

U.S. Senator Joseph McCarthy's Accusations & President Truman's Response

Communists in the State Dept. 1950, Transcript Excerpt	2
McCarthy's Telegram to Truman, Feb. 11, 1950	6
Transcript	12
Pres. Truman's Unsent Response	14
Transcript	15
Pres. Truman's Press Conference, March 30, 1950	16
Transcript	23

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**Sen. McCarthy's Accusation
Communists in the State Department
TRANSCRIPT EXCERPT**

In February 1950, a senator from Wisconsin made his mark in Cold War history with the following speech. As the Cold War was beginning, Joseph McCarthy warned America about the communist threat from within the government. In the following excerpt, McCarthy names several people working within the State Department and describes their crimes in detail. Those he accused lost their jobs and were branded communist — but McCarthy never proved their guilt.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Tonight as we celebrate the 141st birthday of one of the great men in American history, I would like to be able to talk about what a glorious day today is in the history of the world. As we celebrate the birth of this man, who with his whole heart and soul hated war, I would like to be able to speak of peace in our time, of war being outlawed, and of worldwide disarmament. These would be truly appropriate things to be able to mention as we celebrate the birthday of Abraham Lincoln.

Five years after a world war has been won, men's hearts should anticipate a long peace, and men's minds should be free from the heavy weight that comes with war. But this is not such a period — for this is not a period of peace. This is a time of the Cold War. This is a time when all the world is split into two vast, increasingly hostile armed camps — a time of a great armaments race. Today we can almost physically hear the mutterings and rumblings of an invigorated god of war. You can see it, feel it, and hear it all the way from the hills of Indochina, from the shores of Formosa right over into the very heart of Europe itself...

Today we are engaged in a final, all-out battle between communistic atheism and Christianity. The modern champions of communism have selected this as the time. And, ladies and gentlemen, the chips are down — they are truly down.

Lest there be any doubt that the time has been chosen, let us go directly to the leader of communism today — Joseph Stalin. Here is what he said — not back in 1928, not before the war, not during the war — but two years after the last war was ended: "To think that the communist revolution can be carried out peacefully, within the framework of a Christian democracy, means one has either gone out of one's mind and lost all normal understanding, or has grossly and openly repudiated the communist revolution."

And this is what was said by Lenin in 1919, which was also quoted with approval by Stalin in 1947: "We are living," said Lenin, "not merely in a state but in a system of states, and the existence of the Soviet Republic side by side with Christian states for a long time is unthinkable. One or the other must triumph in the end. And before that end supervenes, a series of frightful collisions between the Soviet Republic and the bourgeois states will be inevitable."

Ladies and gentlemen, can there be anyone here tonight who is so blind as to say that the war is not on? Can there be anyone who fails to realize that the communist world has said, "The time is now" — that this is the time for the showdown between the democratic Christian world and the communist atheistic world? Unless we face this fact, we shall pay the price that must be paid by those who wait too long.

Six years ago, at the time of the first conference to map out peace — Dumbarton Oaks — there was within the Soviet orbit 180 million people. Lined up on the anti-totalitarian side there were in the world at that time roughly 1.625 billion people. Today, only six years later, there are 800 million people under the absolute domination of Soviet Russia — an increase of over 400 percent. On our side, the figure has shrunk to around 500 million. In other words, in less than six years the odds have changed from 9 to 1 in our favor to 8 to 5 against us. This indicates the swiftness of the tempo of communist victories and American defeats in the Cold War. As one of our outstanding historical figures once said, "When a great democracy is destroyed, it will not be because of enemies from without but rather because of enemies from within." The truth of this statement is becoming terrifyingly clear as we see this country each day losing on every front.

At war's end we were physically the strongest nation on Earth and, at least potentially, the most powerful intellectually and morally. Ours could have been the honor of being a beacon in the desert of destruction, a shining, living proof that civilization was not yet ready to destroy itself. Unfortunately, we have failed miserably and tragically to arise to the opportunity.

The reason why we find ourselves in a position of impotency is not because our only powerful, potential enemy has sent men to invade our shores, but rather because of the traitorous actions of those who have been treated so well by this nation. It has not been the less fortunate or members of minority groups who have been selling this nation out, but rather those who have had all the benefits that the wealthiest nation on earth has had to offer — the finest homes, the finest college education, and the finest jobs in government we can give.

This is glaringly true in the State Department. There the bright young men who are born with silver spoons in their mouths are the ones who have been worst.

Now I know it is very easy for anyone to condemn a particular bureau or department in general terms. Therefore, I would like to cite one rather unusual case — the case of a man who has done much to shape our foreign policy.

When Chiang Kai-shek was fighting our war, the State Department had in China a young man named John S. Service. His task, obviously, was not to work for the communization of China. Strangely, however, he sent official reports back to the State Department urging that we torpedo our ally Chiang Kai-shek and stating, in effect, that communism was the best hope of China.

Later, this man — John Service — was picked up by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for turning over to the communists secret State Department information. Strangely, however, he was never prosecuted. However, Joseph Grew, the undersecretary of state, who insisted on his prosecution, was forced to resign. Two days after, Grew's successor, Dean Acheson, took over as undersecretary of state, this man — John Service — who had been picked up by the FBI and who had previously urged that communism was the best hope of China, was not only reinstated in the State Department but promoted; and finally, under Acheson, placed in charge of all placements and promotions. Today, ladies and gentlemen, this man Service is on his way to represent the State Department and Acheson in Calcutta — by far and away the most important listening post in the Far East.

Now, let's see what happens when individuals with communist connections are forced out of the State Department. Gustave Duran, who was labeled as, I quote, "a notorious international communist," was made assistant secretary of state in charge of Latin American affairs. He was taken into the State Department from his job as a lieutenant colonel in the Communist International Brigade. Finally, after intense congressional pressure and criticism, he resigned in

1946 from the State Department — and, ladies and gentlemen, where do you think he is now? He took over a high-salaried job as chief of Cultural Activities Section in the office of the assistant secretary-general of the United Nations...

This, ladies and gentlemen, gives you somewhat of a picture of the type of individuals who have been helping to shape our foreign policy. In my opinion the State Department, which is one of the most important government departments, is thoroughly infested with communists.

I have in my hand 57 cases of individuals who would appear to be either card-carrying members or certainly loyal to the Communist Party, but who nevertheless are still helping to shape our foreign policy.

One thing to remember in discussing the communists in our government is that we are not dealing with spies who get 30 pieces of silver to steal the blueprints of new weapons. We are dealing with a far more sinister type of activity because it permits the enemy to guide and shape our policy.

