

GUS HALL BEING RELEASED TOMORROW

Gus Hall, one of the earliest of the victims of thought control provisions of the Smith Act, is scheduled to be released tomorrow (Saturday) from the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kan.

Hall, a Navy veteran and former national secretary of the Communist Party, will have served an eight-year prison sentence minus statutory time off for good behavior, when he is freed to return to his family in Cleveland.

Hall's attorney, John Abt, said he would appear in U. S. District Court today in Leavenworth to arrange matters of bail for Hall for a second Smith Act indictment charging individual membership in the Communist Party. The Justice Department is attempting to imprison Hall further on the membership indictment.

Hall was sentenced by Judge Harold Medina in 1949 to five

years imprisonment along with ten other national Communist Party leaders. He became a political refugee in 1951 was arrested that summer in Mexico and was later sentenced to a three-year additional term for contempt of court.

Hall's release will be a "conditional" one. And he will be required to report regularly to a federal parole officer after he is freed.

A former lumberjack and steel worker, Hall served as an organizer in the steel workers union organizing drive in Ohio in the 1930s. In addition he served as Communist Party chairman in Ohio.

When he is released he will return to his home in Cleveland where his wife and two children reside.



GUS HALL