

"The Sacred Fire

of Liberty"



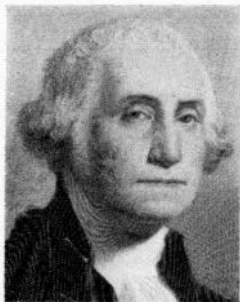
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AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION
170 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, N. Y.



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*Cover photograph,
courtesy Ewing Galloway*



“The preservation of *the sacred fire of liberty* and the destiny of the republican model of government are justly considered as deeply and finally staked on the experiment entrusted to the hands of the American people.”

—*George Washington*

In the United States there is only one permanent, national, non-partisan organization devoted *solely* and *wholly* to guarding "the sacred fire of liberty" and furthering the democratic way of life through defense of the Bill of Rights for all—without distinction or compromise. That organization is the—

**American
Civil
Liberties
Union**



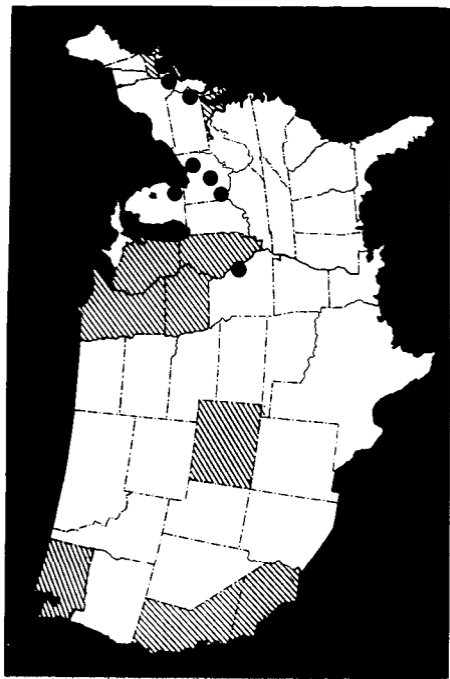
Since 1920 the American Civil Liberties Union has actively championed the rights of man set forth in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution:

Freedom of inquiry and expression
—speech, press, assembly and religion—*for everybody.*

Due process of law and fair trial—*for everybody.*

Equality before the law—*for everybody*—regardless of race, color, place of birth, position, income, political opinion, or religious belief.

The ACLU's reputation for integrity is unchallenged. All anti-democratic influences (Communist, Fascist, KKK included) are barred from its governing councils and staffs. The ACLU recognizes clearly the distinction between dissident *opinion* and subversive *action*.



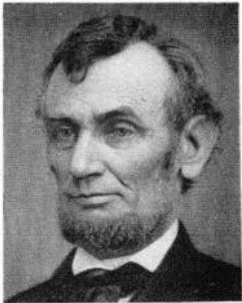
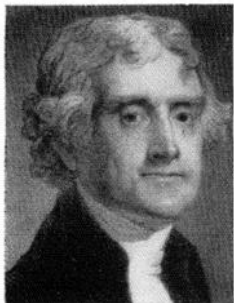
The ACLU has major branches in 18 areas of 15 states:

Southern California Branch
(headquarters: Los Angeles)
ACLU of Northern California (San Francisco)
Colorado Branch (Denver)
New Haven Civil Liberties Council
Chicago Division (its area: all of Illinois)
Iowa Civil Liberties Union (Des Moines)
Maryland Civil Liberties Committee (Baltimore)
Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts (Boston)
Metropolitan Detroit Branch
Minnesota Branch (Minneapolis)
St. Louis Civil Liberties Committee
New York Civil Liberties Union
(Greater New York City)
Civil Liberties Union of Central Ohio (Columbus)*
Cincinnati Chapter*
Cleveland Civil Liberties Union*
Greater Philadelphia Branch
State of Washington Branch (Seattle)
Wisconsin Branch (Madison)

Many of these groups have chapters of their own in various localities. New ACLU affiliates are being organized now in other parts of the country.

*A state-wide Ohio branch is now (1953) being formed.

