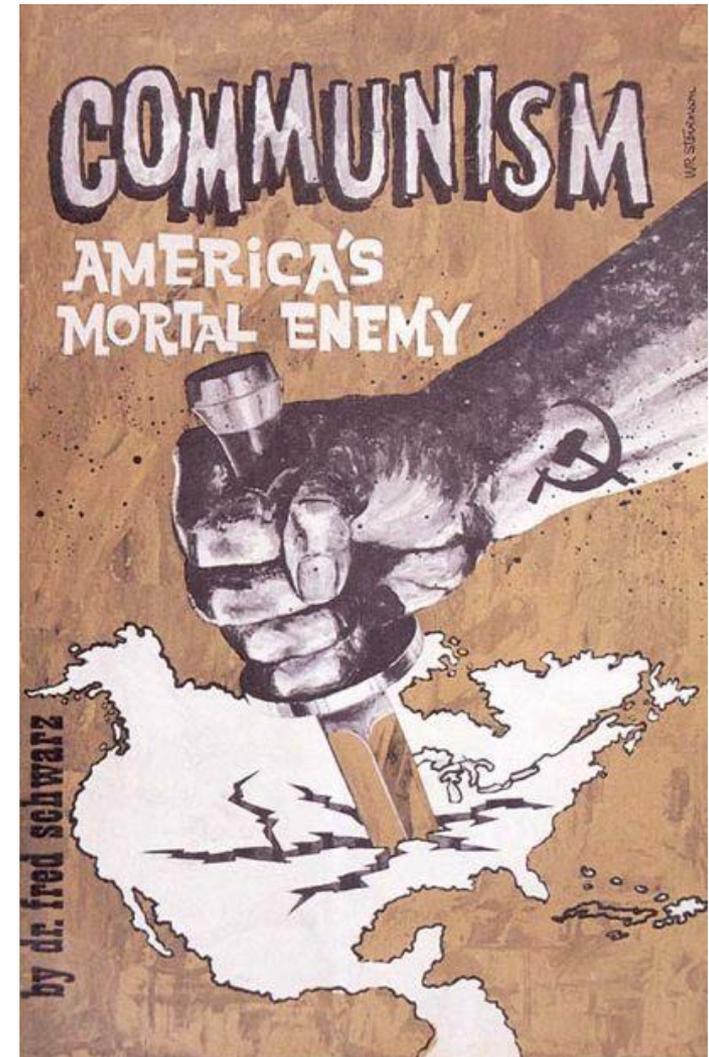
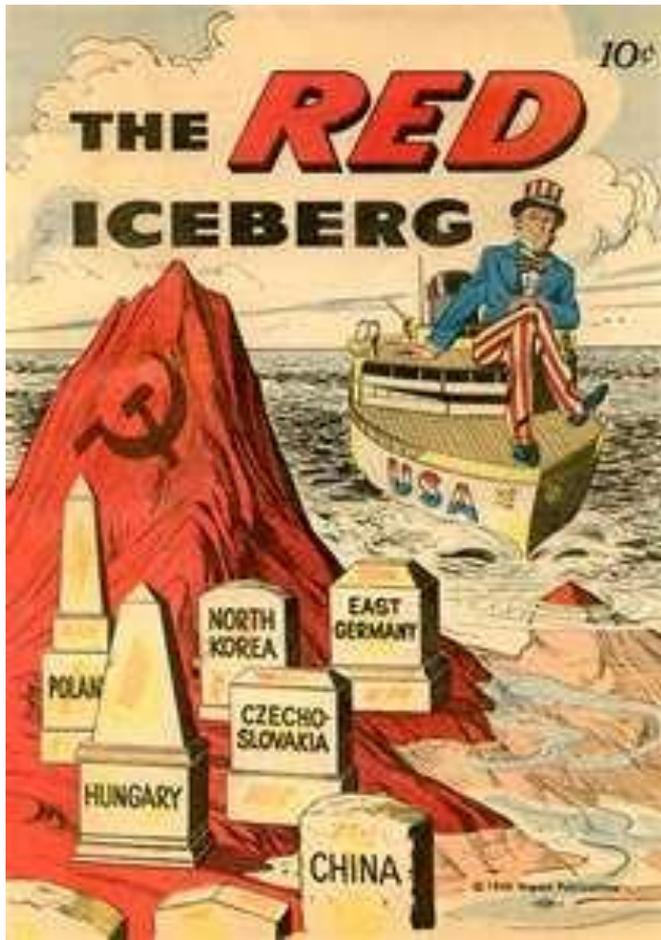


