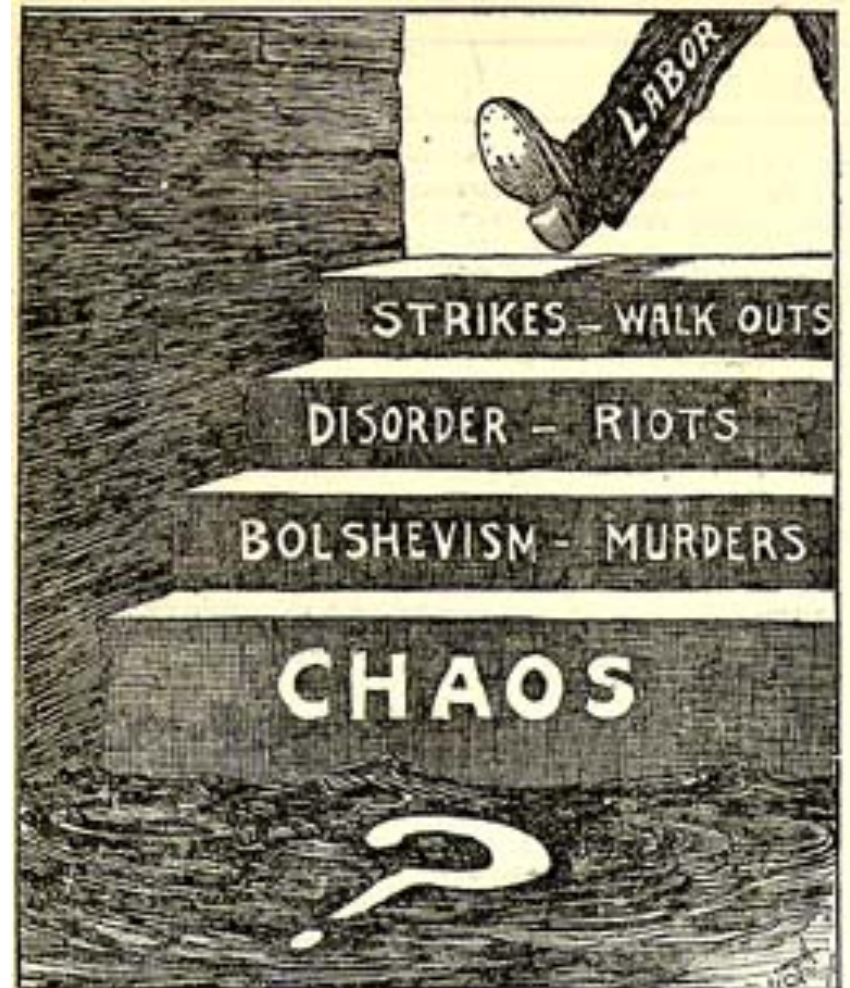
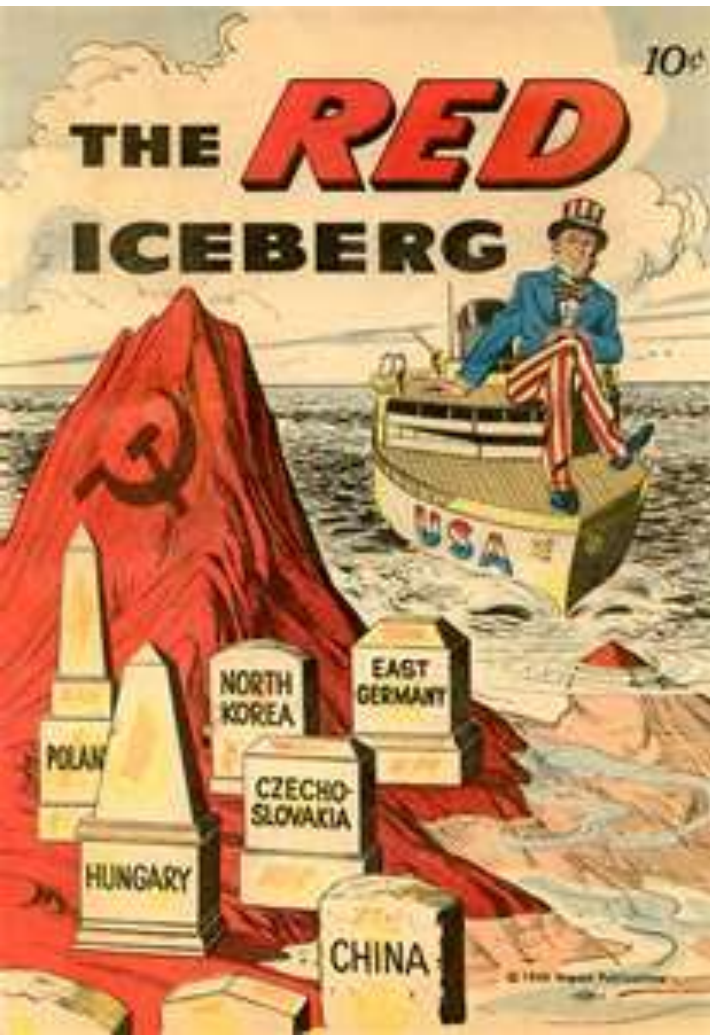