This brings us down to the case of one Alger Hiss, who is important not as an individual anymore but rather because he is so representative of a group in the State Department. It is unnecessary to go over the sordid events showing how he sold out the nation which had given him so much. Those are rather fresh in all of our minds. However, it should be remembered that the facts in regard to his connection with this international communist spy ring were made known to the then-Undersecretary of State Berle three days after Hitler and Stalin signed the Russo-German Alliance Pact. At that time one Whittaker Chambers — who was also part of the spy ring — apparently decided that with Russia on Hitler's side, he could no longer betray our nation to Russia. He gave Undersecretary of State Berle — and this is all a matter of record — practically all, if not more, of the facts upon which Hiss' conviction was based.

Undersecretary Berle promptly contacted Dean Acheson and received word in return that Acheson, and I quote, "could vouch for Hiss absolutely" — at which time the matter was dropped. And this, you understand, was at a time when Russia was an ally of Germany. This condition existed while Russia and Germany were invading and dismembering Poland, and while the communist groups here were screaming "warmonger" at the United States for their support of the Allied nations.

Again in 1943, the FBI had occasion to investigate the facts surrounding Hiss' contacts with the Russian spy ring. But even after that FBI report was submitted, nothing was done.

Then, late in 1948 — on August 5 — when the Un-American Activities Committee called Alger Hiss to give an accounting, President Truman at once issued a presidential directive ordering all government agencies to refuse to turn over any information whatsoever in regard to the communist activities of any government employee to a congressional committee.

Incidentally, even after Hiss was convicted, it is interesting to note that the president still labeled the expose of Hiss as a "red herring."

If time permitted, it might be well to go into detail about the fact that Hiss was Roosevelt's chief adviser at Yalta when Roosevelt was admittedly in ill health and tired physically and mentally ... and when, according to the secretary of state, Hiss and Gromyko drafted the report on the conference.

According to the then-Secretary of State Stettinius, here are some of the things that Hiss helped to decide at Yalta: (1) the establishment of a European High Commission; (2) the treatment of Germany — this you will recall was the conference at which it was decided that we would occupy Berlin with Russia occupying an area completely encircling the city, which as you know, resulted in the Berlin airlift which cost 31 American lives; (3) the Polish question; (4) the relationship between UNRRA and the Soviet; (5) the rights of Americans on control commissions of Rumania, Bulgaria and Hungary; (6) Iran; (7) China — here's where we gave away Manchuria; (8) Turkish Straits question; (9) international trusteeships; (10) Korea.

Of the results of this conference, Arthur Bliss Lane of the State Department had this to say: "As I glanced over the document, I could not believe my eyes. To me, almost every line spoke of a surrender to Stalin."

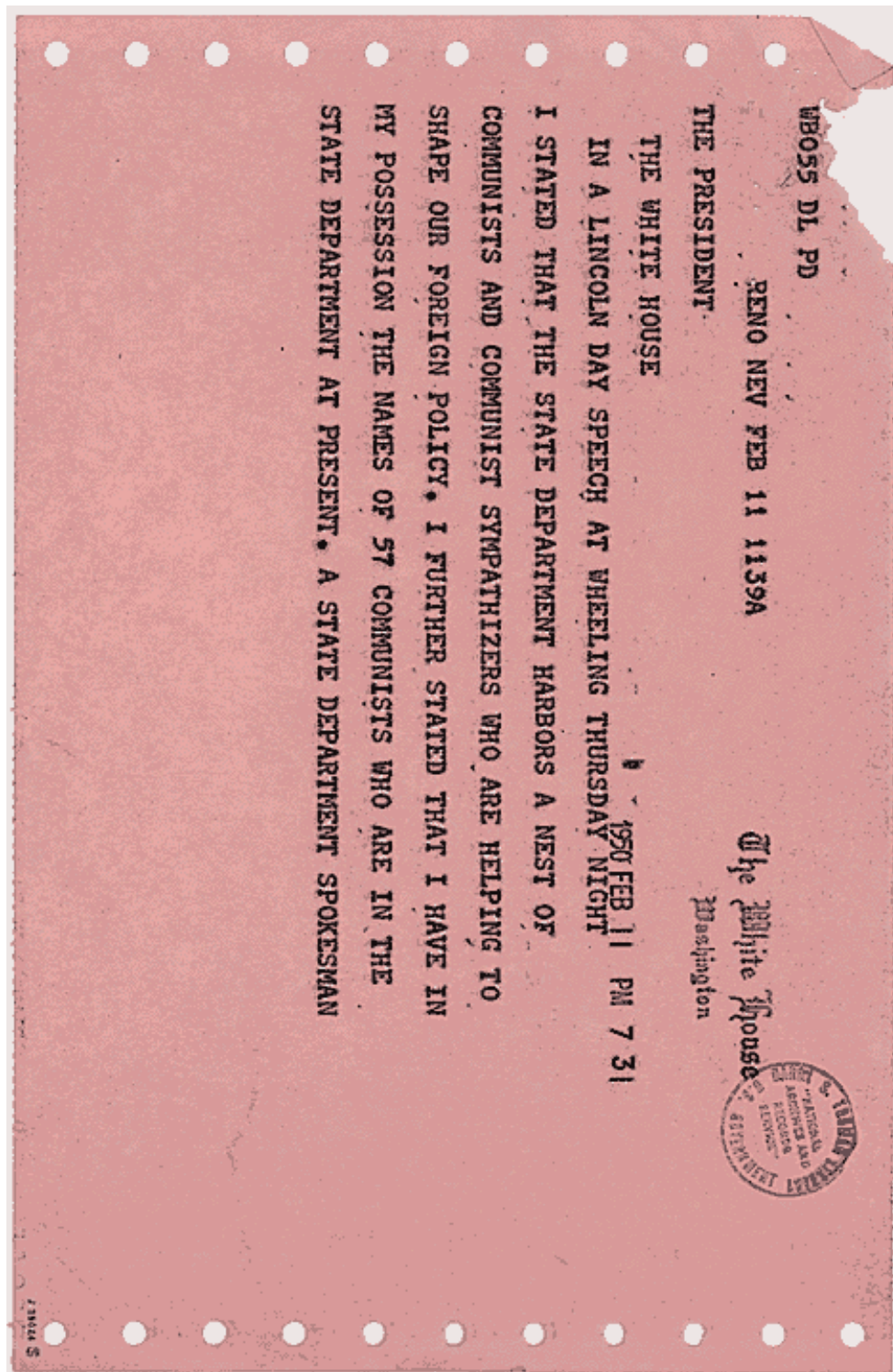
As you hear this story of high treason, I know that you are saying to yourself, "Well, why doesn't the Congress do something about it?" Actually, ladies and gentlemen, one of the important reasons for the graft, the corruption, the dishonesty, the disloyalty, the treason in high government positions — one of the most important reasons why this continues — is a lack of moral uprising on the part of the 140 million American people. In the light of history, however, this is not hard to explain.

