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Revolutionary Role

Allen W. Dulles, director of Central Intelligence Agency, has challenged every U.S. citizen in a statement to the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

Communism, he explained, is making an aggressive bid for parliamentary conquest. It is doing this in the belief that parliamentary governments are so far gone that they will crumble as soon as they are undermined.

The underminers intend to use freedom to destroy freedom and to set up in its place authoritarian rule. They think they can do this with no trouble because they believe parliamentary governments have lost touch with their own people.

Only the Communists, as they see it, have a chance to set themselves up as the political agents of working people. All of this has been blueprinted as clearly as Adolf Hitler blueprinted national socialism for Germany.

Italy, France and Indonesia, Mr. Dulles says, are in imminent danger. The threat of success is very real throughout Asia, because Asiatics have scant knowledge of parliamentary government and slight reason to trust the parliamentary governments that have exploited them.

What Mr. Dulles does not say is that the alternative to parliamentary conquest by Communists will have to be a resurgence of the vitality which once enabled parliamentarians to overthrow authoritarians.

That is the basic foreign-policy issue of the national election in the United States this year—whether or not the United States will play its historic role of leading the revolution against despotism.

FOIA