# The Second Red Scare (1950s)



STEP BY STEP

# 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
- The Republican party, in particular, more heavily made up of the wealthy and conservative Americans, led the attacks on these subversives

# 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.
  - **Blacklists**
  - Robin Hood?

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



# 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!



# Judge in the Rosenberg case, when handing down his sentence

“I consider your crime worse than murder... I believe your conduct in putting into the hands of the Russians the A-Bomb years before our best scientists predicted Russia would perfect the bomb has already caused, in my opinion, the Communist aggression in Korea, with the resultant casualties exceeding 50,000 and who knows but that millions more of innocent people may pay the price of your treason. Indeed, by your betrayal you undoubtedly have altered the course of history to the disadvantage of our country. No one can say that we do not live in a constant state of tension. We have evidence of your treachery all around us every day for the civilian defense activities throughout the nation are aimed at preparing us for an atom bomb attack.”



# 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
  - [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IAur\\_I077NA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IAur_I077NA)

"I HOLD IN MY HANDS —"

"I HAVE HERE IN MY HAND ----"



HERBLOCK  
©1959 THE WASHINGTON POST CO.



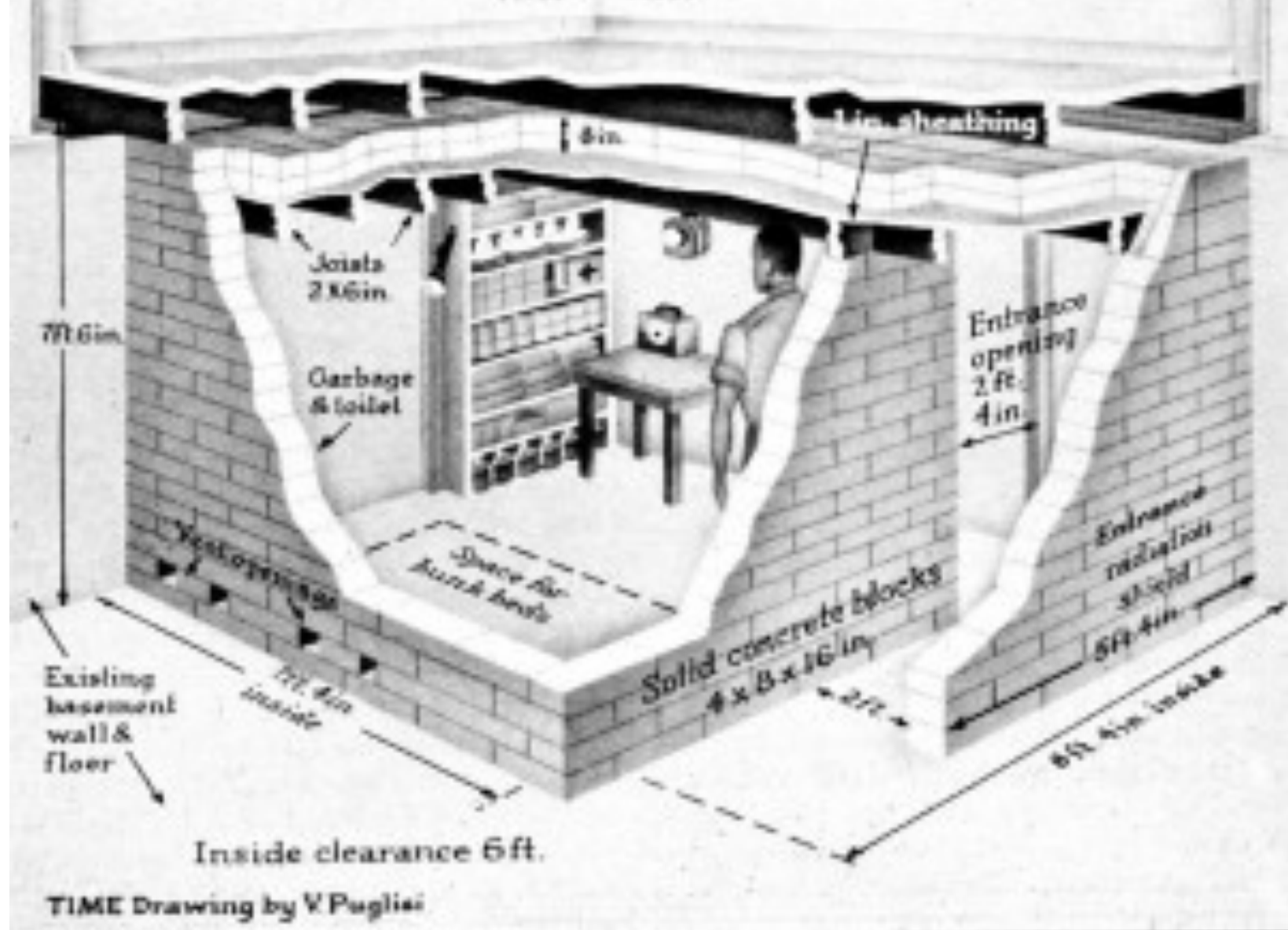
# Impact of the Red Scare on American People

- 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.