It is the result of an emotional hangover and a temporary moral lapse which follows every war. It is the apathy to evil which people who have been subjected to the tremendous evils of war feel. As the people of the world see mass murder, the destruction of defenseless and innocent people, and all of the crime and lack of morals which go with war, they become numb and apathetic. It has always been thus after war. However, the morals of our people have not been destroyed. They still exist. This cloak of numbness and apathy has only needed a spark to rekindle them. Happily, this spark has finally been supplied.

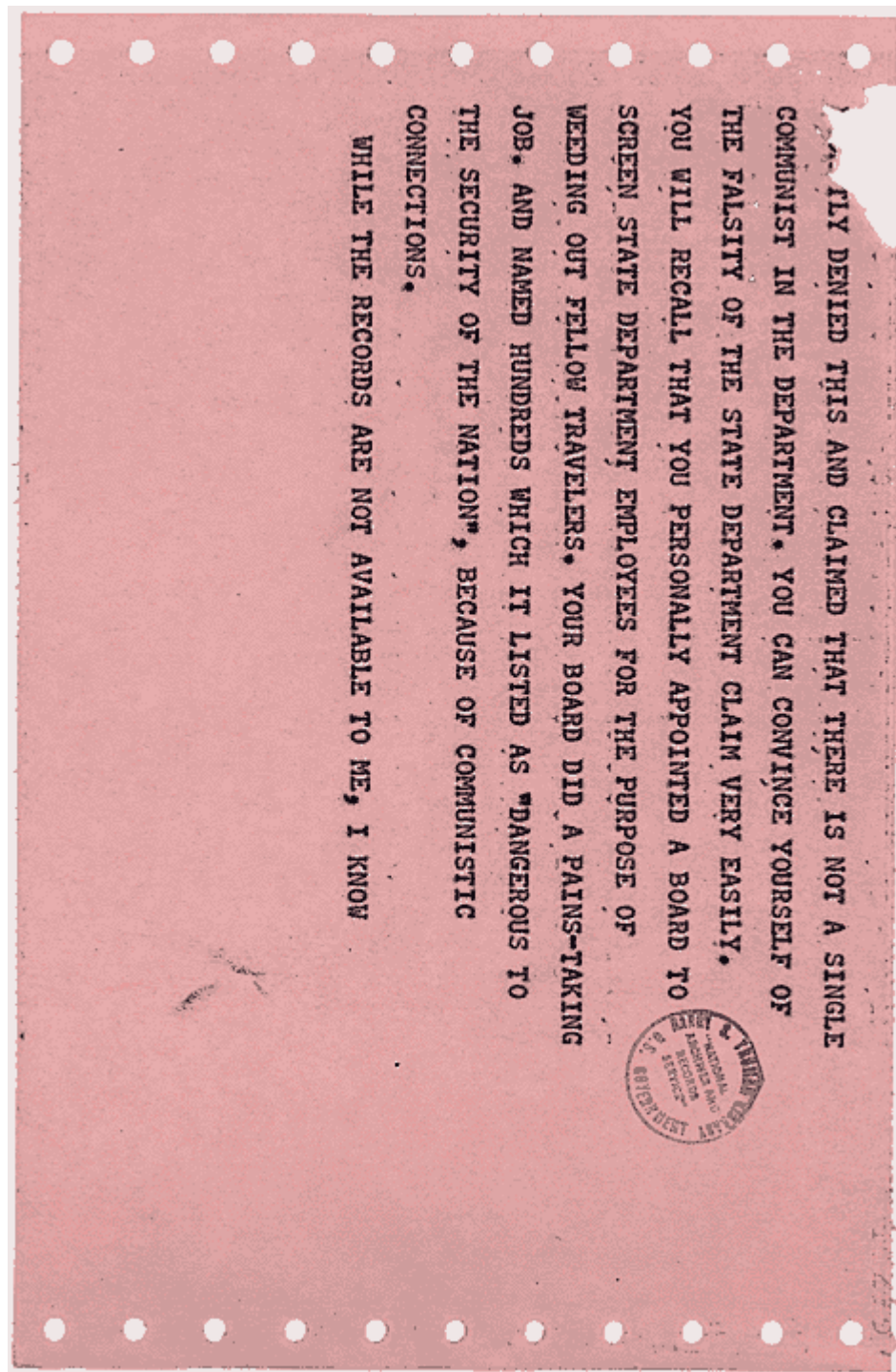
As you know, very recently the secretary of state proclaimed his loyalty to a man guilty of what has always been considered as the most abominable of all crimes — of being a traitor to the people who gave him a position of great trust. The secretary of state, in attempting to justify his continued devotion to the man who sold out the Christian world to the atheistic world, referred to Christ's Sermon on the Mount as a justification and reason therefore, and the reaction of the American people to this would have made the heart of Abraham Lincoln happy. When this pompous diplomat in striped pants, with a phony British accent, proclaimed to the American people that Christ on the Mount endorsed communism, high treason, and betrayal of a sacred trust, the blasphemy was so great that it awakened the dormant indignation of the American people.

He has lighted the spark which is resulting in a moral uprising and will end only when the whole sorry mess of twisted warped thinkers are swept from the national scene so that we may have a new birth of national honesty and decency in government.