Remember how these Americans regarded civil liberties:



"Equal and exact justice to all men . . . freedom of religion, freedom of the press, freedom of person under the protection of *habeas corpus*; and trials by juries impartially selected—these form the bright constellation which has gone before us."

—*Thomas Jefferson*

"I feel you do not fully comprehend the danger of abridging the liberties of the people. A government had better go to the very extreme of toleration than do aught that could be construed into an interference with the common rights of the citizen."

—*Abraham Lincoln*

For a third of a century the ACLU has fought for the civil liberties principles of Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln.

The Union defended the constitutional rights of Sacco & Vanzetti, Mooney & Billings, and the Scottsboro defendants. It championed the right to teach evolution in the famous Tennessee Scopes trial.

The ACLU put an end to Mayor Hague's suppression of his political opponents. It helped win the vote for American Indians. It has always been in forefront of the struggle for Negro rights.

The Union successfully challenged labor injunctions and "yellow-dog" contracts, and has defended employers' rights to free speech in union relations.

During World War II, it assailed the detention of Japanese Americans; and it has always stood up for the rights of conscientious objectors.

The ACLU has combatted censorship everywhere—even in Boston, where it took the ban on the book "Strange Fruit" to the Supreme Court of Massachusetts.

Today the ACLU with its Board and National Committee of leaders in every field, its eighteen active branches, its corps of volunteer lawyers, and its experienced staff, is engaged primarily on four fronts:

1. Combatting those indiscriminate federal, state and local measures, which though aimed at Communists, threaten the civil liberties of all.
2. Working to make an effective civil rights program the law of the land.
3. Fighting both governmental and private pressure group censorship of movies, plays, books, newspapers, magazines, radio and television.
4. Promoting international civil liberties through support of United Nations efforts for human rights.

Test court cases, opposition to repressive legislation, public protests on every inroad of rights: these are some of the ACLU's broad, militant, and often effective activities — needed in these hectic days as never before.

Americans today face a great challenge: how to maintain this a Free Nation of Free People without jeopardizing the security of our country.

To help achieve this aim, an ever-increasing number of Americans — now more than 25,000 — have banded together as members of the American Civil Liberties Union. **YOU ARE NEEDED TOO.** The ACLU depends completely on its members for its entire support.

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SUSTAINING MEMBER	\$25	CONTRIBUTING MEMBER	\$ 5

PARTICIPATING MEMBER...\$100

Members listed above receive the ACLU's annual report on U.S. liberties, the Union's monthly paper *Civil Liberties*, and other material of general interest. They are also entitled to single copies of some 25 ACLU pamphlets, without charge. The Union's weekly Feature Press Service, whose main content is largely duplicated by *Civil Liberties* and which is designed primarily for free distribution to the press, is available on request to contributors of \$10 and over.

REMEMBER: By joining the national ACLU you automatically become a member of the branch in your area (see page 7) or of any new chapter organized. Your local shares in your dues, and the larger your contribution, the more your branch will receive. (This does not apply in northern California, where the local ACLU maintains its membership separately. However, the national ACLU also welcomes members from this area.)

Associate Members at \$2 receive Civil Liberties and the Annual Report.

ALL MEMBERS VOTE IN THE ANNUAL ELECTION OF THE
NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Join the American Civil Liberties Union!

Preserve the "Sacred Fire of Liberty" !

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

National Office

170 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Here is my \$..... membership contribution to the work of the ACLU.

NAME

Please ADDRESS

Print CITY..... ZONE..... STATE.....

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REMARKS

Join the American Civil Liberties Union!

The New York Times

August 28, 1952

"The American Civil Liberties Union [is a] useful and thoroughly patriotic organization. . . . To equate patriotism with conformity, orthodoxy and name-calling is dangerous nonsense; and this cannot be pointed out too often."

The Washington Post

August 30, 1952

"The ACLU . . . has proven, over the years, that it knows and understands what true Americanism means."

Bergen Evening Record

Hackensack, N.J., September 3, 1952

"If the battle for democracy in the United States is ever lost it will be lost, in a manner of speaking, over the dead body of the American Civil Liberties Union."