MENACE
Director: John Hughes
Australia, 1975-77, colour, 68 mins.

The invention of the Cold War in the mid 1940s created a popular fear about communists and their ideology. Despite détente and improving East-West relations, thirty years later the challenge to separate myth from historical fact still exists.

This film examines anti-communist sentiment and proposed legislation to outlaw communism in Australia during Menzies' period as Prime Minister. The Royal Commission into the Victorian Branch of the Communist Party in 1949 and the Communist Party Dissolution Bill are discussed by individuals who were directly involved in defending the livelihood of a minority political party and freedom of political expression in our democratic society.

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