces training or troop information or public information programs and that it should not be purchased by the Department or used by Department of Defense personnel."

"Attention is invited to the many materials in the area of anti-communism including pamphlets and motion pictures produced by the Office of Armed Forces Information and Education, which are available for troop information programs."

"(2) The film 'Operation Abolition' will be retained in the film library on an 'on-call' basis for those requesting to view it, but will not be prescribed in the training of personnel. A memorandum of January 31, 1961 from the Office of Armed Forces Information and Education stated the 'on-call' policy for information programs and described the production of an OAFIE film covering the tactics employed by communists seeking to manipulate youth. This film is being produced within the framework of material set forth in the House Committee on Un-American Activities report entitled 'Communist Target - Youth,' a report by J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation."

"(3) Another film coming within the scope of paragraph (1), which recently has been brought to our attention is entitled, 'Communism on the Map.' Determination as to the use of this film will be deferred pending its evaluation pursuant to the procedures prescribed in paragraph (1)."