

FACTS ON THE BLACKLIST IN RADIO AND TELEVISION

1. IS THERE A BLACKLIST IN RADIO AND TELEVISION?

Yes. Actors, writers, musicians, directors, singers, announcers are being denied work in the industry because their names appear on lists being circulated by certain sources urging employers to boycott the services of those listed. The effect is to destroy the livelihood of those named.

2. FROM WHAT SOURCES DO THESE BLACKLISTS COME?

Counterattack, a weekly newsletter, is the chief source. For three years it has been urging the blacklisting of specific names. In June, 1950, it published a blacklist of 151 names in a book called "Red Channels". The Sign, a Catholic monthly, issued by the Passionist Fathers, published a blacklist of 61 names in its October 1949 issue in an anonymous article called "Red Fronts in Radio." The list was reprinted in the January 1950 issue of The Catholic Digest. Another major source is the American Legion, which released to the press a list of proscribed entertainers and circulated it via Legion posts.

3. WHAT IS COUNTERATTACK?

It is a weekly four-page publication that first appeared in May 1947. Its staff of eight includes six ex-FBI agents, most of whose FBI service began with World War II and ended with World War II. The publisher is American Business Consultants, Inc., at 55 West 42nd Street, NYC. The three directors, T. C. Kirkpatrick, Kenneth M. Bierly and John G. Keenan - are all members of Counterattack's staff. The publication's backers are reported to include an oil corporation, a major department store executive, a former Army general, a lobbyist for a foreign power, the wife of a powerful magazine publisher, a national church organization, etc.

4. WHAT ARE COUNTERATTACK'S OUTLETS?

Counterattack attempts to sell its newsletter to a large number of outlets: corporations, churches and synagogues, schools (public, private and parochial), colleges and universities, veteran posts, civic, trade, fraternal and patriotic organizations, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H clubs and Boys Clubs, religious organizations, teachers, law enforcement agencies, newspapers, periodicals, commentators, radio and television networks and stations, advertising agencies, etc.