The Second Red Scare (1950s)



Paranoia

- After World War II, the Soviet Union gobbled up Eastern Europe. For the first time, the Soviet Union and Communism were world powers.
- There were small groups of communist supporters in the U.S. A fear spread that these Americans might engage in subversive (secret, anti-government) activities



Early Hunts for Subversives

- Truman, a democratic president, feared losing office if he was seen as 'weak' on communism
- He set up **Loyalty Review Boards**, which reviewed government employees in order to remove/fire subversives
- The House of Representatives set up a committee (the **House Un-American Activities Committee** or **HUAC**) to find and root out subversives.
 - They did not just search in the government. For example, famously, they held hearings to find subversives in Hollywood.



"IT'S OKAY ... WE'RE HUNTING COMMUNISTS"



HOW **RED**
IS THE LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE?



It's high time American parents knew the facts!

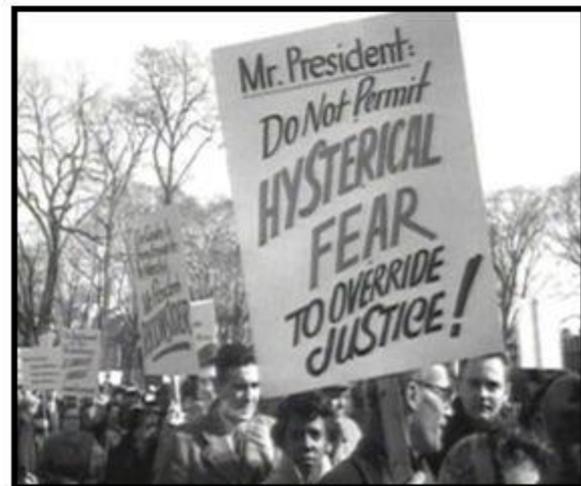
Paranoia → Hysteria

- A number of events pushed the fear of communism to absurd heights
- 1949
 - China fell to Communism
 - Soviets get the atom bomb
- Spy cases!!!
 - Alger Hiss → accused of smuggling secret American documents to the Soviets
 - The Rosenbergs → couple accused of selling the atom bomb plans to the Soviets
 - Executed!



The Rosenberg Trials

- **Julius and Ethel Rosenberg** were charged with selling national secrets to the Soviet Union (USSR) about how to make the atomic bomb.
- In 1950, the Rosenberg's were found guilty and executed for spying.
- Like Sacco and Vanzetti many Americans actually doubted the guilt of the Rosenberg's'.
- In 1997, the U.S. government released the **Venona Papers** which proved they had been spying.



Witch Hunts



- Joe McCarthy
 - Republican senator from Wisconsin
 - Felt he was unlikely to win reelection
 - Decided to use fear of communism to boost his career
- McCarthyism
 - McCarthy went on a rampage, announcing that the government was stuffed with ‘reds’
 - Made claims that he had inside knowledge and proof (for example, he’d say ‘I have a list of 205 people in the government who are members of the communist party’, but then would refuse to produce the names.
 - Senators, when speaking in the senate, are immune from the charge of **slander** (knowingly telling lies to hurt another person’s reputation)
- Successful strategy
 - McCarthy won reelection and became famous
 - However, when he accused the army of having tons of communist subversives, and called hearings on this issue, army officials blasted McCarthy and burst his imaginary bubble. He became a national disgrace

Impact of the Red Scare on American People

- bomb shelters in suburbia
- Duck and cover drills in schools
- Demand for **conformity** (doing the same thing everyone else is doing) to prove loyalty
 - Same clothes, same haircut, same lifestyle and goals, etc.

PROLUM LEAD CLAD STEEL

