

# COMMUNISTS "OUT" IN YOUTH PROGRAM

NEW YORK, N.Y.—Negro leaders have applauded the announcement that the Harlem anti-poverty and youth improvement program—Haryou-Act—is taking steps to block infiltration of its staff by Communists.

Directors of the organization, which is awaiting an initial grant of \$4.4 million from the city and Federal governments, are seeking to avoid the kind of attack that has been made against Mobilization for Youth, the social experiment on the Lower East Side.

The city has refused to approve Mobilization's budget pending investigation of charges that the youth agency has employed Communists and engaged in "disruptive" programs.

Robert J. Mangum, chairman of the personnel committee, said he would propose a loyalty check "on all present employees and all future ones to make sure their political backgrounds are O.K."

A former deputy police commissioner, Mangum, now first deputy commissioner of the Hospitals Department, said that Haryou-Act should purge itself of any members who belonged to organizations advocating violent overthrow of the Government and should guard against future employment of such individuals.

HE SUGGESTED the possibility of a security check by the Federal Bureau of Investigation or by the Police Department.

Imposition of a loyalty oath was not favorably regarded by some of Haryou's officials.

"I have no confidence in loyalty oaths," said Alexander J. Allen, executive director of the Urban League of Greater New York and a member of Haryou's personnel committee. He said the subversives would have no qualms about falsely swearing to loyalty oaths.

Allen said he was concerned about the dangers of a "witch-hunt."

He was willing to bar "working Communists who attempt to subvert our program," he said.

But he did not want a purge extended to other persons. There was danger, he said, that persons who signed a nuclear test ban petition or participated in the March on Washington might come to be regarded as "subversives" or "leftists."

The seven-man personnel committee of Haryou-Act consists of Mangum, Allen, Dr. Janne L. Noble, an associate professor at New York University's Center for Human Relations Studies; Dr. Hilda O. Fortune, director of community services for the Urban League of Greater New York; Dr. Buell G. Gallagher, president of New York City College; Robert Rhone, attorney; and Rudolph Thomas, executive secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association.

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