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Revised Resolution to the ABA re Education On Communism

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10/14/60

Revised Resolution Submitted by
Lewis F. Powell, Jr., Richmond, Va.

(Note: The original resolution was introduced in the House of Delegates on August 29, 1960, as a supplement to the resolutions of the Committee on Communist Tactics, Strategy and Objectives. The original resolution was referred to the Board of Governors for report to the February meeting of the House of Delegates. This is a proposed revision of the original resolution.)

WHEREAS, the determination of International Communism to destroy western civilization is the overriding problem of this age, transcending in importance all other problems; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that the young people of America be adequately educated with respect to this problem, including (i) the history of International Communism, (ii) the major characteristics of Communist doctrine, and (iii) the techniques relied upon to expand and consolidate Communist influence and domination throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, although much is being done in the public and private secondary schools of our country to educate our young people in this respect, this is usually undertaken in conventional courses in social studies or in survey courses in history and government where there is often a lack of depth, emphasis and concentration on International Communism; and

WHEREAS, it is believed that the national interest requires a fresh and more intensified effort to educate more

thoroughly in this area, and that one useful step would be the offering of specific courses on International Communism:

1. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Bar Association recommends:

(a) That there be added to the curriculum of secondary schools, public and private, a course devoted specifically to the study in depth of International Communism;

(b) That such courses should meet the highest academic standards of accuracy, thoroughness and scholarship;

(c) That appropriate in-service training be provided to assure that qualified teachers are available to conduct such courses;

(d) That in the training and certification of new teachers, due recognition should be accorded the need for teachers highly qualified in this respect; and

(e) That the publishers of text books and materials for secondary schools should be encouraged to prepare expeditiously the requisite materials for the training of teachers and for the conducting of such courses in our schools.

2. FURTHER RESOLVED, that the American Bar Association recommends to state and local bar associations that they cooperate with state and local boards of education in such ways as may be

mutually agreeable in the furtherance of the foregoing resolution, including the providing of competent speakers to address school assemblies, to participate in teacher seminars and forums, and to work with ^cdivic organizations in promoting a public understanding and acceptance of the need for specific and more intensive education in this area.