Sen. McCarthy's Accusation
Telegram to President Truman, Page 1



Sen. McCarthy's Accusation
Telegram to President Truman, Page 2

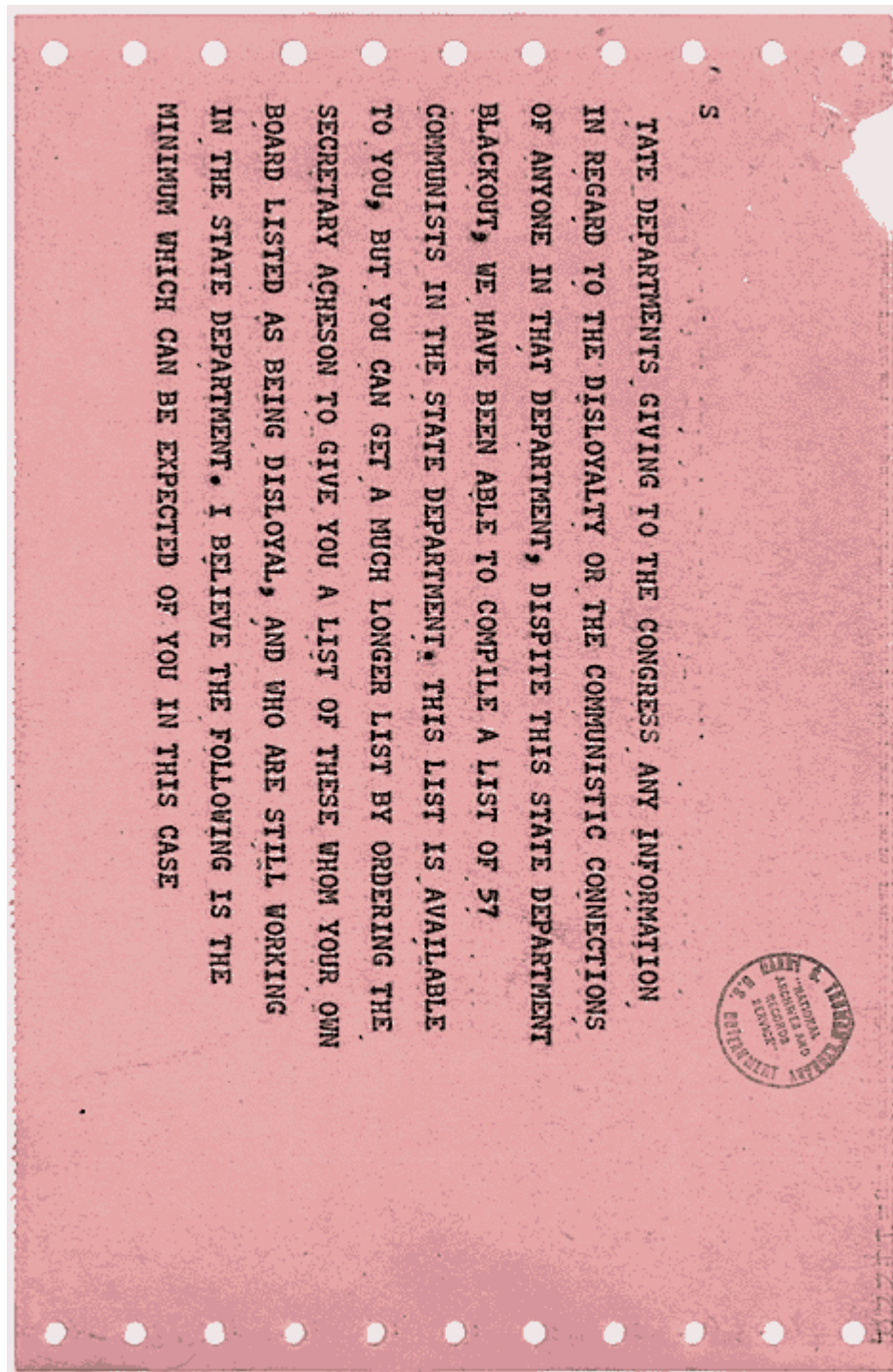


Sen. McCarthy's Accusation
Telegram to President Truman, Page 3

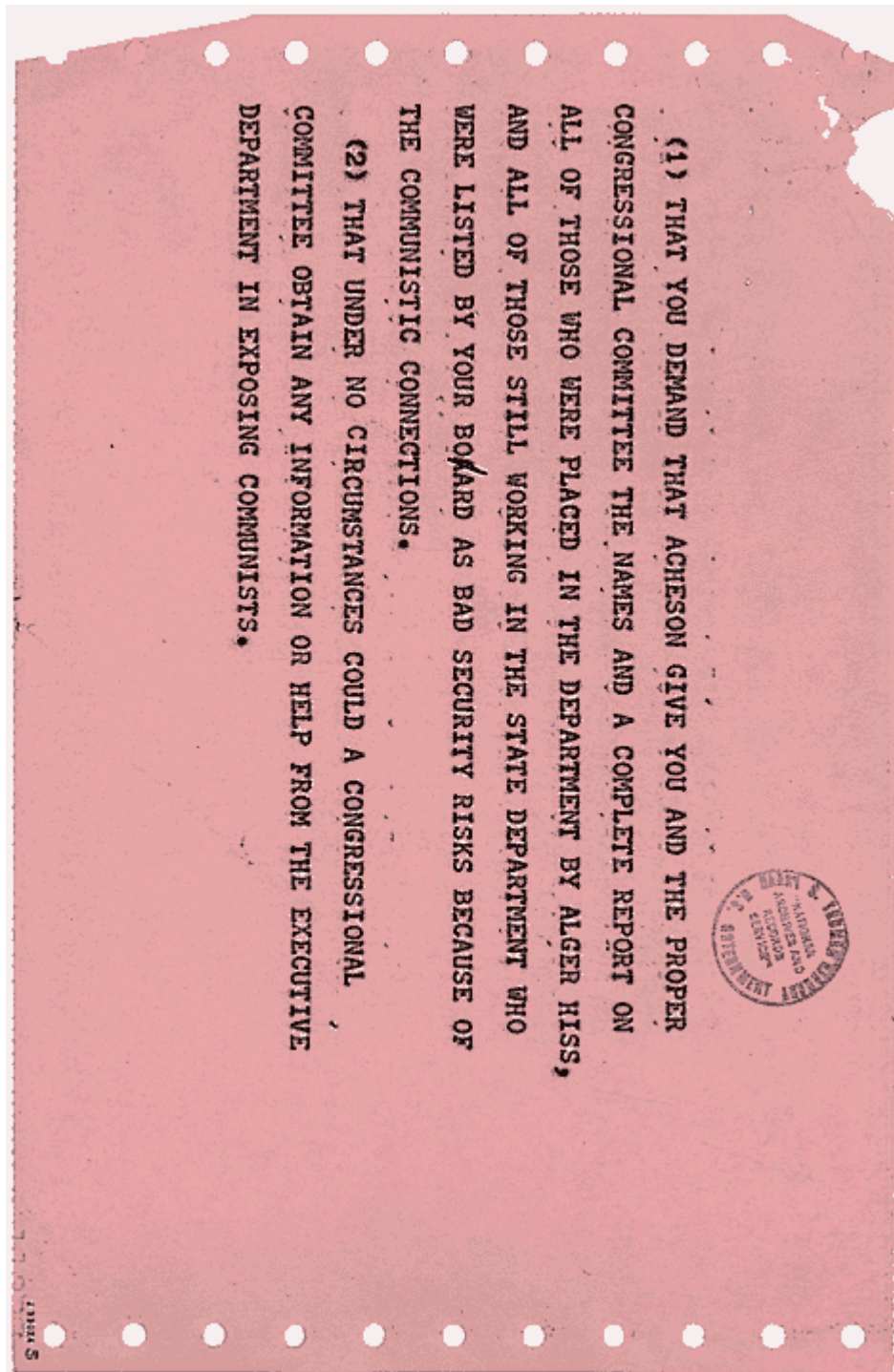
...ELY THAT OF ONE GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY 300 CERTIFIED
TO THE SECRETARY FOR DISCHARGE, HE ACTUALLY DISCHARGED ONLY
APPROXIMATELY 80. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS WAS DONE AFTER
LENGTHY CONSULTATION WITH ALGER HISS. I WOULD SUGGEST
THEREFORE, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT YOU SIMPLY PICK UP YOUR
PHONE AND ASK MR. ACHESON HOW MANY OF THOSE WHOM YOUR
BOARD HAD LABELED AS DANGEROUS, HE FAILED TO DISCHARGE.
THE DAY THE HOUSE UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE EXPOSED
ALGER HISS AS AN IMPORTANT LINK IN AN INTER-NATIONAL
COMMUNIST SPY RING, YOU SIGNED AN ORDER FORBIDDING THE



