PRESS DISPATCHES INDICATE THAT SOME OF YOUR ASSOCIATES ARE URGING YOU TO DEVOTE YOUR SPEECH IN OKLAHOMA CITY TUESDAY NIGHT TO A DISCUSSION OF THE MENACE OF COMMUNISM TO THE UNITED STATES. IF THIS MEANS A DISCUSSION OF THE EXTENT OF COMMUNIST INFILTRATION INTO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, I ASSUME YOU WILL NOT ACCEPT SUCH SUGGESTIONS BECAUSE OF YOUR REPEATEDLY EXPRESSED CONVICTION THAT ANY INQUIRY INTO THAT SUBJECT IS NOTHING MORE THAN A "RED HERRING." IF, HOWEVER, THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT YOU WILL DISCUSS THE EXTENT TO WHICH COMMUNISTS, OR OTHERS, WHOSE LOYALTY TO THE UNITED STATES IS OPEN TO QUESTION, HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO RETAIN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT POSITIONS - THEREBY REVERSING YOUR PREVIOUS POSITION - I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST CERTAIN QUESTIONS WHICH, I BELIEVE, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE YOU ANSWER.

END.
While I have no hesitation in saying that, in my opinion, you have no more personal sympathy with communism, or communists, than I have, the impression has grown up that you have been willing to allow persons of suspected loyalty to remain in the government service—even after you have been advised of their presence on the government payroll—because public exposure of the facts would be politically damaging to your administration.

1. The questions which I suggest you answer in your address at Oklahoma City, or elsewhere, are:

1. Will you publicly state that you will permit J. Edgar Hoover, or one of his chief assistants, to appear before the Senate Investigating Committee immediately and give public testimony (A) as to the number of card-carrying, or non card-carrying, communists or other disloyal persons in the employ of the Federal government, (B) as to the length of time that card-carrying, or non card-carrying communists, or disloyal persons, were allowed to remain on the Federal payroll after the Federal Bureau of Investigation had evidence showing facts of disloyalty? (You will note that I have not suggested the disclosure of the names of individuals or their particular disloyal acts because I wish to guard against any procedure which would affect their...

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE
LEGAL RIGHTS OR IMPAIR THE NATIONAL SECURITY).=

2. WHY IS IT THAT AS LATE AS JUNE 17, 1947 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE WERE PERMITTED TO SEE THE LOYALTY FILES OF MORE THAN SEVENTY OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT, AND THAT THEREAFTER AN IRON CURTAIN WAS LOWERED BY YOUR PERSONAL ORDER TO PREVENT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES FROM SEEING LOYALTY FILES?

3. WHY WAS IT THAT EMPLOYEES OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT WERE PERMITTED TO RETAIN THEIR POSITIONS AFTER ORDERS HAD BEEN ISSUED BY COMPETENT AUTHORITIES PURPORTING TO DENY THEM ACCESS TO TOP SECRET FILES BECAUSE OF THEIR SUSPECTED DISLOYALTY, AND WHY WAS SUCH PROCEDURE RESORTED TO WITHOUT NOTIFICATION TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE?

"I COULD SUGGEST OTHER QUESTIONS, BUT I AM SURE THE PUBLIC WILL APPRECIATE Responsive ANSWERS TO THESE."=

"SIGNED "HOMER FERGUSON."=

1 1 (A) (B) = 2 17 1947 3m