# DO-IT-YOURSELF SHELTER

(FALLOUT PROTECTION FOR SIX - \$150 to \$200)

First floor



LEAD CLAD  
STEEL

AIR  
FILTER

# America in the 1950s

*A silent generation  
creates the nuclear family*

← PERISCOPE

AIR EXHAUST  
PUMP

GEIGER COUNTER

PLUMBING

RADIO

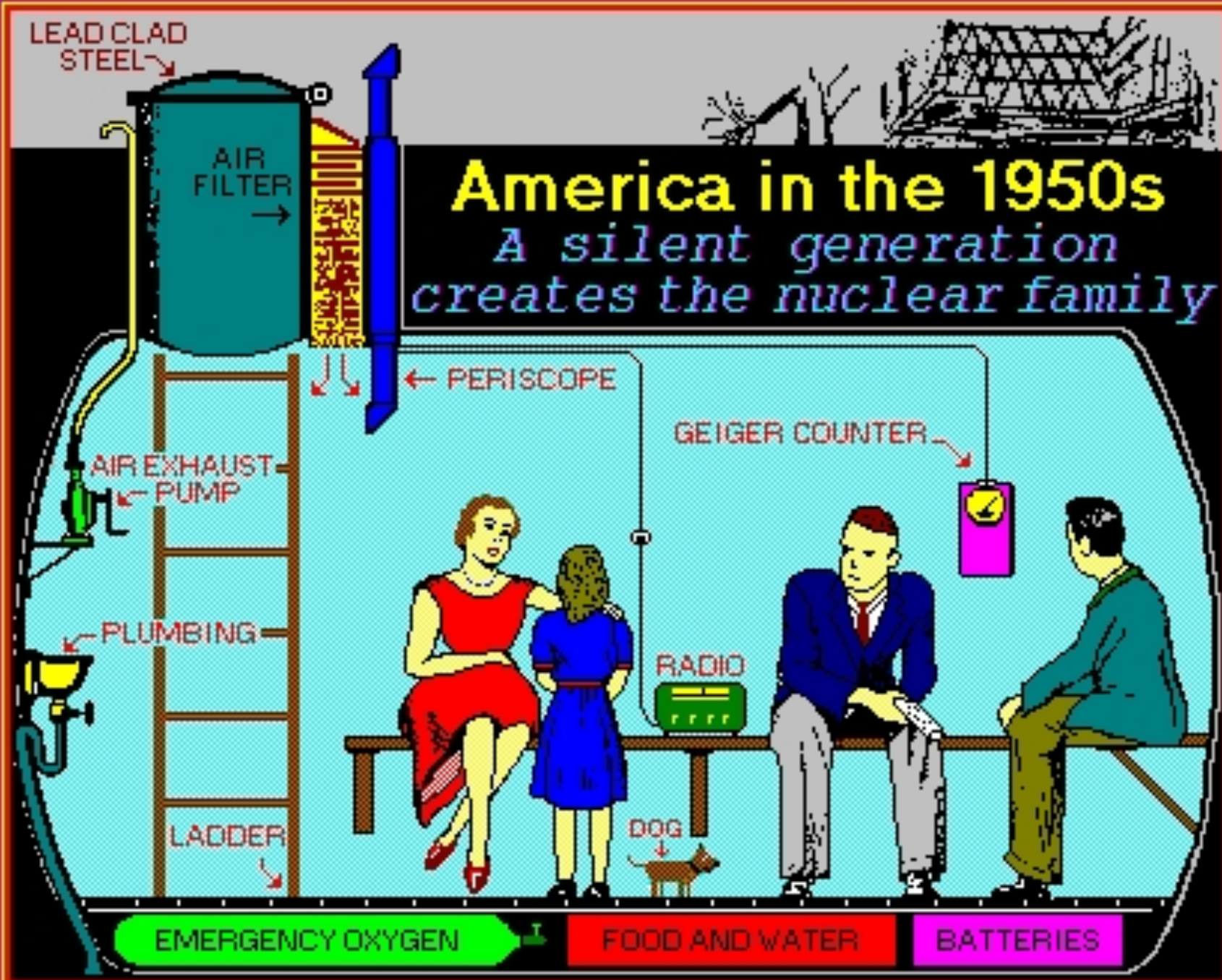
LADDER

DOG

EMERGENCY OXYGEN

FOOD AND WATER

BATTERIES



### The Second Red Scare (the 1950s)

#### Paranoia

- After World War II, the Soviet Union \_\_\_\_\_. For the first time, the Soviet Union and Communism \_\_\_\_\_.
- There were small groups \_\_\_\_\_. A fear spread that these Americans might engage in **subversive** (\_\_\_\_\_) activities
- \_\_\_\_\_ more heavily made up of the \_\_\_\_\_ Americans, \_\_\_\_\_ on these subversives

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  - \_\_\_\_\_!

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- \_\_\_\_\_ drills in schools
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