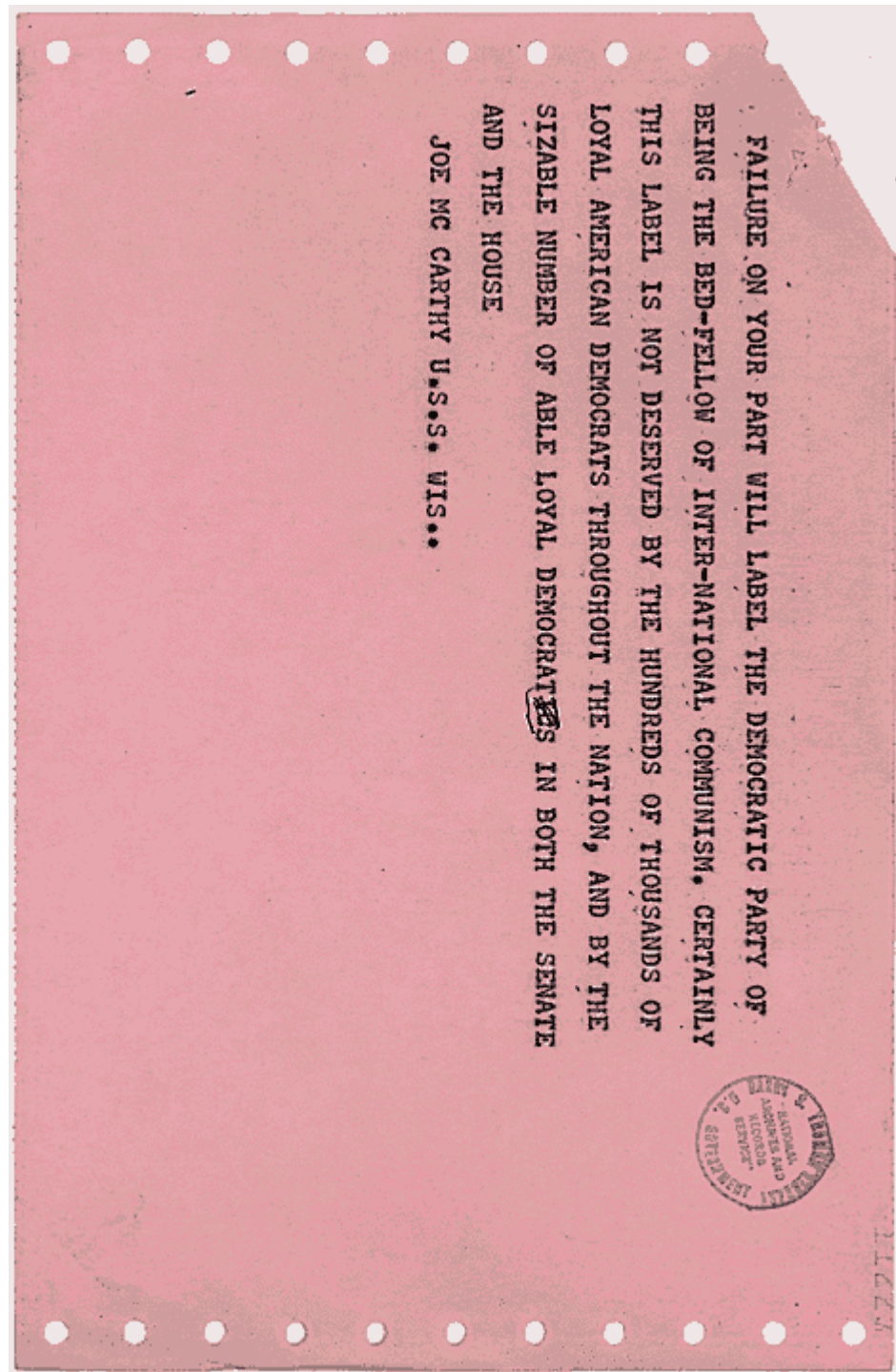
Sen. McCarthy's Accusation
Telegram to President Truman, Page 4



Sen. McCarthy's Accusation
Telegram to President Truman, Page 5



Sen. McCarthy's Accusation
Telegram to President Truman, Page 6



**Sen. McCarthy's Accusation
Telegram to President Truman
TRANSCRIPT**

RENO NEV FEB 11 1139A

(*"The White House Washington" stamp*)

THE PRESIDENT
THE WHITE HOUSE

In a Lincoln Day speech at Wheeling Thursday night I stated that the State Department harbors a nest of Communists and Communist sympathizers who are helping to shape our foreign policy. I further stated that I have in my possession the names of 57 Communists who are in the State Department at present. A State Department spokesman . . .

(Page 2)

_____ly denied this and claimed that there is not a single Communist in the Department. You can convince yourself of the falsity of the State Department claim very easily. You will recall that you personally appointed a board to screen State Department employees for the purpose of weeding out fellow travelers. Your board did a pains-taking job. And named hundreds which it listed as "dangerous to the security of the nation", because of Communistic connections.

While the records are not available to me, I know . . .

(Page 3)

_____ly that of one group of approximately 300 certified to the Secretary for discharge, he actually discharged only approximately 80. I understand that this was done after lengthy consultation with Alger Hiss. I would suggest therefore, Mr. President, that you simply pick up your phone and ask Mr. Acheson how many of those whom your board had labeled as dangerous, he failed to discharge. The day the House Un-American Activities Committee exposed Alger Hiss as an important link in an inter-national Communist spy ring, you signed an order forbidding the . . .

