

ENCLOSURE 4

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FOR THE PRESS

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NO. 544

TERMINATION OF TEN EMPLOYEES

At his press conference today, Secretary Marshall made the following statement:

"The Department announced on June 27 that it had terminated ten employees. These terminations were made under the so-called McCarran Rider to the 1947 Appropriation Act giving the Secretary of State authority and responsibility for summary action where the Government's interests appeared to warrant this action.

"Many of the news stories made reference to 'continuing investigations' in the Department. I am merely taking steps to assure myself of the security of the Department and the loyalty of the personnel. I have asked that the FBI give priority to a name-check of State Department employees. These name checks were called for on all Federal employees by the President in Executive Order 9835 of March 22.

"I wish to emphasize that I am certain that the great bulk of the employees of the Department are wholly loyal and conscientious. We are not engaged in a witch-hunt and I will not permit unfounded charges based on prejudice to force our hand. I mean to see that the rights of the personnel as well as the interests of the Government are secured."

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