(Page 4)

State Departments giving to the Congress any information in regard to the disloyalty or the Communistic connections of anyone in that department, despite [sic] this State Department blackout, we have been able to compile a list of 57 Communists in the State Department. This list is available to you, but you can get a much longer list by ordering the Secretary Acheson to give you a list of these whom your own board listed as being disloyal, and who are still working in the State department. I believe the following is the minimum which can be expected of you in this case . . .

(Page 5)

- (1) That you demand that Acheson give you and the proper Congressional committee the names and a complete report on all of those who were placed in the Department by Alger Hiss, and all of those still working in the State Department who were listed by your board [sic] as bad security risks because of the Communistic connections.
- (2) That under no circumstances could a Congressional committee obtain any information or help from the Executive Department in exposing Communists.

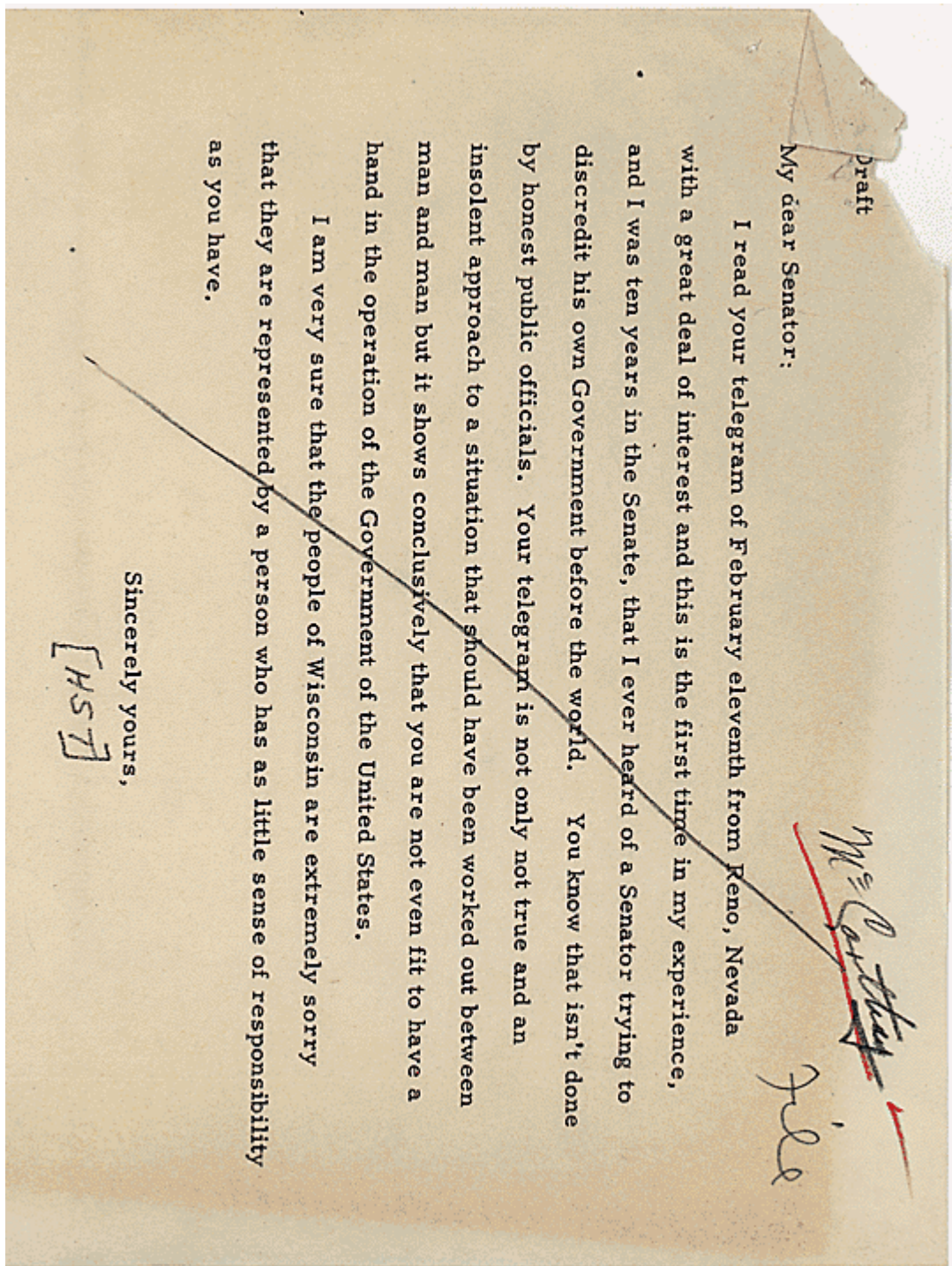
(Page 6)

Failure on your part will label the Democratic Party of being the bed-fellow of International Communism. Certainly this label is not deserved by the hundreds of thousands of loyal

American democrats throughout the nation, and by the sizable number of able loyal Democrats [sic] in both the Senate and the House

Joe McCarthy U.S.S. Wisc..

Pres. Truman's Response
President Truman's Unsented Response to Senator McCarthy



**Pres. Truman's Response
President Truman's Unsented Response to Senator McCarthy
TRANSCRIPT**

Draft

My dear Senator:

I read your telegram of February eleventh from Reno, Nevada with a great deal of interest and this is the first time in my experience, and I was ten years in the Senate, that I ever heard of a Senator trying to discredit his own Government before the world. You know that isn't done by honest public officials. Your telegram is not only not true and an insolent approach to a situation that should have been worked out between man and man but it shows conclusively that you are not even fit to have a hand in the operation of the Government of the United States.

I am very sure that the people of Wisconsin are extremely sorry that they are represented by a person who has as little sense of responsibility as you have.

Sincerely yours,

[HST]

Pres. Truman's Response
President Truman's Press Conference, March 30, 1950
Page 1

THE PRESIDENT'S PRESS AND RADIO CONFERENCE

March 30, 1950

Q. Mr. President, do you think Senator McCarthy is getting anywhere in his attempt to win the case against the State Department?

THE PRESIDENT: What's that?

Q. Do you think that Senator McCarthy can show any disloyalty exists in the State Department?

THE PRESIDENT: I think the greatest asset that the Kremlin has is Senator McCarthy.

Q. Would you care to elaborate on that?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think it needs any elaboration -- I don't think it needs any elaboration.

Q. Brother, will that hit page one tomorrow?

Q. If you think we are going to bust down the fence on what you have got later, that's a pretty good starter. (laughter)

THE PRESIDENT: What did you say?

Q. If you think we are going to bust down the fence on what you have got later, that's a pretty good starter.

Q. Mr. President, ---

Q. (interposing) Mr. President, ----

Q. (interposing) Mr. President, could we quote that one phrase, "I think the greatest asset the Kremlin has is Senator McCarthy"?

THE PRESIDENT: Now let me give you a little preliminary, and then I will tell you what I think you ought to do. Let me tell you what the situation is.

We started out in 1945, when I became President, and the two wars were still going on, and the Russians were our allies, just the same as the British and the French and the -- Brazil and the South American countries. And we won the war together. We organized the United Nations in April, 1945, and one of the first

Pres. Truman's Response
President Truman's Press Conference, March 30, 1950
Page 2

- 2 -

questions that was asked me, after I was sworn in on 7:09 o'clock on the 12th of April was whether or not the San Francisco conference on the United Nations should go ahead. And I said it certainly will. It went ahead and we finally succeeded in getting a Charter and getting it agreed to by I think 51 nations, if I remember correctly.

Then our objective was to -- as quickly as possible -- get peace in the world. We made certain agreements with the Russians and the British and the French and the Chinese. We kept those agreements to the letter. They have nearly all been -- these agreements where the Russians were involved -- been broken by the Russians. And it became perfectly evident that they had no intention of carrying out the fundamental principles of the United Nations Charter and the agreements which had been made at Teheran, Yalta and Potsdam. And it became evident that there was an endeavor on the part of the Kremlin to control the world.

A procedure was instituted which came to be known as the cold war. The airlift to Berlin was only one phase of it. People became alarmed here in the United States then, that there might be people whose sympathies were with the communist ideal of government -- which is not communism under any circumstances, it is totalitarianism of the worst brand. There isn't any difference between the totalitarian Russian government and the Hitler government and the Franco government in Spain. They are all alike. They are police governments -- police state governments.

In 1947, I instituted a loyalty program for Government employees, and that loyalty procedure program was set up in such a way that the rights of individuals were respected.

In a survey of the 2,200,000 employees at that time, I think there was some 205 -- something like that -- who left the service. I don't know -- a great many of them left of their own accord.

Pres. Truman's Response

President Truman's Press Conference, March 30, 1950
Page 3

- 3 -

Q. How many, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT: Somewhere in the neighborhood of 205. Does anybody remember those figures exactly? It's a very small figure.

Q. Very small.

THE PRESIDENT: An infinitesimal part of one percent. We will get the figures for you.

And then, for political background, the Republicans have been trying vainly to find an issue on which to make a bid for the control of the Congress for next year. They tried statism. They tried welfare state. They tried socialism. And there are a certain number of members of the Republican Party who are trying to dig up that old malodorous dead horse called isolationism. And in order to do that, they are perfectly willing to sabotage the bipartisan foreign policy of the United States. And this fiasco which has been going on in the Senate is the very best asset that the Kremlin could have in the operation of the cold war. And that is what I mean when I say that McCarthy's antics are the best asset that the Kremlin can have.

Now, if anybody really felt that there were disloyal people in the employ of the Government, the proper and the honorable way to handle the situation would be to come to the President of the United States and say, "This man is a disloyal person. He is in such and such a department." We will investigate him immediately, and if he were a disloyal person he would be immediately fired.

That is not what they want. They are trying to create an issue, and it is going to be just as big a fiasco as the campaign in New York and other places on these other false and fatuous issues.

With a little bit of intelligence they could find an issue at home without a bit of trouble. (laughter)

Pres. Truman's Response
President Truman's Press Conference, March 30, 1950

Page 4

- 4 -

Q. What would it be?

Q. What would it be, Mr. President? (more laughter.)

THE PRESIDENT: Anything in the domestic line. I will meet them on any subject they want, but to try to sabotage the foreign policy of the United States in the face of the situation with which we are faced, is just as bad as trying to cut the Army in time of war.

Q. On that question we were just kidding.

THE PRESIDENT: And that gave me a chance to give you an answer. To try to sabotage the foreign policy of the United States is just as bad in this cold war as it would be to shoot our soldiers in the back in a hot war.

I am fed up with what is going on, and I am giving you the facts as I see them.

Q. Mr. President, do you consider the Republican Party as a party?

THE PRESIDENT: It is -- the policy of the Republican Party has endorsed the antics of Mr. McCarthy.

Q. The effects the bipartisan --

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) That's what it is for -- that's what it is for. They are anxious for the return of isolationism.

Q. Do you think that this has torpedoed, then, the bipartisan ---

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) It is an endeavor to torpedo the bipartisan foreign policy. They are not going to succeed, because the level-headed Republicans do not believe that at all, as not Mr. Stinson, Senator Vandenberg, Mr. -- Senator Saltonstall, and a dozen others I could name, who know exactly what is going on, and are trying their best to cooperate. And I am going to try to help them prevent it going under.

Q. Well, Mr. President, to carry that out to its

Pres. Truman's Response
President Truman's Press Conference, March 30, 1950

Page 5

- 5 -

logical conclusion, when these people come up for re-election, with the Grace of God and so on, there is nothing that the Democratic Party can do except simply to sit on the sidelines and say, "Well?"

THE PRESIDENT: Well, it's too bad -- it's a dangerous situation, Joe (Fox), and it has got to be stopped. And every citizen in the United States is going to find out just exactly what the facts are when I get through with this thing.

Q. You will stand up on one side and they will stand up on the other?

THE PRESIDENT: There's only one side that the people will stay on, and that is the side that will lead to peace. That is all we are after. This is just another fiasco to find an issue. This is not it.

Q. Mr. President, would you like to name any others besides Senator McCarthy who have participated in this attempt to sabotage our foreign policy?

THE PRESIDENT: Senator Wherry.

Q. Yes, sir?

THE PRESIDENT: Senator Bridges.

Q. Yes, sir?

THE PRESIDENT: That's about as far as I care to go, Joe (Short).

Q. Okay, sir.

Q. Now, what I forgot to say was would you like to say anything about Mr. Acheson, and Mr. Lattimore, and ---

THE PRESIDENT: (interjecting) I think --

Q. (continuing) -- what's his name -- the Ambassador-at-large?

Q. Jessup.

Q. Jessup.

THE PRESIDENT: Jessup. I think I made myself perfectly

Pres. Truman's Response
President Truman's Press Conference, March 30, 1950

Page 6

- 6 -

clear that I think Dean Acheson is -- will go down in history as one of the great Secretaries of State. You know very well that Mr. Jessup is as able and distinguished a citizen as this country has ever produced. Lattimore is a member of the faculty of Johns Hopkins University, and is a very well informed person on foreign affairs.

Q. You don't believe he is a spy?

THE PRESIDENT: Why of course not. It's silly on the face of it.

Q. MR. President, don't you think the American people recognize this for what it is?

THE PRESIDENT: There is no doubt about it. I am just emphatically bringing it to their attention.

Q. For direct quotes, could we have that, "I think the greatest asset ---

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) I would rather you would say that the greatest asset the Kremlin has is the present approach of those in the Senate who are trying to sabotage the bipartisan foreign policy.

Q. Could we have that read back to us?

THE PRESIDENT: Sure. Jack?

MR. ROMAGNA: I'm all balled up.

THE PRESIDENT: Take your time -- take yourtime. (as this reporter pondered, the President rephrased the quote, which this reporter failed to write down. As obtained later from the newspapermen, the quote was: "The greatest asset that the Kremlin has is the partisan attempt in the Senate to sabotage the bipartisan foreign policy of the United States.")

Q. This may seem redundant, but this is just for the record, the partisan effort of course is the effort by the Republicans in the Senate ---

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) Well now, I didn't

Pres. Truman's Response
President Truman's Press Conference, March 30, 1950
Page 7

- 7 -

say that, "partisan effort." Leave it at that. Draw your own
conclusions.

(End of excerpt)

**Pres. Truman's Response
President Truman's Press Conference, March 30, 1950
TRANSCRIPT**

The President's Press and Radio Conference
March 30, 1950

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(Page 3)

Q. How many, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: Somewhere in the neighborhood of 205. Does anybody remember those figures exactly? It's a very small figure.

Q. Very small.

THE PRESIDENT: An infinitesimal part of one percent. We will get the figures for you.

And then, for political background, the Republicans have been trying vainly to find an issue on which to make a bid for the control of the congress for next year. They tried statism. They tried welfare state. They tried socialism. And there are a certain number of members of the Republican Party who are trying to dig up that old malodorous dead horse called isolationism. And in order to do that, they are perfectly willing to sabotage the bipartisan foreign policy of the United States. And this fiasco which has been going on in the Senate is the very best asset that the kremlin could have in the operation of the cold war. And that is what I mean when I say that McCarthy's antics are the best asset that the Kremlin can have.

Now, if anybody really felt that there were disloyal people in the employ of the Government, the proper and the honorable way to handle the situation would be to come to the President of the United States and say, "This man is a disloyal person. He is in such and such a department." We will investigate him immediately, and if he were a disloyal person he would be immediately fired.

That is not what they want. They are trying to create an issue, and it is going to be just as big a fiasco as the campaign in New York and other places on these other false and fatuous issues.

With a little bit of intelligence they could find an issue at home without a bit of trouble. (laughter).

(Page 4)

Q. What would it be?

Q. What would it be, Mr. President? (more laughter.)

THE PRESIDENT: Anything in the domestic line. I will meet them on any subject they want, but to try to sabotage the foreign policy of the United States in the face of the situation with which we are faced, is just as bad as trying to out the Army in time of war.

Q. On that question we were just kidding.

THE PRESIDENT: And that gave me a chance to give you an answer. To try to sabotage the foreign policy of the United States is just as bad in this cold war as it would be to shoot our soldiers in the back in a hot war.

I am fed up with what is going on, and I am giving you the facts as I see them.

Q. Mr. President, do you consider the Republican Party as a party?

THE PRESIDENT: It is – the policy of the Republican Party has endorsed the antics of Mr. McCarthy.

Q. The effects the bipartisan –

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) That's what it is for – that's what it is for. They are anxious for the return of isolationism.

Q. Do you think that this has torpedoed, then, the bipartisan –

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) It is an endeavor to torpedo the bipartisan foreign policy. They are not going to succeed, because the level-headed Republicans do not believe that at all, as not Mr. Stimson, Senator Vandenberg, Mr. – Senator Saltonstall, and a dozen others I could name, who know exactly what is going on, and are trying their best to cooperate. And I am going to try to help them prevent it going under.

Q. Well, Mr. President, to carry that out to its . . .

(Page 5)

logical conclusion, when these people come up for re-election, with the Grace of God and so on, there is nothing that the Democratic party can do except simply to sit on the sidelines and say, "Well"?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, it's too bad – it's a dangerous situation, Joe (Fox), and it has got to be stopped. And every citizen in the United states is going to find out just exactly what the facts are when I get through with this thing.

Q. You will stand up on one side and they will stand up on the other?

THE PRESIDENT: There's only one side that the people will stay on, and that is the side that will lead to peace. That is all we are after. This is just another fiasco to find an issue. This is not it.

Q. Mr. President, would you like to name any others besides Senator McCarthy who have participated in this attempt to sabotage our foreign policy?

THE PRESIDENT: Senator Wherry.

Q. Yes, sir?

THE PRESIDENT: Senator Bridges.

Q. Yes, sir?

THE PRESIDENT: That's about as far as I care to go, Joe (Short).

Q. Okay, sir.

Q. Now, what I forgot to say was would you like to say anything about Mr. Acheson, and Mr. Lattimore, and –

THE PRESIDENT: (interjecting) I think –

Q. (continuing) – what's his name – the Ambassador-at-large?

Q. Jessup.

Q. Jessup.

THE PRESIDENT: Jessup. I think I made myself perfectly . . .

(Page 6)

clear that I think Dean Acheson is – will go down in history as one of the great Secretaries of State. You know very well that Mr. Jessup is an able and distinguished a citizen as this country has ever produced. Lattimore is a member of the faculty of Johns Hopkins University, and is a very well informed person on foreign affairs.

Q. You don't believe he is a spy?

THE PRESIDENT: Why of course not. It's silly on the face of it.

Q. Mr. President, don't you think the American people recognize this for what it is?

THE PRESIDENT: There is no doubt about it. I am just emphatically bringing it to their attention.

Q. For direct quotes, could we have that, "I think the greatest asset –

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) I would rather you would say that the greatest asset the Kremlin has is the present approach of those in the Senate who are trying to sabotage the bipartisan foreign policy.

Q. Could we have that read back to us?

THE PRESIDENT: Sure, Jack?

MR. ROMAGNA: I'm all balled up.

THE PRESIDENT: Take your time – take your time. (As this reporter pondered, the President rephrased the quote which this reporter failed to write down. As obtained later from the newspaperman, the quote was, “The greatest asset that the Kremlin has is the partisan attempt in the Senate to sabotage the bipartisan foreign policy of the United States.”)

Q. This may seem redundant, but this is just for the record, the partisan effort of course is the effort by the Republicans in the Senate –

THE PRESIDENT: (interposing) Well now, I didn’t . . .

(Page 7)

say that, “partisan effort.” Leave it at that. Draw your own conclusions.

(End of excerpt.)